

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

April 1974

NEWSLETTER

Volume VIII, No. 2 (3)

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

Mary Catherine Ahlberg
3624 Chelsea Crescent Drive, N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30319
Res. 252-7748

DUES ARE PAST DUE

If you haven't paid your 1974 dues, this is the last GCA Newsletter you will receive. If it slipped your mind, send your check for \$5 (or \$6 if you also wish to affiliate with the Georgia Wildlife Federation) to the Treasurer, Bill Crowley, 5808 O'Hara Drive, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083

AND AS LONG AS YOU ARE WRITING THE CROWLEYS. . .

Georgia Canoeing Association patches (green and orange in the shape of the State of Georgia) are available for \$1.50 and decals in the shape of the state or just initials are available for \$1.00. Make checks payable to the GCA and send to Treasurer Crowley. That address again is 5808 O'Hara Drive, Stone Mountain, Ga. 30083.

WINTER MEETING "99 DAYS TO SURVIVAL"

The Winter Meeting of the GCA was held Friday, March 15. Those of you who were unable to attend missed a fantastic film and a very enjoyable evening. Unfortunately we didn't miss you. We had planned on an attendance of around 150 members, but 250 showed up. The bank auditorium was bursting at the seams. We apologize again to the members who had to stand and assure you that we will make better arrangements for the next meeting.

We all enjoyed watching the rafts and boaters running the rapids of the Green and Colorado Rivers and all followed with interest the story of Major Powell's trip over 100 years ago. While watching the boaters, we were assured of one thing that most of us already know: a C-1 can go anywhere one of those double-bladed windmills can.

We were sorry that more members didn't bring slides and movies, and we hope to see more of those at future meetings.---Cleve Tedford

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

The Executive Committee met March 14 with 7 members and 4 visiting members present. The general membership meeting for the following night was discussed. Annabelle Close suggested using treasury monies for legal aid in protecting access rights to rivers on private property by club members. It was agreed that the cost for such litigation would be beyond the means of the club at this time.

Treasurer Crowley reported that the GCA treasury contains \$1,287.00, with a 60% membership renewal expected to increase this within the next two weeks.

The forthcoming Nantahala Races were discussed at some length. Claude Terry and Margaret Tucker reported on the Forest Service Wild & Scenic Rivers meeting relevant to the Chattooga River land-use and access.

It was agreed that trip descriptions in the newsletter would be limited to not more than five lines. Detailed standardized trip descriptions will appear in the forthcoming handbook.---Maureen Maloney, secretary.

LOCUST FORK RACES---APRIL 6-7

Remember that the Slalom and Downriver Races on the Locust Fork in Alabama are coming up soon. Contact Cleve Tedford at 394-7983 for details.

RACE ON THE OCONEE

The Laurens County Sportman's Club is planning a canoe-raft race on the Oconee River near Dublin. Your President, along with GCA member Connie Gibson, attended their last meeting and presented a program on canoe racing and race organization. The proposed course will cover 12 miles of fairly flat water. The Lauren's County Sportman's Club has plans for a weekend affair complete with South Georgia barbeque. Details will appear in an upcoming newsletter.

CHATTOOGA RIVER BILL

The bill to add the Chattooga to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System is now out of the Senate Interior Committee, largely due to the help of Governor Jimmy Carter. It is now being worked on by a House-Senate committee for development into a final bill. Write to Senators Hollings, Ervin, Helms, Thurmond, Talmadge and Nunn asking them to get the bill to a vote in the full Senate. The bill has no significant opposition, so support of it should be a wise political move.

CHATTOOGA RIVER UNIT HEARING

On March 7 a hearing was held by the U. S. Forest Service in Clayton on Alternatives for Managing the Chattooga River Unit. Cleve Tedford spoke for the GCA. We endorsed the Forest Service alternative to manage the unit with emphasis on recreation activities as opposed to the alternative plans of timber and wildlife management and management to obtain outputs from all forest land resources. The Forest Service has stated that the recreation alternative is the one with the least impact on the environment and in this we concur. We pointed out that the Chattooga River corridor is presently being badly degraded by overuse in certain areas and that a management plan for the River is desperately needed. Developed recreation sites are badly needed to accommodate campers, canoeists and picnickers. We made clear however that these sites should be developed outside the river corridor. We urged that the requirement of mandatory wearing of life jackets and other basic whitewater safety precautions be enforced and offered the resources of our club to aid in the development of these river use regulations and safety requirements. Clearcutting was opposed based on its damage to the steep mountain slopes and water quality. We also suggested that the Overflow Creek-Three Forks Drainage Area be studied for possible wilderness status.

Other GCA members speaking on behalf of the recreation alternative for themselves and other organizations were Claude Terry, Tom Hamby, Scott Price, and Doug Woodward. Support was overwhelming in favor of the recreation alternative with only one other speaker favoring an opposing alternative. We were well received by the Forest Service and thank them for listening to the public,---Cleve Tedford

LAND USE SYMPOSIUM FEATURES NADER AND UDALL

Consumer advocate Ralph Nader and former U. S. Secretary of the Interior and environmental writer Stewart Udall speak at the 1974 Atlanta Environmental Symposium on National Land Use April 2 and 3 at Agnes Scott College, Decatur.

Nader will speak on "Corporate Land Practices" and Udall will discuss protection of the Eastern wilderness areas. The Symposium also features other environmentalists. Specific times and places for Symposium events will be announced later. The public is invited.

WANT ADS

For Sale or Trade: Epifoam in white, blue, black or red in various sizes. Will trade for canoe or kayak equipment of equal value. Call Earl Thompson at 634-2066.

For Sale or Trade: One used Prijon and one used Old Town kayak, \$75 each; one Old Town K-1 mold, used often but still makes a good serviceable boat, \$125. Call Paul Wiens at 961-9348.

TRIP REPORTS

CHESTATEE RIVER---March 2

We really lucked out and had a nice day for this trip. The temperature was about 65 and it was only slightly cloudy. The water was at a fair level (2.35 on gauge) and caused no real difficulty for anyone.

The "sign" put up by a land owner stating "No Canoeing Allowed" is no longer there. I don't know whether he took it down himself or high water took it down for him---never the less it was good to see it down.

Those enjoying the river were Bill Heath in a C-1 open, Jack Weems in a C-1 open, Larry Rudisill in a C-1, Steve Bowles in a C-1, Jim Fletcher in a kayak, Dick Butterworth and Ruth Skaggs in a C-2 open, Dave Garrity in a C-1 open, Stuart Alston and Walter Evins in a C-2 open, Ross Wilson in a kayak, Ken Strickland in a kayak, Larry Howard and wife in a C-2 open, Jim Cole in a kayak and myself in a C-1.---Bill Crowley

APRIL TRIPS

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

CONASAUGA RIVER (CLASS III)

Most of the action on this river occurs within about 200 yards of the put-in with some good Class III rapids requiring some sharp maneuvering. The remainder of the run is not difficult but should not be attempted by beginners. Wet suits may be required, depending on the weather, of course.

PREREGISTER: With Dale Bergen, 322-2970, by Thursday, April 4, for meeting time, place and other details.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

HIWASEE (CLASS II)

No leader at press time. Interested persons, please contact Dale Bergen at 377-2970.

JACKS RIVER (CLASS III-IV)

This is proposed as an informal "exploratory" trip for interested decked boaters. Call Margaret Tucker at 355-6207 for information about the river.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1974

COOSAWATTEE RIVER (CLASS III)

A physically demanding 18-mile run with many Class III rapids, 100-200 yards in length. Includes a quarter-mile portage around a 30-foot waterfall. Registration will be limited due to the necessity of four-wheel drive vehicles for the take-out. Don't attempt this one unless you are in good shape.

PREREGISTER: With Bill Heath at 633-6055 by Wednesday, April 17 (you must preregister).

MEET: Where the Coosawattee intersects Ga. 411 at 8 a.m. sharp.

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

BROAD RIVER (CLASS II-III)

Class II with optional Class III ledges. Approximately 3-hour canoeing time. Driving time from Atlanta is about 1 hour and 45 minutes. Trip leaders are Bob Goeke and Ken Strickland. We will run the section between Ga. 281 and Ga. 172.

PREREGISTER: With Dale Bergen, 377-2970, by Thursday, April 18.

MEET: At the Madison County Courthouse in Danielsville, Ga., at 10 a.m. Take I-85 north to the Commerce-Maysville exit (Hwy. 98), turn right and follow Hwy. 98 through Commerce 17 miles to Danielsville. Turn right at the intersection of Hwy. 98 and Hwy. 29 at the traffic light---it's two blocks to the courthouse.

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

CHATTOOGA, SECTION III (CLASS III-IV)

PREREGISTER: With trip leader, Dick Winger, at 255-2394.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

CHATTOOGA, SECTION II (CLASS II)

PREREGISTER: With Jim Fletcher at 875-2423.

CHATTOOGA, SECTION IV (CLASS IV-V)

No leader at press time. Call Dale Bergen at 377-2970 if interested.

WHITEWATER CANOE AND KAYAK TRAINING - May 3-5

A whitewater instruction course, intended to introduce the novice canoeist or kayaker to basic river paddling techniques will again be offered by the Georgia Canoeing Association and Explorer Post 49. This will be a weekend course, May 3, 4, and 5, taught by experienced canoeists from the Gca and kayakists from the Post. In the past there has been heavy demand for this training session, so preregistration is urged. Groups will be limited to provide quality instruction

The training session will begin with classroom work at Camp Chattahoochee, Willeo Road, Roswell, on Friday night, May 3 at 7:30 p.m. Instruction will be on the Chattahoochee River on Saturday. On Sunday, May 5, there will be a river trip of moderate difficulty for practice and further instruction.

Tuition for the weekend will be \$5.00 which includes instruction and a tect. Canoeists will be provided a copy of McNair's Basic River Canoeing and kayakists will be provided Evans' Fundamentals of Kayaking. Some canoes will be available for rent from American Adventures, 237-1914. Reserve yours early!

Instruction is geared toward tandem canoeing; therefore, you should arrange for a partner if possible. An instruction group in solo canoeing can be arranged if requested in advance. Only two people per canoe, please. Children under ten must be accompanied by an adult. All students should be good swimmers.

Training will begin with river safety and will cover both basic and whitewater strokes, water reading, and control of the canoe in various river situations. Selection of equipment will also be discussed. The first river practice will be concerned with perfecting the strokes, hence the river section to be canoed will be Class I to II (mild rapids). Special river techniques such as eddy turns and ferrying will also be introduced. All of these skills plus water reading will be practiced during the second river trip.

You will need to bring the following equipment:

EVERYONE

life-jacket
tennis shoes
change of clothing in
waterproof bag
lunch & beverage in
waterproof bag

CANOEISTS

canoe with 10' line on
both ends
canoe paddles plus spare
knee pads
bailing scoop (plastic jug
with end cut out)

KAYAKERS

kayak with grab loops
and flotation
kayak paddle
spray skirt
helmet