

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

June 1970

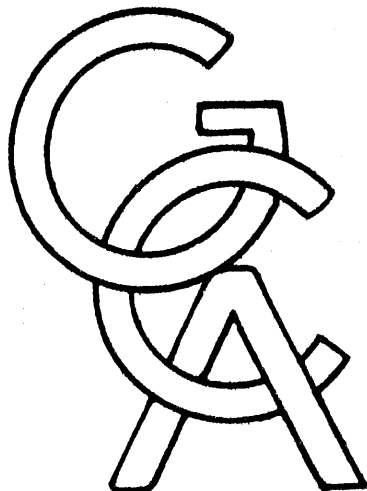
NEWSLETTER

Volume IV, No. 5

RESPONSE TO NEWSLETTER ITEMS

When readers respond to requests, an editor receives a real feeling of gratification for labor expended, and your editor wishes to thank each of you who replied this past month with corrections, with requests for Camp-Pak literature and with extra leaflets for distribution.

We are also touched that a few who cannot canoe with us for reasons of distance or illness still want to receive the news. Consequently, both editor and officers are re-dedicating ourselves to bring you a bit more than the skeletal news of trips planned. It is hoped that this resolve can be adhered to with all forthcoming issues. Please bear with us should any lean months come upon us. Just "keep those cards and letters coming." Deadline for next month's material for the Newsletter is Wednesday, June 17.



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TOCCOA RIVER, Blue Ridge, Georgia, - Saturday, June 6

This will be a combination of family camping and a float trip. The river below the power generating station is easy when the generators are running, and depending upon water conditions, we should be able to go as far as Copper Hill, Tennessee. We will begin the trip about two hours after the generators start, otherwise it has been found that canoes will outdistance the water. The very mild rapids should not be a problem for even a novice canoeist. In case the generating schedule proves impractical, Claude Terry has promised to take us on an alternate trip up-river from Lake Blue Ridge. Final plans will be announced at the campground Friday night, and we will also look for late arrivals near the generating station between 9:00 and 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Camping will be at the Lake Blue Ridge National Forest Campground. Please do not confuse this with the Morganton Point Campground which is on the other side of Lake Blue Ridge. The campground is located 1.7 miles east of Blue Ridge, Georgia, on U.S. 76.

Please register with Jim or Anne Coogler by Thursday, June 4, so we will know how many to expect and can arrange for car shuttle. Phone: 261-1938.

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TOXAWAY RIVER TRIP - Saturday, June 20, 1970

We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at junction of U.S. 178 and where State Route 11 joins it from the east--in a church yard. Go I-85 from Atlanta, then north on U.S. 178 at Anderson, S.C. It is about 3 to 3½ hours from Atlanta.

This is a Class 2 to 4 river, fairly difficult, but the most difficult rapids can be portaged. It is very possible that we will not be able to run this river at all due to construction of a dam. Therefore, it is an absolute must that all those planning to go pre-register no later than Tuesday, June 16, you may literally be left waiting at the church!

As an alternate we may run section 3 of the Chattooga river. See the May Newsletter for details of this river. (More difficult than the Toxaway).

Call Clyde Woolsey: 766-8771 evenings.

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FAMILY FLOAT ON THE BROAD RIVER - Sunday, June 28, 1970

Recognizing that the membership of the GCA includes not only experienced white-water enthusiasts but also beginners who aren't yet ready for the wild Chattooga and family groups who enjoy leisurely floats on beautiful streams, we are planning at least one such easy "family float" each month during the summer. The streams will be selected for their beauty as well as smooth-flowing current. Floats will cover 4 or 5 miles and last about 3 hours, with a stop for a relaxed picnic and time to enjoy the wildflowers birds and scenery. Members are encouraged to use these floats to introduce friends to the pleasures of river canoeing or to bring along the kids. Also, the trips will be an excellent opportunity to practice solo running for those who have always canoed with a partner.

The first trip will be Sunday, June 28, on the scenic Broad River, less than 2 hours northeast of Atlanta. This stretch of the Broad flows through rolling Piedmont hill country, past timbered bluffs and the crumbling piers of a long-vanished bridge. For campers, there is the little-known, but excellent, Victoria Bryant State Park a few miles north at Franklin Springs, and a genuine "country fish camp" (open Sat. & Fri. nites only) at the intersection of Highway 29 at the Broad River.

We will meet for the trip on the courthouse square in Danielsville, Ga. (on highway 29) at 10:00 a.m. The fastest way to Danielsville is via Interstate 85 to the Maysville-Commerce exit, then on state road 98 through Commerce and Ila to Danielsville. Danielsville lies ½ mile south of the intersection of highways 98 and 29.

Register for the trip with John Krickel: 938-8009; or Margaret Drummond: Office: 377-2411, ext. 7841 -- Home: 872-4626.

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REPORT OF APRIL 11 CHESTATEE TRIP

It is with an appalling sense of loss that we who ran the Chestatee on April 11 look back to that day when we followed Frank Hatfield down this exhilarating little mountain stream. There was only a hint of Frank's pending illness which most of us did not recognize as such, and so it is now a sad and difficult task to report on the trip he led and at the same time to report of his death since then in mid-May.

Frank was in his element that Saturday, checking his previously made water-level markings on the bridge where we put in, leading us down the tortuous stream, exhibiting the tumblehome of his Kayot in the rapids above our picnic spot. It was perfect weather and the water was at easy canoeing depth. Most of us took a good tumble in a husky run of water over a 5-6-foot drop, but all of us survived it, even though bruises lasted for weeks.

There were twelve or thirteen craft taking the trip. At the end, a few folks hied to Smith House in Dahlonega for dinner--where the board is worthy of the appetite.

This day remembered will be as a memorial to Frank Hatfield. In the mind's eye, he will be forever joyous, forever young.

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NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT:

There was a story in a recent edition of the Sunday Atlanta Journal-Constitution about two young men who took a trip alone down the Chattooga River. They managed to complete the trip without serious injury but with a great deal more respect for the river.

The sport of canoeing is as safe as you wish to make it. The first rule of the AWA safety code is, "Never boat alone." On white water rivers this means that there should be more than one canoe too. The second or third canoe may be necessary for rescue measures.

We should all know and heed the rules of safety. A serious mishap may give a black eye to the sport and make it more difficult for others to enjoy it. A brief list of the basic rules of safety was sent to every member and prospective member in the "green sheets." If you somehow were overlooked or need another copy, request it from the Editor: GCA, P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30309.

On several occasions we have had people show up for club trips without having pre-registered with the trip leader. As our membership grows and more people go on the trips, it is even more important that the trip leader know ahead of time how many will be going. The leader has to arrange for transportation back to the cars at the end of the run, perhaps divide the group up with two or more group leaders, assess the ability of those with whom he is not familiar, as well as to call those registered if there is a last minute change of plans.

In short, it is his responsibility to see that everything is done that can be done to insure a successful trip, and you make it much more difficult for him if you do not pre-register.

REPORT OF MAY 9-10 OKEFENOKEE SWAMP TRIP -- Margaret Drummond, reporting

Though somewhat sparsely attended, the GCA's second spring outing to the Okefenokee Swamp on May 9-10 lived up to all expectations--especially those of the local mosquitos--who found tender meat aplenty, generously provided and amply exposed by the "Yankee" invaders (i.e., "those from the Nawth, & Most of the group declared a Friday holiday, or some part thereof, for the long drive down and made camp Friday night at the Stephen C. Foster State Park; others arrived Saturday morning before the group's 9:30 departure for an all-day trip to Big Water. The heat was a little unexpected for the air conditioned ones of us, but the sheer joy of being out-of-doors on a sunny day, paddling along with congenial companions, more than compensated for the discomfort--and the subsequent sunburn.

While the main group of GCA'ers paddled their way to Big Water, via Minnie Lake and a lunch stop at the shelter, several other GCA members were also paddling their way to Big Water--from the OPPOSITE direction! They were part of a group, headed by Lou Greathouse, and made up of representatives from different outing clubs, who were exploring the feasibility of a canoe trail through the swamp, from Waycross to Fargo. On a collision course, the two groups head-on just south of Big Water and an excited whoop went up from youngsters spotting their parents, and friends seeing friends rounding the bend ahead. After a noisy and jubilant confrontation, the "through-trippers" wearily paddled on to camp, while the others, with no records to set or goals to achieve, enthusiastically accepted a motor tow--and so wended their way effortlessly and leisurely in tandem on to Big Water, and then back to camp which was strangely quiet Saturday night.

Sunday was variously used, by some for a short trip to the Suwanee River and by others for a leisurely hike--by all for the packing and return home. Those attending were: Nancy and Buddy Collins and daughters; Margaret Drummond; Aurelia & Payson Kennedy & family; Rodger Losier; George Stephenson and son; John Strickler, wife and family; Claude Terry and sons; Dave Yeakley & fr

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REPORT OF THE 1970 TRAINING SESSIONS -- Claude Terry, reporting

The 1970 GCA training session appears to have been a success. The number of participants who attended at least 1 session (63) greatly exceeded expectations. Steve Johnson, Lou & Jerry Drown, Nancy & Harry Collins, and Anna and Bill Close attended all four sessions.

The rivers run were the lower Chattahoochee (2 times), the Chattahoochee from the 255 bridge to Duncan bridge, and the Etowah from U.S. 19 to Auraria bridge. Looking at the advancement in skills, perhaps those who took the course could best judge if they achieved any real jump in ability.

I would like to suggest that the participants write in to the bulletin editor and offer suggestions as to facets of this course which should be retained next year or eliminated, or aspects of canoeing which should be added to aid in more rapid advancement.

here is a strong possibility that not everyone has received the booklet, "Basic River Canoeing," which was included in the fee for the training sessions or the refund due in lieu of a book. If you are in this situation, contact Claude Terry, who, incidentally, has ordered a few extra copies. They are selling for \$1.50 on a first-come-first-served basis.

I would also like to suggest that the profit from the Training Sessions be applied toward a canoe trailer. Anyone having a trailer to which a frame could be added which they would sell or donate to the Association is asked to contact Claude Terry--874-7494. Anyone capable at welding is also requested to contact Claude to donate time and skill.

Finally, thanks to Payson and Aurelia Kennedy, Clyde Woolsey, Ross Wilson and Anna Belle and Bill Close for helping to make the training course a success.

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REPORT OF MAY 2-3 ETOWAH/CHESTATEE TRIP -- Ross Wilson, reporting

About fifty turned out for the training session on the Etowah. As in the preceding two years, this turned out to be a very pleasant outing for all. Although fairly easy, in the class two category, this is one of the beautiful rivers of the state. For many, it was the first experience in rapids above class one, but the group came through with remarkably few spills--perhaps an indication of the benefits of the training.

A very few camped over Saturday night and made the trip from Blackburn State Park in to Dahlonega for one of the famous meals at the Smith House. Activity back at the park was curtailed by a slow rain.

On Sunday about five canoes set out on the Chestatee, in spite of the disappointing weather. The day was pleasant after the first hour, but, surprisingly, the river was disappointingly low, with much rock scraping as a consequence. Nevertheless, the Chestatee being a challenging and interesting class three to four river, it was a very satisfying day to all.

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S E C O N D A N N U A L N A N T A H A L A R A C E

J U L Y 3, 1 9 7 0

J U L Y 4, 1 9 7 0

YOU ARE PLANNING TO BE THERE, OF COURSE ! !

LAST-MINUTE NEWS RE -- 2ND ANNUAL NANTAHALA RACE, Friday, July 3; Saturday, Jul

The Georgia Canoeing Association sponsors this Race. The Race chairmen will greatly appreciate your volunteering to help. Some of the jobs are as follows:

Safety	Timers	Clerical	Photographers
Registration	Judges	Slalom Gates	Dinners & Awards

The race has been well published this year, thanks to the efforts of Claude Grizzard. We are expecting 200 or more contestants for this year's race.

Please call Horace Holden or Bill Crawford at 252-6100 to offer your services.

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ADD THESE NAMES TO YOUR 1970 MEMBERSHIP LIST:

Mr. & Mrs. James B. Farley, Jr.
P.O. Box 641
Smyrna, Ga. 30010 436-6824

Mr. Lovell Greathouse
3030 San Jose Drive
Decatur, Ga. 289-6940

Mr. John L. Hunsucker
106 Ashley Cir., Apt. 5
Athens, Ga. 30601 549-2599

Mr. Joe Maher
3114-C Briarcliff Road
Atlanta, Ga. 30329 633-5067

G. Edward Buxton
109 Seminole Drive
Acworth, Ga. 30101

D. R. Gunning, Jr.
455 Peachtree Battle Ave., N.W.
Atlanta, Ga. 30305

Joseph A. Logan
111 Fulton Bank Building
Atlanta, Ga. 30303

Mr. Robert A. Pettee
2183 Elwyn Drive
Chamblee, Ga. 30341

Mr. & Mrs. Cecil R. Phillips
1711 Timberland Road, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30329 634-1738

Mr. W. B. Webb
1162 Sharanton Drive
Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083
289-2106

Correction:

Mr. & Mrs. T. C. Aderhold
3988 Stovall Terrace, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30305 261-2380