GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30083

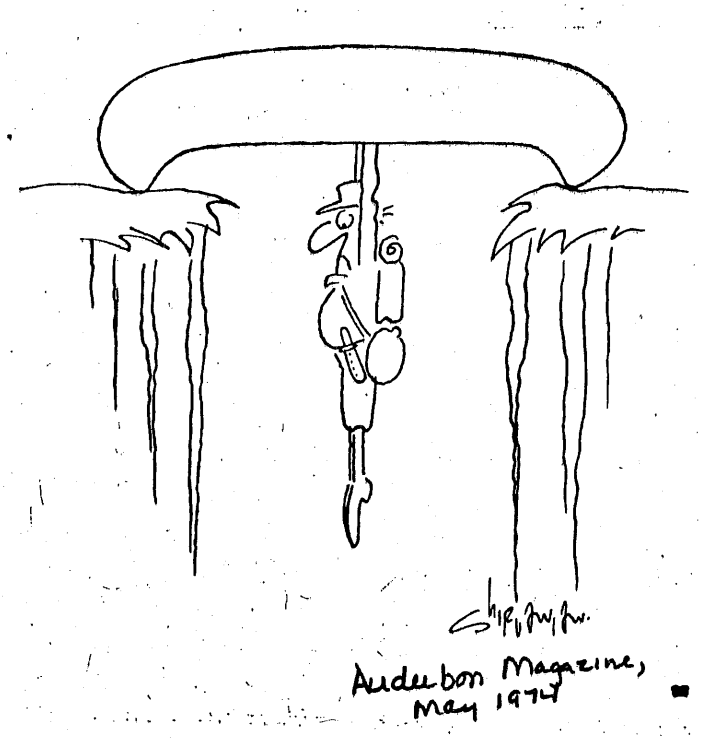
SPECIAL ISSUE Vol VII, No. 11 Dec. 1974

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

While you're hanging around this winter waiting to get back out on the rivers, there are two very important things you can do to help the Club.

1. At the December meeting, the Club voted to raise annual dues to $7.50 per year. Please send your dues as soon as possible to the new Treasurer, Bill Heath, 2028 Drew Valley Rd., N. E., Atlanta 30319. Make your check payable to the GCA. If you want to be a member of the Georgia Wildlife Federation, add on another dollar. (If you have renewed your membership at the old rate since October, you should send another $2.50 to Bill. Sorry.)

2. While your checkbook is out, remember that we still need contributions to the River Rights Defense Fund. We very much appreciate the wonderful response that we have already received---if you haven't had time yet to contribute, please do. If you can contribute time, legal advice, or other services, please contact Cleve Tedford. We'll find a job for you. (Make the check payable to RIVER RIGHTS DEFENSE FUND and mail to the GCA, P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Ga. 30083.) Your help is very much needed---or we may all be hanging around with no rivers to run at all.



NEW OFFICERS

Elected at the annual dinner meeting on December 7 were the following officers for 1975:

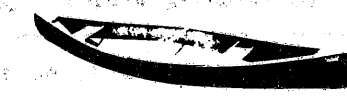
President . . . . . Anna Belle Close
Secretary . . . . . Nancy Barker
Cruisemaster . . . . Allen Lewis
Vice-President . . . Jack Weems
Treasurer . . . . . Bill Heath
Editor. . . . . Maureen Maloney
Directors-at-Large . . . . . Murray Johnson
John Helmlinger

FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

The very first order of business is to commend outgoing President Cleve Tedford for his strong leadership in 1974; for his dedication to the GCA; and to the preservation of the rights of all of us to run the Georgia rivers. Just as the names of persons he would have liked to thank personally was too long to read at the December dinner, so is space here too limited to encompass all the fine things that could be said of Cleve. A rousing vote of thanks for a productive year and a job well done.

As for this year, it is hoped that involvement will be the keynote. Get involved with the rivers; get involved in canoeists' river rights; get involved in the Association. You will be heartily welcomed on the working force to any degree you choose. In particular, contact your members-at-large (Cleve Tedford, Murray Johnson, and John Helmlinger) if you want any matter brought to the attention of the Executive Committee.---a.b.c.

TRIP REPORTS



TOCCOA, September 21

A little sunshine, a little rain, and a lot of fun! Everyone who registered showed up to make a large group of 39. Due to a locked gate at Deep Hole Rec. Area, the put-in point had to be changed at the last moment to the Coopers Creek Bridge at U. S. Hwy. 60. This was a very challenging addition to the trip if you were gifted with a BIG imagination, but it greatly surpassed the ideal of a lengthly hike carrying a 70-lb. canoe.

After reaching the Toccoa River, we had a very pleasant run with only minor problems at various points. The river was a little low and required a lot of paddling and some detailed maneuvering in places. Even the more experienced paddlers sometimes found themselves high and dry on a shallow river ledge. We enjoyed a lovely lunch in a very scenic cow pasture, where we all felt close to nature (maybe too close.)

A very special thanks to a very special group. The shuttle and the entire trip down the river went very smoothly with a group of this size. I would also like to thank Frank Bonner for running sweep. During the trip it was visibly brought to my attention that a few of us need to remember a couple of GCA rules: Wear your life jacket always and children should be under parental supervision at all times while on the river.

Paddlers were: Sherry and Bill Weeks (guests); Katie Frank and Bill Holden; Linda and Cary McGivney; Jeff Viehmeyer; Jimmy, Nina Lynn, Jim, and Nina Morrison; Ron and Shirley Tansill; Hoppy and Mary Eager; Virginia and Bill Leonard; Frank and Linda Bonner; Eileen Lange and Stacy; Jordan Shorr; Roger Nott and friend; Polly Heyward; Bronwyn Fowlkes; Earl (son) and Earl Metzger; Kathy and Carlton Shuford; Dick and John Winger; Gary and Edna Lachmund; Nancy and Marion Barker; 1 junior kayak; 5 kayaks; 1 C-1; and 16 canoes.
---Sherry and Al Matthews

BROAD, October 12

The weather was in the low 70's with a soft, gentle breeze. The trees along the banks had never looked so beautiful. Most of the people on the trip were intermediates and could handle the river well, but with three throw lines carried, we were well equipped for any emergincies. The water level was extremely low, and for large stretches we literally had to bump our way along. The six-foot falls had to be portaged because of the low water level, and even an empty canoe couldn't make it. With these conditions we took every advantage of any good white water and ran those rapids and falls several times. Earl took some nice shots of some pile-ups when one canoe tried inadvertently to straighten out another canoe caught backward in the middle of a rapid. The newcomers to the river, John and Yolanda, showed a lot of spunk and ingenuity in handling thenselves and were a delight to all of us.

Those making the trip were: Jim Cole; Dan and Gloria Griffis; Virginia and Bill Leonard; Mike Moore; Earl Moore; Jerry Bledsoe; Jeff Viehmeyer; John and Yolanda Wallace; A. C. Marshall; Doug and Danny Merriman; Bill Markert and daughter; Judy, Stacy Lange; Nancy and Marianne Barker; and yours truly, Eileen Lange. Thanks to Nancy Barker for registering everyone and to Bill Leonard and EArl Moore for acting as sweeps.

FLINT, October 26

In five hours, we paddled from Spewrell Bluff to PoBiddy Rd. We didn't get much help from the river; it was very low (7.25 on gauge) and rough on tandem canoes. The usually rough class III sluice at the bottom of Yellow Jacket Shoals had dwindled to an easy class II. I believe this section of the river would be a real challenging run after a big rain.

Paddlers were: C-1---Allen Lewis; Scott Pendergrast; and Dan Griffith. C-2---Mr. and Mrs. Earl Moore; Don Ross; and Walter Remlinger. K-1---Andrew Stults and Mike Moore.
---Allen Lewis

NANTAHALA, November 2, and CHATTOOGA III, November 3

Saturday we had two delightful excursions down the Nantahala. The water temperature was 62 degrees; the air temperature was near 80. The second run had to start at the bridge because the water was turned off early and had already receded at the power plant put-in. There were no capsizes among our group of six boats, but we did get our throw line wet in rescuing some members of a kayak training group at Nantahala Falls. Joe and Pat Blanchfield were tandem in an open canoe; A. C. Marshall, Jeff Viehmeyer, Tom Carter and Dale Bergen ran open canoes; and Gwen Bergen, our leader, was the lone kayak.

On Sunday the same group, less Jeff, was joined by Falma Moye and her brother, Tom, in a decked C-2, plus Mark and Mike Blanchfield (tandem open) for a trip on Section III. Although the weather was ideal and the water level was safe (1.3), we saw the ugly side of the Chattooga when misfortune struck at Dick's Creek Ledge. A. C. Marshall, who had already portaged his boat, slipped and fell, severely fracturing his right ankle. During the trying hours that followed, I developed a profound admiration for every member of our party because of the composure, ingenuity and common sense that each one displayed. My hat is off, also, to A. C. , who, despite the nauseating pain he was suffering, kept his courage and remained conscious, even managing some helpful advice.

Falma Moye saved the day because her first-aid kit contained an inflatable splint and this was applied to the leg. We then put A. C. into Tom Carter's canoe and worked him around and through the rapids leading to Sandy Ford, about one-half mile down the river from Dick's Creek Ledge. This took an hour of pulling, sweating, lifting, grunting, and moaning. We had sent the decked boats racing ahead to the end in order to contact the Forest Service to send a rescue vehicle to Sandy Ford. However, we very fortunately encountered a group of Clemson U. students camped on the South Carolina side of Sandy Ford. They had a van parked about a mile up the mountain, so a stretcher was constructed from two hickory poles and a throw line; we carried A. C. to the van and drove him to the Oconee Memorial Hospital in Seneca, S. C., for treatment. The whole ordeal lasted four hours (from time of accident to entering hospital). Pat Blanchard accompanied A. C. to the hospital and the rest of us returned to paddle out. We reached Bull Sluice in gathering darkness, retrieved the cars, loaded and reached the hospital around 9 p.m. to check on A. C. We took him back to Atlanta to be checked into a hospital here.

Some thoughts about this incident (and Safety Tips for the Month--Ed.)

1. We had three good first-aid kits with us, including a prescription drug pain-reliever and Falma Moye's indispensable splint.
2. The fall could have happened on any river; all have slippery rocks.
3. We had enough able bodies to handle the emergency.
4. Carpet or felt glued or stitched to tennis shoes give an effective grip on slick rocks.
5. I think inflatable splints should be an item in every river first-aid kit. I can obtain a number of these at cost and will be glad to order some.
6. We whould learn where access points are on the rivers we paddle and have an idea of how to get to the nearest hospital.

(A. C. is recovering but will probably not be able to put weight on his ankle until March. No canoeing until June! Our sympathy, A. C.)

BROAD, November 2

This impromptu trip was composed of one decked canoe and four open tandems. Jack Geldbart and son David; Nancy Barker and daughter Marion; Kathy and Carlton Shuford; Earl Metzger III; Don Langston and Mike Thompson enjoyed the beautiful weather on a very low river. Our skill at picking through rocks received a good deal of practice. One upset resulted in the loss of a pair of glasses---no bodily harm, just injured dignity.---Nancy Barker.

CHATTOOGA III, November 9

This time we were prepared. We had three doctors in the group, plus assorted first-aid kits, inflatable splints and throw lines. All this and no problems, which the best reason to have it! The day was exquisite for our compatible coterie of six decked and nine open boats. The water was low, but all the rapids were passable. The only fright we experienced was rounding a bend and hearing sudden, exploding gunfire---just two frustrated deer hunters taking target practice. We slipped by as silently and rapidly as possible. We spent a good deal of time at Bull Sluice with several boaters making more than one run (or attempt) at that rapidwhich almost appeared more ominous at the low water level because the drop was more pronounced. Bill Crowley showed the way with his usual smooth technique. Bob Milledge gave us the most spectacular run as he went sailing over the first drop only to land high and dry on Decapitation Rock. (He wasn't dry by the time he jumped off and swam to shore, however.) One boater had his watch band caught in a fastener on his life jacket at a critical point in the approach to Bull Sluice, effectively handcuffing him and causing him to capsize, putting a minor bend in the family boat. We all reached the take-out in fine shape, only to find that the road to the beach had been blockaded by the Forest Service which meant carrying all the boats to the highway. When we returned from the shuttle, we found that <u>every</u> remaining boat and all the gear had been carried up to the road by John Glover and George Brouch, two of our Charlotte, N. C., members. They surely made a lot of people happy! Afterwards, many of enjoyed a good meal at the Dillard Motor Lodge. In decked boats were: Craig Pendergrass, Andrew Stolz, Gwen Bergen, Zack Bergen, Hans Hasche and Bob Milledge. In open boats---Scott Pendergrass, Andrew Stolz, Dale Bergen, Hoppy and Mary Eager, John Glover, Osborne Ayscue, George Crouch, Tom Carter, and Jeff Viehmeyer.---Dale Bergen

UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE, November 16

This day dawned chilly, with low and cold water in the river. We all had a great time, however, even the one party that swamped (thanks to the space blanket donated by Gary DeBacher). The decked boats played a lot at the various small hydraulics. Everything was runnable, if one didn't mind scratches on the boat. A couple kayaks were cracked running one of the ledges. We again had the good company of some of our Charlotte neighbors, and we hope they can join us more often. In decked boats: Bob and Lillian Cheek (guests); Gary DeBacker, Dale Bergen, Frank Glover, Robin Oscar and Mike Weems. In opens were: Tom Carter, Jim Lawler, Eileen and Stacy Lange, and John Glover.

BROAD, November 23

Our final scheduled trip of this year took place on the Broad, near Athens, a river we should run more often. At the low fall water levels, it is a more interesting river than the Upper Chattahoochee, and it can evidently be run year round. We had a large group for this time of year. There were no "no shows" and everyone arrived promptly. We were joined by Roger Losier and Les Schaum and their scounts from Clayton, Ga., in eight canoes. In addition, in open canoes were: Jeff Viehmeyer, Herb Henry, Jim Lawler and Eileen Lange, Jim Fletcher, Bill and Anna Belle Close. In decked boats: John Helmlinger, Gary DeBacher, Bronwyn Fowlkes, Mark Chandler, Hal Adams, Frank Sams, Gwen Bergen and Dale Bergen.---Dale

TELLICO, December 8

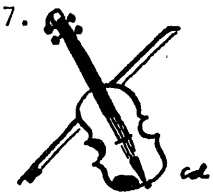
After seeing Cleve Tedford's movies at the Club Dinner on Saturday night, seven GCA members loaded up their boats and took off for Tennessee dark and early Sunday morning. After two days of rain, we found the fast-moving little Tellico River a paddler's delight. We put in at the usual place near the bridge just below Bald River Falls. The Tellico at 600 c.f.s. was more fun than we could have hoped for. It can best be described as a minature Nantahala with a lot more drops. We went plunging around and over one screaming turn after another. The river was continuous fast water with bouncing waves and hair-raising drops for over four miles. Scott Pendergrast had a fantastic run in an open canoe and made believers out of those of us who said it couldn't be done. Those making the trip were: Tom Green, Falma Moye, Don Norton, Scott and Craig Pendergrast, Cleve Tedford, and Ander Stults.---Cleve Tedford

RED CROSS FIRST AID COURSE

Don't forget to sign up for the Red Cross Standard First Aid and Personal Safety Course. Classes start 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 7, at the Red Cross Building at 1925 Monroe Drive. Deadline for registration is December 20. Sign up at 874-1601, ext. 219.

HELP NEEDED for GCA DISPLAY AT GEORGIA CONSERVANCY CONFERENCE

The Georgia Conservancy is having its annual conference at Holiday Inn, Callaway Gardens, January 31-February 2. We'll have a booth with club brochures and Newsletters and will feature a slide show of club activities and river conservation efforts. If you can loan slides for the weekend, please call Margaret Tucker at 355-6207 (home) or 526-4778 (office). We need scenic shots of Georgia streams and pictures of club members on trips or at races. We could also use a few volunteers to man the booth during the weekend. Please help. If you are interested in attending, register with the Georgia Conservancy: 262-1967.

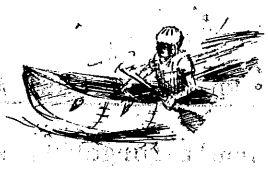


GCA BENEFIT

Have you missed the greatest show of all time? The Benefit? Featuring guitar playing, singing, drama, archery, poetry, tomfoolery (is Lines in on that?), piano, knifery, acrobatics, games, the $64,000 question, adventure stories, naked? dancers and lots more?

Surprise! You haven't missed it at all. Definitely plan to come to the Benefit to be held in early February. We need to raise money for legal expenses in our struggle for canoeing rights. You owe it to the river---and to those of us who are willing to make fools of ourselves on stage. If you have a talent, serious or comic, call Mark Warren, Georgia Conservancy, 262-1967.

RACES



NANTAHALA WILDWATER RACE

We just got word that the Carolina Canoe Club is sponsoring a wildwater race on the Nantahala River January 4-5. This race is for decked boats only. Send $4 entry fee to: Brian Palmer, 137 Penny Road, High Point, N. C. 27260 before December 21 to avoid late fee; or see Tom Lines for race application forms.

THIRD ANNUAL FLORAL CITY HOLIDAY CANOE RACE (FLAT WATER)

The race is in Floral City, Fla., about 70 miles north of Tampa on Dec. 28 (canoe events) and Dec. 29 (kayaks). Both start at 10 a.m. Registration is at 8:30 each day. For more information, contact Bronwyn Fowlkes at 255-4110, 4682 Dudley Lane, N. W., Atlanta.

HELEN-CHATTAHOOCHEE CHAMPIONSHIPS

On April 19 and 20 the Helen, Ga., Jaycees are sponsoring (with the help of the GCA) an open canoe race on the Upper Chattahoochee. Slalom is scheduled for Saturday; wildwater will be on Sunday. For more information and to volunteer to help, contact Dave Gale, The Wildewood Shop, River Street, Helen Ga. 30545. Let's cooperate with the Helen Jaycees in a big way! This is a river we want to remain open to us.

LOCUST FORK SLALOM AND DOWNRIVER RACES

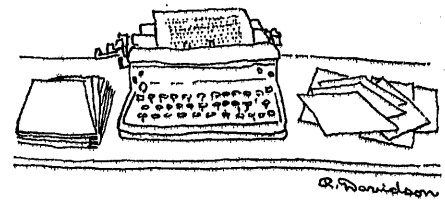
The very popular Locust Fork Race in Alabama will be held again this year on March 15-16. This is a race for both open and decked boats. For information and entry forms, write: Carter Martin, 2602 Scenic Drive, S. E., Huntsville, Ala. 35801.

WANT ADS

For Sale: 15' Aluminum canoe, six mos. old, extremely sturdy, $230. Allen Lewis, 363-3538.

PADDLE ORDER

Richard Brown is raising theprice on his Norse paddles January 1. Canoe paddles will go up $3 and kayak paddles $4. Get in on a volume order with the Club and get your paddle at the old price less a 6-8% discount. Jack Weems is handling the order and must have your check and other instructions no later than December 20. Call Jack at 938-5263.



FROM THE 1974 EDITOR

Thank you for all your cooperation in helping get out the newsletter this year. Those trip reports are getting better all the time---and some are even on time for the newsletter. I know Maureen is going to do great things for the publication this year; please give her all your help and support.---Mary Catherine Ford

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Have a very Merry Christmas and a happy and peaceful New Year.

NEW MEMBERS:

Steve Finnerty
160 Chinquapin Place
Athens,Ga. 30601

Greg B. Gates
1185 Collier Road,NW
Apt. 11-F
Atlanta,Ga. 30318

Albert P. Hildebrandt
P. O. Box 1778
Gainesville,Ga. 30501

Joe W. Kilpatrick
1476 Drayton Woods Drive
Tucker,Ga. 30084

Edward A. Miller
3171 Terrace Court
Apt. U
Norcross,Ga. 30071

Daniel H. Neely
P. O. Drawer 56505
Atlanta,Ga. 30343

Charles J. Orr,Jr.
402 Northwood Drive
Rome,Ga. 30161

Rev. Curtis R. Rivers
W. R. Cannon United Methodist Church
2879 Five Forks Road
Lawrenceville,Ga. 30245

W. Miller Templeton
Georgia Tech
105 Dean of Students Building
Atlanta,Ga. 30332

Cecil C. Hudson
523 Ashland Drive
Augusta,Ga. 30904

Jerome M. Walker,Jr.
343 Hertford Circle
Decatur,Ga. 30030

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES:

Donald A. Bodley
1200 Normal Avenue
Chattanooga,
Tennessee 37405

Dick Clark
P. O. Box 88441
Dunwoody,Ga. 30338

Donald S. Downing
151 Peachtree Way
Atlanta,Ga. 30305

Charles A. Stokes
5700 Roswell Road,NW
Unit 30B
Atlanta,Ga. 30328

Ms. Connie Gibson
1475 Sylvan Circle,NE
Apt. 3
Atlanta,Ga. 30319

Barry Mullis
123 Shoreline Drive
Rome,Ga. 30161

James F. Dunagan
P. O. Box 291
Jacksboro,
Tennessee 37757

Ms. Mary Alexander
4581 Northside Parkway
Apt. D
Atlanta,Ga. 30309

Ms. Melanie Dixon
880 Glendale Terrace,NE
Apt. 4
Atlanta,Ga 30308

John O. Elliott
2160 Spaulding Drive,NE
Marietta,Ga. 30062

Victor G. McNett
Rural Route # 3
Hartwell,Ga. 30643