

Upper Chattooga “Alternatives Workshop” Why Should I Care?

by Rick Bellows

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) will be hosting an “Alternatives Workshop” (details below) to discuss the 6 alternative proposals for future management of the upper Chattooga Wild and Scenic River (above Highway 28). The alternatives are discussed at length in last month's *Eddy Line* (pages 14 and 15).



ACCESS

Why should I care when I'll never be ready to paddle the upper Chattooga anyway? Because the decision on boater access to the upper Chattooga may well be a model for anywhere anglers or anyone else wants to ban boating on streams managed by the USFS, the National Park Service (like the Chattahoochee and the

Colorado in the Grand Canyon) or other federal agencies.

Why should I care when I'm more interested in protecting the upper Chattooga than in paddling it? Because the current plan just bans boating: it doesn't limit other users (and the damage they've done shows it). This is the only chance we'll have to change that.

Why should I care that boating is banned on just part of one river? Because the boating ban doesn't have and never had a rational basis: it's not based on damage supposedly caused by paddling. The ban has never been anything more than government-enforced discrimination against one user group by other users who don't want to share a public resource.

Why should I care about the process when the author of this article has called it “rinky dink?” Because, rinky dink and moronic as it is, it's the only process we have available right now and the paddling community can only hurt itself by staying away and allowing the voices of other users to be the only voices heard.

The USFS has announced it plans to have a new Management Plan for the upper Chattooga by year's end. This may be the last chance for those who care, including paddlers, to be heard on what that plan should be. Now is the time to care.

Be prepared before you go: check out the 6 Alternatives, public comments about them, etc. at www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms.



What's Inside...

AW News.....	5
Announcements	4
Beetle Battle Paddle.....	7
Candidates for Office.....	5
"Chick Paddle".....	6
Classified Ads.....	15
Club Information	2
Exiting A Canoe.....	8
From the Cruisemaster.....	14
From the President.....	7
Letter(s) to the Editor.....	15
Library Info	4
Meeting Minutes.....	6
Race Watch	14
Roll Practice.....	5
Tallulah Release.....	6
Trip List.....	3
Trip Reports	11
Upcoming Events.....	6
Weekday Paddlers.....	5

USFS Upper Chattooga “Alternatives Workshop”
Saturday, September 29
Rabun County Civic Center, 25 Court House Square, Clayton
Registration at 9:00 a.m., Workshop 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 From Hwy. 441, turn left on westbound Hwy. 76 (2nd stoplight in Clayton).
 Cross main street, pass courthouse on right, look for brown brick Civic Center on left.





Who Ya Gonna Call?

GCA Contacts

For general GCA information:
Call 770.421.9729 and leave a message; your call will be returned as soon as possible.

To volunteer for club activities:

Contact GCA President Vincent Payne at 770. 834.8263 or the chairperson of the relevant committee.

For membership or dues info:

Call GCA Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

To sign up for a club trip:

Call the trip leader at the number in the trip list.

To sign up to lead a club trip:

Call GCA Cruisemaster Steve Reach at 404.579.3166.

For information on GCA Clinics:

Call the coordinator listed on the clinic schedule or Training

Chair.

For information on winter roll practice:

Call Lous Boulanger at 404.373.2907.

For information on the GCA Library:

Call GCA Librarian Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636.

Eddy Line Contacts

To submit or send written materials or contact an Editor:

Email the_eddyline@yahoo.com, mail *The Eddy Line*, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503-0441 or call Rick Bellows, 678.617.2546.

For information on commercial or classified ads:

Contact Advertising Manager Rick Bellows at 678.617.2546 or by email at the_eddyline@yahoo.com.

For subscription information, to change your address or if you don't get your copy of the newsletter:

Contact GCA Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734. ✂

GCA Executive Committee

President	Vincent Payne
Vice President	Tom Bishop
Secretary	Jamie Higgins
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Kate Wilkerson
Recreation Chair	Joe Webb
Resource Development Chair	William Gatling
River Protection Chair	VACANT
Training Chair	VACANT

Board, Executive Committee Meetings

GCA Board of Directors meetings are generally held the first Thursday of March, June, September and December.

GCA Executive Committee meetings are generally held the first Thursday of January, February, April, May, July, August, October and November. Meetings are at 7:00 p.m. at Page Perry LLC, 1040 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 1050, Atlanta, 30338. (I-285 to Ashford Dunwoody NE, left onto Perimeter Center West, right onto Crown Pointe Parkway, park at 1050 and walk to 1040.) All members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, call Vincent Payne at 770.834.8263 to be added to the agenda. Attending meetings is a great way to become more involved in the GCA and ensure transparency in decisions and actions. ✂

Submitting Eddy Line Material

Deadline for material to be submitted for publication is the fifth of the prior month, e.g. December 5 for the January issue. Material received after deadline MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED. GCA members are encouraged to submit articles, trip reports, editorials, photos, cartoon, etc. Letters to the Editor are also encouraged. **Submissions should be typed, single spaced and not indented: if possible, please prepare articles in "plain text" rather than in a word processing format.** Material may be submitted to the_eddyline@yahoo.com or to *The Eddy Line*, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503-0441. The text of an article can be placed in the body of an email or as an attachment: photo images can be attached files. If possible, please submit photos and other graphics in "jpg" or "tiff" format and specify the photographer of each picture. To submit material via disk, please contact us for information. Classified ads will run for two issues, but will be rerun at the advertisers request. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Contact Editor **Rick Bellows, 678.617.2546** or the_eddyline@yahoo.com if you have questions. Thank you.. ✂

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UPCOMING GCA TRIPS

October

5	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Peter Chau	864.885.9477
6	Leader's Choice	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Steve Reach	404.579.3166
6	Middle Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Peter Chau	864.885.9477
7	Middle Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Peter Chau	864.885.9477
12-14	Goose Pastures (Note 1)	Flatwater Camping	Lamar Phillips	770.939.5087
13	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannan Proctor	770.664.7384
13-14	Upper Russell Fork (Note 2)	Class 3-4 Advanced	David Bernard	540.392.5096
20	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Steve Reach	404.579.3166
21	Metro Hooch	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Todd McGinnis	770.856.4489

December

22	Leader's Choice (Note 3)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Todd McGinnis	770.856.4489
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Note 1: Florida Canoe Camping trip - Aucilla and Wacissa Rivers, Slave Canal

Note 2: Five mile dam release, Kentucky near Virginia border. Class 2-3, one Class 3+ (Twenty Stiches)

Note 3: Winter Solstice trip - location TBD.

**Your Trip Could Be Listed in This Space —
Call Cruisemaster Steve Reach at 404.579.3166!**

"From the Soggy Clipboard of the Cruisemaster" appears on page 14.

Signing Up: Call the trip coordinator listed to sign up for trips. Most trip coordinators will move a trip to an alternate venue if the water levels and conditions for a particular trip are not favorable. 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 for those boaters who have completed a formal training clinic and would like some on-the-river time with instructors practicing what was learned in the clinic and expanding skill levels.

Canoe Camping Trips are multi-day trips, generally on flat or mild water, with at least one night of camping. For details on a scheduled trip, call the trip coordinator. To arrange a trip, call President Vincent Payne at 770.834.8263.

To Volunteer To Lead Trips: Call the Cruise Master, Steve Reach at 404.579.3166. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flatwater to class 5 whitewater. 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). Boating is prohibited above the Highway 28 bridge. Your cooperation in protecting this National Wild and Scenic River is appreciated.

Roll Practice: Wednesday evenings from 6:00 until dark, May through the end of Daylight Savings Time, at Stone Mountain Park. For more information, look for the announcement in *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)
I Said Left, Stupid: A Video Guide to the Chattooga River (Sect. 2 & 3)
In the Surf
Introduction to Canoeing
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
The Middle Fork of the Salmon River (Idaho) — by Photographic Expeditions
Trailside: White Water Canoeing the Chattooga River
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
ACanoeing 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 & Kayanning 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 & Kayaking Guide to Georgia
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 Proteeting 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

By joining the GCA group email list, you can share information with over 400 members and others. Here's how the list works:

By sending an email to "gcalist@yahoogroups.com" you automatically reach all subscribers to the list with the message. Only those subscribed to the list can send email to the list.

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 posted on the GCA email list. If you want to receive any of this information, please subscribe.

The email list is intended to facilitate communication, so don't be shy about using it to invite others on paddling trips, to discuss paddling related issues or to disseminate or obtain



information about paddling related topics, rivers you're interested in, etc.

To subscribe to the list, send an email to "gcalist-subscribe@yahoogroups.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.

When you change or lose your email ID, please take the time to "unsubscribe" your old ID and to "subscribe" your new one. ✂

GCA Web Page

Check it out at <http://www.georgiacanoe.org>. We are continually adding information and links of value to paddlers. Send your ideas for updates to the GCA web committee at gcaweb@gmail.com. Membership applications, GCA waivers and other forms for use by members are also available on the site. ✂

Summer Roll Practice

GCA Summer Roll Practice will be held at Stone Mountain Park at 6:00 p.m. (or earlier) on Wednesday from May through the end of Daylight Savings Time. Roll Practice is free, but participants will need to pay for entry to the park. A season pass is recommended for folks who plan to attend multiple sessions.

To get to roll practice, enter the park from Stone Mountain Freeway (East Entrance) and take the first left. Continue about a mile until the road crosses the dam, then take the first right into the parking lot. The boat ramp is on the right.

The boat ramp is very busy with power boats putting in and taking out, so use the ramp area to load and unload only and park away from the ramp. Once in the water, try to stay clear of the ramp for the same reason.

Please note that swimming is prohibited at this location.



If you're in the water spotting for someone, be prepared to explain to park officials that you are not "swimming."

Roll practice is an informal arrangement that requires volun-

teers. If you can help with kayak, canoe or C-1 rolling, your assistance would be appreciated. ✂

Stewardship Celebration AW Event at Sweetwater Brewing Company September 28

American Whitewater will be hosting a celebration of river stewardship in the Southeast at Sweetwater Brewing Company on Friday night, September 28, beginning at 9:00 p.m. National Stewardship Director Kevin Colburn will give an update on AW's river stewardship work in the Southeast. This will also be an opportunity to meet AW board members, staff and other Georgia paddlers.

The event, including beer tasting, is free (but you must be 21 and have the ID to prove it). Donations will be taken at the door and earmarked for AW's Chattooga Defense Fund. (The U.S. Forest Service's "Alternatives Workshop" will take place the following day, September 29.)

Sweetwater Brewing Company is located at 195 Ottley Drive in Atlanta, west of I-85 on Armour Drive. Directions are at www.sweetwaterbrew.com/about/php?section=tours, or by calling Sweetwater Brewing Company at 404.691.2537.

As in boating, safety is of primary importance in driving. If you plan to drink, arrange a designated driver or take MARTA (Bus Route #27). ✂



Candidates for GCA Offices

Tood McGinnis of the Nominating Committee reports the following candidates for GCA offices:

President: Tom Bishop

Joe Webb

Vice-President: Jamie Higgins

Treasurer: Ed Schultz

Secretary: No candidate as yet. Anyone interested in running for Secretary should contact Todd McGinnis at mcgiod2@bellsouth.net.

The election will be held at the Fall Meeting in November. ✂

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 on 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, 1 through 5) 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: 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 requesting the updated list. ✂

2007 “Chick Paddle”

by Denise Keller, GCA Recreation Chair (Retiring)

Greetings. I'd like to thank all the GCA “chicks” for attending the 3rd annual “Chick Paddle” this year. As usual, we had a great time.

Thanks to Karen Saunders for the fabulous dishes she cooked up in her Dutch ovens. Thanks to all for the wonderful dishes and sides, not to mention the beverages.



Tom (far right) and the Keller dogs in their “Chick Paddle” headwear. Photo by Denise Keller.

Support Our GCA Supporters

The GCA web site now features a "GCA Supporters" web page with links to the companies that support GCA financially by advertising with us. Help out those who help us out — patronize our advertisers. Thanks! ✂

Meeting Minutes Next Issue

Because of the upper Chattooga “Alternatives Workshop” on September 29, this issue of *The Eddy Line* went to press before minutes of the August Executive Committee meeting could be approved. Those minutes, along with minutes of the September Board of Directors meeting, will be in the November issue. ✂

Volunteers Needed Tallulah Time Again

The fall Tallulah Gorge releases will be November 3-4, 10-11 and 17-18. As usual, GCA's own Joan Hutton is in charge of volunteers. GCA will be providing volunteers for the weekend of November 10-11.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs which are first come - first served. No previous Tallulah experience is

My thanks to NOC for our Friday raft trip on the Ocoee with Miss Debbie Sue. She was so much fun.

Horn's Creek proved, yet again, that their resort was the best choice for the “Chick Paddle.” They opened up the water park for us and it was here that Kate Wilkerson is now the reigning queen of the “wave pool challenge.”

That's about all I can share with the club. After all, I am sworn to secrecy. However, I'm still willing to take bribes!! (Chuckle-chuckle.) ✂



Lu Gardner on the Hiwassee during the 2007 “Chick Paddle.” Photo by Denise Keller.

Upcoming Events of Interest

October 6-7 - 39th Annual Southeastern U.S. Slalom and Wildwater Championships - Nantahala River - Roger Nott, 770.536.6923, ocapaddler@charter.net.

October 13 - Race Around Roanoke Island - 26 mile relay race for 2-4 men, women, mixed - Manteo, NC - Kirk Havens, 804.785.2107, kirk@vims.edu or Ed Sharp, 540.752.5400, e.sharp@att.net.

October 27 - Beetle Battle Paddle, Lumpkin County - sponsored by Appalachian Outfitters.

November 3-4 - 3rd Annual Hemlock Fest, Lumpkin County - bands, vendors and activities - www.LumpkinCoalition.org. ✂

necessary: inexperienced volunteers will be placed with experienced ones. If you volunteer, plan to arrive early to watch the river come to life as the usual dam-controlled trickle becomes a truly impressive whitewater torrent.

If you aren't available "our" weekend, let Joan know. Paddlers 4 Christ may need volunteers the first weekend and Georgia Tech ORG may need them the third weekend

To volunteer, or for more information, contact Joan at 770.917.1866 or at hutton_joan@yahoo.com. ✂

Help Fight the Woolly Adelgid Beetle Battle Paddle, Hemlock Fest Announced

by Rick Bellows

Appalachian Outfitters is sponsoring the 2007 "Beetle Battle Paddle" on Saturday, October 27, on the Chestatee River in Lumpkin County. Individual paddlers or groups can put in at Appalachian Outfitters on Highway 60 any time from 9:00 to 3:00 for the six mile Class 1 paddle to the take-out at Highway 400.

Appalachian Outfitters is easy to reach from the Atlanta metro area: just turn left at the end of Highway 400, go about three miles and it's on the left (about a half mile after the bridge over the Chestatee by the golf course). More information is available on the Appalachian Outfitters website at www.canoegeorgia.com.

The rest of the 3rd Annual Hemlock Fest will be held

November 3 and 4 on Starbridge Road in Lumpkin County. (From the end of Highway 400, continue north on Long Branch Road to the light at Highway 52, turn right on Highway 52 and follow the signs). The Hemlock Fest is sponsored by The Lumpkin Coalition.

The Hemlock Fest will include vendors, including one providing hemlock saplings, and music. The featured band is Bruce Hampton & Friends, and others include The Family Honor, Rising Appalachia, Spies of Life and Stop, Drop and Roll.

The Hemlock Fest is an environmentally friendly event: no styrofoam coolers will be allowed. Trash containers will not be provided, so be prepared to Pack It In/Pack It Out.

Like the Beetle Battle Paddle, the Hemlock Fest supports environmentally friendly means to control the woolly adelgid that is decimating the beautiful hemlocks in the North Georgia mountains. More information about the woolly adelgid, the efforts to control it and the Hemlock Fest is available at www.LumpkinCoalition.org.



GCA Election From the President

by Vincent Payne, GCA President

It looks like we will have an actual election this year with competing candidates for the GCA office of president. Appears we will have multiple candidates for President. I find this exciting for the club. Hopefully we will have people talking about what we each want, need and expect from our club and how each of us can impact the quality of our organization.

The elections are held each year at the Fall General Membership Meeting. Some years have been very poorly attended. I have seen as few as 16 but I am told there have been as few as 7 people attend.

The first two that I attended were held at Azalea Park and attracted 24 one year and 16 the next. We then aligned these meetings with the Fall Gala in hopes of "entrapping" more voters. This hasn't been so good either as often people are dining out or camping elsewhere or have other interests which preclude showing up for the meeting portion. The net gain is minimal and there are still only about two dozen who vote.

Some say, "why bother when there is only the one slate of officers?" Let's consider one possible scenario. The club's bylaws allow for nominations from the floor. So at the Fall Meeting someone could be nominated from the floor and with enough "buddies" present get elected. Some years 8 people could take the election. I think it complies with our bylaws; nominated from the floor and duly elected by a majority of the members present. I see nothing in the bylaws to declare that invalid.

I cannot run again. I really enjoy doing the work and I'll

find another way to serve. Heck, it has taken me a year and half as vice president and two years as president to get the hang of the job and really understand the work and the *continued on following page*

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workings.

That brings me to make two recommendations to you. Number one is that you attend the Fall General Membership Meeting and vote for your officers.

Number two is that you give serious consideration to those candidates that have proven over the years that they will serve the club doing the routine work that most folks would rather avoid. Not to devalue anyone else but the value of that experience and the proof of that commitment cannot be overstated.

The Fall General Membership Meeting will be held this year at Azalea Park. It is fairly central to the current distribution of our membership and it is located on the water should

**You may be in over your head if...
People pull out throw bags, cell phones and First Aid kits whenever you approach a rapid.**

anyone wish to paddle about. Sunday November the 5th is the date and the election will be held at 4:30 p.m. We will meet at one of the pavilions (look for the GCA banner).

I am announcing this now to give you as much notice as I can. I will follow up with more details and travel directions as the time approaches. Mark your calendar and I'll see you on the river.



Part 2 The Fine Art of Exiting a Canoe

by David Vezzetti

G. Two Craft Exits

Exits which are precipitated by near contact or by actual collision with a second craft can be very exciting, not just for their intrinsic worth but also for the events which follow, which may include shouts, flailing paddles, inappropriate language, etc.

(G1) The Two Boat - One Slot Exit.

Two boats approach a ledge with a single passable slot, wide enough for only one of them. If an eddy is available, a collision can be averted but, if not, a very interesting series of events occurs.

The two boaters first make eye contact, each attempting

to ascertain the other's intentions. [See Footnote #2]. In 82.5% of the recorded cases, this fails. Secondly, both boaters make independent decisions either to slow down or speed up. Again, if they make opposite decisions, a collision is averted (24.6%).

In the remaining cases, both boaters speed up or slow down. If they choose the former, a collision generally occurs approximately four feet before the ledge, leading to one or perhaps two involuntary exits with the further possibility of a brief or not so brief pin. (Two simultaneous exits are very exciting.)

If they both slow down, an amusing sequence ensues. Realizing that the other has slowed, both begin to paddle aggressively forward. Then, realizing that both are paddling forward, both attempt to slow down, etc. The inevitable follows, and this most interesting of the "Two Boat - One Slot Exit" proceeds to its natural conclusion.

This "Alfonse and Gaston" event reminds the author of an experience which took place at a university with which he was once affiliated, where it was not possible to board an elevator when two elderly and distinguished German mathematicians repeatedly stepped to the side and intoned, "No, no, after you, professor." Finally each put a friendly arm around the other's back and, as they entered simultaneously, they became momentarily (and very slightly) wedged in the door. A graceful sliding maneuver allowed both to enter on practically equal footing. This sliding maneuver does not seem to be available in a single slot ledge!

(G2) The Moving Peel Out Exit

In this event, the upstream boater is proceeding downstream while the downstream boater, who had been positioned in an eddy, decides to peel out into the current. The ensuing collision generally causes one or more involuntary exits with, sometimes, long in-water experiences.

A little known, but very useful distinction, may be made between those cases in which the downstream boater peels out because he doesn't see (or doesn't look for) the upstream

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DANVILLE, GA

boater (a common occurrence: type I-G2-a) and the rare case in which the downstream boater, having sat in the eddy quite awhile and finally screwed up courage to peel out into difficult water, is overcome by anxiety and is compelled to peel out, even realizing that the other boater is approaching (type I-G2-b).

An authenticated occurrence of type I-G2-b occurred a number of years ago on the lower Yough, just a few feet above "Dimple Rock." In this case both boaters (the upstream boater being the wife of the downstream boater) experienced a rather long and bumpy float of several hundred yards, completely through "Swimmers Rapid" below.

(G3) The Moving-Surfing Exit

Frequently observed on the Ocoee, this exit involves a law-abiding, innocent open boater moving properly downstream under perfect control while approaching a surfing wave or hole and an unthinking, Neanderthal raft guide who surfs his fully occupied raft onto said wave or hole at the last possible moment.

Accepted as a fact of life, these events nevertheless cause the canoeist to utter many foul words as he swims to the nearest eddy. In the rare variation in which the offending surfer is a kayaker, the collision is of no consequence, since the kayaker is simply run over and the canoeist continues downstream. [See Footnote #3].

H. Miscellaneous Moving Exits

There are, of course, an enormous number of miscellaneous moving exits, most of which are not of sufficient interest to merit a category of their own and in any event, are easily understood. Among these, we may cite the "Easy Water Exit"

(downstream or lateral), the "After Lunch-Full Stomach Exit," the "Lost Paddle Exit," the "Falling Asleep in the Boat Exit," the "That Tree Wasn't There Last Week Exit," etc. Before assuming that he has discovered a new category of Moving Water Exits, the reader is cautioned to consider carefully whether the "discovery" fits into one or more of the above classifications.

II. The In-Place Exit

This category of exits differs from the Moving Exits in that the boater is not making headway in one direction or another (except possibly downward, which doesn't count).

A. The Side Surfing Exit

Very common among In-Place Exits, the boater, while displaying his expertise in side surfing, gradually finds his boat full of water and gracefully slides from the boat on the downstream side. Alternately, in bouncier holes, the boater may be ejected quickly on the upstream side.

In either event, much cheering and or jeering generally accompany these exits. Rarely serious, the boater generally extricates himself from the hole in a brief time and continues with a graceful downstream swim.

B. The Stopping Hole Exit.

Here, the boater, proceeding downstream, is stopped by a hole of some size and after bouncing up and down for a second or two spills from his canoe. The exit frequently occurs just below a wide ledge.

Occasionally frightening, the boater may spend a considerable time testing the buoyancy of his PFD and wondering why the sport used to seem so much fun. Onlookers with rescue skills generally assume the best and delay rope
continued on following page

Photos of the Month (Instructional Division)



Right leg extended to his left, instructor Steve Cramer begins demonstrating how to turn completely around without leaving the cockpit. Photo by Jay Manalo.



Marty Diamond and Tybee, her frequent paddling companion, prepare for a day of sea kayaking instruction. Photo by Jay Manalo.



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throws, etc., adding to the time for the boater to consider his future (and past).

C. The Bouncing Below a Drop Exit

The boater, having successfully negotiated a vertical drop, finds himself upright in his boat in very frothy water. An almost imperceptible lean to one side initiates the necessity for a brace. As the paddle slowly sinks into the froth, the boater has ample time to consider what alternatives he may have chosen.

Perhaps a forward stroke - paddle sinks deeper. Perhaps a slight lean to the offside - paddle sinks deeper. Perhaps more speed at the top - paddle sinks deeper. Following the inevitable exit, the boater is bombarded by his fellow paddlers with many helpful hints, practically all of which he considered as the paddle was sinking deeper and deeper.

Very good paddlers may sometimes stay in the boat and roll up, but that is beyond the scope of this article. This exit can be observed on the Chattooga, either below "Second Ledge" or below the slide at "Bull Sluice."

D. The Rock Exit

Proceeding downstream, the boater is accosted by a rock that stops the canoe (hence removing the possibility for a Moving Exit). Despite heroic efforts at climbing, scrambling, etc., the rock wins and the boater must again practice his breathing skills. One of the most ignominious of all exits, this

exit is frequently seen on smaller creek-type runs and among paddlers of advancing age.

E. The Strainer Exit

Not fun to contemplate.

F. The Getting Into the Boat Exit

Self explanatory and not very exciting, except when accompanied by graceful, flailing movements.

G. The Getting Out of the Boat Exit

Similar to (F) but in reverse.

H. Miscellaneous In-Place Exits

Again there are a large number of miscellaneous In-Place Exits, most of which occur so infrequently that they do not deserve special classification. One of the most entertaining ever observed by the author occurred on the Nantahala River in the large hole on river right just above the final drop at the falls. A private raft entered the hole, ejected its passengers, and was bouncing happily in inverted position.

A kayaker coming from above paddled into the hole and landed upright in his craft on top of the raft. After taking one or two strokes in the air, and realizing his position, he toppled over, popped his skirt, and swam through the falls, followed by his kayak and the raft. Purists may object that this is simply a double case of (B), the Stopping Hole Exit. They may be right.

III The Abandonment

At long last, we come to the final category of "swims," the

Abandonment. This category was long thought to be simply a slight variation on the Difficult Water Moving Exit, but detailed analysis has shown that it is indeed a new and distinct class worthy of explication.

(A) The Abandonment (Stationary Position)

In this "exit" the boater finds himself in his boat, completely stationary. Careful inspection usually shows that the boat is resting on a large rock surrounded by moving water.

The boater could, in such a case, attempt to wiggle the boat back into the water which would result either in a totally uninteresting and unremarkable experience or perhaps in one of the exits described above. However, to qualify as an abandonment, the boater simply steps from the boat onto the rock, and after signaling to his comrades downstream, gently pushes the canoe into the water. With the boat rescue complete, the boater signals again, this time making the "please set up a rope" gesture, eases himself into the water and awaits the verbal abuse which inevitably follows.

The author has observed and can authenticate at least two instances of this exit: on river right just above "BOB" on the Tellico and also at "Decap Rock" on the Chattooga.

B. The Abandonment (Stationary Position) with Preliminary Difficult Water Exit

Strictly speaking, this exit is a combination of two exits as indicated by its name. It is, however, so intricate as to merit a separate discussion and classification.

Here, the boater experiences a Difficult Water Exit of any of the types described above. With heroic effort the boater manages to attach both himself and his craft to a large midstream rock and with further effort climbs upon the rock while maintaining a grip on the canoe.

The canoe is now maneuvered in such a manner as to disgorge most of its liquid contents, either by inverting or by the "lean over and bail" technique. The boater is now in position to attempt a reentry or, if the position is too difficult, to proceed with a standard stationary abandonment. With the

Nantahala, August 19

Me and My Bright Ideas

by Denise Keller

We have kayakers, open boaters, tandem boaters and duckies, 18 of us all together. We're having a great day, feeling good, padding well. When we get to the concrete platform before the approach to the Falls, we all take a short break.

This is where my fabulous idea pops into my head. "Hey! Why don't we run the Falls in different boats? The open boaters switch with the kayakers and the tandem boaters switch with the duckie paddlers." Everyone just loves the idea. "Yeah! Let's do it!"

Edward and I hand over the tandem canoe for Lamar's

advances in paddling techniques, instances of this exit have become commonplace in recent years.

C. The Moving Tandem One Person Abandonment

This is among the rarest of exits and has only been authenticated once, in the late 80's at "Double Trouble" on the Ocoee. In this exit, an anxious and not too experienced tandem pair, female leading, enters the rapid head on. (Is there any other way?)

As the first large wave crashes down and knocks the lead paddler for a loop she quickly makes an executive decision. Before the second wave can strike, she deliberately abandons the boat with a vigorous dive to the right, and being a strong swimmer arrives safely on shore shortly thereafter.

Meanwhile, the canoe, its trim having been disturbed, performs a cart wheeling motion spilling the stern paddler out and then landing on top of him. The author can certify that, to this date, the couple has never paddled tandem again.

Leaving aside the obvious variations, this concludes our exposition of the Abandonment and of exits in general. It is the author's fondest hope that the reader will, by careful study of the foregoing, be brought to a state of knowledge and appreciation which will enable him to comment intelligently on exits he may observe, to understand the phenomena in greater depth and to never again be limited to a simple "Oh, he's swimming."

Footnotes

[2] If the second craft is a raft, the canoeist's decision is made simpler, since it is a fact of nature that rafter will never attempt to avoid a collision or to make eye contact.

[3] Canoeists should make reasonable attempts to avoid crushing kayakers as this breed is populated by pleasant folk who are sometimes useful during out-of-boat experiences and hence should be preserved in spite of their obvious other shortcomings. A simple "sorry about that" may suffice in most cases.

single duck and Allen and Carol hand over their tandem for Don's duck. We put Gina (C1) in Tom's Wavesport ZG, Haynes (C1) in Dana's Dagger GT, Matthew (C1) in Shannon's Diesel, William (C1) in Debbie's Jackson, Vincent (C1) in Greg's purple RPM and Big Dave (C1) in Peter's Necky.



TRIP REPORTS

Here we go! We quickly realize that we have no boat control whatsoever. We're plowing into each other and every rock. We look like we're in a pinball machine.

But there's no turning back now. Edward and I try to get the duck behind Billboard eddy and promptly flip. Swimming, *continued on following page*

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we hit the top hole on the Falls and are getting re-circulated.

We're not the only ones. Allen is so cramped in the other duck that he just bails in the current, leaving Carol to fend for herself.

Gina is paddling so fast and hard that she misses us in the top hole and goes airborne! She finally comes down right by the take out. Amazing!!

Tom Terrific comes flying down in Gina's C1, he thinks he's sooo cool. He tries a combat roll and makes it, then he gets into Micro Eddy. Edward, me, Allen, Lamar, Don, Dana, Greg, William, Shannon and Big Dave are all stuck in the top hole.

Here comes Peter in a C1. He hasn't paddled a C1 in ages and it shows. He's terrible! Next thing I know he's with us in the top hole.

Haynes, who is well over 6 feet tall, is coming next. He's so tall that he has to put his knees to his chest to get in the cockpit. He finally manages to get the spray skirt on but he looks kind of weird trying to paddle.

Matthew's on his way. He comes on through the Falls yelling "Yee-Haw" and gets a mouth full of water and starts to cough. That'll teach him!

Debbie's next in a C1. She doesn't have a clue as what to do and just starts crying and ends up going to the right of the

big boulder on river right and makes it down upright. I'm impressed!

Finally here comes "the Prez," Vincent. He's in the beautiful purple RPM and his color coordination is all wrong. He looks like a nightmare coming down the Falls, you just know he's going to flip. He actually makes it through, only to air brace and hit the eddy line and flip. I just knew it.

The rest of us dummies finally flush out the top hole and the second hole. That's when at least 50 throw ropes are thrown at us but we're too tired to grab them and just float on down to the take out.

That's where we meet up with the rest of the group. We're trying to collect ourselves and whatever gear we didn't lose to Big Wesser when William yells nice and loud to me so the rest could hear, "Hey Denise! Got any more bright ideas?"

Just another story from the Falls on the Nantahala.

Rebuttal

by Edward Stockman

You've read Denise Keller's entertaining report about the Nantahala Trip on August 19. There were 15 people and 13 boats. Matthew Crawford filled in as trip coordinator. The water was running down stream.

But, everyone was in their normal boats and had a

normal day on the river except for Denise, who paddled tandem with me. This was her third time in an open boat and first time down the Nannie. It was a successful day keeping our hair dry. ✂

A Newbie Perspective Nantahala - August 25

by Matt Lester

Let me introduce myself. My name is Matt Lester, I'm 22 years old. I've been kayaking for several years. I haven't had much formal training. I learned how to roll from reading a book from the library and practicing in the pool. I've never had enough paddling buddies to get me on the river as much as I wanted to. At that time I convinced my mom try some paddling with me.

This spring my aunt heard about the Georgia River Explorer Series and she and my mom signed up. It was three river trips for beginners. After that *The Eddy Line* started showing up at our house. I read some of the articles, and about upcoming trips. I decided to contact William Gatling to see if I could paddle with the group going on the Nantahala trip.

We talked about how qualified I was, and to tell you the truth I wasn't real sure if I was up to this or not. I told him what rivers I'd run. With trepidation, he invited me along. August 25 finally came around.

After the nine of us put in and got comfortable playing a little, I realized what I had been missing: a fun and diverse group of people, each with something to share. I got a huge eye opener from Dorothy Vezzetti, talking about all the rivers

There are 10 types of people in the world: those that understand binary and those that don't.

Anonymous Nerd

from Derek Muenzel, Penn Kayaking

I didn't know about and all the people who are into paddling all over the country.

The whole group was inspiring, from Robbie Short, who had a bomb-proof roll, to Ira, who was a hole surfing fool. Tom knew the river, where all the play spots were and the name of every rapid.

At one point I thought Dorothy might go for a stern squirt in her canoe. Every time I looked around she was surfing a wave. David Vezzetti was laid back and inspiring: I hope I'm still paddling whitewater when I retire.

Steve Vamell, and Wayne Robertson rounded out the group, just having a blast on the river. I look forward to meeting more fellow paddlers on up coming trips. I am looking forward to the Fall Gala and more trips.

Trip Coordinator's Note

by William Gatling

Matt did great. At one point surfing, he flipped and missed his roll, tried again, tried again, and tried again. Just as Robbie got to him to assist, Matt finally got the roll on his own. Great fifth effort and patience!

The number of inflatable boats on the river was insane. The day is coming where the number of boats on the river will have to be limited. We are not there yet, but with a few more duckies added to the flotilla there will be a major incident. ✂

Photos of the Month (Wildlife Division)



On August 18, as they trolled in the Gulf of Mexico, two unidentified fishermen saw a young deer swimming a mile offshore in about 800 feet of water. Exhausted and swimming low in the water (left), the deer actually swam toward the boat. They lifted the deer (right) into the boat and left it, still exhausted, on the beach.

USA Wildwater Nationals Pinyerd, Protege National Champions

by Rick Bellows



Race Watch

GCA member John Pinyerd led a group of Georgia paddlers who earned national championships at the USA Wildwater Nationals, held August 25 and 26 on the Dryway section of the Deerfield River in Massachusetts. Pinyerd and Tom Wier, paddling together for the first time in competition, won the national championship in the C-2 (tandem canoe) class.

In the C-1 (solo canoe) class, Pinyerd upset Wier to win the Saturday sprint race, the first race in the U.S. since 2001 that Wier has not won. Wier won the longer classic race on Sunday to win the overall C-1 national championship. Pinyerd finished second in the C-1 class.

Pinyerd's own performance was not his only cause for celebration at Nationals. Tierney O'Sullivan of Roswell, who is coached by Pinyerd, was the top finisher in the K-1 (kayak) class. At age 16, O'Sullivan is both the Junior and Senior



GCA member John Pinyerd on a milder section of the "Classic" course at USA Wildwater Nationals. Photo by Patrick Rogers.

National Champion in the K-1 class.

Another Georgian, Atlanta's David Jones, earned a national championship in the K-1 Masters (40 and over) division. More information, including photographs, is available at USAWildwater.com. Pinyerd is wearing bib number 3 in the photos; O'Sullivan is in bib number 7. ✂

A Disgusting Paddling Season, But... From the Soggy Clipboard of the Cruisemaster

by Steve Reach, GCA Cruisemaster

What an amazingly disgusting paddling season this has been.

There, I said it. You have to admit however that a 50-year drought does not exactly enhance choices of nearby whitewater paddling. It has been Nantahala this, Ocoee that, Metro Hooch (ugh) and let's go do the Hiwassee *again* all summer. All the old-timers have headed north to find water.

Many thanks to the brave souls who have attempted runs this summer on the Etowah, Chestatee and the like, even when they have dried out, pickup trip or otherwise — you guys make the GCA a paddling club.

You know, actually this is not the worst that could happen. At least we still have some drinking water. Knock on wood and keep doing the rain dance.

Up here in Blairsville, Lake Nottely is now Lake Notalake. It's back to being a number of pitiful creeks flowing into a sump brooding sullenly below naked 50-foot slopes of red clay talus. TVA has been sucking it down to make enough electricity to run all the air conditioners for one more 90-degree day.

I have yet to do my exploratory trip up the tailwaters north

into North Carolina, which I don't think has any appreciable gradient or features but might be a nice fast flat creek run when they have the generators spinning. Who's in?

The bright spot on the horizon is that we are coming up on the winter flat water camping season, which Lamar is graciously kicking off this month down at Goose Pastures in Florida. This will be an excellent adventure for new paddlers and a relaxing escape for the experienced. Lamar is an experienced canoeist that can give you new paddlers an excellent start to your boating career - this trip will not take any great moving-water experience to enjoy.

Also in the pipe this month is a 2-day run in Virginia on the Upper Russell Fork, about a half-day drive north of Atlanta. If there is water, this will make a fun trip for you advanced-level paddlers. The difficulty is supposed to be somewhere between the Nantahala and the Ocoee. New GCA Trip Coordinator David Bernard can give you the details — see trip calendar for contact info.

Later this month, all you who are enthusiastic about camping down South this winter please give me a buzz if you are willing to lead a trip. If you are stuck for ideas, give me a buzz — I have some good ideas for you, and additional resources to help you run a successful voyage.

See You On The River! ✂

CLASSIFIED ADS

Non-business ads are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business and non-member ads are \$5 for up to 50 words, \$10 for larger. **Ads must be received by the fifth of the month to be published in the following month's issue.** Mail ads to *The Eddy Line*, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503-0441 or email to the_eddyline@yahoo.com. Please, no phone-in or hand-written ads. Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

For Sale: Wilderness System Pamlico 120, \$250. Orange, 6 months old, great condition. Bruce, 404.592.9723 or 706.346.0404, chisolm0894@comcast.net.

Paddles For Sale: Werner Powerhouse kayak paddle, fiberglass, bent shaft, 200cm, excellent for creeking or river running - \$150 (retails for \$305); 2 Perception (Harmony) whitewater canoe paddles, 52" and 54" - \$45 each (retail for \$110 each). All in excellent condition. 770.534.5857 (Gainesville/Flowery Branch area).

For Sale: 2007 Esquif Taureau, \$1,100. Two Hobie deck hatches (so you can bring "stuff" with you), 1100 gph bilge pump, ankle supports. Very good condition, paddled 12 or so times. Will consider swap for Esquif Zephyr. Vince Zappia, 404.374.8660 or vzap@charter.net.

For Sale: Perception Torrent Sit-On-Tops, \$300 each. Red, good condition, 2 available. Mo Friedman, 678.485.2216, vagabondmo@gmail.com.

Wildwater Boats For Sale:

"Advantage" K-1 by Zedtech Kayak Racing, \$875. Narrow, fast, low volume wildwater kayak suited for smaller paddler and/or rivers like Nantahala. Bright red deck, natural hull. Recently built for a junior worlds team - no scratches or cracks and only one stern tap.

"Shiro" C-1 by RK Designs - \$2,400. Orange deck, natural carbon/kevlar hull. Recently constructed for \$3,400; race ready with only a few scratches. John Pinyerd, 770.575.1433 (home), 678.357.7843 (cell), jpinyerd@cs.com.

Letter to the Editor

To The Eddy Line:

Since I was appointed to Recreation Chair and am running for president the editor asked me to write a little about myself. I live in McDonough, Georgia and am a registered nurse and certified in critical care and emergency, hence all the initials behind my name.

I presently work for Cardiology of Georgia and work directly for Dr. William Blincoe. I have been in nursing 28 years. I grew up in Ohio on the Mad River in the sixties and seventies on Grumman's or anything else that would float. I have paddled, or at least been swimming, since then and expounded on water behaviors after the movie *Deliverance* came out.

My wife is Rinie and we have two children, Emily 10, and Zack 17. I have been a member of the GCA for twenty years and have volunteered many years in different roles to include teaching wilderness first aid and CPR in which I am an instructor in both.

I also have helped with river safety courses and run safety and first aid at the southeastern for at least 5 years. Along with Revel Freeman and Louis Boulanger, I have helped with many beginner and intermediate classes as well as GCA river trips.

I paddle anything and have kayaks, raft and canoes. I do occasionally sea kayak with the Rev to Cumberland if the sharks aren't biting. My favorite water is the home flow kind like the Nanty, Ocoee, Tellico, Chattooga, and Cheoh. I have paddled on Oregon's Rogue, Massachusetts' Deerfield, West

Virginia's New. I had a chance to paddle the Colorado last year for a month in the canyon, which I really liked. I have a few in Costa Rica that were great also. There are many more that are too numerous to include and even the flat water is great.

My daughter Emily duckyies, and my son Zack has paddled with the GCA since he was 9. He has attended Huge kayaking camps as well as spent time with David Hughes at the New River Academy in West Virginia. Zack has competed nationally in Juniors as well as pro divisions in play boating and has placed at times. The wife rafts when she can so it is a family affair.

I won't expound on changes I would like to see if elected president, but being the new Recreation Chair I would like to have a venue at the galas that would bring other boaters in to see our club such as a yearly swap meet and sale of boats and equipment. Maybe even a few bands that a majority of the club would like to hear and a bonfire to swap stories. Venders to promote new products and sell overstock as well as demos. I would also like a few competitions at our galas to improve river skills as well as teaching in a relaxed atmosphere. Last of all I would like to set up some things to occupy the kids so they have fun and grow to be club members.

Thank you,
Joe Webb



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