

# GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30083

FEBRUARY 1975

NEWSLETTER

VOL. IX NO. 2

Deadline for next Newsletter is March 12. Send typed copy, if possible, to:

Maureen Maloney  
860 Franklin Road, S.E.  
Apt. 117  
Marietta, Ga. 30062

## MARCH TRIP SCHEDULE

- Sat., Mar. 1 - Instructor Training Session, Etowah River. Call Clyde Woolsey 766-8771 evenings, or 432-8571 days.
- Sun., Mar. 2 - Cartecay, Class III-IV. Call Alan Lewis 363-3538.
- Wed., Mar. 5 - Exec. Board Meeting - Fernbank Science Center, 7:30 p.m. Members invited.
- Sat., Mar. 8 - Flint River, Class III Sec. Call Alan Lewis 363-3538.
- Sun., Mar. 9 - Coosawattee, Class III. Alan Lewis 363-3538.
- Sat., Mar. 15 - Etowah, Class I-II. Alan Lewis 363-3538.
- Sat./Sun. Mar. 15-16 - Locust Fork Races (see Race Schedule, page 5)
- Sat., Mar. 22 - Nantahala, Class III. Jack Weems 938-5263.
- Sun., Mar. 23 - Little Tennessee, Class III. Alan Lewis 363-3538.  
*evening*  
*Bill Henty - Dalea Bergen - Bill Crowley*
- Mar. 27 - 30 - Obed System, Class III, IV. Murray Johnson, 1/404/536-0991.  
*Nemo Bridge Sat. Morning 9 a.m. - 4 hrs.*  
*27 to Watburg - ask*
- Mar. 29-30 - Nantahala Outdoor Center Races (See Race Schedule, page 5)
- Mar. 29-30 - Alapaha River, So. Georgia. Family Float. Alan Lewis 363-3538. (Note: If interested, call as soon as possible.)



TRIP REPORTS

Little River - Sat., Feb. 1

The Little River Canyon in N.E. Alabama is one of the most beautiful places in the Southeast. Rock walls that rise 300-400 ft. above the river provide breathtaking beauty. The section of river we ran provides 7 miles of almost continuous rapids. A springtime trip on this river should be considered (after a good rain.)

We had a very large group (29 boats), so after suffering through the Class "9" put-in, we divided into four groups. This proved to be very important as it, initially at least, spread the boats out. The group structures broke down later; however, the boaters were all very cooperative and considerate of one another and the trip had no major problems. Paddling time was about four hours.

With a good water level (about 6" below the stone patio) and mile air temperature, we had a very pleasant day on the river. There were a few spills, one major portage (ask Tom Carter), one badly bent Grumman, and several great runs on the 3-way twisting rapid (name anyone?) where we stopped for lunch. One open canoe actually made the rapid on edge, was braced up at the bottom, completely full of water but apparently under control. Several kayaks and C-1s had good runs on this very difficult rapid.

It is impossible to get all of the names for such a large group, but with apologies made, here goes: Jim Fletcher and friend, Tom Hamby, Doug Graydon, Tom Parham, Tom Carter, Falma Moye, Tom Green, Bill Crowley, Larry Rudisill and friends, Jack Weems, Jim & Kathy Holcomb, Jan Albitz, Carter Martin and sons, Andy Chandler, Ken Smith, Ken Strickland, Mer Elliot, Brian Schott, Steve Bowles, Bill Spencer, John Helmlinger, Roger Scott, Don Norton....

Special thanks should go to Bill Crowley for taking charge at the meeting place and dividing the boaters into groups. The four group leaders were Jim Holcomb, Roger Scott, John Helmlinger and Bill Crowley. We also appreciate the efforts of Dave Garrity who served as trip leader up to the eleventh hour but, alas, did not enjoy the river with us. Jack Weems

Talking Rock Creek - Sat., Feb. 8

Cold was the weather word for the day, still a hearty crew showed up to run Talking Rock Creek. Everyone bundled up and set out on a beautiful cold morning. The first half of the river was a pleasant surprise. Apparently all the small rapids had been washed out on my previous trip. There was a series of small rapids that were very enjoyable. The gauge read 2.0, so it was only 2" lower than the previous trip. This made quite a difference in the river. The last part proved to be more exciting than before. Some of the rapids require quick turns and maneuvers. Essentially all of these would still be class I and II.

There were a few swims during the day. Fortunately the day had warmed up and everyone was well prepared, so we had no problems. Tom Moye learned a very valuable lesson: Don't listen to big sister, especially when she suggests that you surf a hole. Tom has vowed to get even. And ask Gwen Bergen what the bow of a decked C-2 is like.

Much thanks goes to Bill and Anna Belle Close who drove up to see us off. They helped run shuttle so all of the cars were at the take-out. After five hours on the river it was great to be able to load boats and head home. Enjoying the creek, icicles and sunshine were: Connie Gibson, Phyllis Crowley, Vicki Becker, Jim Barrow and Ken Hutton in K-1; Gary DeBacher, Mary Eager in C-1 decked; Tom Carter, Roger Nott and Hoppy Eager in C-1 open; Charles Orr and John Floyd, and Jim and Barbara Lawler in C-2 open; Gwen Bergen and Falma Moye in decked C-2.

Falma Moye

NOTE:

Due to increasing size of river trips, registration may be limited, or may be split into two or more groups at the discretion of the trip leaders. And in the words of the immortal Clyde Woolsey, "it will be considered discourteous to fail to register."

INSTRUCTOR TRAINING SESSION  
Saturday, March 1

The GCA training sessions this year will be directed toward sound, basic instruction in white water canoeing to be followed, hopefully, with additional instruction for those wishing to extend themselves further. In order to do this we will need more instructors than have been utilized in the past. We will be calling those who have served before to help once again. Please call to volunteer in the event we miss you. In addition to those who have served before we would like to broaden our base of instructors by recruiting others.

We will need at least 30 teachers or teaching teams, thus no one need be called upon for more than 1/3 of the instruction days. The instructor training session will be held on the Etowah on Saturday, March 1st. We will polish the skills of members who are familiar with the basic strokes and who know when and how to use them, but who might wish to learn more technique from experienced instructors. We will also standardize procedures so everyone will use the same methods and establish which rapids will be used for demonstration.

If you run the Upper Chattahoochee and rivers of similar difficulty with ease, your club needs you. You do not need to be able to run a Class IV to teach beginners. Please note, however, that the March 1st session is NOT for beginners -- there will be later training sessions for beginners. Please call to volunteer whether or not this tentative schedule fits your plans.

The strokes and maneuvers you should know must include the draw, pryaway, eddy turns and back ferrying for position. You must be able to read and paddle Class II and III water.

By the time this newsletter reaches you time will be short. Please call and volunteer as an instructor or potential instructor. If you are interested but cannot make it on March 1st, call anyway; perhaps we can work out another session later. Call Clyde Woolsey H: 766-8771 or O: 432-8571; or Palma Moye H: 872-6398 or O: 656-3214. Clyde Woolsey

TVA ALERT - ACTION NEEDED!

From TVA's Annual Report for 1974 is the following sentence taken from page 26, dealing with special recreation operations:

"To enhance enjoyment by both canoeists and fishermen, TVA powerhouses on the Hiawassee and Nantahala Rivers are operated on a special schedule during the summer months."

This clearly implies an intent to provide on-going special schedules, as the verb is "are" rather than "were". To make sure that TVA lives up to this commitment so glowingly reported, let's have a letter from every canoeist who intends to use the Nantahala this summer, thanking TVA for releases in 1974 and requesting regular weekend water this coming summer, if only for a few hours a day. Send letters to:

Mr. Lynn Seeber  
General Manager  
Tennessee Valley Authority - *New Sprinkle Bldg*  
Knoxville, Tennessee

*37902 637-0101*

TVA shows indications of renegeing on this special schedule, refusing even to guarantee water for the annual Nantahala race, because of power shortages. We are not asking TVA to waste power. Why can't they simply plan to generate at Nantahala during the hours that the most canoeists can also run the river, rather than during weekdays or at night? Let your feelings be known to TVA without delay.

AMICOLOLA RIVER

The GCA Board of Directors adopted a resolution to support the purchase by the State of Georgia of approximately 20 miles of the scenic Amicolola River and surrounding land near Dawsonville for a public recreational area. This Class II, III and IV river has recently been explored by GCA members and trips will be scheduled.

### CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

It is our objective during the upcoming season to improve relationships with governmental policy-makers, i.e., high-ranking officials. In particular we would like to increase communication with the board members of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources; with local elected officials such as county commissioners; and with State Legislators. It is important that these individuals have a better understanding of canoeists and their needs. In order to increase this understanding we would like to take as many of these elected officials on as many regularly scheduled GCA trips as possible.

We are looking for GCA members to act as "hosts" for certain rivers. It would be the responsibility of the hosts to invite local government officials on trips being run in or near their area, with the objective of getting each official on at least one trip. We would not attempt to take all of them on each trip. The host would be responsible for arranging transportation down-river and to generally sell canoeing to the guests.

Hosts are needed for the following rivers: Upper Chattahoochee-Nacoochee; Upper Chattahoochee--Dunkin Bridge; Chestatee; Etowah; Amicolola Creek; Toccoa; Flint; Yellow; Ocmulgee; Broad; Savannah; Cartecay; Conasauga; and any others. Two or three volunteers per river would be welcome. Hosts will constitute the Conservation Committee. Additional committee members are invited. Call David Garrity at 634-1847 after 6:30 p.m.

### SAFETY COMMITTEE

In past years we have all become very aware of safety on river trips. The GCA has established a Safety Committee for 1975 in hopes that all members will be prepared for any emergency on the river. We plan to publish in future newsletters articles on: 1) First Aid kit for the river; 2) throw line rescue; 3) emergency evacuation points on rivers; 4) hypothermia, wounds, bone or joint injuries; 5) rescue of a fellow paddler, and 6) make available the AWA Safety Code to all GCA members. (?) Suggestions (?)

The Safety Committee, at present, consists of the Chairwoman (Falma Moye). I am asking for volunteers to help write for the newsletter. If there are any doctors in the house, your help would be most welcomed. The Safety Committee should be available to all club members for advice on river safety. A club first aid kit and throw rope will be available for all club trips.

Anyone willing to donate time and knowledge to this worthy committee, please call me, Falma Moye, 872-6398 evenings. I'm hard to reach, so don't hesitate to call late. Office No.: 656-3214.

### ATTENTION: "OLD" GCA MEMBERS

We are attempting to compile a club history. Anyone having newspaper clippings, magazine articles, pictures, old newsletters, race brochures, or anything else pertaining to the history of the GCA, please contact me (Betty Terry) at 874-7494. Any material that you do not wish to part with will be duplicated and returned to you. We are planning to have a scrapbook for the showy materials, and files for the remainder. Please help. Betty Terry, Historian

### THUNDER & LIGHTENING

The question of what to do when caught on the river in a thunderstorm has often been debated (especially at my house). One school advocates taking cover on shore, while the other prefers to continue on to the take-out. Since this can cause difficulties, I have attempted to contact reputable authorities to determine which is the best course of action.

According to the U.S. Meteorological Service, the safest course of action when caught on the river by a thunderstorm is to remain on the river. Lightening is least likely to strike running water; it is most likely to strike an object on top of a hill, such as a tree, or an isolated object in the middle of an open field. Rocky areas are also more likely to be struck by lightening. This seems to contradict the standard rule to get out of small boats when a storm approaches, but actually it is not. According to the source mentioned, there is no record of small boats being struck by lightening. In reality, the danger to small boats results from the high winds which accompany the thunder storm and cause the heavy waves. Dave Garrity

SCHEDULE OF RACING EVENTS

Mar. 8 - 9 Tellico River. Downriver & Slalom.  
Decked boats only. Fee \$3 for 1st event, \$1 for each additional event. Send to: John Hiscox, 4920 Westover Terr., Knoxville, 37914

Mar. 15-16 Locust Fork Race, Alabama. Downriver - Decked and Open classes Slalom - Decked boats only  
Fee \$3 for 1st event, \$1 for each additional event.  
NARRA, 2602 Scenic Drive, S.E., Huntsville, Ala. 35801

Mar. 22-23 Nantahala Slalom Training Clinic.  
This clinic is sanctioned by the A.C.A. for Class A,B,C paddlers. Essentially it is designed for serious decked boat racers.  
Entry Fee \$1 - to: Les Bechdel, Rt. 1, Tyner, Ky. 40486.(606)364-5141.

Mar. 29-30 Nantahala River. Downriver & Slalom.  
Slalom: All decked boat classes; open boats may compete in novice class. Downriver: All decked and open classes. Entry Fee \$2 for one event; \$1 for each additional event; \$2 Number deposit.  
Nantahala Outdoor Center, Star Route, Box 68, Bryson City, N.C. 28713

April 12 Dogwood City Festival Race. Downriver.  
From Powers Ferry Landing to Hwy. 41 Bridge. All decked and open boat classes. Entry Fee \$3. \$2 Number deposit.  
Registrar: Dogwood City Festival, 4933 Conover Dr., Dunwoody, Ga.30338

April 19 Helen Jaycee, Upper Chattahoochee. Downriver & Slalom. 878-2541  
Downriver from Hwy. 115 bridge to Duncan Bridge. All decked and open classes. Slalom: open and decked classes on the Chattahoochee in the vicinity of Helen. Can be viewed from both sides of river.

Apr. 26-27 Annual Virginia Championship Races - South Fork of Shenandoah River  
26th - Championship Whitewater Races 9:00 a.m.  
Awards, Banquet, boat show 6:00 p.m.  
27th - Championship Downriver Races 8:00 a.m.  
Championship Blue Hole Slalom 12 noon.  
For further information: Joe E. Swiger, P.O.Box 1291, Front Royal, Virginia 22630. (703) 635-2253.

THE HELEN JAYCEE RACE

This is a new race for the South. Dave Gale of Helen, Georgia has put a tremendous effort into organizing what we hope will become an annual event. The success of this race depends on the paddlers in this area. If you have ever thought about racing, the Upper Chattahoochee race will be a good place to begin. Even if there has never been a serious racing thought in your mind, come on out; this should be loads of fun. Open boat paddlers should take special note for the slalom course will be designed for open boats.

There will also be an art festival in Helen that weekend.

If you are interested in any of these races, I have plenty of application forms. Palma Moye 872-6398.

WANT ADS

For Sale: Femat Kayak, excellent condition. New Kober paddle, lady's wetsuit top, car roof-racks, sprayskirt, etc.  
Call Mary Alexander in early evenings 435-7781.

For Sale: Red epoxy slalom kayak, Old Town design, patched, good condition. \$125. Margaret Tucker 355-6207 home.

For Sale: Femat design kayak - strong, light boat with spray skirt. \$170.

Wanted to Buy: Czech design C-1 decked boat. Mike Penley 483-6349 evenings.

Also Pavel Bone kayak - strong boat, excellent for surfing or ender freak. \$200. Call Ken Strickland (404)783-5738 before 2 p.m.

Clearance Sale: K-1s and C-1s, new and used at good prices. Need to sell - we have a space problem. Call Jan or Marvin Albitz 469-8848.



