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THE EDDY LINE

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November 2008

Volunteer Coordinator Changing Fall Tallulah Releases On

Despite the ongoing draught, the regular November releases into Tallulah Gorge will take place this year. As usual, the releases will be the first three weekends of November.

GCA, however, will not be responsible to provide volunteers for one of those weekends. Long-time volunteer coordinator Joan Hutton decided to give GCA a break this fall, so an offshoot of Paddlers 4 Christ will be responsible for volunteers the first weekend, Atlanta Whitewater Club the second weekend and the paddling group at Georgia Tech the third weekend.

The big new on the Tallulah front, however, is that Joan Hutton is stepping down as Volunteer Coordinator for the Tallulah releases. Beginning with the April, 2009 releases, GCA member Bob Focht will be the Volunteer Coordinator. For the fall releases, Joan and Bob are jointly coordinating volunteers.

Even though GCA is not responsible for a weekend this fall, there may well be a need for additional volunteers one or more of the three weekends. If you'd like to volunteer or you'd like more information, call Joan at 770.917.1866 or Bob at 770.414.9645.

Despite her "retirement," Joan will still be seen around the Tallulah releases. After at least two years of thinking about it, she promised in her announcement that we would see people at the releases and that she will "have my kayak on my shoulder and butterfliens in my stomach."

October 26 at Azalea Park Fall Meeting, Elections Scheduled

GCA's annual Fall Meeting and election of officers has been scheduled for 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 26 at Azalea Park in Roswell. As in past years, some members will paddle the section of the Chattahoochee ending at Azalea Park before the meeting.

The slate of officers nominated for election includes three incumbents: President Tom Bishop, Secretary Bill Fox and Treasurer Ed Schultz are all seeking re-election. Jamie Higgins opted not to seek another term as Vice-President and William Gatling, currently Resource Development Chair, has been nominated for that post.

In addition to the election, the Fall Meeting will include a picnic. Pizza will be provided and those attending are asked to bring a dish to share.

Azalea Park is on the river right bank of the Chattahoochee. From the light at Roswell Road/Highway 9, go west on Azalea Drive about .7 mile. The parking lot and pavilions are on the left.



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Annual Fall Meeting and Elections



**Azalea Park, Roswell
Sunday, October 26
4:00 p.m.**



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Tom Bishop	404.542.1118	bishop.t@comcast.net
Vice President	Jamie Higgins	404.508.0761	jmhiggins_99@yahoo.com
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Past Presidents:	William Crawford (1966/7)	Payson Kennedy (1968)	Claude Grizzard (1972)
	Margaret Osborne (1973)	Jack Weems (1979)	Mark Levine (1984/5)
	Andy Warshaw (1986/7)	Jim Silavent (1992/3)	Evelyn Hopkins (1994/5)
	David Martin (1998/9)	Brannen Proctor (2000/1)	Marvine Cole (2002/3)
	Vincent Payne (2006/7)		

OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Cruisemaster	Steve Reach	404.579.3166	gca_trip@yahoo.com
Librarian	Denise Colquitt	770.854.6636	neiceyc@aol.com
River Cleanup Coordinator	Bonny Putney	404.216.9351	bpputney@bellsouth.net
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Keeping In Touch

To contact GCA, write Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc., P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357, leave a message at 770.421.9729 or call/email one of the folks listed above.

Groupmail: GCA maintains a group email list to help members share information of general interest. To sign up, go to gcalist-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Website: Information about GCA, forms (including membership application and GCA waiver form), a link to the GCA Store and links to *Eddy Line* advertisers are all at www.georgiacanoe.org.

All About *The Eddy Line*

The Eddy Line, the official GCA newsletter, is available in print or pdf format. To subscribe, contact Ed Scultz at 404.266.3734 or heloeddy@mindspring.com, or mail your request to P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357.

Submissions/Advertising: All submissions and advertising should be sent to *The Eddy Line*, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA, 30503-0441 or the_eddyline@yahoo.com.

Deadline: The deadline for all submissions, classified ads and commercial ads is the 5th of the previous month (e.g. May 5 for the June issue).

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UPCOMING GCA TRIPS

November

1	Hiwassee	Trained Beginner	William Gatling	770.529.7103
16	Tallapoosa (Note 1)	Beginner	Karen Saunders	770.834.2151

Note 1: Water level permitting.

KEY TO GCA SKILL LEVELS

Flat Water - no current will be encountered; safe for new paddlers.

Beginner - mild current, occasional Class 1 ripples; new paddlers can learn basic river techniques.

Trained Beginner - moving water with Class 1-2 rapids; basic strokes and bracing skills needed.

Intermediate - rapids up to Class 3; eddying and ferrying skills needed; kayakers need solid roll.

Advanced - rapids up to Class 4; excellent boat control and self-rescue skills required.

For more about "class" ratings of rapids, see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitewater>.

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

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 Vincent Payne at 770.834.8263.

To Volunteer To Lead Trips: Call Cruisemaster Steve Reach at 404.579.3166. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flatwater to Class 5 whitewater. Our usually 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: Summer roll practice is over and Winter roll practice will begin in January. Information will be provided in *The Eddy Line* when and if it is provided to *The Eddy Line*.

Announcements



Monthly 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 Tom Bishop at 404.542.1118 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. ✂

Beginning In 2009

Annual Events Calendar Proposed

by Gina Johnson

We are trying something new for 2009 and would love to have everyone's help. The Executive Committee is proposing an Annual Events Calendar which would include the Fall and Spring Membership Weekends, The Extravaganza and Gala, the Christmas Party and Training Weekends (canoe, kayak and safety, CPR and first aid) as well as major camping trips. This calendar would be posted on the website and would be available to share with other clubs as an inducement to join the GCA.

We are also hoping members will agree to "sponsor" weekend events. This could be a canoe camping trip in South Georgia, a camping weekend of paddling on the Upper Hooch and Chattooga, a trip to the Nolichucky and the French Broad, a weekend in Florida, Alabama or West Virginia - wherever there is water. Sponsorship would include finding a campground and getting trip leaders for Saturday and Sunday trips. These trips would be part of our regular river trips.

What we want to do is make certain that we do not conflict with the annual events of our sister clubs, like CCC Week of Rivers and TSRA Cumberland Week. Can anyone give me those dates or any other dates that you think are important?

I would appreciate your comments and help in volunteering to sponsor events. There are so many rivers that many of the newer paddlers have never been on. Since we may have opportunities over the winter — if it ever rains — we want to be able to plan ahead. If you could email me at gjohnson@naibg.com, I would appreciate it. ✂

Keep Your Email Address Current

Each month numerous "copies" of the pdf version of *The Eddy Line* bounce back due to bad or outdated email addresses. If email to you bounces back, you will be deleted from the recipient list until we get an updated email address.

When GCA receives a mail failure notice in response to an email to you on the GCA email list, you will be automatically unsubscribed by the listserve software. If your email changes, please "unsubscribe" and resubscribe with your new address.

Thank you. ✂

Support Our Advertisers

The GCA web site now features a "GCA Supporters" web page with links to those who support GCA financially by advertising in *The Eddy Line*. Help those who help us — patronize our advertisers, And when you do, let them know you saw their *Eddy Line* ad and appreciate their support. Thanks! ✂

Official Meeting Minutes

Executive Committee - 07/06

by Bill Fox, GCA Secretary

In attendance: Tom Bishop, Allen Hedden, Ed Schultz, Dan McIntyre, Kate Wilkerson, Bonny Putney. A quorum of the Executive Committee was not present.

With Secretary Bill Fox out of town, minutes of previous meetings were not available.



MEETINGS

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OPEN ISSUES:

Financial Report (Treasurer Ed Shultz)

The June statement of financial accounting will appear in the forthcoming *Eddy Line*.

NEW BUSINESS:

River Cleanup

Bonny Putney suggested a letter be forthcoming from GCA advocating the association's support of the Chattahoochee Paddle Trail and indicating the association supports the development of additional paddle trails.

American Whitewater

Tom Bishop will write a letter in support of Don Kinser at AW.

DNR Trails Committee

Ed Schultz reported that the DNR Trails Committee funds government organizations. Further, Camden County requested and received 1 million dollars for the Satilla River.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Upcoming Events of Interest

November 8-15 - Fall Paddle Florida, Suwannee River Wilderness Trail - <http://paddleflorida.org/>. 

Official Meeting Minutes Executive Committee - 08/07

by Bill Fox, GCA Secretary

In attendance: Tom Bishop, Dan MacIntyre, Ed Schultz, William Gatling, Vincent Payne, Lamar Phillips, Roger Nott. A quorum of the Executive Committee was present.

Secretary Fox remains out of town on an extended trip, so minutes of previous meetings were not available.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OPEN ISSUES:

Financial Report (Treasurer Ed Shultz)

The Association's financial statements show a loss of \$514.60 for the previous month and an aggregate loss of \$622.93 for the 2nd quarter.

Need to amend the internet form to reflect \$35.00 annual dues and to add a line for unrestricted or general account donations.

Southeasterns will be on the 4th and 5th of October. Roger expects lots of wildwater entries and open boaters, but not a lot of the more competitive boats due to a Worlds class race in Virginia. Need volunteers to pull it off.

Dan would like to see if Haynes could serve as the

Official Meeting Minutes Board of Directors - 09/04

by Bill Fox, GCA Secretary

In attendance: Tom Bishop, Ed Schultz, Jamie Higgins, Allen Hedden, Dan McIntyre, Vincent Payne, Roger Nott, John Sampson, Gina Johnson, Bill Fox.

Guest: Jill Johnson of the Georgia Environmental Action Network

Minutes of the June 1, 2008 Board of Directors meeting were read and approved as amended by the addition of the phrase "access point" following the words "Party Rock."

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OPEN ISSUES:

Financial Report (Treasurer Ed Shultz)

The association's financial records indicate an end of period balance of \$66,310.26 with an operating fund balance of \$2,391.33.

The Association saw a net increase of assets in August, 2008 of \$645.47.

River Protection (Chair Haynes Johnson)

Haynes Johnson was nominated and approved to seek membership on the Regional Water Planning Council for the Coosa-North Georgia Region.



official nominee for the Regional Water Planning Council for the Coosa-North Georgia region. Other regions that need representation are the Upper Flint and then the Savannah-Upper Ogeechee and the Upper Oconee (Steve Cramer).

A Toccoa woman inherited property at Party Rock. She lives in Tallahassee, FL. Ned Dobner posted signs twice and they were torn down, so she spray painted "NT" on the rock itself. Best thing to happen would be for the county to buy it, but that will not happen before the election since they will avoid anything controversial.

President sent an official letter from GCA for the Chattooga comments period which will be in the September *Eddy Line*. 

Member Services (Chair Kate Wilkerson)

Chair not present. No report submitted.

Recreation (Chair position open)

Chair position is open. Roger Nott reports there is no new activity.

Training (Chair Gina Johnson)

Gina proposed that CGA establish an "Annual Events Calendar" to the end of scheduling and publishing all training, paddling and social events held by GCA throughout an entire year. This would allow, on an annual basis, the long range scheduling, with attendant preplanning, and public dissemination of CGA activities, perhaps with an emphasis on training sessions and multiple day trips. Such an "Events Calendar" could be posted on the GCA listserv and serve to coordinate activities with sister organizations.

Resource Development (Chair William Gatling)

Chair not present. No report submitted.

OLD BUSINESS:

Certified Instructor Trainer

The proposal to obtain a certified kayak instructor trainer with the objective of enabling GCA to certify instructors within GCA remains tabled.

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Amendment to Association Bylaws

A proposal to amend the Association's bylaws to allow a process of absentee voting pends further action.

NEW BUSINESS:

Georgia Environmental Action Network

Dan MacIntyre presented a discussion concerning the proceedings of the "Georgia Environmental Action Network" with regard to the submission and dissemination of GEAN alert messages.

Jill Johnson, representing the Georgia State Conservation Voters, the political action arm of GEAN, presented a synopsis of the workings, procedures and guidelines for both organizational and personal membership in GEAN.

Dan MacIntyre proposed that GCA actively seek an organizational membership in order to serve on GEAN's steering committee. Individual members of GCA would be encouraged to seek a personal membership in the network.

Dan MacIntyre moved:

That GCA join GEAN as an organization member. Annual dues of \$250.00 to be funded from the River Protection Fund.

MacIntyre will serve as GCA's representative on GEAN's steering committee.

Dan will work with GEAN to develop the protocol necessary to obtain the 50 individual members required for organi-

zational admission to GEAN.

Upon GCA's acceptance to membership in GEAN, President Bishop will appoint an ad hoc oversight committee with Dan MacIntyre serving as chair.

Motion seconded and carried with Roger Nott voting present.

General Membership Meeting

The membership is to be reminded that a meeting of the association's general membership will be held on October 26, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. at Azalea Park.

MEETING ADJOURNED



The Big Jump

from the NOC Paddling Blog

Part of the fun of kayaking is the challenge. Nothing feels better than running a hard rapid successfully. It doesn't really matter if "hard" is Class 3 or Class 5 for you — the joy (and relief) of styling a hard rapid is universally shared by all boaters.

We contend that on the 1-5 scale rapid rating system, the jump between Class 2 and 3 is the largest. Class 1 and 2 rapids are very similar and often difficult to differentiate.

Think about paddling the Nantahala — most of the time you're not thinking about whether that rapid you paddled was Class 1 or Class 2 — they're pretty similar. When you get to Class 3 Nantahala Falls, though, it's easy to tell that the rapid is much bigger/harder than everything else you've paddled.

For beginners, the jump from Class 1/2 to Class 3 is often a very big one. This is primarily because they're now facing a larger rapid with more serious consequences. Not to say that there aren't consequences to messing up a Class 1/2 rapid, but the consequences are much greater to messing up a Class 3 rapid.

Deciding to run a Class 3 rapid for the beginner therefore is often a difficult decision because they must factor in the consequences to their decision making process — something they haven't really had to do on Class 1/2. Once a boater gains experience factoring the consequences aspect into the decision-making process, it becomes easier to make future decisions, such as stepping up from Class 3 to Class 4 rapids.

We have plenty of boaters in our beginning clinics agonize over the decision to run or walk Nantahala Falls. We then see those same boaters in our intermediate clinics spend only a fraction of the time agonizing over the decision to run a Class 4 rapid. The same boater that spent 20 minutes deciding to run their first Class 3 rapid now often spends less than 5 minutes deciding to run their first Class 3+/4.

This is not to say that the decision to step up from Class 3 to 4 should be a cursory one. We are merely saying that is often easier for paddlers to decide to run their first Class 4 rapid than it is to run their first Class 3 rapid. This can be

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attributed primarily to the fact that a boater has very little experience when he/she makes a decision to run that first Class 3 rapid, and much more experience when he/she decides to run their first Class 4 rapid.

The same applies to the jump from Class 4 to Class 5.0. Class 5 is certainly harder than Class 4 and entails greater consequences, but the jump comparatively isn't as great as the leap from Class 2 to Class 3. There's a much bigger gap between running Surfer's and Nantahala Falls than there is between running Bride of Frankenstein and Frankenstein. (The jump between class 4 and 5.2, well, that might be another story.)

Hooked on the Tellico

by David Luinstra

(from *The Paddler*, newsletter of the Carolina Canoe Club)

After camping in the rain Friday night at Thunder Rock, my thought upon waking, was "Tellico." A quick call to some ailing paddlers in Greenville, SC (since I knew they were home) revealed that, sure enough, the Tellico was 1.67 ft and rising. After talking to several so-called "paddlers" at Thunder Rock and cruising the Middle Ocoee put-in, I still was the only one interested in the Tellico. Too many promises to Ocoee first-timers.

So off I went, expecting and hoping for enough water after having dashed to the Tellico earlier in July — with the report of 1.6ish and rising — only to find the rapidly falling Tellico at 1.4 and still having a great day of it.

I am hoping to find still rising water and find paddlers interested in a Middle Tellico run. Arriving at the Middle put-in, young guys are standing around, I approach — expecting them to be running the Ledges. Surprise, they are planning to paddle the Middle!

Whoa, two rec kayaks, a creek boat and a play boat. I find out they are Georgia Boys, on the way to the mighty Hiwassee, detoured to the Tellico by Jason. Jason has run the Middle three times. They have been running a river near home, but it is not whitewater. The testosterone is flowing in these Georgia Boys.

Looking closer shows the rec boats do not have skirts and none of the boats have air bags. They have had no instruction and are teaching themselves to paddle and roll. I calmly back out and say I am not going to enable their Tellico trip, I will not paddle with them, repeatedly saying they are in over their heads. I continue to unsuccessfully talk them out of paddling the Tellico.

The Creek Boater and one Rec Boater decide to put on below the bridge, and the other two start into Bridge Rapid. I have walked down to the bridge to watch, and things do not look too good. They are starting to run down the middle of

The long and short of it is, if you're a beginner, it's ok to take your time deciding to run a Class 3 rapid — it is indeed a big step up. For the advanced boater paddling with beginners, be aware of this. Don't downplay a Class 3 rapid because it's "only Class 3."

For the beginner, deciding to run a Class 3 rapid is a big step because for the first time they're factoring in consequences from making a mistake. They should be given all the time they need to make this decision.



SAFETY

Bridge Rapid, Play Boater is leading and 25 feet behind is Rec Boater.

Rec Boater trips on the first rock he nears, and is now leaning upstream as his boat center pins on the second rock. He is sucking air with the "OH, S**T" look all over his face.

As Rec Boater escapes his pinned boat, Play Boater flips and is now attempting what appears to be one-handed hand rolls while clinging to his paddle with the other. Walking across the bridge and looking downstream I see Play Boater swimming with paddle and play boat, drifting near Staircase with only the cockpit above water.

Rec Boater repeatedly tries to pull his boat upstream off the rock, while I am trying to tell him to lift one end. Finally, Rec Boater gets the idea when a solo boater from the Ledges arrives and takes Rec Boater's paddle to the shore. Finally, Rec Boater, paddle and boat are now safely ashore.

Creek Boater comes back to the put-in and says Play Boater and boat are safe. But Play Boater has a fish hook through his nose septum. Creek Boater says Play Boater is in good spirits, laughing, "Feels like a bull," wants to borrow needle nose pliers to cut the fish hook, but does not want to come back to the put-in because he is embarrassed.

Eventually, Play Boater arrives back at the put-in and the body piercing jokes and cringing begin. Shortly school teachers from Dallas arrive who, in a previous life, were EMTs and have a good sized First Aid Kit (including purple latex gloves). But nothing to cut the hook. Even those doing laps on the Ledges do not have the needed tool. We were not being picky, every tool available (shears, leathermen, nail clippers) was tried.

The EMTs work for around 30 minutes and have the barb off the hook but will not pull the hook back out since its shank is covered with micro barbs. Being good natured souls, they continue to work and are unable to cut the eye off the hook.

I stop a passing truck, and yes, they have something to cut the hook. The passing truckers are fly fishermen and

continued on following page

sheepishly admit to leaving flies in the river. The EMTs finish cleaning up and start getting ready to paddle.

Creek Boater and Play Boater walk back down below the bridge and start to run the rest of the Middle Tellico, while both Rec Boaters load the rec kayaks into the truck and are going to follow them down river on the road. As I drive down river

40th Annual Southeasterns

by John Pinyerd

Thanks to the efforts of the Georgia Canoeing Association and Race Master Roger Nott, one of the longest continuously held whitewater races in North America, the Southeastern US Wildwater Championships, celebrated its 40th anniversary on the first weekend of October in grand fashion at the Nantahala Outdoor Center. The race was extremely well attended and the party/awards ceremony was just downright fun to attend.



The Southeasterns is one of those races that can be a real starting point for first timers. I am one of those paddlers who got his first taste of racing (in the cruising classes) at the Southeasterns a quarter of a

century ago.

This year's wildwater race was attended by two dozen competitors. As a result, we had a great representation of boats, classes, skills and ages. In typical fashion, race organizer Roger Nott and I worked closely to create classes that helped insure racers were fairly matched.

In 2006 we changed the race formation back to its roots as a pure top to bottom race that begins at the raft put-in immediately below the power house. This gives us a large warm up pool and the ability to have a mass start of up to 100 competitors or so. Its truly a thrill to be able to go head to head, especially if you haven't sorted things out when you hit Patton's run.

In the championship classes, USA Wildwater Team members showed up in strength and turned out some very solid times. Chris Hipgrave (2008 Wildwater Team Member and 35-40 age group silver medalist at the 2008 World Championships) continued his streak as the fastest boat down the river by winning men's kayak classes on his home river. But team member J.P. Bevilaqua was upset by a racer of twice his age, Mark Hamilton, a former wildwater team member and Olympic flatwater racer.

The top 5 was rounded out by Tierney O'Sullivan (a 2008 Jr. and Sr. Team Member who finished 8th at the Jr. Worlds this year). O'Sullivan also won the Julie Wilson Award for being the fastest woman (K-1W) down the river.

In C-1, yours truly (2008 Team Member and two time

after running shuttle for the EMTs, I see Creek Boater on river left dumping water from his boat.

I chose to not paddle with EMTs because Play Boater and Creek Boater were going to be downstream, and at some point we would have encountered them again, probably deeply in need of help. ✂

Masters World Champion) was 6th overall. I was also the fastest canoe of any kind and was the winner of the Charlie Patton Award, a streak I have held for the last dozen years.

The open canoes also turned out some very competitive times. Chris Osment broke the one hour barrier and was the fastest open canoe of any kind. And Andrew and Jennifer Holcombe had a blazing time for an OC-2 Cruising boat, finishing just 20 seconds later to earn the Ramone Eaton Award.

But I was most impressed by folks like Payson and Aurelia Kennedy who continue to push the age barrier. They are 70+ years old and are still racing strong. And they brought 4 other boats to race with them to boot.

Likewise, it was great to see former USA Team member Bern Collins, who has now turned 69, back in racing form. Bern is an amazing athlete and was the 4th fastest boat down the river overall.

As I like to say, anyone that paddles the Nanty from top to bottom in any boat is a winner in my book. So mark your calendar for NEXT October and plan to attend the Southeastern US Whitewater Championships and good ol' paddler get-together. ✂

40th Annual Southeasterns

by Roger Nott, Race Master

The GCA's 40th Annual Southeastern U. S. Slalom & Wildwater Championships were held the weekend of October 4th & 5th on the Nantahala. Unfortunately most of the serious decked slalom racers were competing in Maryland at an international race which was announced after our race was scheduled. We had good participation from some top wildwater racers, however, as detailed in John Pinyerd's accompanying article. We had gorgeous weather, and, thanks to a dedicated team of volunteers and the spirit of the racers, the competition went well and we had a great time.

See John's article for a detailed account of Saturday's wildwater race. There are some great pictures of all 23 wildwater racers taken by Nantahala Photos at the Falls at <http://www.photorelect.com/pr3/viewalbum.aspx?a=550449>. The password is "downriver."

Among the pictures are several of GCA Honorary Life Members Payson and Aurelia Kennedy, who raced this year in an open canoe in 1:06:15, only a minute and a half slower than their second place time in 1969. Other medalists who

represented the GCA included John Dixon, Jay Manalo, Roger Nott, Chris Osment and current C-1 Masters World Champion John Pinyerd.

The Gala Party and Awards Banquet at the Paddler's Pub Saturday evening was great fun. In addition to the spirited awards presentation by Aurelia Kennedy, several of our paddling pioneers shared interesting reminiscences of the early years of the race.

GCA and NOC founder Horace Holden, Sr., who was Race Master from 1969 to 1971, noted that he and Bill Crawford had been motivated to start the GCA in 1966 to teach canoeing safety following the tragic drowning of a youth on the Chestatee River. He praised now deceased GCA honorary life member Roy Wood, who announced the first Southeasterns and soon thereafter persuaded Percy Ferebee to donate to the Forest Service 6,000 acres along the Nantahala to be preserved in its natural state for the public's use.

1973 GCA President Maggie Osborne discussed the rapid growth of the race to as high as 400 participants in 1972 under Race Master Doug Woodward. (Doug raced in 1969 and still competes, but was paddling in Nepal during this year's race.) Payson Kennedy also shared many interesting early memories of the Southeasterns.

The slalom races on Sunday afternoon went well. Open boaters Dooley Tombras from Knoxville and John Duncan from Birmingham competed neck and neck and each had several lightning-fast, clean runs and two victories. K-1 Cruising winner Tom Hawthorne of Whittier, North Carolina, K-1 Championship winner Chris Singletary of Spartanburg and C-1 Champ gold medalist Phillip Young of Bryson City also had impressive, clean runs. GCA medalists included Allen Hedden, Jay Manalo, Roger Nott and Chris Osment.



Aurelia and Payson Kennedy competed in OC-2 in the 40th Annual Southeasterns. Photo by Nantahala Photos, used with permission.

The races could not have been a success without a great deal of volunteer help. Will Gregory, Jim Gerwer, John Duncan, Haynes and Gina Johnson and I built the slalom course on Friday. Jay Manalo, Dale Swanson, Dooley Tombras, Chris Osment and Allen Hedden helped us complete it on Saturday and Sunday. Beth Nott served as Registrar, wildwater timer, scorer, and gate judge, and was aptly assisted on Saturday by Maggie Osborne. Dawn Southern helped Beth on Sunday and judged gates along with Horace Holden, Gina and Haynes Johnson, Jennifer Holcombe and me.

Matt Crawford was our Safety Chairman and was assisted by Haynes and Gina. John Pinyerd and I were the starters, and James Barnett and Tom O'Sullivan helped with timing. Howard Chambers of the Nantahala Racing Club provided invaluable support, as did Doris Doster with the Forest Service, Gerald Babao of USACK and Duke Power rep Bunny Johns.

2008 Southeasterns Results

Wildwater Results - 10/4/2008

K-1 Championship

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Chris Hipgrave | 0:46:29 (Fastest Boat) |
| 2. J. P. Bevilaqua | 0:47:49 |

K-1 Championship Master

- | | |
|------------------|---------|
| 1. Mark Hamilton | 0:46:52 |
| 2. Bern Collins | 0:51:14 |

K-1W Jr. Championship

Time

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Tierney O'Sullivan | 0:53:18 (Julie Wilson Award) |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
- #### C-1 Championship
- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. John Pinyerd | 0:54:51 (Charlie Patton Award) |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
- #### K-1 Wavehopper
- | | |
|--------------------|---------|
| 1. Steve Kimmel | 0:56:27 |
| 2. Jonathan Nameth | 1:00:17 |
| 3. David Fox | 1:02:50 |
- #### K-1 Cruising
- | | |
|---------------|---------|
| 1. Jay Manalo | 1:07:57 |
|---------------|---------|

continued on following page

2. John Dixon 1:10:45

OC-1 Championship

1. Chris Osment 0:59:48
2. Dooley Tombras 1:03:27
3. John Duncan 1:05:04

OC-2M Cruising

1. Jennifer Holcombe and Andrew Holcombe 1:00:08 (Ramone Eaton Award)
2. Cathy Kennedy and Frances Alvarino 1:04:13

3. Payson Kennedy and Aurelia Kennedy 1:06:15

4. Sherman Alfors and Anna LeVesque 1:29:19

OC1 Cruising

1. Dale Swanson 1:03:22
2. Roger Nott 1:07:58
3. Stewart Kennedy 1:16:48

OC-1 Cadet Cruising

1. Joey Swanson 1:13:11



Slalom Results - 10/5/2008

(Asterisk * indicates Clean Run)

	1st Run	2nd Run	Combined Time
K-1 Championship			
1 Chris Singletary	119*	119*	238 seconds
2 David Fox	185	148	333 seconds
C-1 Championship			
1 Phillip Young	124	117*	241 seconds
C-1W Championship			
1 Jennifer Singletary	266	313	579 seconds
K-1 Cruising			
1 Tom Hawthorne	136*	132*	268 seconds
2 Jay Manalo	254	169	423 seconds

OC-1 Short Championship

1 Dooley Tombras	142*	135*	135 seconds
2 John Duncan	152	136*	136 seconds
3 Allen Hedden	214	209	209 seconds

OC-1 Medium Championship

1 John Duncan	163	DNF	163 seconds
2 Chris Osment	221	186	186 seconds
3 Roger Nott	257	418	257 seconds

OC1 Cruising

1 Dooley Tombras	131*	130*	130 seconds
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OC-1 Cruising Cadet

1 Joey Swanson	411	547	411 seconds
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OC-1 Cruising Masters

1 John Duncan	137*	138*	137 seconds
2 Allen Hedden	205	181	181 seconds
3 Dale Swanson	282	263	263 seconds
4 David Fox	351	533	351 seconds



Nantahala River

by Brannen Proctor

Trip participants were: Brannen Proctor, Jack Taylor, Mike Pancharian, Mark Holmberg and Tom Ottinger in solo canoes; Howard and Helene Rogers in a tandem canoe; Jim Unger, James Royston, Tom Bishop, Susan Locke and Pauline Thynne in kayaks; and Cindy Holmberg in a duckie.

Tom B. came along to shepherd Susan and Pauline down the river. They are both relatively new paddlers who have been honing their skills on the Hiwassee this summer. This was Pauline's first trip on the Nanty and Susan's second.

We met at the regular Nantahala put-in above Patton's Run at 10:30 under a beautiful sunny sky, weather which held up for the entire day, making for perfect weather on the Nantahala. Most of us launched at the put-in above Patton's, but three of our group elected not to challenge a rapid like Patton's so early in the trip. We met them at the put-in immediately below Patton's and had our pre-trip meeting there.

It was apparent from the beginning that there were going to be lots of rafts that day. Jim had a close encounter with one when eddying out below Patton's and had to exit in the

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: Red Blisstick SCUD, used 3 seasons, good condition, no oil canning. Great river runner/creekboat. \$450. Christine, 404.375.3993.

Wanted: 2 rec kayaks, one for 9-year-old boy and one for his mother. Need something that will track well for flat water and Class 1, maybe Class 2. Tracy, 404.583.4032 or tcruce@bellsouth.net.

For Sale: Diesel 65 in very good shape. Bought new Spring, 2004 and used in warmer months through 2006. Usual scratches, but long life remaining. Very stable and carves well into eddies. Would like to keep it, but need to sell to finance larger replacement for larger

me. Photos on request. \$700. Jim, 205.251-0092, jim@moonwellness.com.

For Sale: Yakima lowrider canoe rack. Includes cross bars, gunwhale brackets, locks and tie downs. Cost over \$300 new, selling for \$100. Dick Sturtevant, 229.244.1303, dksturt@bellsouth.net.

For Sale: Red WRSI helmet with face guard - excellent head/face protection - used three times - size small - \$60. Christine, 404.375.3993.

For Sale: 2008 WaveSport Fuse 58. WaveSport's latest playboat/river runner - replaces the EZG. One month old

- bought new and used only once. Citrus (light orange with full outfitting. Accommodates 140-210 lbs. Retails for \$925 - will sell for \$775 OBO. Kirk, 404.680.1933.

For Sale: Mohawk XL 13 WW Canoe - red. Good canoe for larger/beginner paddler. Has had some abuse and been patched, but watertight and still has some years left in it. \$250 OBO. Karen, 678.372.2849.

For Sale: 4x8 trailer, good for hauling kayaks. Includes spare tire, light kit, trailer hitch tilt bed, tie downs. Stores easily against garage wall. Leon, 678.665.9752.

shallow, rocky water. There were no injuries, and although Jim lost his paddle in the fray, James quickly recovered it.

The rafts were frolicsome. From my vantage point peering out from behind Pyramid Rock, I watched as several guided rafts in succession ran up the front side of Pyramid, then tried to spin around behind the rock into the eddy. One raft actually made it. That eddy seems much smaller when you're sharing it with a raft.

Just below Delabar's Rock, there was a threat of a mutiny by some members of our group, who said the trip was moving rather slowly and they might need to paddle ahead. The mutiny was averted after the trip coordinator agreed to move the trip along more quickly.

There were a few swims, almost all the result of purposeful attempts to find the limits of paddler skill and boat design in a challenging rapid. And there were a couple of swims at the Falls. Except for the swims at the Falls, everyone self-rescued with minimal or no assistance. There were no injuries, and boats and gear were corralled quickly.

The real excitement of the day was when three members of our group assisted three people in a raft. Or rather, they were in a raft until they went directly over the Bump. One man fell out, was unable to swim, and was calling for help. Two of our party, Mike and James, got the man to shore on river left and determined that he was in no immediate danger. The

other two rafters had remained or got back in the raft, but it was full of water and not self-bailing and the rafters were barely able to control it. I helped them stop the nearly submerged raft and secured it to a tree on river left across from the concrete scouting beach.

Thing ended happily, though. Other boaters went to the scouting beach for assistance, a raft guide paddled a small raft upstream, and James and Mike assisted in getting the man into the raft for transport down to the beaching area. The man seemed to be all right; he suffered from severe arthritis which limited his mobility, and he was frightened at being dumped into the river. After bailing enough water out of the raft to flip it, the three of us gave the two rafters a quick lesson in ferrying and watched as the two easily maneuvered the raft over to the scouting beach.

Almost everyone elected to run the Falls. Jack decided to pass on it, and he positioned himself as our primary rope thrower. Helene decided to let Howard take their tandem boat through by himself, which was a wise decision since Howard got their boat (with him still in it) almost completely submerged in the upper hole. Getting out upright was a lost cause, and Howard had to abandon ship. However, he and the boat washed out quickly.

Thanks to all for a great, especially Mike for being sweep and Mike's wife, Valerie, for running shuttle. ✂



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