

# GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30309

January 1979

NEWSLETTER

VOL. XIV No. 1

February newsletter deadline is Jan. 15. Send material to Gary DeBacher, 1191 Conway Rd., Decatur, GA 30030.

DUES ARE DUE before Jan. 31. Send \$7.50 for regular membership plus \$2.00 if you wish affiliate membership in the Georgia and National Wildlife Federations to Wanda Gunter, P.O. 299, Kennesaw, GA 30144.

NO ROLLING PRACTICE! The Jones Boys Club has established new financial and insurance requirements for use of their pool. GCA executive committee needs time to renegotiate this arrangement or find an alternative. If you know of a pool where we might arrange rolling practice, call Jack Weems or Gary DeBacher.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Feb. 9th, 6:30-9:30, at St. Phillips Cathedral. Potluck dinner and movies. More details in next newsletter.

GCA board of directors meeting Wednesday, Jan. 4th at 7:30 PM, Fernbank Science Center. All interested members are invited to attend. Following is the roster of the 1979 board and committee chairpersons.

		home	office
President	Jack Weems	938-5263	321-7544
Vice Pres.	Hank Klausman	255-7420	955-0553
Treasurer	Wanda Gunter	424-0850	
Secretary	Norm Reynolds	455-3498	
Newsletter Ed.	Gary DeBacher	288-1773	
Cruisemaster	Jimmy Gunter	424-0850	
Training Director	Mark Warren		
Dir's at Large	Robin Oscar	451-2210	
	Curt Holmes	768-1239	
Racemasters	Bonnie Wolf	237-1346	588-8565
	Gwen Bergen	377-2970	894-6134
Membership	Wanda Gunter	424-0850	
Safety	David Garrity		656-3968
Conservation	Bruce McGregor	378-6040	656-3852

Gauley River Wildwater Race- Oct. 8, 1978. Placings of GCA members: David Jones 1st in K-1, and Ken Strickland in 3rd. Ex GCA president Margaret Osborne and Bern Collins finished 1st in C-2 mixed. For those who haven't heard of it, the Gauley is in W. Virginia and is probably the most difficult river in the East which can be run with any regularity. It includes numerous class 5 rapids and one class 6, Iron Ring. The race is run on the 8 mile lower Gauley to avoid the scouting and portaging which is necessary on the horrendous 16 mile section just preceding. David Jones tells me that there are still plenty of class 5's on the lower section, that it is much bigger water than the Ocoee, although also more of a drop-and-pool run, ending with a charming number called Pure Screaming Hell. He had a good run with no rolls and the lines he chose through the rapids worked well, so that he finished 20 seconds ahead of Schurrenberger, a member of the 1978 U.S. wildwater team. Ken Strickland was yet another minute back as a result of getting stuck in a hole for a while.

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FIRST ANNUAL OCOEE OPEN CANOE DOWNRIVER RACE. Not so long ago, anyone even running the Ocoee in an open boat was regarded as slightly crazy, so Roger Losier thought it fitting to organize such madness into a race. Most GCA members were content to watch from the sidelines; Dave Garrity and I were manning ropes and shagging loose equipment just below Spewing Rock. There were surprisingly few spills, and the whole race seemed to run well except for a long mid-day hiatus. Noone was crazy enough yet to try running a really fast boat; Blue Holes and Trippers were de rigueur. Jim Hudson won the solo division in 36:58, just 7 seconds ahead of Jim Shelander. Hudson tells me that he never beached or eddied out to empty the boat. He carried his bailer in one hand while paddling and would bail frantically after each major drop while coasting in the runout. Shelander and Scarborough had overall fast time in C-2 open, 33:43. To me the funniest sight was the 2nd place C-2 team of Losier and Hubbard. They took on much water in Spewing Rock and Omigod, and while Roger bailed in the stern with an immense plastic pickle bucket, he kept screaming at an obviously sceptical Hubbard to keep paddling! Great event, Roger--- maybe I will risk entering my Moore next year.

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OCOEE RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN. Hank Klausman and several other GCA members have been in close contact with TVA about their plans to rebuild the water flume and redivert water from our favorite section of regional whitewater hair. TVA argues that the worsening energy crisis and rises in electrical rates will justify the cost of rebuilding, although they seem to have a hard time arriving at a cost estimate after several drastic upward revisions. Hank has argued that the explosion of recreational use on the river may be of greater economic and social value than power generation. TVA figures showed that 23,000 people used the river in 1978. TVA proposes to run water down the river bed for boating on weekends and holidays through the warmer months of the year. Boaters are arguing that flume reconstruction may not pay for itself and that if the flume is built, TVA should consider running water for recreation on summer weekdays as well as weekends. More later on this controversy.

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AD SPACE AND AD POLICY. GCA is considering accepting ads from stores, outfitters, etc., for the newsletter just as we do for the Guidebook. The purpose is to generate a little extra money to improve the quality and size of the newsletter. Also such ads are a service to members, letting them know of equipment sales, new products, commercially run trips and training, etc. Details on rates and procedures are not yet finalized.

With regard to WANT ADS, GCA executive board has reaffirmed the policy that such ads are free only for GCA members selling used equipment. If you submit an ad without payment and I cannot confirm your membership status, I will not run the ad. Also please make used equipment ads reasonably brief. Typing ads is the least interesting part of assembling this newsletter, and I reserve the right to edit verbose ad copy.

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#### WANT ADS

For sale: kayak. Canary yellow deck, clear hull with black carbon ribs about a foot apart. Similar to a Lettman mark V, this is almost a one-of-a-kind, a really hot boat. Very reasonable price, make offer. Call 681-2444

Downriver kayak for sale: Prijon Interceptor 1; Kevlar/carbon fiber, excellent condition, light and strong. \$150. Call Ken Strickland at 374-6506 (Morganton, GA).

I have misplaced his ad copy, but Steve Cantrell still has a nice blocked DelCraft aluminum canoe for sale and can be reached at 1-226-5046 or by mail at 2415 Crow Valley Rd., Dalton, GA 30720.