

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION, INC.



P. O. Box 7023, Atlanta, Georgia 30357

September, 1982

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 17, No. 8

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 Oron 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:

SEPT. Wednesday Evening Metro Hooch trips will be led by George Neill on the 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th. To register, call George at 627-9829(H) or 482-2951(W).

4	Chattooga III class 3-4	Jerry Holladay	H:688-1842	W:522-0096
5	Chattooga IV class 3-5	Peter Elkon	373-7535	
6	Upper Hooch class 2-3	Laura Jordan	H:233-7294	W:526-5101

Jerry Holladay says that a group of paddlers will be camping together near the Chattooga over the September 4-5-6 weekend, and anyone wanting to paddle on the trips listed above is welcome to join them.

11	Upper Toccoa class 1-2	Grant Luckhardt	373-2293	Call before Thursday.
12	Chattooga III class 3-4	George Neill	627-9829	
12	Lower Amicalola (cl. 3-4) if sufficient water.	Dwight Bowen	H:523-3004	W:688-0666
12	Chattahoochee Buford Dam -> 12 miles down.	Lou Rosswaag	972-1351	

18	Chattooga III class 3-4	Sue & Mark Levine	926-8683	
18	Hiwassee class 2+	Rich Cole	261-4975	
19	Ocoee	David Ashley		
25	Nantahala class 2-3+	Richard Blews	H:993-8468	W:658-9477
25	Etowah- hwy 9 to below mine tunnel	Roger Nott	1-536-6923	W:1-532-5410
26	Cartecay class 2-3+	Jim McCay	1-789-2479	

2	Broad class 1-2	Jimmy Gunter	H:974-8681	W:993-9377
2	Chattooga III class 3-4	Mark & Sue Levine	926-8683	
3	Chattooga IV class 3-5	Roger Nott	1-536-6923	

Our cruismaster 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.

OCOEE RESOLUTION IN CONGRESS NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT. Tennessee Congressman Robin Beard has introduced a resolution calling for TVA to provide recreational releases on the Ocoee for a minimum of 100 days per year without "user fees". While this resolution is not legally binding, it does express the will of Congress and is an important first step to recognize the Ocoee as a national recreational resource.

WRITE OR CALL YOUR U.S. REPRESENTATIVES TODAY!! Tell them to support Robin Beard's resolution to preserve recreation on the Ocoee River in Tennessee. In your own words tell them that the Ocoee is a national recreation area and deserves congressional action to preserve whitewater recreation for a minimum of 100 days per year.

WRITE: Your Representative
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Your Senator
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

KEEP THE OCOEE OPEN 100
DAYS A YEAR

HON. ROBIN L. BEARD

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 1982

● Mr. BEARD. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution to persuade the Tennessee Valley Authority to permit white-water rafting on the Ocoee River in Tennessee for 100 days a year by having TVA suspend power generation using the waters of that river during that time period. Having recently experienced the excitement and beauty of a trip down the Ocoee in a raft, I can assure my colleagues that this unique natural resource should be denied to no one.

To the great chagrin of the Nation's white-water enthusiasts, the TVA has placed a small electric generating flume on the Ocoee River, which effectively transforms the turbulent waters of the Ocoee into a mere trickle of a stream. The power generated by this particular flume represents a minuscule portion of the TVA's total power generation: 0.0007 to be exact.

This resolution asks that the TVA defer generation for 100 days per year and let the waters of the Ocoee pro-

continued next page

SHALL WE GATHER BY THE RIVER or, the great August 21 Coosawattee River Cleanup. Many paddlers had reasons for not showing up for this civic-minded venture; some even had good reasons. Anyway, our sterling group of three river picker-uppers, myself, Russ Koester and Roxanne Hersch (sp?) met at the Ellijay Dairy Queen, ran shuttle, and then found our way into the depths of Beaver Lake Estates, where Bill Dean, also a GCA member, was orchestrating a cleanup effort involving both GCA paddlers and members of Beaver Lakes Estates. On our way across the hwy 5 bridge, we had seen several canoes of BLE members already shagging trash from the banks.. They were to cover the first three miles or so below hwy 5; we GCA folks were to tackle as much as we had room for of the next four miles down, from the BLE riverside clubhouse area to the mouth of Mountaintown Creek. Bill Dean had made arrangements with Gilmer County to have a trash crew pick up whatever we would leave on the point of land between Mountaintown and the Coosawattee.

Beaver Lake Estates is a very large development of home lots and member facilities somewhat resembling Big Canoe in concept, but perhaps a little more affordable to the average first or second home buyer. The extent of this development will have important future effects on this big class 2 river as a scenic resource, because the developers now own all the land along the south bank from a few hundred yards below hwy 5 on down almost as far as the uppermost Corps of Engineers holdings around Carters Lake. Assuming that the developers eventually develop a member access area at the downstream end, Bill Dean and other BLE members will be able to canoe most of the Coosawattee without ever leaving the development, much less having to paddle the lake. As far as I could see, the developers' efforts are mostly acceptable on grounds of environmental concern and good aesthetics, but I hope they will encourage riverside lot owners to preserve as much streamside vegetation as possible.

When Russ, Roxanne and I hit the water, we knew that two opens and a kayak could not possibly hold all the trash in the five miles above the lake, so we decided to do a fairly thorough job on both banks until both opens were full. That way we would end up with at least a couple of miles looking tolerably clean, instead of five miles still half trashed. For the few of you who have paddled the Coosawattee enough to remember landmarks, we got down to the large island before running out of capacity. By that time, Russ's 14'6" Courier was getting low in the water. My 17'3" Tripper was still not drawing too much water, but because of the Ethafoam pedestal seat arrangement, I had run out of volume. There was so much trash in the boat that I couldn't find my paddle, and had to make do with the setting pole even in the more difficult rapids.

I would estimate that we left more trash bagged up at the mouth of Mountaintown, by volume, than was collected earlier in the summer on the Middle Chestatee by a larger group. Each river has its own trash spectrum, and the Coosawattee is noteworthy for the large number of broken Styrofoam slabs and plastic gallon milk jugs which are in transit from Ellijay to the lake. Cans weren't all that numerous, but I did manage to find one still-full can of Budweiser Light. (Have you ever noticed that one never finds unopened cans of non-alcoholic beverages along the river?) But to do a thorough job on the rest of the river, I would have needed perhaps 20 boats.

Bill Dean was feeling kind of chagrined when we found him at the end of the day. His outboard had refused to start, so he'd been unable to tow us off the lake as he intended, and his chicken barbecue cook had packed up and run off before we appeared to claim our share. Still, we weren't disappointed, having enjoyed good water levels and low air temperatures for August. I think Bill needs to forget the details which didn't quite come off and should congratulate himself for having gotten so many people involved in an effective cleanup.

---Gary DeBacher

TUCKASEGEE RIVER, July 30. This large NC river has about 40 runnable miles before it hits Lake Fontana near Bryson City. We ran the "gorge" section which runs about five miles from Dillsboro to the next bridge. This includes the best selection of rapids along the river, some strong, wavy class 2's and one class 3. Hitting the water around 11, we found the river annoyingly shallow in places. Folks at the river outfitting store at the takeout (who shuttled my Tripper, my son and Jonathan Keoghane, a teenage friend who learned to paddle in Massachusetts, back to our car for just \$3) told us that because of the lag-time between peak power water releases at upstream reservoirs and arrival of high water at Dillsboro, the best time to get on the water for this section is right after sunrise.

In the first edition of Carolina Whitewater, Bob Benner had noted that closing of a major polluting factory in Dillsboro was expected to bring a great improvement in the paddling quality of this section of river. Unfortunately, while the water has improved from black and smelly to brown and tolerable, the NC highway department, in their extravagant efforts to widen the highway near the river, has stripped the trees off nearby hillsides and pushed rock spoil-banks into the right bank of the river. Think of what would have happened to the Nantahala if they had proceeded with plans to 4-lane hwy 19 through the gorge!

So I'm glad to have seen the "best" section of the Tuckasegee, but certainly wouldn't recommend it except as a convenient impromptu trip if you're in the area. I believe the name of the outfitter at the takeout is Eastern River Adventures, and they can probably be contacted through telephone information at Dillsboro, NC. ---Gary DeBacher

STOLEN: The only opaque red Phoenix Cascade kayak I know of. Has "second" inscribed on the deck. If seen, please contact Fulton County Police at 393-4600 or Bill Blair at 993-8300.

R E W A R D O F F E R E D-----BLUE HOLE CANOE---Black---high center floatation---3 layer etha-foam pedistal seats bow and stern---glued in knee pads for solo and tandem positions---GCA decals bow and stern---BOW PLATE I.D. No. OCA 2617--- Hal Herndon (404)688-7655 (office)--(404)231-5367 (home)

TRIP LEADER STATISTICS - (Interesting or boring depending on your point of view):

On an August evening, sitting around bored while my wife was vacationing in Florida, I computed the following statistics. I had always believed, and this impression has been reinforced this year when I've been playing cruise master, that the same people lead most of the club's trips. To confirm my suspicion, I reviewed the 16 newsletters (16 of 17) in my possession from 1981-82. Unfortunately, my fears were substantiated - - a very few people are leading most of the trips. In totalling my figures, I realized all of the trips scheduled might not have come off and George Neill was not given credit for his Wednesday night trips, but as best I could I came up with the following approximations (and pretty close ones):

Trips Scheduled	181
Trip Leaders	40
Club Members	400

Of the 40 trip leaders, 3 led 26.5% and 6 led 43% of the club trips. The fact that 6 out of 40 equals 43% concerns me. (For the record the six are the champ, Roger Nott with 19, followed by myself, Mark Levine, Jimmy Gunter, Gary DeBacher and Doug Fortenberry.)

In the April 1982 Newsletter I had encouraged club members to volunteer to lead trips. Although I wish to thank the 13 of you who led trips for the first time in 1982, I am disappointed in that I doubt that I have received more than 5 calls volunteering to lead trips this year.

As I stated in my April memo, I used to think being a trip leader is a big deal, but I discovered that not to be the case. If you're leading a trip down Section IV, you had better know what you're doing, but even inexperienced paddlers can lead flatwater or Class II trips.

The season, for many, is almost over, but I would encourage all club members to contact next year's cruise master to volunteer to lead trips. With more trip leaders, we will run more trips, on more rivers, over a wider range. - - Jerry Holladay.

NANTAHALA, Saturday, July 17 - - The river was wall to wall boats, rafts and tubers. A real zoo. The river was very foggy, poor visibility, and it rained for a short while. Because of the fog it was impossible to monitor our 10 boats, but every half mile or so we re-grouped and counted heads. Nevertheless, it was a most enjoyable trip. It was not an enjoyable trip for the tuber who, while stuck in the hydraulic at the top of the falls, was speared in the face by a Kayak. Blood everywhere. Fortunately, he received prompt medical attention. On a very positive note, Peter Elkor and Sally Burn did a babysitting exchange with Sabra and me. Peter babysat Saturday while Sally, Sabra and I ran the Nantahala, and Sabra babysat (followed along in the van) on Sunday while the rest of us did the Ocoee. I feel there should be extensive discussion among club members of forming some type babysitting co-op. (Also, Maggie Clawson, 704-488-6093, is now offering babysitting services at Nantahala for \$2/hr. We have used her twice and have been quite satisfied. These last comments may seem strange to some club members, but not to those with young children.) Our party consisted of: Sally Burn, C-1; Rocky Wall and Wayne Gentry, K-1; Mike Laster, Mark and Marty Rucker, and Bill Moore, C-10; and Leslie Campbell and Roger Shepard, Tom and Shirley Pritchard and Sabra and myself, C-20.-- Jerry Holladay

Cartecay River, Saturday, July 24, 1982 - This was a warm July day that brought sunshine for the first part of the trip and a thunderstorm just before Clear Creek rapid. The water level was 1.8 to start the trip and 1.9 at the end. Everyone seemed to be competent paddlers and few people swam. Eleven-year-old John Miles had a clean run paddling a Mad River solo. There were several other groups on the river and this made a crowd at several of the major rapids, though the wait was not long. Paddlers were: open tandem; Phyllis Wolfe and daughter Adhley - solo open; Theresa Byers, Polly Heyward, Nancy Barker, Donald Thomas, Fred Thomas, Hank Miles, John Miles, Ben Fouts - kayak; Lee Miles, Wayne Gentry - C1; George Neill. Thanks to George for running sweep.

SUBMITTED: Ben Fouts

Upper Chattahoochee, July 25. All of you people who stayed at home thinking the water was too low missed a very enjoyable trip. True the gauge was a little under 2.0, but we had enough even for the tandem boats. For those of you in need of practice on all your strokes and moves, you shouldn't pass these trips up. We all had a leisurely time down, making the most out of the sunshine and the water we had. Gliding our way through the rapids were tandem boats paddled by Heath and Brian BBoyer, Ken Shank and Janice Carter, and James and Kathy McCay. K-1 paddlers were John Hamilton, BBob Gerrick, Kirby Turnage, Andy Younce, and Phil Wright. James McCay

WILDCARD (Nantahala) Sunday, August 1 - - This was the third or fourth wildcard trip that I've lead in the past two years, and, as usual, there were not many calls. This trip was complicated in that the original trip leader was out of town on business, but he had left word at his office for calls to be forwarded to myself. This Wildcard ended up with only two opens, Sabra and myself. There were only three boats on my July 3 wildcard (Pat and Carolyn Keller and Richard Blews) and only LeRoy Robbins and myself on a wildcard trip last year. I'm wondering if I should be getting some message from this. After I received a call asking where the Wildcard was from a club member who had never previously paddled the Wildcard, I felt an explanation might be in order. Club trips are scheduled a month or more in advance. Therefore, it is difficult to predict water level, particularly this time of year; thus, individuals will sign up to lead a trip on the Wildcard. That simply means that shortly before the trip, the trip leader is going to study water levels and choose any river he wants. A Wildcard Class III on August 1 probably means the upper Hooch or the Nantahala, but the Chattooga was running 2.2 on this August 1. A wildcard means play it by ear. As to our trip down the Nantahala, Sabra and I had an excellent time, running the river for the third time in as many weeks. It was Sabra's second time down solo and her first solo through Patton's Run. She did excellently; I swam as usual. - - Jerry Holladay

PADDLERS/RAFTERS NEEDED FOR GRAND CANYON TRIP 12 Days - August 9 thru 20, 1983. The good news is: I have chartered a commercial outfitter, Arizona River Runners, to take 26 to 28 people - including 12 to 14 boats (hopefully including 5 or more open canoes) down the Grand Canyon of the Colorado for 12 days. The bad news is: cost; \$1200 + \$48 tax = \$1248. This includes lodging before & after the trip, a plane flight shuttle, and of course everything (food!) on the river. I need people who are truly interested in the trip to contact me by Sept. 15, 1982. If not enough interest is shown, I will have to give up this slot. John Pickett, Aiken, S.C. 803-648-0952 (H); 803-725-3427 (O).

FOR SALE: PERCEPTION MIRAGE, SELDOM USED, EXCELLENT CONDITION. EQUIPPED WITH PERCEPTION NEW HIGH DENSITY FOAM PILLARS, KNEE BRACE SYSTEM, AND BACKSTRAP. \$305.00. HANK MILES, H: (404) 487-8362, O: (404) 894-5695.

FOR SALE: PERCEPTION SAGE C-1 like new, immaculate condition. Includes Perception spray skirt. \$345.00, e-z terms. Michael Collier, Newnan, Ga. 253-3595 of., 251-3916 hm.

FOR SALE

Perception Eclipse - excellent all around Kayak, indestructable plastic, used 4 times. List over 565.00 w/float bags; sell 395.00 w/warranty. Dagger kayak paddle. Right hand control, beautiful glass coated hardwood Used 4 times, asking 75.00. Womens Sterns Deliverance Lifejacket- 15.00. Gary 0-523-1000; H-624-3475.

vide its natural excitement for the some 70,000 rafters who venture to the Ocoee each year. The resolution further asks that the TVA abandon its position that compensation for this minimal loss of generating potential be provided by either the rafters or the Government; neither are obligated to pay for a natural resource. The revenues forgone amount to only \$250,000 per year—a paltry sum when compared to the \$6 billion nuclear reactor investment which had to be abandoned when the TVA finally acknowledged that it had miscalculated power demand in the Tennessee Valley. This \$250,000 represents one-sixteenth of the total tourism dollars spent in the Ocoee region each year. Perhaps the TVA should be reminded that economic development in the Tennessee Valley is a primary objective of its founding charter.

H. Cox. Res. - # 302
Whereas the natural resources of the United States should be available to all persons;

Whereas the annual electric energy to be generated by the Ocoee number 2 flume will represent only seven ten-thousandths of the total electric energy (1,015,000,000 megawatt hours) to be generated by the Tennessee Valley Authority in 1983;

Whereas the loss of electric energy from not operating the Ocoee number 2 flume for 100 days is only 14,600 megawatt hours;

Whereas there are more than 70,000 persons while water rafting on the Ocoee River each year; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the Tennessee Valley Authority should not divert water from the Ocoee River, Tennessee, for the operation of the Ocoee number 2 flume for a minimum of 100 days per year, between April 1 and October 1 of each calendar year, and should not charge user fees for white water rafting on such river.

Ocoee Resolution
continued