

# GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30357

October 1976

NEWSLETTER

VOL. XI, NO. 9

November newsletter deadline is October 15th. Send typed copies of the trip report to: Carlton L. Shuford 2870 Twin Brooks Dr. #8 Atlanta 30319

## TRIPS FOR OCTOBER

Oct. 2	Talking Rock	Gary Debacher	288-1773
3	Flint	Don Norton	288-6219
9	Nantahala	Don Norton	" "
10	Chattooga III	Don Norton	" "
16	Hiwasse	Gary Debacher	288-1773
17	Broad	Don Norton	288-6219
23	Chattooga III	Don Norton	" "
24	Chattooga IV	Hiking trip to Five Falls Jack Weems 938-5263	
30	Etowah	Don Norton	288-6219
31	Broad	Don Norton	" "

COMING UP: Toccoa, Upper Chattahoochee, Chattooga Etowah, Chauga, Flint and the Tellico Weekend, in that order.

## ANNUAL GCA BANQUET AND ELECTIONS - OCTOBER 2

The annual GCA banquet will again be held at the Army Recreation Area at Lake Allatoona. This facility is located approximately 30 miles northwest of Atlanta along Highway 41. The turnoff is to the right and is marked by a large black sign with gold letters, and a red, white, and blue Army patch. Additional markers at the turnoff are a large white sign advertising Allatoona Campground and "B. Lloyd's" service station. After making the turnoff, follow black and gold signs approximately 2 miles to the "Rec Area."

Bring your boats for the silly races. Hopefully, the weather will be better than last year and we'll have more racers. Each family is asked to bring a main dish and a dessert or salad. Singles may bring one dish of their choice. Please bring enough to feed the number of people in your group. Also, bring 50¢ to cover the costs of paper products and soft drinks. Time: 3:30 pm to early evening. Games will start around 4:00 and WE PLAN TO EAT AT 6:00 PM so bring your food on time. Another thing to bring (you'll be lucky if you get there with everything) are any interesting movies, slides, or snapshots. We will try to make the business meeting short so that we can show these. T-shirts will also be on sale so BRING MONEY.

Savage River International Canoe and Kayak Race--

A mass of American and Canadian paddlers plus a smattering of European boaters cathered once again on the banks of the Savage River for the annual Labor Day Weekend Race. An enthusiastic group of cracker paddlers, mainly GCA and Nantahala Racing Club members, made up what was certainly the largest contingent of southern paddlers ever to assemble at a major national decked boat race. Those present were: K-1; Steve Finnerty, Ray Stang, Ken Strickland, Joe Stubbs, and Mike Terry. C-2; Dave Jones/Mark Warren, John Kennedy Jr./ Doug Martin

ALTAMAHA RIVER ,SOUTH GEORGIA

Canoe the fascinating Altamaha River on November 13-14 in conjunction with "Man In The Landscape" conference and visits to historical sites, sponsored by the Darien-McIntosh County Bicentennial Committee. A trip is forming. For information, call Maureen Maloney: 577-6664, or 292-9584 evenings.

The Mississippi!

In July ,A.A. Wood of the GCA represented the Club and the State of Georgia in a Bicentennial Canoe Trip on the Mississippi River covering 417 miles. Unfortunately, there is not room for the whole report. Next time you see A.A. ask him about the gale on the Clinton, Iowa Dam . It sounded about as hairy as Bull Sluice at 2.5.

TRIP REPORTS: Note; trip leaders please type your report margin to margin on 8½x11 paper. We get more on a page when it is reduced if they are done that way. Thank You.

August 8th----- It was a beautiful day for canoeing despite the early clouds we encountered. The river was shallow but not enough to cause many problems. Besides the usual river scenery, we saw a black racer snake stretched out upon a limb overlooking all of the paddlers. The trip down the Toccoa took about 4 hours. We stopped after the second hour at a picnic table just past Rock Creek. We had a gnatty but pleasant lunch. The last rain storm must have had strong winds for we found a large Hemlock that easily spanned the river leaving just enough room for passage. At the take out everyone pitched in and the boats were up in a matter of minutes. It was a great day!  
Robin McCown

August 14 -Etowah ----- Because of communications breakdown, the smallest scheduled GCA run to ever take place on the Etowah occurred on August 14th. Amy Delaplaine and Les Davenport, who were practicing soloing, helped us Closes immeasurably with the unloading and loading of our canoe, and we wish to thank them in print for their kindness. It made it possible for us to get back on a bit of white water for the first time since Bill's heart attacks last year, and how good it was to dip our paddles into the flowing stream again! It was expected that we would be dragging on the rocks and even wading our boats some, but the water ,low as it was, only required a bit more maneuvering. One of the beauties of a small party is that you can go as fast or as slow as you wish. We chose to go slowly, savoring the fragrant air, scenery, clearish water and comfortable temperature. How slow was it? We met at Blackburn State Park at 10a.m. and parted at the take-out about 5p.m. ---- Anna Belle Close

Broad -- August 29th ----- An unseasonably high water level counteracted the effects of a very hot August day to produce a pleasant setting for the paddling of the old Broad. The trip was fairly fast and we arrived at the slide early in the afternoon. A consensus was taken and we decided to play for about an hour before continuing on. People ran it forwards, backwards, sideways, with and without a boat, etc. Everyone became good friends with the slide and it was hard to leave it and a good boating day behind. The group: Pete and Phyllis Peterson, Rob Zelski, Bob & Andy Bradbury, Charles and Francis Wheeler, Will & Cathie Neville , Pat Wineland, and Bill Roberts. -----Bill Roberts

Little Tennessee --Sept. 12th----- We put in about a half mile below the Needmore gauge, which was reading 2.1 The river is wide and shallow with ledge tupe rapids similar to the Hiwassee. The Narrows were mostly uncovered and about class 2+. Due to the long 2 mile paddle across Lake Fontana to the Almond Boat Dock takeout, I do not recommend this river--- especially when the Nantahala power plant is running. Except for the N.O.C. Trilathon in two weeks, I hope I never try this miserable trip again. Canoers: Allen Lewis, Phil Lawrence, Gary DeBacker, Claude Grizzard, Frank Bonner, Kim Barnes, and Bill Hartman, Charles and Francis Wheeler

The word had spread that the Ocoee power plant was down for repairs, so several intrepid GCA members decided to try this rumored wild river. I had only seen the river dry or in flood (as had most of the group), so all we knew was that it was supposed to be wild. And believe you me, IT WAS! From the road it looked sort of like the Nantahala (mostly the falls) and Section 111 combined, but once paddling in it, it might as well have been the Colorado. Our group consisted of Jack Weems and David Garrity in C-1's; Gwen Bergen, R.T. Cardwell, and Hank and David Klausman in K-1's; and Ken McAmis and me in the C-2. There were also a couple of other kayakers who joined us from other places, including one fellow who had driven all night from Kentucky. Naturally, Jack was the only one who had been down before.

Supposedly the flow was around 1100 cfs (it could have been 2,000,000 for all I know), and according to those who know, it was a super run. The river had very strange looking rocks slanted in strange directions and all a sort of rust color, caused by the minerals picked up by the river in Copperhill, Tenn. The waves were slanted in odd directions, irregular, and the currents were wierd. There were a few eddies.

Our first run began with a Class IV put-in which involved a balancing act to get into our boats. Then we had to paddle upstream, ferry over and go flying down the first rapid, which quickly became the second and third rapid. The first premonition of trouble came to me as I looked up after the first waves and saw Gwen and boat separated. Gwen and boat were saved, but her paddle was not. Fortunately, the Klausmans had an extra paddle. The second feeling that everything was not as cool as it seemed was a near terminal crash into a wall of rock on the right bank. We were saved only by screams of DRAW LEFT and my partner's good right brace. Next we were flying (no joke) down a curling wave and into a hole. Then out of the hole only to find ourselves on the opposite side of the river from everyone else. We made it to the other side, or so we thought, and the next thing I remember was a wall of water at least 10 ft. high under which we parked, momentarily. When I could finally see again we were dangerously listing farther than usual to the right. To keep my glasses from getting wet, I decided to exit in a hurry, as did my partner after fleeting thoughts (he says) of trying to roll. Anyway after two minutes of playtime with a hydraulic and a rock I finally got to an eddy. (My glasses got wet, alas.) Ken and the boat were on the other side of the river about two feet from the next rapid. The boat ran the rapid, Ken decided not to. I climbed up to the road to check on the boat, which had been rescued by the group. I had about decided to end my day on the river and when my partner gave me no encouragement to continue, I went for the car, and the camera. Ken and Jack then decided to give the C-2 a whirl, and a whirl it was -- backwards, forwards, and upside down. Yes, even they turned over, saving my ego and providing some interesting feet of film. Nearly everyone turned over several times, but no one was hurt. Some boats had more duct tape than when they started, however. They all said the waves were high and the holes were huge. The C-2 looked like a destroyer in a north seas storm, and Ken and Jack never stopped paddling.

After a picnic lunch in the sun the fools decided to run it again. Someone (I don't like to mention names) had the gaul to suggest I paddle my C-1. HA! So I took more movies. The second run took only one hour, and David Garrity rolled up in a hairy place, but judiciously took out before the run was over. Next time I plan to make the whole run (maybe).

The Ocoee is a fantastic river, but it is definitely for experts only, at that level. Several solo opens were on the river, but I understand that they portaged several rapids. Rumor has it that the 63 year old wooden flume has been condemned so the power plant will be shut down. This means that we will have to run it more. I certainly hope that those who try the river will respect it and not be too proud to quit when their lives are in danger. It really isn't so bad following the boats with the camera!

Bronwyn Fowlkes

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There will be a trip on the Savannah River at Trotter Shoals with Jim Morrison of the Georgia Wildlife Federation on Oct. 3rd. Call Allen Lewis at 477-0502 for the meeting time.

WANT ADS

Remains for Sale: Lettman MK IV Kayak \$90-- Seda Kayak Paddle \$30 (like new)  
Kober Kayak Paddle \$20 (like used)--  
Mark Warren --office 262-1967

FOR SALE: Lettman Mk V Kayak, Excellent shape. Perfect for racing or smaller paddler( up to 150 lb.) Float bags and neoprene skirt available. \$150 Hank Klausman 255-7420 home--252-9606 office  
WANTED: one rear split bag for a K-1 . I have ethafoam braces in my kayak and have lost one on the rear bags. Call Hank Klausman at number above.

New addresses and Members:

NEW MEMBERS AND ADDRESS CHANGES

Please insert into Directory

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