

G E O R G I A C A N O E I N G A S S O C I A T I O N

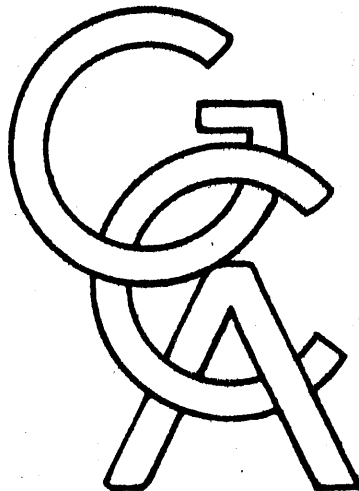
March 1970

NEWSLETTER

Volume IV, No. 2

CAMP, HIKE AND CANOE FLOAT
ON THE CONASAUGA RIVER
March 14 & 15

Sponsored by
TENNESSEE SCENIC RIVERS ASSOCIATION
and
TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING
Also to be attended by
TENNESSEE VALLEY CANOE CLUB



Friday night, March 13: Camping at Taylor Branch camp on the Conasauga for all who want to come early. Primitive camping.

Saturday morning arrivals meet where U.S. Highway 411 crosses the Conasauga by 9:45 a.m. to be escorted to Taylor Branch camp. Both the canoe float and the hike are to start at 10:15 from the camp.

Floaters will be paddling water up to class III so wear life preservers and have good strong painters on your canoe. The float is 8½ miles.

The hike is to be along an old lumbering railroad bed that parallels the river (very easy). Arrangements have been made to shuttle hikers across river by canoe at two points if they do not desire to wade knee deep water. The hike is a total of 5½ miles.

Saturday night: camping at Taylor Branch camp. A check will be made at U.S. 411 bridge at 5:30 p.m. for new arrivals.

Sunday will be a float only, starting at U.S. 411 bridge at 10:30 a.m. Very easy class I and less. Float ends at Georgia highway 2, 10½ miles down stream. A shuttle will leave U.S. 411 bridge at 9:30 a.m. for those who want to get there early and leave early.

Schedule: Friday night arrivals be at bridge by 7:30 p.m.
Saturday morning arrivals be at bridge by 9:45 a.m.
Saturday evening arrivals be at bridge by 5:30 p.m.
Sunday morning arrivals be at bridge by 10:30 a.m.

For those arriving Friday night later than 7:30 p.m.: Take U.S. 411 to where it crosses the Conasauga. Go ½ mile north and turn right. Then 2 miles and right again. Go 1.9 miles into Willis Springs, Tennessee, then 3.5 miles east to Taylor Branch camp.

For further information, call trip leader--
Frank Hatfield: Office: 377-2411, Ext. 7844; Home: 872-6963

WEEKEND IN THE SMOKIES - Trip Leader: Bill Crawford - 993-2940

Friday, March 28 -- Raven Fork

The Raven Fork is a sold trip for advanced canoeists. Wet suit is suggested, however, escape routes are available for those who become wet and cold.

Meet at Cherokee Indian Reservation Craft Building just left of Oconoluftee Bridge going into Cherokee, N.C., at 11:00 a.m. Allow 4 hours from Atlanta.

Saturday, March 29 -- Oconoluftee

The Oconoluftee, from Forestry Maintenance Station to bridge at Cherokee and possibly further. A good trip for doubles and children with experience. Meet at starting point at 10:00 a.m.

Saturday, March 29 -- Nantahala

A 3:00 p.m. run is also scheduled for the Nantahala. Meet at Power Plant approximately 20 miles west of Bryson City on U.S. 19/129. The road runs beside the Nantahala for many miles, crossing it at one point. When the Nantahala turns off to the left, take the next roadway left into Power Plant area. A left again will bring you to starting point.

Call Bill Crawford to register or write to him at 4288 Bishop Lake Road one week prior to trip.

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SECOND TRAINING SESSION

Chattahoochee River at Roswell - Sunday, April 5

OR

Upper Chattooga - March 21 or 22

The tentative 1970 schedule slated the second training session for April 5 on the Chattahoochee; however, there may be a change of plans. If Registrants don't receive word to the contrary, the pre-planned schedule will be adhered to. It calls for the second spring training session to be held on the Chattahoochee at Roswell.

Again, the rapids are mild, and we will try to work on eddy turns, and backward and forward ferries. Participants should arrive at 10 a.m. Bring lunch and equipment.

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To find the area, drive out U.S. 19 across the Chattahoochee bridge just south of Roswell. Make an immediate right hand turn onto River Road (east). We will assemble here, then drive up the river about 3 miles to the series of shoals. (Latecomers take River Road about 2 miles, turn at Martin's Landing sign (right) and go about 1-1½ miles.)

Trainees are to make their own arrangements for canoes for the remaining sessions. (You may be able to rent a canoe from a GCA member or from Horace Holden at Camp Chattahoochee on River Road, Roswell: 993-6601.) Be sure to provide your car with a safe carrying rack.

If you cannot attend, please call Frank Hatfield, so that the group will not wait for you. Office: 377-2411, Ext. 7844; Home: 872-6963.

Upper Chattooga - March 21 or 22 (possible alternate)

There may be a training session in the Upper Chattooga the weekend of March 21-22. Trainees are requested to hold these dates open. If it develops, cards giving the day and other necessary details, will be sent to those registered. A number of trainees requested a session in these waters, as they are ideal for practicing maneuvers in easy shoals. Too, the change would free instructors to attend the West Virginia White Water Weekend described below.

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WHITE WATER WEEKEND - Petersburg, West Virginia - April 3-5

Anyone interested in taking part in the rugged white waters planned for this weekend in West Virginia, call Payson Kennedy: 457-1362.

REPORT OF FIRST SPRING TRAINING SESSION 1970

Sixty-two persons turned out for the first Training Session. Claude Terry first presented a briefing on canoes, strokes, reading white water and elementary safety rules, supported by excellent visual aids he had prepared and by demonstrations from a canoe by Payson Kennedy. Trainees were then divided into five groups and placed under the direction of an instructor. Those assisting Claude were Aurelia Kennedy, Payson Kennedy, Ross Wilson and Clyde Woolsey, each of whom had coordinated their courses prior to the session. The weather was perfect for the purpose; the river at this point admirably suited for both open water work and eddy practice.

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Remaining in groups, the classes went down river in the afternoon, stopping in rapids to practice eddy turns, cross-river ferries and other lessons taught in the morning. Take-out was at Robinson's Garden, normally close to the public, but open to the GCA for this occasion. If you ever have dinner there, please say a word in appreciation to the management.

Those taking part felt that they had received top notch instruction and were aware that dedicated hours of background planning on the part of many persons had gone into the presentation. Thirty or more boats took this downriver stretch, many of them manned by children and novices. The easy waters were ignored by the adults who picked their way through the shallow fast current spots with no reports of turn-overs or bad hang-ups on rocks a remarkable record.

Nominal profits are expected from the project, and these have been earmarked to help provide a trailer for canoe carrying. Anyone with ability to weld or work metal or who may have an open trailer they would sell is asked to contact Claude Terry. A multiple canoe carrier would be a boon to the club.

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Frank Darsey, 3216 Cherry Valley Drive, S.E., Atlanta 30316 (Phone: 241-8) has a 16' fiberglass canoe, made by Seminole Canoe Company in Orlando, for \$125.00. In good shape--used on open water--it is selling for \$125.00.

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual membership dues are payable by April 1, 1970. Send checks (\$5.00 per family) payable to Georgia Canoeing Association, along with your address, phone and spouse's name to: George Wetherhold, Treasurer, GCA, Fair Oaks Apartments, 28-D, 1565 Crider Road, Marietta, Georgia 30060. Memberships not continued and paid by April 1 will be dropped from the list.

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Deadline for the April issue of the Newsletter is Tuesday, March 24. Contributions are welcomed but must be in writing; they cannot be accepted over the telephone. However, you may wish to call the Editor to reserve space for material you plan to submit. Call Anna Belle Close: 373-3945.

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!!!FLASH!!! The Training session (GCA) in canoeing has been changed to Saturday, March 21. The river we will be using is the stretch of the Chattahoochee just above Lake Lanier. This area offers some good rapids with little danger. Bring lunch, life jackets, spare paddles, etc. Canoe rentals may be a problem, so try to locate one early. YOU MUST PROVIDE FOR CANOES YOURSELF. Peco Camping Center, 451-1/2 West Ponce deLeon Ave., Decatur (377-8000) has a limited number, and some individuals may rent theirs. MEET at Bellton Church just north of Lula, on U.S. 23 (there is a red topped restaurant on the left just past the turn to the church). TIME 9:30 a.m. BE PROMPT. Departure will be at or about that time. The distance is 8 miles from the put-in at Duncan Bridge Road (county maps) to the head of the lake. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO NOTIFY US THAT YOU ARE GOING TO TAKE PART. Write or call Claude Terry: 874-7494 or 1517 University Dr., N.L. 30309. Or write or call the Cluses 373-3945 or 225 Forkner Drive, Decatur 30030.