

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30357

May, 1982

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17, No.4

Deadline for material for the next newsletter is the 15th. Submit material to Gary DeBacher, CRM, 1441 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30322. PLEASE TYPE BORDER TO BORDER (ZERO MARGINS) WITH INDENTED PARAGRAPHS AND NO VERTICAL SPACING BETWEEN PARAGRAPHS. This format makes it much easier for me to lay out the newsletter. Good, high contrast photos are also welcome, as well as conservation clippings.

WANT AD POLICY: Ads are "free" for GCA members selling used equipment only. For non-members, or for GCA members selling new equipment, there is a 5 dollar charge. The editor does not take want ads over the phone; please type it up and send it to the above address.

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS? CHANGE OF ADDRESS? Contact the GCA membership chairperson, who currently is Oreon Mann, 100 Waverly Way NE, Atlanta, GA 30307; phone 522-3469. The newsletter editor does such a rotten job at handling subscription problems that you are better off not working with him at all.

NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING WILL BE THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30 PM, AT THE GEORGIA CONSERVANCY HEADQUARTERS, 3110 Maple Drive NE in Atlanta, near the intersection of Piedmont and Peachtree. Members and interested persons are welcome to attend. However, if you wish to submit any matters for discussion or vote, please call the president or vice president before the meeting so they can plan time on the agenda.

ARTICLES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS- HOW TO BE SURE YOURS GETS PRINTED. First, type it in a compact format, single-spaced, border to border (zero margins) across the width of 8 1/2 by 11 paper. (However, if typing is not feasible or if your typewriter doesn't produce clear copy, then double-space and send in a little early so I have time to retype.) Second, make the length fit the content. A good conservation or safety article, or a really unusual trip report, might merit several pages, but a race announcement should not run over 10 lines. Third, if your article or announcement is controversial, outrageous, or apparently irrelevant, call the editor at home (634-4651) and discuss it first. Fourth, adhere to the copy deadline, the 15th of the month. Fifth, send copy to the editor's work address, CRM, 1441 Clifton Rd. NE, Atlanta, GA 30322.

TRIP SCHEDULE:

May	1	Lower Amicalola (if access roads are OK) class III (IV)		
			David Ashley	H:633-7296 W:656-3094
	1	Broad class I-II	Polly Heyward	237-4503
	2	Green (NC) class I-II+	Jerry Holladay	H:688-1842 W:688-8970
		(Some camping available at Holladay's brother's house)		
	2	Chattooga III class III-IV	Jim Farr	H:634-2272 W:221-2556
	8	Upper Chestatee class II-III	Doug Fortenberry	378-4159 or 325-1805
	8	Alcovy class I-II	Don & Bettina George	1-787-9548
	9	Chauga Gorge class III-IV (dep. on water level)	Jack Weems	938-5263
	9	Upper Hooch class II-III	Bob Stigrow	1-786-5014 after 6 PM

Wednesday May 12, 19, 26. Evening trips on Metro Hooch, Powers Ferry to hwy 41. Call George Neill, 627-9829. This may be a good chance for those taking the open canoe Beginner's Clinic to brush up on certain skills under the watchful eye of your training chairman. Hot dogs also welcome.

15-16 Open Canoe Beginner's Clinic, tandem and solo. Volunteer instructors needed. To volunteer for instruction or to register, call George Neill, 627-9829. Untrained decked boaters who feel left out can call Gary DeBacher at 634-4651 to talk about your needs and experience.

22-23 FLA overnight camping, either Suwannee River or Cape Sandblast
Call Dana Hardy, H:876-6044 W:874-4323

22 Obed/ Emory class III-IV Tom Holbert 1-615-482-1824

22 Chattahoochee, Buford Dam downstream for 12 miles.

Call Nancy Wylie at 256-1172

22 Chattooga III, class III-IV Alan Lewis 469-6319

23 Chattooga section II, class I-II Richard Blews H 993-8468 W 658-9477

23 Cartecay class II-III Ben Maxwell 953-3972

29 Tesnatee-Chestatee class II-III Roger Nott H 1-536-6923 W 1-532-5410

29 Lazer Creek class I-II (III) Jim Pritchard 1-228-2655

30 Broad class I-II Jim McCay 1-789-2479

30 Lower Chauga class II-III Jerry Holladay H 688-1842 W 688-8970

June 5 Nantahala class II-III Lori & Rich Cole 261-4875

6 Upper Hooch class II-III Dennis Abernathy H 1-967-6124 W 945-4918(eve)

METRO CHATTAHOOCHEE

MAY 1 AND 2 SLALOM &

DOWNRIVER RACES SPONSORED BY

ATLANTA WHITEWATER CLUB.

Register near Powers Ferry between 8 and 8:30 each morning. Big classes for open boaters. Easy slalom course and short downriver course from Powers Ferry to hwy 41. For more information call 971-1910 or 469-1736.

Our cruisemaster is Jerry Holladay, and he's always glad to hear from people volunteering to lead trips. Call him at 688-1842.

Peter Elkon is impromptu trip chairperson. Call him if you're trying to get a trip together for the weekend, or hoping to join one.

STOLEN BOAT-- PHOENIX C-1. Bronwyn Fowlkes' C-1 was recently stolen from behind her apartment. This is the model which Phoenix officially calls "Seewun" but which is known as a "slipper" by many paddlers. It is a rather low volume boat. In this case as with most boats sold by Phoenix these days, the color is "natural", a tan translucence. But Bronwyn's boat had one distinguishing characteristic which will be difficult for the thief to entirely obliterate. There are two diagonal stripes, fore and aft of the cockpit, made by applying patterned fabric ribbon with polyester. They stand too high to be painted or taped over, and will leave scars if removed. The boat is in very good condition but would not pass for new.

I should very much like to see us get one of these stolen boats back for a change. And I am not so naive as to think that the "elite" ranks of C-1 paddlers do not include a few thieves, but there is some amusement in hoping that the thief in the present instance did not realize what he was taking, and will scare himself silly finding out. ---Ed.

BEGINNER'S TRAINING CLINIC MAY 15-16. See announcement on trip schedule above. Call George Neill soon so he can make plans to obtain enough instructors for the number of students registered. I would strongly suggest that you get some straight line paddling experience before showing up for the training session. This is especially important for solo open canoeists. In being an instructor at previous sessions, I found that solo trainees who were not yet able to propel the boat forward in a reliable fashion (without switching sides) were unable to effectively practice basic maneuvers like ferrying and eddy turns effectively. So if at all possible, get yourself onto a lake or a flat section of river before the training session and learn to make that boat go in a straight line. Note that George Neill is running a Metro Hooch evening trip on the Wednesday before the training session. This is a good chance to work on that straight line paddling and to get a preview of some other skills you will be learning. --Gary DeBacher

CANOE ORIENTEERING MEET - Sunday, May 23, 1982. Bull Sluice Lake, Roswell, Ga. On the Chattahoochee River. This will be a great opportunity to learn or practice map and compass skills for paddling. Sponsored by the Georgia Orienteering Club, instruction begins at 10:00 A.M. A short(1-2 hour) competitive course will follow at 11:00 A.M. and should provide an excellent challenge to beginner as well as experienced boaters. Awards will be given to winners of the meet for male and female classes. Unique in the Atlanta area, this lake is surrounded by a marsh, stream and island network that provides a splendid setting for a fun and useful morning. Bring a friend and a canoe! Directions - North on Roswell Rd., cross the Chattahoochee River and turn left onto Azalea Road, Follow the signs. Compasses will be available to borrow. Map fee per canoe is \$3.00. For information call Doug Fortenberry - Pho. 378-4159

CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER UPDATE

POWERS FERRY/SLALOM COURSE: Ken Hulick of the National Park Service explained the problems and listened to proposed solutions about this area of the river at the April executive committee meeting. Where rafters put in now (South of I-285) is private property; the parking lots soon will be closed to weekend use. A new put-in with public access must be developed. The site chosen is on the same side of the river but north of I-285; at the slalom course area. (The opposite side of the river is used for jogging and has limited area for parking facilities because of the narrowness of the strip of flat land.) The plan is for a bridge over the channel and a path across the island for rafters to put in the main stream. The location of the entrance to the slalom gates to be used by canoes and kayaks only has not yet been established.

COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT MEETINGS: Beginning April 26 and continuing into May, the National Park Service in cooperation with the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Department of Natural Resources is sponsoring meetings between planners, elected local and state officials, developers, and citizen groups to gain more cooperation in protecting the river corridor during development. GCA members who live in the affected jurisdictions will be contacted shortly and asked to call or write their representatives or elected officials and encourage their support for the river and cooperation in protecting it. Let's let them know that the people care about the river, their water supply, and the recreation that we presently enjoy on it.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE SKILLS

by Trish Severin & Doug Woodward

Basic Kayaking	June 10, 15, 17	6 PM
Basic Whitewater Canoeing	June 22, 24, 29	6 PM
Whitewater Kayak & Canoe Trip	July 10	All Day
Wilderness Rafting/Camping Trip	June 19, 20	Weekend

Small classes - individual instruction. We provide all boating and major camping equipment as part of the course. Children's classes also scheduled this summer.



HEADWATERS

P.O. BOX 128, LILBURN, GEORGIA 30247

For details, write or call

404-921-5481

ETOWAH RIVER, Sunday April 4 -- It was a beautiful spring day and the Etowah was, as usual, scenic and unspoiled, although the greenery had not yet arrived in Lumpkin County. We made the standard run from Highway 19 to Castleberry Bridge, eating lunch at the falls. Our party consisted of Laura Jordan, C-1; Rich and Lori Cole, K-1; Leroy Robbins and Michael Gibbons, Marty and Mark Rucker, Mike and Jim Monahan, John and Tee Brower, Stewart Sprage and Joe Metz, Roy and Laura Cordel, OC-2; Phil Siegman, Derek Patterson, Ben Fouts, and myself, OC-1. There were no deaths or serious injuries. Of note, Phil was making his first river trip after only limited flat water experience. He improved greatly as he proceeded down the river (he had to) and he did not swim, but I don't know if he is still speaking to Laura, who brought him along. Derek was paddling a cedar stripper. He built the stripper himself in an estimated 120 hours. By the end of the trip he was debating not taking the boat in white water again because of the damage (scrapes and scratches) it was incurring. Jim and Mike were paddling a 17' Indian River fiberglass which they had bought from me last summer. This was the canoe's first river trip, and at the start it was beautiful - looked unscratched. The Etowah being as scrappy as ever changed that. There were three successful runs of the falls, all at left center, by John, Ben and myself. For those who have never paddled the Etowah, it is a relatively easy (Class I-II), and short (4½ hours including lunch, 6 miles) trip, easily accessible from Atlanta.

-- Jerry Holladay

7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON RIVERS, DAMS AND NATIONAL WATER POLICY

Bob Lantz was one of the most interesting people I met at the conference which was held in Washington D.C. the first weekend in April. Besides being the designer and manufacturer of Blue Hole Canoes, Bob is also one of the leaders of the Tennessee Scenic Rivers Association (TSRA). TSRA has over 1,000 members and thousands of dollars for protecting rivers in their area.

Bob said that most of their new members come through the canoe school they sponsor. One thing TSRA does that GCA doesn't is require people to join the organization BEFORE they take a clinic rather than hope they will join after the classes are over. Bob said that they kept many of these new members because novices are very enthusiastic right after completing classes so when the newsletter arrives with the trip schedule, they usually sign up for a trip as soon as they can. The new member is then an INVOLVED member and the newsletter continues to come for the rest of the year.

An advantage TSRA has is that there is essentially no competition for students. They limit their classes to 200, charge \$15 in addition to dues, and have close to 70 instructors. To get those 70 instructors, there is an on-going program to train instructors. Bob also said that TSRA no longer sponsors a race; they had in the past, but it fell by the wayside. Their members, however, enjoy competing in the Southeastern Championship races sponsored by GCA.

Nancy Wylie

CARTECAY RIVER, Sunday, March 21, 1982 This second official day of Spring brought out an armada of 22 boats. After meeting in Ellijay at 9:00 we had our flotilla on the river by 10:30. The river was running 2.34 and the day was warm enough for most of us to not wear wetsuits. The warm weather was a good thing because at this level we had swimmers in just about every rapid. In fact, one tandem open was seen upside down in every rapid. Many of us got a chance to practice our rope throwing. We even had a chance to rescue a Gruman aluminum pinned on the rock below Clear Creek Falls (last big rapid). The unfortunate tandem crew having no floatation, ran the drop OK, but filled up with water allowing the boat to pin. We managed to get it free with little effort or damage. Although Clear Creek Falls is the most difficult and potentially dangerous rapid on the run, the group had sharpened their skills enough to this point, that we had fewer incidents here than above. The five mile flatwater end flowed nicely at 2.34, but did cause several first time Cartecay paddlers to ask, "How much longer?". Participating were:

Kayak: Dennis Abernathy, Rich Cole, Jim Spivey, Doug Hill, Lee Miles

Tandem: Pat and Caroline Keller, Mel Beach and Doug Hird, Chuck Bosserman and Murray Friedman, Brad Gadberry and Martin Douthitt

Solo: Harold Hill, Jay Kessler, Brian Jones, King Nichols, Ben Maxwell, Heath Boyer, Robert Morrison, Bob Setzer, Tim Sweeney, Richard Blews, Hank Miles, Susan Levine, Mark Levine

Mark Levine

SMOKY MOUNTAIN WEEKEND in Cherokee, N.C. - Again this year we had good weather and a fine, competent group of paddlers, many of whom piled up into two cabins at the Boundary Tree Motor Lodge overnight. We had freezing weather both mornings, some ice on the river's edge and a crowd by the fire at night. The rivers were low and quite technical and presented quite a challenge for this reason. Raven Fork on Sat. was at 1.92. Benner rates 1.70 as a minimum for solo open (Sherrill's Cove gauge) for the 8 miles we ran from the Straight Fork confluence to the Job Corps Bridge. The first 3 miles contain 5 areas, incl. 3 indian fish weirs, which were very bumpy at this level and were distressing for our glass boaters. There was some fun water in this stretch, but we would have enjoyed the run more if we had put in at the trout farm and run the 2nd half of the river, where the more challenging rapids are concentrated, twice. We had one solo paddler take an icy swim in the gorge, the only upset in both days. Ted and Helen made a dramatic run through the crack at "Crack in the Rock," a 4½' sheer drop into a mean hole. I was impressed by many other fine runs. The Oconaluftee R. on Sunday was run from Smokemont in the National Park to Birdtown, 3 miles below Cherokee, where the gauge read 1.94, a low but quite passable level. We had warm, sunny weather for our 11½ mile trip on what is in my opinion in its upper stretches one of the most beautiful class II-III streams anywhere! It was great to paddle with some good old and new friends. Paddlers: Sat. only were Jack Weems and Ed Garison in C-1s; Rick Marshall in K-1; Don Ford, Louis Jacob and Stan Landers in OC-1s; and Ken McAmis and Bronwyn Fowlkes, OC-2. On Sun. only were Susan Levine, Eddie Donald and Bill Jones in OC-1s; John Brewer, K-1; Bob Osborn, C-1; & Larry & Betsy Smith, OC-2. Ted & Helen Sparks ran OC-2 Sat. & solo on Sun. Others paddling both days were Les Davenport and Mark Levine in OC-1s and John & Tee Brower and Beth & I tandem open. - Roger Nott

Note: I learned recently of a large fish kill on Raven Fork several weeks ago due to acid rain. Both these streams have extremely clear water and would not seem at all polluted. Perhaps because acidity in the water cannot be seen, the problem of acid rain has been ignored and downplayed so long. *R. Nott*

OCOEE RIVER, Saturday, April 10, 1982 This impromptu GCA trip originated as David Ashley, LeRoy Robbins, Stan Landers and I headed in Stan's van for a club trip on the Tellico. Having started very early we all agreed there should be time for a run on the Ocoee after the Tellico run. Sure enough, we completed the Tellico run at 2:30 and piled back into Stan's van for the one hour trip to the Ocoee via TN 68 and TN 64. We invited the rest of the Tellico group, but they all declined for various reasons. The Ocoee put-in was an unusual site, void of people, craft, etc. We prepared quickly and were in the water by 4:00. Soon after we headed downstream, it became obvious that a flow of 980cfs reported by the TVA the day before was erroneous. In fact, it was much higher than the normal 1200-1400cfs reading. Based on the absence of several familiar rocks and eddies, we summarized that the Ocoee was cooking around 1800-2000cfs. It was very pushy and full of churning, boiling waves and holes all the way. The major rapids were awesome and very treacherous with the increased flow. Stan and I had clean runs in our opens as did David in his C-1. LeRoy wet exited his Kayak a couple of times, but had a good run considering the high water and this was only his second Ocoee run. We were off the river by 6:00 and on our way home via Edna's in Chatsworth (good eats). Seven hours on the road and 5 hours on the river makes for one full day.

Mark Levine

FOR SALE - Perception Sage C-1. Used one trip. \$360.00. Call: Roger Scott, after 8:00 p.m. (Ooltewah) (615) 238-4867.

FOR SALE: Well-used but well cared-for fiberglass kayak. Volume is similar to Phenix Cascade. Good starter outfit. Includes float bags, nylon spray skirt and straight-bladed Norse paddle. \$165.00 Call for Gary. Days: 523-1000

STRIKE, SLALOM, KEVLAR, KAYAK. Get ready for the races. Exec. Cond. \$125.00 Hugh Stubbs, 952-4926.

For Sale - New 16' Perception ABS Canoe. \$629.00. Call: Roger Scott after 8:00 p.m. Chattanooga (615) 238-4867.