

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30083

INTERMEDIATE TRAINING SESSION, OCTOBER 19

An intermediate canoe and kayak training session will be held on October 19. Canoe instruction will be offered in tandem, solo and decked C-1. Kayak instruction will be on the Nantahala and canoes will be on the Hiwassee. Both rivers offer ideal conditions for training. Cost of the Session will be \$3.00. Canoeists should pre-register with Tom Lines at 233-9545 between 6 and 8. Kayakers register with Margaret Tucker at 355-6207.

OCTOBER 1974

NEWSLETTER

VOL. VIII NO. 9

Deadline for November newsletter is October 21.

Send copy; typed if possible, to: Mary Catherine Ford
1225 Church Street, C-3
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Address changes and corrections should be reported immediately to:
W. D. Crowley
5808 O'Hara Drive
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30083

Dear GCA Member:

You may not be aware that both the upper Chattahoochee (Nacoochee Section) and the Chestatee Rivers have been closed to canoeists because of landowner opposition. People attempting to use these rivers have been threatened with arrest under trespassing charges. Under Georgia law, the streamside landowner owns the streambed to the midpoint. Of course, if he owns both sides, he owns the entire stream bed. He cannot, however, divert or dam the flow of the water. Whether he can prevent someone from floating on the surface of the water is the question now being raised. For years people have exercised the right to float over the privately owned stream-bottom without challenge. Now many landowners are saying that they have the right to stop this use.

We must move now to determine exactly what our rights are and how we may exercise them or give up our rivers one by one. There is little hope that this confrontation will "blow over" or go away. We as a club have had good relations with landowners in the past, but we cannot assume that they will continue, despite our efforts. Many other people are using the Georgia streams and many are indeed abusing landowners' rights. We cannot even assume that Georgia law will be interpreted in our favor should one of us be faced with a court action this fall as a result of a trip on one of our favorite rivers.

The Executive Committee met September 18 to discuss this problem and some possible solutions. We decided that we must retain legal counsel to let us know where we stand under the law. Only then can we decide what action to take. This must be

done immediately! It is likely that arrests will be made on some stream in the near future.

Unfortunately, sound legal advice is expensive. We can only estimate what the necessary research would cost to let us know what our rights are. We believe it might cost as much as \$1,000. Of course, if one of our members becomes involved in a court case, we might want to enter also as an organization. This, too, would cost. In short, we must ask each of you for a contribution to a special legal fund to be used at first for research and possibly later for defense. Please respond right away and send the earmarked funds to the GCA, P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30083.

In addition, we are trying to compile evidence of the amount of use of these two streams and the length of time the public has been using them. This evidence could be important to the outcome of a court case or an attempt to get the State to provide access points to reduce canoeist-landowner conflicts. If you have ever used the Nacoochee Section or Chestatee between Turner's Corners and Grindell Bridge (our usual run), please write a letter describing the number of years you have done this and mention any other pertinent information, such as other friends or family members, the time or times of the year, where you put in and took out, etc. Send this documentation to Mark Warren, The Georgia Conservancy, Inc., Suite 402, 3376 Peachtree Street, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia. Do it now! If you haven't used either of these streams, take this appeal to a friend who has.

Sincerely - Cleve Tedford

The Times, Gainesville, Ga., Sunday, August 11, 1974 9-B

Lumpkin County landowners organize against canoeists

By NEIL HUNT

Times Staff Writer

DAHLONEGA — A group of Lumpkin County landowners have organized and posted "against canoeing only" lands along the Chestatee River.

"In order to protect our private property rights on a non-navigable waterway, we have at the present time formed a group of private landowners, secured the services of a lawyer, notified all politicians from Sen. Talmadge down to the commission chairman of Lumpkin County, and have posted (against canoeing only) all the land on the Chestatee River between Turner's Corner and the Grinnel Bridge in Lumpkin County," said George A. Morris.

Morris is a member of the group called Citizens for Private Property Rights. He said the group has the full cooperation of the county commission and sheriff's department. "We plan to prosecute under the 'no trespassing'

law of Georgia, if necessary," Morris said.

The action was taken by the Lumpkin County citizens only against canoeists, whom they objected to floating down their section of river. Other uses such as hunting, fishing and camping on private properties wasn't mentioned.

Morris cited an article which appeared in The Times on June 23 concerning a newly opened canoe and raft rental service in Lumpkin County as the cause of further violations by canoeists of private property rights.

"I'm sure," he said, "You didn't realize the repercussions your article of June 23, 1974 page B-12 of The Times would have on the private landowners along some of these Northeast Georgia streams.

"Your article has loosed literally hundreds of non-taxpayers and undesirables on us. It is practically impossible to fish or swim, not to mention

the hordes of people practically in the yards of people who live on the river," Morris said.

The citizens group wrote to Joe D. Tanner, commissioner of the State Department of Natural Resources, to clarify state law in regards to canoeists using the state's rivers and streams.

Tanner's reply stated that his agency "has no control whatsoever" over canoeists on the Chestatee River. "The use of canoes as described by you does not violate any part of the wildlife code of our state," Tanner's response said.

The commissioner said he believes such use of canoes would be in violation of the trespassing laws of Georgia, a matter which would address itself to the local sheriff.

"Cooperation from the sheriff and county commission should make it a fairly simple matter to ask his assistance by enforcing the provisions of the trespassing laws in this area," Tanner said.

He said he would see that employees of the DNR are made aware of the fact that they have no right to tell people they can canoe or otherwise trespass on private property.

OCTOBER TRIP SCHEDULE (see Guidebook for river descriptions)

September was a veritable disaster for getting leaders. As a result, many trips are leaderless. Therefore, the first qualified person to join such a trip will be considered its leader. --- Dale Bergen, 377-2970

Saturday, October 5

UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE

No leader. Call Cruisemaster.

Sunday, October 6

ALCOVY

No leader. Call Cruisemaster.

Saturday, October 12

BROAD

No leader. Call Cruisemaster.

Saturday, October 19

CHATTOOGA III

PREREGISTER: With Don Norton, 288-6219

Sunday, October 20

CHATTOOGA II

No leader. Call Cruisemaster.

Sunday, October 20

CHATTOOGA IV

No leader. Call Cruisemaster.

Sunday, October 27

ETOWAH

PREREGISTER: With Tom Green, 255-8983

SPECIAL FLINT RIVER TRIP

An 11-mile section from Spewrell Bluff to Po Biddy Rd., a Class II-III section of the scenic Flint River near Thomaston, about 75 miles south of Atlanta. Includes Yellowjacket and Hightower Shoals (about 2 miles of very frequent Class II and III

rapids) and requires about the same skill as the Upper Chattahoochee.

No date has been set, but please contact Allen Lewis at 363-3538 (after 5) if interested so definite plans can be made.

TRIP REPORTS

CHAUGA - Saturday, September 7, 1974

Due to the Nantahala water being turned off, we changed to the Chauga River in South Carolina. We paddled from the Cobb Road bridge to Toxaway, about 8-1/2 miles. The trip took about 5 hours since the major rapids (6 in all) were scouted carefully, and some people ran some of the rapids more than once.

Jim Fletcher in a C1 open and Mike Weems in a kayak showed us how to run the right side of the Pump House rapid. Other paddlers entertained us with some beautiful runs on the big ledges, as well as a few spectacular wipe outs. Everyone had a great time. This river should be added to the GCA Schedule.

Paddlers were: Mike Weems in a kayak; Jim Fletcher and Melanie Dixon, Joe and Pat Blanchfield, and Hoppy and Mary Eager in C2 open; Dick Rekau, Tom Carter, A. C. Marshall, Ralph Sikes, and Jack Weems in C1 open. Thanks to Ralph Sikes for running sweep. --- Jack Weems

CHATTOGA III - Sunday, September 8, 1974

An impromptu trip was arranged for the old favorite on Sunday, and despite the threat of rain, we put four boats in at Earl's Ford and had a very nice day on the river with no rain. The 76 gauge was at 1.7, which is a bit low and seems to make some of the rocks more "aggressive". All in all, it was a very enjoyable day, including 2 good runs on Bull Sluice. The highlight of the day however, was the most interesting portage at second ledge I have ever seen, performed by the M/C Comedy team. Too bad we had no cameras.

Paddlers were: Mike Weems and Jim Fletcher in Kayaks; Maureen Maloney and Steve Cantrell in a C2 open, and Jack Weems in C1 open. --- Jack Weems

FROM THE PRESIDENT

TO THE FOLKS BACK HOME.....

The following are a couple of letters we received from GCA members who recently moved to other states. Dave Jones is probably the most determined whitewater competitor to come out of Georgia. He is dedicated to excellence in the sport and is highly motivated. He currently holds the record in K-1 Downriver for the Nantahala Southeastern Championships and has won several other wildwater races this year. We are all proud to have him representing the GCA in national whitewater competition and hope to see him carry the flag to Yugoslavia next year to the World Championships. We will be following his progress closely in the months ahead as we approach the U. S. Team Trials. Go get 'um Dave!

Cleve Tedford, President GCA
Atlanta, Georgia
Cleve,

This is a short note to let you and the other GCA members know where we are and what is happening in Washington, D. C. We are living outside of the city a good ways in Springfield, Virginia. It is a pretty little area, a small Sandy Springs,

and only 30 minutes from where I work or paddle. I am stationed at Bolling AFB as a dental officer. The facility is very nice and the personnel are pleasant and understanding of my kayak status. In fact, everybody was referring to me as Dr. Kayak before I came. You can imagine the stories that developed when everyone found out that the new dentist was in the Special Services too. I had one doctor here ask me what was the race I won the gold medal in at the Olympics!

I am paddling 6 days a week on the Potomac (yuck-pollution). We have a workout that consists of 6-7 miles, doing 10 three-minute intervals with one-minute rests. Then we run 4 miles. I can't help but feel that I will be in the best shape of my life before long.

Flatwater kayaking is interesting and different. I miss the rapids but plan to make a try at the U. S. Whitewater team in the spring. That is one reason I am writing. Please note the change of address to Bill Crowley. Don't forget that it is now Dr. Jones instead of Mr. Jones. I want to continue my membership in the GCA because I want to represent them in all whitewater events this year. Maybe with a little luck the GCA will be represented in Yugoslavia next June.

Vesta is feeling fine. The baby is expected in mid-November. We feel that our next two years here are going to be productive. After the U. S. team trials this spring, if I don't make the U. S. Team, I am going strictly to flatwater. Our coaches think Ken Stockin (GCA member) and I have potential for the Olympic team in '76. I hope so. That sure would be exciting.

Hope everything is fine back home. Maybe with Lester defeated there is really hope for Sprewell Bluffs now. Give my best to everybody. I like to hear from people, so write if possible.

Keep Paddling,
David Jones
7779 Tiverton Drive
Springfield, Virginia 22152

GCA
Atlanta, Georgia

Please be advised of my change of address. Also a bit of advice to the membership. Don't run the Upper Eagle River near Vail, Colorado undecked. I wrapped one of my aluminum canoes around a rock into a perfect "U" shape. I have now beat it roughly back into shape with a 2-1/2 lb.-ball peen hammer but still have 6 holes to patch. The current was so strong that it took a come-along winch chained to a tree and a double length of gold line to pull it off. Even then it almost broke the winch. Bad-----river, the Eagle. Think I'll come back to the Chattooga.

John M. Carter
P. O. Box 1361
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001

TVA STREAMFLOW INFORMATION - (Thanks to TVCC Newsletter No. 9, 1974)

"TVA has notified us that their telephone-recorder answering system for stream flow information is now in operation. The number to call for this is 615-525-5751. A new recorded message will be supplied by 11 a.m., Monday through Saturday (except holidays). Daily average total flow will be provided for Apalachia on the Hiwassee, Chilhowee on the Little Tennessee, Nantahala on the Nantahala and Parksville on Ocoee No. 3 on the Ocoee River. The Friday message will include estimated flows through the weekend. Flows are subject to change without notice. They will also

be providing the 7 a.m. stream flow readings for 13 uncontrolled streams: Emory (Oakdale), French Broad (Newport), Harpeth (Kingston Springs), Little River (Maryville), Nolichucky (Embreeville), Obey (Jamestown), Oconaluftee (Birdtown), South Fork Cumberland (Stearns), Tellico (Tellico Plains), and Toccoa (Dial). Lake elevations will be included for Fontana Lake."

SOUTHEASTERN INTERCOLLEGIATE CANOE RACE - October 5

Western Piedmont Community College of Morganton, North Carolina, will sponsor the third Southeastern Intercollegiate Canoe Races on Saturday, October 5 on the Catawba River west of Morganton. Competition is limited to open boats. The Intercollegiate Class will be open to any member of the student body, staff or faculty of a college or university. Open classes will be held for those not associated with a college or university. Entry fees of \$3.50 will be accepted up to 9:30 a.m. on the day of the race. The race will begin at 10:00 at the Bridgewater Power Plant below Lake James. Camping is available nearby. For further information contact Bob Benner in Morganton at 704-433-0949.

WANT ADS

Wanted

Junior kayak, complete outfit needed. Steve Cantrell, 702 Miller Street, Dalton, Georgia 30720. H - 226-5046; B - 278-2551.

For Sale

Old town slalom kayak, red, epoxy, 4-5 layup with polycloth added, extra ribs, very strong for surfing, \$135. Allen Lewis, 4767 Courtney Drive, Apt. B-2, Forest Park, Georgia 30050.

For Sale

Mark V slalom kayak, gold, polyester, 4 & 4 layer layup with reinforcement, almost new, no patches, \$175. Allen Lewis, 4767 Courtney Drive, Apt. B-2, Forest Park, Georgia 30050.

For Sale

20 used Blue Hole canoes, \$240-340. 30 used Kayaks, various models, \$100-230. Nantahala Outdoor Center, Box 68, Star Route, Bryson City, North Carolina 28713 (704) 488-6407.

For Sale

New "River Chaser" Kayaks by Hollowform - revolutionary seamless construction of fracture resistant Marlex ^(R) - one of the toughest boats ever made - no waiting, \$179 +tax and shipping. Contact Doug Woodward, 875-7791, P. O. Box 15311, Atlanta 30333.

For Sale

Two (2) Kayaks, excellent condition, complete with air bags and neoprene spray skirts. One Pavelbone and one Femat. Call Nancy or Buddy Collins - 366-4315.

For Sale

Used Kayak - Augsburg by Pavel Bone with float bags, spoonable paddle and spray skirt - \$160; Screen Tent, 10 by 12 feet, excellent condition, - \$40; Jan or Marvin Albitz, phone: 469-8848.

RACING NEWS

Slalom practice group is meeting every Tuesday afternoon after 5:00 p.m. at Powers Ferry Landing on the lower Chattahoochee to hang gates and practice. We usually run down to Highway 41 after working in the gates. Come join us. Beginners welcome. If you can't come on Tuesday, call me. Several people are interested in meeting on another afternoon, too. Margaret Tucker, H - 355-6207, O - 526-4778.

SPECIAL MESSAGES

PAST COPIES OF NEWSLETTER WANTED

To complete a file of Newsletters, A. B. Close would appreciate being able to borrow a copy of the issues listed below. If you have any of these issues, please contact her at 373-3945. After Xeroxing any loaned material, she will return the original promptly and with a heartfelt of thanks. She needs the one or two issues of Volume I which were printed, plus Vol. II, No. 1; Vol. VI, Nos. 1 and 4; Vol. VII, Nos. 3 and 10.

Interested in Building your own boat?

Those of you who would like to read the remainder of Marvin Albitz' series on boat construction may obtain copies by writing your editor. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope. We regret that space limitations prevent the rest of the series from being printed in the Newsletter.

Changes of Addresses:

William S. Burks, III
P. O. Box 7071
Atlanta, Ga. 30309

Hartman Eager
1922 Hilltop Road
Athens, Ga. 30601

Mrs. Eileen R. Lange
2276 LaVista Road, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30329

William W. Leonard
2640 Winding Lane
Atlanta, Ga. 30319

Ms. Charlotte Ann Little
3374 Aztec Road
Apt. 38 D
Doraville, Ga. 30340

T. Micheal Lynberg
4025 W. Camelback Road
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Phoenix, Arizona 85019

Bailey Magruder
2805 Greenwood Road
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Robert H. Pearre, III
802 Pinecrest Circle
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Robert C. Pitts
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Kenneth L. Strickland
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Comer, Ga. 30629

Richard H. Tallant
4612 Thompson Mill Road
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A. Randolph Taylor
N. G. T.V. S.
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ATTN: Electronics

Ed Weatherby
P. O. Box 205
Waynesville, North Carolina 28786

John R. McRae
Box 523 Route 2 Linden Road
Durham, North Carolina 27705

New Members :

John R. Bennett
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Augusta, Ga. 30904

J. Norman Bramlett
327 Oakland Drive
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Mark Chandler
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Mr. Cary R. McGivney
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Jack A. McMillian
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Roger E. Nott
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Ronald F. Tansill
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Elwood White
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Ms. Ava L. Wilhite
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Change of Address:

Ms. Felma Moyer
1045 Kentucky Avenue, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30306

New Members:

L. Dennis Ballou
484 Cloverhurst Avenue
Athens, Ga. 30601

Philip K. Brown
2431 Hopkins Road
Powder Springs, Ga. 30073

William D. Crochet
2127 Desmond Drive
Decatur, Ga. 30033

W. Greg Hayes
107 Christian Towers
Decatur, Ga. 30030

George R. Hertling
205 Tallwood Terrace
Roswell, Ga. 30075

James D. Lester
155 Virginia Circle
Gainesville, Ga. 30501

Larry V. Murphy
1207 Denson Place
Opelika, Alabama 36801

L. Dumas Ponder
1320 MacArthur Drive
Griffin, Ga. 30223

James L. Tuttle, Jr.
46 Stoneview Drive
Lilburn, Ga. 30247

R. Steve Cantrell has a new phone -- 226-5046 home
278-2551 office

Re-instated members: Steven R. Christian
4604 East Conway Drive, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30327
255-5155

New Member: Brian Beals
45 Ivy Gates, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30342
237-9313

Jerry A. Bedsole
3755 Forrest Park Road
Apt. F-10
Hapeville, Georgia 30354
361-2563

Dr. James Burt
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Florida 32207

Alan Griner
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Lawrenceville, Ga. 30245
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Mr. Leslie G. Schaum
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