

# GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30357

JULY 1978

NEWSLETTER

VOL. XIII NO. 6

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST NEWSLETTER IS JULY 15, 1978. PLEASE SEND TYPED COPY TO: MS. BRONWYN FOWLKES, 2870 TWIN BROOKS DR., NE, ATLANTA, GA 30319.

## JULY 1978 TRIP SCHEDULE

JULY 1	ETOWAH, CLASS II	*
JULY 2	UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE, CLASS III	*
JULY 8	CHATTOOGA III, CLASS III	- GARY DEBACHER - 288-1773
JULY 9	CHATTOOGA II, CLASS II	*
JULY 15	TOCCOA, CLASS II	*
JULY 16	ETOWAH, CLASS II	- JIMMY GUNTER - 424-0850
JULY 22	BROAD, CLASS II	*
JULY 22	OCOEE, CLASS IV	*
JULY 23	UPPER CHATTAHOOCHEE, CLASS III	*
JULY 29	CHATTOOGA, SECTION III, CLASS III	- DALE BERGEN - 377-2970
JULY 30	CHATTOOGA, SECTION II, CLASS II	*

\* SIGN UP WITH GWEN BERGEN - 377-2970.

## LIFE JACKETS

I HAVE RECEIVED SEVERAL NOTES FROM TRIP LEADERS REGARDING LIFEJACKETS ON GCA RIVER TRIPS. FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT AWARE, IT IS GEORGIA LAW THAT THERE MUST BE A LIFE JACKET FOR EACH PERSON IN THE BOAT. ON GCA TRIPS, WE REQUEST THAT THEY BE WORN. ONE LEADER SUGGESTED THAT THE TYPES OF JACKETS WITH A SINGLE CLIP TEND TO COME OVER THE HEAD WHEN THE WEARER IS SWIMMING. REMEMBER THOUGH, THAT LIFE JACKETS ARE REQUIRED BY GEORGIA LAW!

## TRAINING SESSIONS

BEGINNING CANOE AND KAYAK COURSE - JULY 15 & 16, 1978

TWO DAYS OF CANOE AND KAYAK INSTRUCTION WILL BE GIVEN ON THE ABOVE DATES IF ENOUGH INTEREST IS SHOWN. THE EXACT LOCATION HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED, BUT IT IS LIKELY THAT BOTH DAYS WILL BE OUTSIDE THE METRO ATLANTA AREA, WITH AN OVERNIGHT CAMPING TRIP. COST WILL BE \$5.00 FOR MEMBERS; \$7.50 FOR NON-MEMBERS. TRAINEES WILL BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE ALL EQUIPMENT. CALL DAVID GARRITY (H) 872-4841; O: 656-3968, OR WRITE HIM AT 1049 ROSEWOOD DR., NE ATLANTA, GA 30306

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED TRAINING COURSE - JULY 29 & 30, 1978

THIS TRAINING SESSION IS FOR INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED DECKED BOATS AND SOLO OPENS. THE PURPOSE WILL BE TO REFINE SKILLS SUCH AS ROLLING, EDDY TURNS, PEEL OUTS, AND MANOUVERING. THE NANTAHALA WILL BE RUN SATURDAY, WITH THE SUNDAY RIVER CHOSEN THEN. CALL JACK WEEMS: H: 938-5263; O: 321-7544.

# \$50 REWARD \$50

FOR ARREST AND CONVICTION OF PERSON(S) WHO STOLE KAYAK ON JUNE 1, 1978,

FROM HANK KLAUSMAN AT 750 CREST VALLEY DRIVE, ATLANTA, GEORGIA, 255-7420.

DESCRIPTION: CANARY YELLOW DECK, CLEAR HULL WITH BLACK CARBON RIBS ABOUT

12 INCHES APART. TYPE: SHADOW III (SAME AS LETMAN MARK V)

THIS IS A HAND MADE BOAT, SO WE HAVE ONLY OTHERS WITH SAME COLOR AND DESIGN.

TRIP REPORTS

TOCCOA RIVER - MAY 21, 1978

IT WAS AN IDEAL TIME FOR RUNNING THE TOCCOA. THE WEATHER WAS WARM AND SUNNY, BUT A COOL GENTLE BREEZE KEPT US VERY COMFORTABLE. ALTHOUGH THE LAUREL HAD NOT YET BLOOMED, THERE WERE SEVERAL LARGE WILD AZALEAS ALONG THE RIVER BANKS, AND THEIR BRILLIANT ORANGE AND RED BLOSSOMS ADDED A CROWNING TOUCH TO THIS BEAUTIFUL RIVER.

THE WATER LEVEL, THANKS TO SOME RECENT RAIN, WAS NEAR PERFECT FOR OPEN CANOES. THE MANY ROCKS WHICH USUALLY CREATE A REAL OBSTACLE COURSE LATER IN THE SUMMER WERE COVERED WITH AN AMPLE SUPPLY OF WATER AND DIDN'T REALLY POSE A PROBLEM. OUR TRIP WAS FREE OF ANY MISHAPS, EXCEPT FOR ONE CANOEIST WHO WANTED TO PRACTICE HIS ROLL ON THE LOOP TRAIL RAPID.

THE TRIP WAS SMALL, BUT EVERYONE HAD A GREAT TIME. THOSE PARTICIPATING WERE: DOUG PAYNE AND JIM GRAVES, HANK MILES, BRITT HARRIS, ED LYLE, AND JIMMY GUNTER. THANKS TO BRITT HARRIS FOR RUNNING SWEEP.

DOUG PAYNE.

CHATTOOGA, SECTION IV - JUNE 4, 1978 (I THINK THIS IS THE DATE)

ALTHOUGH THIS WAS NOT A SCHEDULED SECTION IV TRIP, GCA MEMBERS PADDLED THIS DAY, AND THE RUN WAS QUITE A THRILL. KEN MCAMIS AND BRONWYN FOWLKES PADDLED TANDEM OPEN AND TOM HAMBY AND BUDDY HOLMES WERE SOLO OPEN. THIS WAS BUDDY'S FIRST TRIP, AND HE DID FANTASTIC, TURNING OVER ONLY AT SOCK 'EM DOG (WHICH REALLY ISN'T TOO BAD). TOM HAMBY HAD HIS USUALLY EXCITING AND NOISY RUNS OF ALL THE RAPIDS. TOM DIDN'T MAKE CORKSCREW OR SOCK 'EM DOG ALL THE WAY, BUT HIS BOAT DID. TOM HAS AN INTERESTING AND ENTERTAINING WAY OF FALLING OUT OF HIS BOAT AT THE LAST SECOND. IT'S TOO BAD NO ONE HAS A MOVIE CAMERA WITH SOUND TO FILM HIM, KEN AND I HAD THE BEST TIME ALL DAY. WE RAN EVERY RAPID ON THE SECTION (WE DID TAKE THE CHEAT AT WOODALL - THE RISK WAS TOO GREAT), AND DID NOT TURN OVER AT ALL. THAT IS NOT TO SAY THAT WE CAME CLOSE. WE DID, BUT ONLY ONCE, AT JAWBONE. MY PADDLE SOMEHOW TOOK LEAVE OF THE WATER, BUT KEN MANAGED TO HOLD US UP. AFTER I RECOVERED WE CONTINUED DOWN THE RAPID, AND ALMOST INTO THE NEXT ONE. FORTUNATLEY, WE MAMAGED TO STOP BEFORE RUNNING SOCK 'EM DOG FULL OF WATER. SPEAKING OF SOCK 'EM DOG! WE MUST HAVE BEEN GOING 90 MPH - WE WERE AIR-BORNE, AND LANDED ALMOST FLAT. WHAT A THRILL! WE'RE GOING TO TRY THE OCOEE NEXT.

BRONWYN FOWLKES

Nantahala Sat., June 10

It was a beautiful summer day and 19 people gathered to test their skill on the Nantahala. Some members of our party were new to the river, while others were old addicts. There was the usual dumping and bailing by the open boaters, but the trip was without spills until the falls. There some of our group provided thrills for the spectators by running the falls upside down. We finally gathered all bodies, boats, and gear and declared a great day. Some members of the group made a second run.

Paddlers were: C20-Les Davenport & Tommy Thompson, Tom & Cliff Brown, Oreon & Chris Mann, Christie & Mike Bryant, Bob and Jonathon Loftin; C1-Allen Maddux, Chappell Summers; K1-Jim Baker, Josselyn Baker, and Ian Brower; C2-McCawley Ballard and David Compton, guests from Kentucky, and John and Tee Brower

Nantahala Sun., June 11

Sunday dawned bright and sunny and a small but motley crew gathered by the river. Paddlers were: C20-Les Davenport and Tommy Thompson, Christie and Mike Bryant; C10-Allen Maddux; K1-Ian Brower; C2-John and Tee Brower; a raft (Ugh) whose crew consisted of Jim and Josselyn, Janet and Chuck Baker, Cindy Pierson, and Brook Brower.

Everyone had fun and a good run with no spills. Thanks to Les and Tommy for running sweep on both trips.

Tee and John Brower

Broad River - June 4, 1978

The overcast skies tempered the heat of summer as we made our way down river, but at the first rapids three of our C2o's could not resist the desire for a sudden swim. After trying the first half of a roll, they rescued their boats and gear and on we went.

Most of us enjoyed the falls more than once, and by this time the whole group discovered the cooling pleasure of surfing, wading, or stumbling (yours truly) into the water.

It was a good trip. Special thankyou's go to our shuttle van driver Bill Dunaway - our leaders Bonnie Wolf and Pat Jeanson - and sweep Polly Heyward.

C2o paddlers were Wally Wahlquist and Larry Thomas, Mike and Christie Bryant, Norman Bishop and Dorothy Sims, Bill Dunaway and Jean Johnson, Dick Turner and Liz Stocks, Barbara and Cliff Hart.

In a C1o was Polly Heyward. In kayaks were Bonnie Wolf and Pat Jeanson. I ran my trusty C1d.

Nancy Barker

Chattooga River - Section 111 - Saturday May 27 - 1.7 ft.

Cecil B. DeMille should have been trip leader since 30 people appeared at 76 bridge to try out for this trip. There also must have been several hundred extras on the river that day.

The weather was nice and the people in our group were more than nice. The trip went smoothly especially considering our size and the overall amount of river traffic.

As usual our day climaxed with the traditional confrontation of that great foaming beast known as Bull Sluice. Mr. Sluice let some pass and others not. My only solace was there's good medical coverage where I work.

The Cast in order of appearance:

- C-1o: Allen Maddox, Gerald Whittlow, Cartis Swofford, Harry Carden, Ray Keel, Dave Ballard.
- C-2o: Rufus Williamson and Larry Renau, Oreon and Chris Mann, Jim Farr and Donna McLung, John and Tee Brower, David and Gene Carroll, Don and Bettina George, Les Davenport and Tommy Thompson.
- C-1d: Allen Lewis, Tom Carter.
- K-1: Taffy Barr (no relation to Candy), Margie Shead, Ian Brower, Phil Smallwood, Sherry Young, Walter Evins.

Respectfully submitted  
Semi-posthumously,  
Tom Carter

Upper Chattahoochee - Saturday June 3 - 2.0 ft.

We ran both sections of the Upper Hooch in deference to the beautiful day. The water was a bit low but the Teflon boats had no trouble at all.

Our group was honored by the presence of the internationally renowned falling out-of-the-boat and snake catching team of Dale and Ben Bergen who came to us directly from a command performance at the Ramblin' Raft Race.

In retrospect our trip ultimately was successful because nobody was beaten up, shot at, vandalized, pillaged or plundered.

The Flotilla:

- C-1o: Polly Heyward, Tom Carter
- C-1d: Nancy Barker, Hal Herndon, Ed Daugherty
- C-2o: Oreon and Chris Mann, Ralph Sikes (who came out of retirement for this trip) and Bill Jones (who went into retirement after this trip), Dale and Ben Bergen (part time), Bill and John Berry, Bill and Chris Frain, Walter and Laurie Borden.

Tom Carter

A BLEARY-EYED CREW GATHERED FOR BREAKFAST AND CAR POOLING AT NORTHCREST AND I-85 AT 7:30. AT DUNCAN BRIDGE, THE RENDEZVOUSE WITH THREE MORE PADDLERS WAS ALMOST ON TIME. LEAVING ONE CAR FOR SHUTTLE, WE MADE FOR THE PUT IN AT GA 255, MEETING A COUPLE OF WANDERING SOLES ALONG THE WAY. WITH THE WATER LEVEL AT ONLY 2.18 (LEAF GAGE), EVERYONE'S HIGH LEVEL OF EXPERTISE AND THE COMPLETE ABSENCE OF ANY OF THOSE STRANGE C-1'S, THE TRIP WENT VERY SMOOTHLY WITH SEVERAL RERUNS AT SMITH ISLAND AND THE HORSESHOE. THREE AND A HALF HOURS LATER WE ARRIVED AT DUNCAN BRIDGE AND GATHERED THE DRIVERS TO COMPLETE THE SHUTTLE. AFTER FINDING THAT THE KEY TO OUR SHUTTLE CAR WAS SAFELY LOCKED UP IN A CAR AT THE PUT-IN (THERE'S ONE MORE FOR THE TRIP LEADERS CHECK LIST), WE POLISHED OUR THUMB AND PRESENTED IT TO A RAPIDLY APPROACHING PICK-UP. THE KIND GENTELMAN TOOK FIVE OF US DIRECTLY TO THE CARS AT THE PUT-IN.

TRIP SCORE: GOOD 'LOCALS' 1  
BAD 'LOCALS' 0  
TRIP LEADER -1

PADDLING K-1'S WERE: GENE WILKS, CHIP JAMERSON, PAT JANAS AND IT'S-A-SMALL-WORLD, EX NEXT DOOR NEIGHBOR RICHARD SCHMIDT. IN TANDEM CANOES WERE: ROY CORDELL WITH 12 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER, LAURA, WHO HAD A FINE RUN AND OREON MAN WITH CHIP WHO I THANK FOR RUNNING SWEEP.

BUDDY HOLMES, SOLO OPEN

TRIP REPORT - OCOEE RIVER JUNE 4, 1978

It was a perfect day for a river trip. Both the weather and the TVA cooperated. A sunny day with 80 degrees, and water release of 1400 cfs. With all this we were surprised that only a few GCA paddlers joined us. We had only five paddlers - Hank Klausman, trip leader, Jack Weems, Greg Hughes, Glen Crenshaw, Richard Schmidt. All were in kayaks, except Jack Weems in a funny looking decked boat, but he only had one blade on his paddle and seemed to be on his knees as if praying alot. Maybe he was praying because he only had one blade. Anyhow our group managed to roll and/or swim at least every major rapid. Richard Schmidt probably set a one run record for rolls and/or swims. But he never gave up and kept his cool all day. Richard even managed to flip in the flat water middle section. But then he showed us a wet re-entry and roll which is a nice technique to use on heavy water rivers. The TVA has built parking lot at both the put in and take out. This is a good sign, but we need to keep up the pressure on TVA to abandon this part of the Ocoee for recreation.

Hank Klausman

Upper Amicalola- Saturday, April 22

Nine boats appeared for this impromptu trip in exceptional weather. The water was low (.7 at the hwy 53 gauge) but tolerable, letting us look up from rock-dodging at the dogwoods, azaleas and pines towering overhead. Everyone did fine on the three ledges in mid-run, but the last drop-and-hole down near the takeout was not so kind, spilling a tandem crew who had done nothing to deserve it and trying to smash the stern off our Moore. The 8+ mile run took a bit over 4 hours on the water at a leisurely pace. In kayaks were Bonnie Wolf, Pat Jeanson and Buddy Holmes. Tandem crews were Jessie and David Mosher, Bob and Margaret Troxler, and Ellie and myself. Jim Tibbets paddled Co-1, as did our sweep Polly Heyward, while lead boat Nancy Barker was in her C-1. --- Gary DeBacher

North Fork, Broad River- Sat., May 6 --river exploration

Arising just west of Toccoa and joining the Middle Fork near Franklin Springs, the North Fork is the smallest of the Broad's major tributaries, with a watershed area just a little over 110 square miles. Much of its lower course is ruined by channelization and related follies, but I found the final 3 miles, from Starr Bridge (hwy 51) to hwy 145, pleasant and unspoiled. There are frequent shallow class I and very easy II rapids in the first 2 miles, with laurel, azaleas, fringe trees and rock outcrops along the banks. The last mile is tree-shaded flatwater. One takes out on the left bank just above a dam where there is access via a side road running upstream on the east side of the 145 bridge. This would make a good easy afternoon run for Athens area paddlers, but don't try it in a dry week. Victoria Bryant State Park is close by, and is another good place for the family to spend the day while you paddle the 281-172 run on the Broad.

---Gary DeBacher, river exploration ch'm'n.

Cedar Creek- river exploration

Returning for a further look at this local favorite of Rome canoeists, we put in four miles farther upstream, off Kings Bridge Road, Ellie, Paul and I in one tandem and Doug and Nancy Payne in another. After 2 miles of pastoral scenery and mild rapids, we encountered a beautiful narrows or "shut-in" section, full of rugged rock outcrops and a number of class II rapids, which would be a creditable addition to any river in Georgia. Though less than 1/2 mile long, this section required scouting and some powerful maneuvering to get our tandems through. The remainder of our 9 mile run down to hwy 411 was pleasant, notwithstanding getting stuck several times, the legacy of an unusually dry spring.

Notwithstanding geological differences (Cedar Creek being a "limestone" river, uncommon in N. Georgia), this run resembles the Toccoa in character and quality, with alternating pastoral and "shut-in" sections. The ironies of fashion are such that Atlantans will keep driving 40 extra minutes to reach the Toccoa and never bother to see Cedar Creek at all.---Gary DeBacher

South Fork of the Broad River, Monday, April 3-- river exploration

Put-in: Watson Mill State Park, off hwy 72 east of Comer. Take out 5.7 miles downstream at SE corner of county bridge on a road shown running SE from 72 on the state road map. Easy Shuttle. Scenery mostly B, ordinary but fairly unspoiled, occasional small rock outcrops, sandy soil banks, "river bottom" forest. Size: 120 square mile watershed at put-in, half the size of the Alcovy or Hudson, but tributaries rapidly increase volume. First half is shallow, sandy bottom, good current. Second half deeper, slow current, wider. Rapids: 150 meters of optional class II-III at Watson Mill. Two nice class II ledges in last mile. Otherwise flat. Frequent wildlife. Runnable except in dry summer and fall months.

This rather "ordinary" section isn't going to appear on the club schedule, but I enjoyed it. I lost a race to a muskrat, surprised two curious deer, saw a big owl carrying a mouse, upset numerous wood ducks, and encountered a swallowtail butterfly convention on a sandbar. Downstream of the takeout is 1/2 mile of spectacular class III shoals which locals like Hoppy Eager paddle when the water is up. There is no convenient takeout, so boats must be carried upstream along the north bank. There is an old mill still standing. Highly recommended for hiking.

Watson Mill State Park is an excellent place for the spouse and kids to spend the day while Mom or Dad is paddling the Broad. There is a playground, picnic area, a covered bridge in good repair, and an easy trail along the old mill race. The water above the mill dam is quite flat and still, safe for paddling the kids around, and the shoals below are so broad and shallow that toddlers can wade without risk. ----Gary DeBacher.

Talking Rock-- Saturday, May 20

We had clear water and 1.8 on the gauge, a comfortable level in the rapids but little help in between. All the waterfalls and side streams were "on", and the laurel was nearing its peak. Early in the run we encountered 5 frantic ducklings making good speed upstream toward us, straight up the middle of the rapid. Impressive. Maybe if I flocked my C-1 with duck down and cut holes through the bottom for my big feet, I could win the world championships. Cave Bluff was awe-inspiring as usual except that Dean, H.B., Vicki and Jude of the class of '78 are emblazoned in blue paint several times over. Anybody want to help me clean it off? The rest of our trip proceeded without any real mishaps, and we were off the water by 5 p.m. Paddling tandem were Milton Mills and Richard Pflager, Mike and Shirley Carter, and Barbara Hart and Dick Turner. In solo open were Polly Heyward, Larry Gayle and myself, and James McCay ran his kayak.

Highway notes: it now takes only 1 1/2 hours from Atlanta via 75, 411 and 136. That's right, the hwy dept. has changed the number from 156 to 136, so don't miss the turn.

---Gary DeBacher.

WANT ADS--

FOR SALE:

KAYAK PADDLE: USED, IN GOOD REPAIR, 80" KOBER, RIGHT HAND CONTROL. \$20.00.

HELMET: USED 1 YEAR. MADE BY JOFFA. \$15.00. FOR PADDLE OR HELMET, CALL NANCY BARKER 874-8897.

KAYAK: LETTMAN MARK IV WITH FLOAT BAGS. HIGH VOLUME, SLALOM DESIGN, YELLOW AND WHITE. NEVER USED. \$225.00. BOBBY HINSON - 926-7846.

C-1: "MORRISON HAHN", LOW VOLUME, BRUISED AND PATCHED, BUT STILL USEABLE. IDEAL BOAT TO LEARN IN. \$100.00. DAVID GARRITY - H:874-4841, O:656-3968.

