



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 1974

NEWSLETTER

Volume VIII, No. 2

Deadline for the April newsletter is March 15. Mail copy to:

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Res. 252-7748

CORRECTION (S)

The correct address for sending dues to the Treasurer, Bill Crowley, is 5808 O'Hara Drive, Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083. The correct address for the GCA (and also the Treasurer if you are joining) is GCA, P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30309. My apologies to the Crowleys for the confusion. Time is not always of the essence.---Mary Catherine Ahlberg

REMINDER---DUES ARE DUE!

Deadline for renewing your membership in the GCA is March 31---don't miss getting your name in the Club Directory. And please don't forget to put your phone number on your renewal form. Send your dues in now! See last month's newsletter for details and form.

QUARTERLY MEETING

The first GCA meeting of 1974 will be held Friday night, March 15, at the auditorium of Standard Federal Savings and Loan located at 3789 Roswell Road in North Buckhead, two doors up from the Igloo. The meeting will start promptly at 7:30 p.m. An interesting program will be provided. In addition, don't forget to bring your slides and movies. We've heard a lot of tall tales lately about the recent exploits of some of our members and expect to see some proof. Refreshments will be provided.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Your executive committee will meet Thursday, March 14, at 7 p.m. at the offices of Southeastern Films, 22 7th Street. Any interested members are welcome to attend.

NOTICE: CHATTOOGA PLANNING MEETING

There will be a planning meeting on the Chattooga with the U. S. Forest Service at 7:30 p.m. February 28 at Skyland Lodge, Highlands, N. C. Please attend if possible. For further information contact: Tom Lines at 233-9545.

### NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

The Georgia Canoeing Association is extremely proud of two of its members who have received national recognition in National Championship Canoe and Kayak Races.

Former GCA President Claude Grizzard won the 1973 National Whitewater Open Canoe Championships in C-1 Open on the Lower Dead River in Maine. This is the second big win for Claude who also won the 1972 National Championship on the Wolf River in Wisconsin.

The winner of the Eastern National Wildwater Cruising Kayak Championship held on the awesome Gauley River in 1973 was GCA member Dave Jones. Dave also won the Southeastern Wildwater Championships on the Nantahala in 1973.

We appreciate the dedication of Claude and Dave and the many other club members who represent us so well in this great whitewater sport. Although most of our members are not primarily interested in racing, we can all admire their commitment to excellence.

### PETERSBURG RACES

This year the popular Petersburg Races will be held on two weekends, with one weekend devoted to whitewater slalom and one to downriver. The slalom will be held March 30-31 and the downriver on April 6-7. Many GCA paddlers are already making plans for the long drive to West Virginia. For information on the slalom write: Neil Hennessy, P. O. Box 4116, Colesville, Md. 20904. For information on the downriver race write John Thomson, 23 Grafton St., Chevy Chase, Md. 20015. As usual, the number of applicants is limited.

### CAROLINA CLUB ANNOUNCES NEW SLALOM AND WILDWATER EVENTS

The Carolina Canoe Club will be holding two new whitewater events on the Green River near Hendersonville, N.C. this Memorial Day weekend. The slalom and wildwater races, within about three hours of Atlanta, are a welcome addition to our Divisional schedule of competition, particularly in light of the current travel situation. Further information and entry forms may be obtained from Jeannie Brackett, Box 57, Cedar Grove Park, Kernersville, N.C. 27284---Doug Woodward

### FOURTH ANNUAL DOGWOOD FESTIVAL CANOE AND KAYAK RACES

Explorer Post 49 (sponsored by the GCA) will again be conducting the Dogwood Festival Downriver Canoe and Kayak Races on the Chattahoochee River on Saturday, April 13. The 3½-mile course is relatively easy and all ages of paddlers and types of boats are invited to participate---there's something for everyone! One of the competition highlights is the rivalry for team trophies---there are separate unlimited club, collegiate, senior scout and junior scout trophies. Awards will be held at American Adventures with picnic (bring your own) and entertainment that evening. Volunteers are needed to help conduct the race. Entry blanks may be obtained from Hugh Hilliard, Jr., 954 Vistavia Cir., Decatur, Ga. 30033. Register early--it's cheaper!---Doug Woodward

## TRIP REPORTS

### LITTLE RIVER, ALABAMA---FEB. 16

In spite of hard rain all Friday night, quite a large group made the drive to Alabama to run the river or to hike the trail alongside. The day was not uncomfortably cold and the rain had stopped by the time everyone gathered.

Upon advice from someone who had already climbed down the mountain to look, we, too, made the long climb down the side of the mountain to inspect the river and make a judgment before carrying the boats down. The river was up several feet above normal and into the trees at the put-in. We hiked down the trail to the first big rapid which actually appeared easier than normal for a decked boat to negotiate. But the waves above it were quite large and there were no eddies.

Anyone rounding the bend in a boat and making a quick decision on where to run would have found himself in the trees if his decision was anywhere other than down the middle. A wipe-out would mean a long swim with inherent danger to body and boat. Many more potentially dangerous rapids lie below there.

Discretion, it is said, is the better part of valor and this seemed a good time to be discreet. So we cancelled the canoe trip and separated to spend the day hiking, boating elsewhere, or sight-seeing. ---Glyde Woolsey

### LITTLE RIVER CANYON, ALABAMA--FEB. 17

After hearing that the regularly scheduled club trip on the Little River was cancelled due to heavy flooded conditions, several GCA members organized a trip the following day. The river had run off somewhat and reached an ideal water level for decked boats. Unfortunately there was no gauge to provide reference for members of past and future trips. The river was still slightly out of its banks and in the trees, and there were few eddies. This made it necessary to scout all of the major rapids from the shore. Scouting was also required due to the long, fast water approaches to the rapids. The most difficult rapid on the 7-mile run is not easily recognized and leaves no room for error. Although our group felt that it could be run, we could also easily see that the slightest mistake would lead to disaster. Mainly due to the lack of sufficient throw ropes and support equipment, we all decided to carry rather than to tempt the two vicious hydraulics at the bottom of the rapid. The river was continuous with its offering of fast, heavy water with big waves and big holes. Those driving over for the fun were Dave Jones, John Mathieu and his friends Ray and Joe, Cleve Tedford, David Truran, and Mark Warren. Connie Gibson hiked the trail along the river and caught the action on film.---Cleve Tedford

## IMPORTANT HEARING

A hearing on alternatives for management of the Chattooga River Unit will be held by the U. S. Forest Service at the Rabun County Court House in Clayton, Georgia, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 7. This hearing will have a great bearing on the management of the 178,000-acre Chattooga River Unit. The final land use plan will cover management of the unit for the next ten years. Protection of the Chattooga Watershed is of vital importance to us who use and love the river. Those wishing to attend should contact Tom Hamby for car pooling at 981-1499.

WANT ADS

For Sale: 12 assorted Grumman Canoes; 3 kayaks. Contact Payson Kennedy, Nantahala Outdoor Center, U. S. 19 at Wesser, Bryson, City, N. C. 28713, phone 704-488-6407.

For Sale: 2 kayaks; one new, one not so new but in good serviceable condition. Call Clyde Woolsey at 766-8771.

Fiberglass molds for sale, excellent condition, proven designs---all molds are solid, interlocking flange type. One Downriver C-2, one slalom C-2, one downriver K-1 and two slalom K-1's; also a full range of boat-building material. Contact Doug Woodward, P. O. Box 49071, Atlanta 30329; phone 875-7791

For Sale: Yellow Old Town Wentachee C-1, serial number 186160. 13' 2" long, 33" wide, 13½" deep, weight - 42 lbs. Price - \$250 including spray skirt. Flotation bags and contoured canoe rack adapters are also available for this boat. Bill Dickert, 1203 McLendon Drive, Decatur, Ga. 30033; phone (404) 938-5618

For Sale: Used Kayak, femat design, battered but strong and no leaks. \$80. Call Maureen Maloney, days 875-7021. Femat spray skirt for sale also. Looking to buy Prijon spray skirt and also, perhaps, used Prijon kayak at good price.

For Sale: Cruising Kayak, epoxy layup, never cracked, \$110. Used Aluminum 17-ft. canoe, \$110. Beautiful Old Town Wood Canoe with green fiberglass exterior, excellent \$225. 12-ft. Sunfish Sailboat \$120 (sail also fits wood canoe above.) Jim Fletcher, 875-2423 or bus. 656-4868.

For Sale: Two new Lettmann Downriver kayaks, \$225 each; one new Lettmann Mark IV kayak, \$235; one new Prijon Olympia 420 kayak, \$200; several other new or used kayaks, \$125 to \$175; contact Roger Scott, 8147 Savannah Hills Drive, Ooltewah, Tenn. 37363. Phone (615) 238-4867.

MARCH TRIPS

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

CHESTATEE RIVER (Class III)

The Chestatee is a beautiful river and offers some Class III rapids, one which is approximately 100 yards long and must be run. Some experience is essential. The trip takes about four hours. Come prepared for cold weather with wetsuit or change of clothing in a waterproof bag.

MEET: At the Two Sisters Restaurant on the south side of Dahlonega Highway 19 approx. ½ mile from square at 9:30 a.m. sharp

PREREGISTER: With Bill Crowley at 921-8353 (note new number)

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

ALCOVY RIVER (Class I)

This is a fine family trip if we have warm weather. The rapids are a pleasant Class I, although there is a Class III section beyond our proposed take-out point. The float should take around five hours. Bring lunch, life-jackets and appropriate clothing--wet suits are not necessary.

PREREGISTER: With Dale Bergen, 377-2970, before Friday, March 1.

HR? TELlico AND OBED RIVERS, MARCH 9-10

The Tellico River below Bald River Falls at 700-2000 c.f.s. is a decked boater's Nantahala. For seven miles it offers almost continuous Class III rapids with a couple that might be called Class IV at the appropriate water levels. This is not a river for beginners and only expert open canoeists and proficient decked boaters should attempt it.

The Obed system on the Cumberland Plateau in East Tennessee offers some of the most challenging whitewater in the Eastern United States. If the water level is adequate, we will select one of many Class III-IV runs for our trip on Sunday. Again, this is not a trip for beginners. Pre-registration with trip leader required. The trip may be cancelled due to low water conditions. Those planning to run on Sunday should plan on driving back 260 miles with no stops for gas.

CALL: Cleve Tedford at 394-7983.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

NACOOCHEE STRETCH OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE (Class I-II)

This section of the river is ideal for canoeists of intermediate skill. In warm summer weather, it is a good run for the beginner of some river experience to practice on if he has a skilled partner. It is especially swift in the spring, however, so one must definitely have maneuvering capability to avoid being swept into logs that lie against the bank on river bends or just out in a low overhang from sand bars. It's a challenging stream, with frequent Class I and II rapids and with its own special, seasonal charm no matter when it is run.

PREREGISTER: With Bill and Anna Belle Close by Thursday night, March 14, for information as to where and when to meet. Call 373-3945 (please do not call our offices).

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE (Class I-III)

This section from Georgia 255 to Duncan Bridge Road near View offers many Class I to III rapids. Smith Island, Buck Shoals, Three Ledges, Horse Shoe and many others will present a challenge to maneuvering skills of even the expert canoeist at the higher water levels.

Wet suits will be the preferred attire. A waterproof bag containing sufficient changes of clothing may be acceptable if the temperature and wind are moderate. We rescued two rafters on this section last April that were nearly demobilized from hyper-thermia (loss of heat). It pays to be well prepared. Bring a hot lunch if practical.

MEET: At the put-in on Ga. 255 at 9:30 a.m. We will try to leave a shuttle car at the take-out on the way up.

PREREGISTER: With Bill and Debby Heath at 633-6055

SATURDAY, MARCH 23

ETOWAH RIVER

The Etowah is a pleasant little river south of Dahlonega, full of Indian history and gold diggings. Come for a Saturday outing, but be prepared for cold weather, especially around the feet because there is a portage around an 8-foot waterfall. This is a beginner river, but some experience in the canoe is very nice, especially since the water will be cold (in case of an upset). Brown's Guide to Georgia, Volume 1, Number 3 (Summer, 1973) has a very inviting article on the Etowah written by Dr. Claude Terry.

MEET: At the entrance to Blackburn State Park on Highway 9E at 9:30 a.m.  
PREREGISTER: With the Fowikes at 255-4110 by Thursday, March 21.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

CHATTOOGA, SECTION III (Class III-IV)

No leader has been secured for this trip. The Cruisemaster would be happy to take this one if he has a canoe by this date. Interested persons, please contact Dale Bergen, 377-2970. *Dave Garrity 9:30 am*

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

CHATTOOGA RIVER, SECTION II (Class II)

This segment of the Chattooga is far removed from the Chattooga of Deliverance fame. It has some flat water as well as several one and two-foot ledges that offer good training for the beginner. (Tandem canoes should have prior experience, however.) There is a picturesque Class III drop where we will have lunch. This rapid can be portaged. Be prepared for the cold weather and/or blustery winds we may encounter this time of year. Bring lunch, a change of clothes and LIFEJACKETS for all.

PREREGISTER: With Dale Bergen at 377-2970, by Friday, March 29.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

CHATTOOGA RIVER, SECTION IV (Class IV-V)

We don't have a leader for this trip. Anyone interested? Please call Dale Bergen, 377-2970.

*HR?*

*Armen?*

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

The S. E. U. S. Slalom and Wildwater Championships and National Open Canoe Championships will be held on the Nantahala River on June 15 & 16, 1974 and August 10 & 11, 1974, respectively.

For those who helped in '73, we want to say thank you.

For those who didn't, we have nothing to say. As you can imagine it takes a lot of people to make sure that a race of this size is a success and runs smoothly. Please look over the following duties and pick out a job you can do. If you are not sure what it entails, call Tom Lines 233-9545, or write him at 1185 Paces Forest Dr. N.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30327 and he will explain the duties to you. When you decide on a job, please drop Tom a card telling him of the position you wish.

Please help with both races, and by all means participate. Let's strive to continue our success record.

Thanks for your help,

Scott Price

Tom Lines

P.S. These will be the dates for the races unless TVA will not assure us water on Sunday. The time to sign up for help is NOW. The important planning for the race will be in the next few weeks. New Members - This is a great chance to get started with racing. You don't have to know anything about racing, but must be willing to help. I am looking forward to hearing from a great many people very soon

Scott Price

*Tom*  
Tom Lines

Chairmen are needed to coordinate the following activities:  
(If we cannot find volunteers, these duties will be randomly assigned to participants.) WE NEED YOUR HELP !!!!!

1. Trash Collection & Disposal

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| a. Get trash bags or barrels.                  | d. Job Jonnies (Start & Finish) |
| b. See that these are picked up after each day | e. Get adequate tables & chairs |
| c. Check on demster dumpster                   |                                 |

2. Gate Committee

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| a. Procure stakes                         | e. Have flagging to put on wires on bank |
| b. Procure wire (any left from last year) | f. Take down gates at end of race        |
| c. Procure twine                          |  |
| d. Check all gates for working conditions |  |

3. Number Committee Bronwyn Fowlkes 255-4110
  - a. See that we have # 1 - 350
  - b. Issue the numbers
  - c. Collect the numbers
  - d. Be sure all numbers in good order
4. Timers
  - a. Check on watches
  - b. Check on walkie talkie
  - c. Write about electric timers
  - d. Erect rope around time truck
  - e. Check for canopy
  - f. Clean score board
  - g. Have starting time sheets posted
5. Starters
  - a. Check on canopy
  - b. Post starting times nearby
  - c. Those who are late for start are scratched
  - d. Make sure no one talks to starter
6. Gate Judges
  - a. Have practice session for all judges
  - b. When replacement arrives, work together for 10 minutes
  - c. Have someone take food, water & Cokes
  - d. Have enough sheets
  - e. Discuss rules & whistle with everyone
  - f. No more than 4 gates per judge
  - g. Complete set of rules, and pass out to helpers and post
7. Traffic Control
  - a. Roped-off take out area (10 min. parking)
  - b. Rope off highway
  - c. Keep traffic moving
  - d. Check N. O. C. for their cooperation
  - e. No one can park or stop along the road
  - f. Get signs from N. C. Highway Patrol
8. Safety Committee
  - a. Ropes at at least 4 points on Slalom course
  - b. Ropes on 5 places on downriver
  - c. Check on raft for rescue
  - d. Inner-tubes on end of ropes
  - e. Get Safety Patrol & make sure someone always at truck
9. Protest Committee
  - a. Be at a specific place all the time
  - b. Has complete final say
  - c. Have every protestant fill out form & pay then
10. Protocol Committee Carter Fowlkes
  - a. Notify county sheriff of dates
  - b. Notify State Patrol of dates
  - c. Notify Natchala Power Co. of dates
  - d. Notify N. O. C. of dates
  - e. Notify State Highway Dept. of dates
  - f. Notify N. C. Dept. of Parks of dates
  - g. Notify U.S. Dept. of Interior
  - h. Notify local hospital for stand-by help
  - i. Notify American White Water Association
  - j. Notify all white water clubs in the U. S.
  - k. Send thank you letters to all of the above for their cooperation



✓  
11. Publicity Committee

- a. Get announcer
- b. Check on Poster (Review black & white slides)
- c. Distribution of entry forms
- d. Find someone to answer questions by applicants
- e. Notify local newspapers and get a reporter there from Atlanta Magazine, Georgia Magazine, Brown's Guide, etc., TV coverage

12. Printing Committee

- a. See about patches
- b. Get brochure reprinted (2 forms this year)
- c. Get posters
- d. Check with lawyer on liability-wavier
- e. Get slides for new pictures
- f. Check on sale of posters, etc.

13. Boat Measure and Inspection

- a. All decked boat participants must wear helmet & jacket
- b. Grab loops and painters required

14. Registration

- a. See that all of last year's race people are notified
- b. Have forms printed for mistakes
- c. Have modified random drawings
- d. Make sure no conflict on starting times
- e. Give distant people early starting time
- f. Notify all participants they will have to work
- g. Those who made errors on entry form must be cleared up before June 5, 1974 and by mail, each participant will be notified by mail if there is trouble and must be cleared up by June 1, if the race is to be run
- h. All participants must include a self-addressed and stamped envelope
- i. In case of a closed race, the S.E. people come first

15. Communications

- a. Set up and check public address system for starters (slalom & white water)
- b. Work with Southern Bell and Explorers

16. Award Chairman

- a. Pre-race meeting with contestants
- b. Race awards
- c. Get awards
- d. Get someone from T.V.A.

17. Results Committee

- a. Verify times
- b. Type and print results
- c. Mail out results

