PRE-SUPER TUESDAY ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ATLANTA

A growing number of environmental organizations from around the South are sponsoring a major conference in Atlanta, Georgia to focus attention on environmental issues that concern Southern voters.

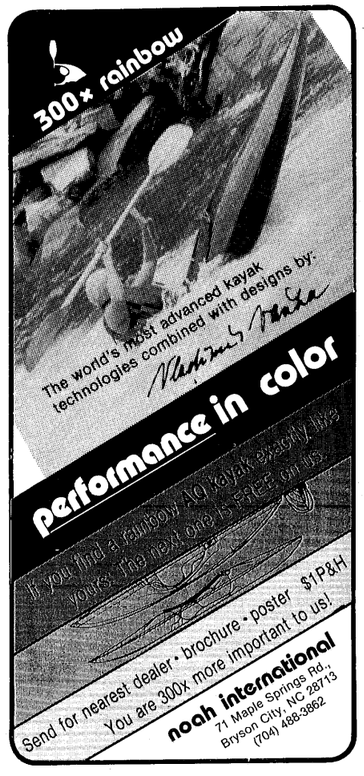
The conference will be held at the World Congress Center the weekend of February 27-28, 1988, just one week before Super Tuesday, the 14-state Southern primary which will greatly affect the Presidential nominations in both the Democratic and Republican parties. All Presidential candidates are being invited to speak at this Southern Environmental assembly, and many are expected to do so.

The timing of the conference is one of its greatest strengths---people across the country will be interested in how Presidential candidates address Southern environmental concerns just one week before the largest primary ever held. Thus, the media attention should be overwhelming not only in the South, but throughout the nation.

Another key strength of the conference is that it will bring together environmentalists from 14 Southern states who are interested in a number of issues. The conference will offer us a unique chance to work and plan together on such concerns as energy policy, toxic chemicals, wilderness, forests, wetlands, wildlife, clean air and growth strategy. It will also give us an opportunity of share with each other in skills workshops the lessons we have learned while working on our issues.

Many of these people who are coming to Atlanta for the conference will be in need of a place to stay for the weekend and a hospitality list of those who are willing to open their homes to these visitors is being compiled. If you have a spare bed, couch, or sleeping bag for Friday, February 26th and Saturday, February 27th or just one of these nights please contact Shirl Darrow at 521-3731(w) or 371-1670(h).

This is an opportunity for you to meet others who share a common interest. Let's show our Southern hospitality!!!



GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 7023
ATLANTA, GA 30357

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BULK RATE
U.S. Postage
PAID
Atlanta, GA
Permit No. 660

Nott, Roger & Beth
2335 Stephens Circle
Gainesville, GA 30506

TIME LIMIT

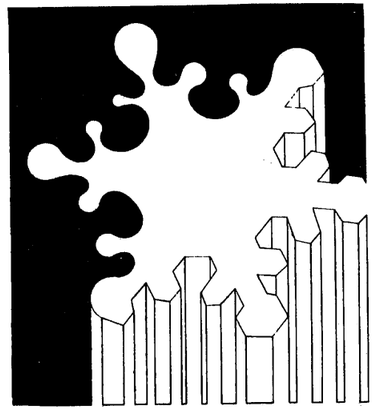
The EDDY LINE

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION INC.

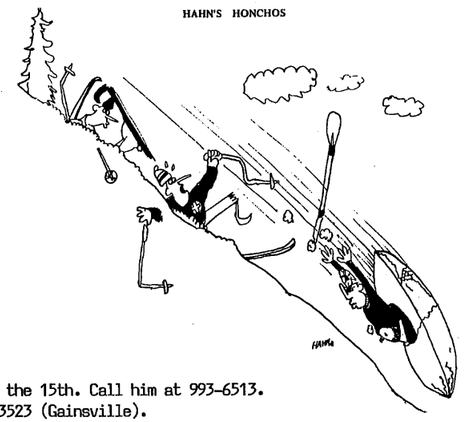
POST OFFICE BOX 7023 • ATLANTA, GA 30357 Vol. 23, No. 2 February, 1988

DEADLINE for the next newsletter is the 7th! Send material to Gary DeBacher, CRM, 1441 Clifton Rd, Atlanta, GA 30322. (Do not send to his home address, or it will get lost in the fallout of the typical nuclear family.) Please type border-to-border (zero margins) with indented paragraphs and don't skip a line between paragraphs. This saves valuable space. Good, high quality photos, cartoons, artwork, and clippings of general interest to the paddling community are also welcome. Want ads are free for members selling used paddling equipment only; see details elsewhere.
ADDRESS CHANGES, SUBSCRIPTION PROBLEMS AND MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES: send to GCA, PO Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357, attn. membership chairperson.
NEXT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING WILL BE THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 7:30 PM, at the Atlanta Jewish Community Center at 1745 Peachtree Rd NE, Atlanta, just north of Brookwood Station next to an Int. House of Pancakes. Members and interested persons are invited to attend. If you wish to submit any matters for discussion or vote, call President Allen Hedden, 252-6167, so he can plan time on the agenda.

Feb. 6	Nantahala	2-3, intermediate	Larry Castillo	565-8163
	Wildcard	3+, advanced	Andy Warshaw	478-2104
7	Nantahala	2-3, interm.	Steve Holenstein [W] 998-3998	ext. 303
13	Chattooga 4	4-5, expert	Ron Towe W 434-6667	H 435-0903
14	Etowah Tunnel of Love	1-2 tr. beginner	John Bell W:422-1250	H:977-0893
	Cartecay or alt.	2-3, intermediate	Gary Van Diver	1-635-7501
20	U.Soque or U. Tallulah	1-2 tr. beginner	Roger Nott	1-536-6923
	Nantahala	2-3, intermediate	Dewey Tate	355-5826
	Dog R. or alt.	3-4, advanced	Ben Maxwell	953-3972
21	Trip leader needed	1-2, trained beginner	Jim Silavent	587-1172
	Fightingtown Cr.	1-2++, intermediate	Mark & Susan Levine	926-8683
27	Etowah	1-2, trained beginner	Barry Hahn	252-9538
	Wildcard	2-3, intermediate	Gwen Bergen	377-2970
28	Uppper Amicalola	1-2(3), intermediate	Bill McLendon	973-5864
	Wildcard	2-3, intermediate	Bruce Bishop 641-1944,	641-1542
March 4	Metro Hooch Full Moon Run		Gwen Bergen	377-2970
5	Wildcard/Cartecay	2-3, intermediate	Carol Mercer	373-6683
	Big Laurel	3++, very advanced	Tom Burkiewicz	263-7518
6	Upper Hooch	2-3, intermediate	Evelyn Hopkins	255-7018
	Wildcard	3+, advanced	Jim Silavent	587-1172
12	Cartecay/wildcard	2-3, intermediate	Jay Srymanski	1-635-7501
	Wilder card	3+, advanced	Oreon Mann	522-3469
12-13	Canoe camping, Talking Rock Creek,	1-2++	Allen Hedden	252-6167
13	Wild Card	2-3, intermediate	Bruce Bishop	641-1944
19	Smith Island	2-3, intermediate	Andy Warshaw	478-2104
	Nantahala	2-3, "	Barry Hahn	252-9538
	Oconaluftee	2-3+, interm.	Roger Nott	1-536-6923
	Ocoee- First release day.	3-4, very advanced	Oreon Mann	522-3469
20	Raven Fork	3++, experienced interm.	Roger Nott	1-536-6923
	Wild Card	3-4, very advanced	Ron Towe	435-0903
26-27	Smokies Weekend. Oconaluftee & Raven Fork		Mark & Susan Levine	926-8683



HAHN'S HONCHOS



Mid February Florida Flatwater? Dick Butterworth is planning something, maybe around the 15th. Call him at 993-6513.
High Water Jump Trip- Upper upper Hooch above Helen. Advanced. Call Ben Fouts, 1-532-3523 (Gainsville).
Float the Unknown- call Exploration Chairman Roger Nott for exploratory trips after heavy rains: 1-536-5263 [G'nsvlle].
3/26-4/3 * **North Florida/South Georgia week of rivers** * with canoe camping and/or day tripping. Don Langford, 1-324-3007. Please call early so Don can make plans.
To volunteer to lead trips, call Jim Silavent at 587-1172. Pray for rain.

SPRING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING....Friday, March 18 @ 7:30 PM....New Location: Trinity Presbyterian Church at the intersection of Moors Mill and Howell Mill in NW Atlanta....Fun, Food and Films!....Watch for further details in your March "Eddy Line".

ROLLING PRACTICE CONTINUES....Monday nights from 7 to 10 PM at the Perry Nautitorium in NW Atlanta. Contact Allen Hedden for further info. 257-6633 (work) or 252-6167 (home)
Wednesday nights from 8 to 9:15 PM at Moutain Park Pool in Lilburn. Contact Jon Forrester @ 945-0601 or call the pool @ 925-0047

PRELIMINARY 1988 TRAINING SCHEDULE

CANOE CLINICS

Beginning.....June 18, 19
Children's.....June 25
Intermediate.....July 9, 10
Beginning.....July 23, 24
Intermediate.....August 13, 14
Women Only.....Date Open

KAYAK CLINICS

Beginning.....June 18, 19
Children's.....June 25
Intermediate.....July 9, 10
Women Only.....July 30, 31
Beginning.....August 6, 7
Squirt Workshop...August 27

MISCELLANEOUS CLINICS

Trip Leader Training.....March 26, 27
River Rescue.....May 21, 22
Racing Workshop.....Date Open

The above schedule is preliminary. The dates are dependent upon the availability of enough qualified instructors. If you would like to assure the club's ability to schedule these clinics, please contact Susan (kayak) Wilson @ (404) 432-7469 or Mark (canoe) Levine @ (404) 926-8683 to offer your help. This extensive schedule will require a lot of help from members who are qualified instructors. Do it NOW so arrangements for the 1988 Training Program can be completed soon.
For you interested students, a registration form, listing clinic coordinators, fees, and other pertinent information will appear in your upcoming months "Eddy Line".

The following items of interest have come to my attention since the article on the Chattooga Wild and Scenic Airport was published in the January Eddy Line:

**The Rabun County Airport Authority has been granted $45,000 by the Federal Aviation Administration to pay for a feasibility study on the proposed airport site, a land survey and an environmental impact study.

**Rabun County authorities and U. S. Forest Service officials insist that several sites are under consideration for the airport. However, all the recent correspondence which we have been able to gather has mentioned only one proposed site as being presently under consideration, that being the one adjacent to the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River Corridor. So far, no one has been able to document the serious consideration of any other site in recent months.

**The Rabun County Airport Authority has retained Jay Dresser, Reportedly a retired employee of the FAA now residing in Rabun County, as an advisor to aid the Authority in dealing with the federal bureaucracy to obtain all the grants and approvals necessary for the airport project.

**I have been asked by the Gainesville office of the USFS to clarify the statement in the January Eddy Line article that they had approved the proposal. USFS spokesperson Karen Palmer insisted that her office had only approved the study of the site. I contend that this was implicit approval of the proposal, since approval of the study leads to funding, which leads to final approval of the site. If the USFS had no intention of approving the the proposal, it is certainly causing the waste of $45,000 of our hard earned tax money to study a site it has no intention of leasing or swapping to Rabun County.

**Ms. Palmer indicated that her office had received numerous letters and phone calls objecting to the proposed airport site. She said the names and addresses of these correspondents would be kept on file and turned over to the FAA so that they may be notified at the particular point in the approval process that calls for public comment. I asked that she keep me informed of the dates involved so that I could pass on the information to club members.

**I received a call from the Clayton office of the USFS requesting a copy of the article in the January Eddy Line. It seems that they, too, have received numerous letters and calls about this proposal (Their address is: USFS, P O Box 438, Clayton, Georgia 30525, Attention: Marisue Hilliard-- Phone 404-782-3320). That brings up the question of why the USFS Gainesville office is making decisions about land in Rabun County when there is a USFS office in Clayton. I guess we just don't understand the federal bureaucracy!

Please, if you have not yet written or called anyone about this issue, try to do so at your earliest convenience. Keep the heat on our public officials to do their job and protect our Wild and Scenic River and our National Forest.

Allen Hedden,
President

Dec 4-6: Second Annual Cumberland Island Camping Trip, Trip Coordinator: Carol Mercer
We all drove to St. Marys Thur. afternoon or evening, then met at the motel early for breakfast. Last minute runs to the store for those forgotton items--then hurrah, we're on the ferry for about a 45 min, ride to Cumberland Island. The rangers assigned us to the group north camp site and discussed those pesky little critters called ticks and how not to feed the racoons. Someone had to sign on the dotted line--responsibility for this crazy group--behave yourself ya'll!! After quickly setting up camp, we grabed our lunch and off to the beach for a "short" walk. Seven miles later, we hobbled back to camp, slightly windblown and with a few blisters to boot. Some smart photographer has pictures of Gwen and I standing on our heads and trying to act like a pretzel--all to put moleskin on our blisters. Fri. was cool, sunny and windy--so windy that we gave up trying to eat our lunch on the beach and waited untill we got to Dungeness. The nights were cold; how cold--well 3 to 4 layers did around camp. A roaring fire--started and continuously fed by our group pyros.(Dennis, Jim, Leroy and Dick)--helped to warm us up and dispel the cold. Jim B had to twist a few arms in the morning to get us out of our bags, even with warm coffee. The bravest watched the sun rise and set, the rest of us hung out by the fire. The nights on Cumberland Island belong to the racoons; just ask Alicia and Charles about HOW BIG the racoon was--he sat on the tree limb next to heir tent and pulled up the large bag of garbage by the rope. Or, as Dennis put it--he was so big, he could have all the garbage, we'll just clean it up. One of the critters fell in love with Rhett, and rubbed the top of his(Rhett's) head--from outside of the tent of course. I still havn't figured out exactly who put the marshmellows next to and under my tent-but if I do and he/she comes on the trip next year... Sat was warm and sunny. We were joined by Leroy, Ross and Mike, who arrived just as we were finishing breakfast. On to the hiking trails--well sort of. Most of the group hiked to Stafford Beach, about 3-4 mi, N. of camp, but three of us lazys tiptoed off, found a friendly sanddune in the sun, ate lunch, napped ate another lunch, and napped again, only to be awakened by Jim B. as he hiked over the dune. Those who hiked to Stafford Beach met Lucy Fergeson, got a quick tour of Grayfield and a ride back to camp. Not only did they beat our little group back to camp, but they hid down in the truck as it passed us!! We couldn't understand why they looked so fresh after hiking 7-8 mi. For those of us who stayed for the late ferry--either purposefully or accidently--it was a layed back day. We organized and reorganized our gear, but it didn't fit near as well into our packs as on Fri. On to Dungeness for a last picnic and tour of the marsh and graveyard, a hike on the beach and a tour of the museum. Then finally--the 4:45pm ferry arrived, and off we went, back to civilization. Our weekend was full of: wonderfull meals(we're all great cooks),nightly racoon alerts, fun around a roaring bonfire, river tales -- stretched a bit by Dick and Leroy, armadillo chases,beautiful scenery--a full moon over the ocean, sunrise, wild deer, turkey, horses, and of course little boys in trees. James looked so natural, we thought he was part of the tree. So untill next year.... Our campers/hikers were: Gwen Bergen, Jim and James Silvaent, Dennis Myers, Alicia and Charles Resynek, Dick Butterworth, Rhett Smith, Jim Biasco, Leroy and Ross Robbins, Mike Gibbons, Mary McKean and Carol Mercer. Pictures were taken by Dennis Myers--Thanks Dennis.

POLK COUNTY, TENN NEWS 1-20-88 - HANK BAUDET GCA

Another plan eyed for U.S. Hwy. 64

by Ingrid Buehler

State officials are analyzing a third alternative for improving Hwy. 64 along the Ocoee gorge. Dubbed "Alternative A1", the proposal was suggested by local residents as a way of lessening the environmental impact of a new highway.

The state DOT has been considering Alternative A, which goes over the mountain at an estimated cost of $45 million, and Alternative B, four lanes in the gorge involving a lot of tunneling at a cost of $300 to $400 million. Environmental groups have voiced strong concern about Alternative A because of the damage to trout streams from runoff from acid soil during construction and because the highway would split the habitat for big game, especially bear. DOT officials have indicated that Alternative B is prohibitively expensive.

According to a report submitted to DOT, alternative A proposes a fairly straight centerline between Greasy Creek and the #3 powerhouse with curves only to facilitate ingress and egress to the Ocoee River gorge. The report estimates that almost ten miles of stream would be impacted by construction.

Alternative A1 would have a broad sweeping arc which keeps the centerline as close as possible to the gorge and the existing highway rather than on the mountaintop. The report suggests many benefits will be realazed by the local economy as well as the environment if the centerline is located as close as possible to the edge of the gorge.

The report notes there is reportedly no known technology available to prevent or completely control the problem of acidic runoff, so the challenge is to reduce the impact as much as possible. With A1, the impact would be on less than two miles of streambed, rather than ten.

The new proposal would also address the impact to bear habitat because the new road would be along the edge of the bear habitat, not deep within it. This would also reduce the potential for poaching by not creating access deep within the forest.

In addition, far less private property would be crossed by Alternative A1, so no families would be displaced and commercial development would be easier to control. Alternative A impacts several families and buildings as well as nearby water wells, the report says.

The report also points out that A1 would allow Southeast Tennessee to realize far greater benefits because overlooks would provide views of the mountains, the Old Copper Road, the Ocoee River, the flume line and the powerhouses. Overlooks on Alternative A would only provide a view of the mountains. The reports notes the new plan would have increased potential to draw individuals with an interest in the history and development of the region. In addition, the views of the Ocoee River will enhance the potential for whitewater rafting business and could encourage visitors to stay in the area for a day or two rather than head straight to the Smokies.

The report says Alternative A1 addresses the potential for more tourism dollars in the area while Alternative A merely provides a quick way through Polk County so the tourist dollars can be spent in other states.

Predicting Releases on the Gauley

While the Fall whitewater season provides the only reliable whitewater releases on the Gauley (at flows of 2,400 to 2,500 cfs), the river runs at that level or higher frequently throughout the Spring and early Summer. For an out of state paddler the problem is predicting weekend flows in time to plan a trip. Here are some tips.

1. Develop a basic understanding of the Summersville project's operation regime.
2. Obtain current information on river inflow, lake elevation, dam release and weather forecast.

For current information on Gauley flows call 304-872-4809. The Corps provides a recorded message full of information about project operations. To aid your predication you must take note: the lake elevation, discharge elevation (in cfs), the Meadow River gauge, and the Craigsville gauge.

Spring and Summer Flows. Paddlers looking for high water and a wilderness paddling experience can find it on the Gauley in May and early June. The Gauley exceeds 2,250 cfs about 34% of the time in May. Flows of 5,000 cfs to 6,000 cfs on the upper are not uncommon. This is expert only water--so be prepared. At 6,000 cfs the lower section, also for experts, is a delightful mixture of long wave trains, massive holes, and scores of big slick surfing waves.

Predicting May flow requires a knowledge of project operations and information from the recording. For example when the lake level is above 1,652, the Craigsville gauge (inflow into the lake) is above 2,000 cfs and current discharge is above 2,200 cfs, chances are you'll find flow of 2,000 or higher on the following day. The higher the lake level (above 1,652) and the higher the inflow (Craigsville gauge) the greater the flow the following day. Remember, rainy weather conditions may kick the flow up even higher. Also note the Meadow River gauge reading on the recording. The Meadow enters the Gauley about 6 miles downstream of the dam and can add significantly to flows through "Lost Paddle," "Iron Ring," "Sweets Falls," and all the other rapids on the remaining 18 miles.

From the Tennessee Valley Canoe Club

Georgia group wants wetlands protection

State lacks legislation to save wildlife habitat

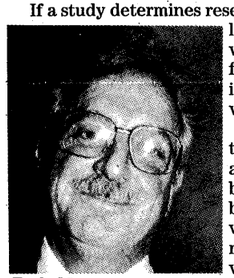
From staff reports

A program to build reservoirs in north Georgia needs built-in protections for wetlands and wildlife, the Georgia Conservancy says.

Bob Kerr, director of the environmental group, says he sees no evidence local governments are working to protect primary wetlands and primary wildlife habit in the program.

Kerr referred to a new program from last year's Legislature designed to head off water shortages such as occurred during the 1986 drought. It would allow local governments to build a system of reservoirs around the state to conserve local water resources.

The Department of Natural Resources presented a report on water resources in Lumpkin County yesterday — the 23rd such report this year. The report is the first step toward a $50,000 state grant to make a more detailed study.



Bob Kerr

If a study determines reservoirs are feasible, local governments would have to pay for them, but low-interest state loans would be available.

The conflict between reservoirs and wetlands arises because often the best sites for reservoirs is an unspoiled river or stream, David Word, head of the state's Surface Water Program, said.

But he also said the Department of Natural Resources would place strict restrictions on watershed development upstream.

Primary trout streams wouldn't be eligible for reservoir development, Word said. And while the state would discourage development of significant wetlands, Word said there is no state freshwater wetlands protection law.

The lack of such a law is what concerns Kerr and the Georgia Conservancy.

River swamps are regulated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. "I see Army Corps permit applications for wetlands development cross my desk every day and most of them are approved," Kerr said.

However, the state did reject Habersham County's application to build a dam across the Soque River, a white-water stream designated as a primary trout habitat.

An Open Letter to Paddlers: Two recent incidents involving paddlers and knives should be of interest to anyone who is now or may be considering carrying a knife on the river. Both incidents involved the same brand of knife. However, I don't feel that these occurrences can or should be considered isolated cases that are specific to one particular brand of knife.

In both cases the knife was mounted on the front of a life jacket in an upside down fashion so that the handle faced downward. In the first incident, the kayaker was negotiating a 6 to 7 foot drop. The shaft of the paddle caught under the handle of the knife and caused the two piece scabbard to split at the glued joints. The knife and half of the scabbard went flying past the kayaker's face. Fortunately, all she lost was a knife.

In the second incident, a canoeist was paddling tandem with his 9 yr. old son in a group of about 8 people. At the lunch stop a few of the paddlers were involved in some "innocent" horseplay of throwing each other in the river. All were wearing life jackets. As the boy was grabbed by his father to be thrown in the water he appeared to be reaching for the father's life jacket to get a hold so as not to be tossed into the water. One hand grabbed the handle of the knife. It popped out of the scabbard. Still in his hand, the knife sliced down across the father's wrist. To make a long story short, Thanks to some very quick thinking by all involved and help from residents along the river, the paddler still has the use of his hand. It took some 40 stitches and 14 staples to reconnect 3 tendons and some muscle tissue in his wrist. He is now getting some feeling back in the first three fingers in his right hand.

There are probably several things which can be said about these two incidents. I don't want to start a debate about the carrying of kives on the river, but would like to offer some advice. First, if you are going to carry a knife, look for one with a scabbard that has a one piece construction. This would have prevented what happened in the first incident. Second, the knife should have a positive lock to keep it in the scabbard. I don't think that a spring clip. such as Tekna and Kershaw, is sufficient. A button type release as seen in some diving knives is safer. The second incident could have been prevented if the knife had had a positive lock.

This letter is not meant as an indictment of the manufacturers of certain kinds of knives. A letter has been sent to the maker of the knife involved suggesting a possible design change. Hopefully, other paddlers will benefit from some of the things described here. I'm very thankful to have the use of my hand and am paddling again. I also will continue to carry a knife on the river, but there are certain precautions I will take in order to be safer. Dick Gowin

IT'S SAFE TO GO BACK INTO THE WATER

Smith Island, Upper Hooch, Sat Jan 16,'88: Impromptu Trip

Five of us paddlers, wanting to paddle, but with cold weather and ice and snow still on the ground and roads, decided to run the Upper Hooch and put in above Smith Island. The day was clear and cold (40°F) with about 8" of snow still left on the ground in most places, and some on the roads. We slid our boats down snow covered banks into the river--the put-in was a breeze, just push your boat--then off we paddled. How to describe the feelings of the group, which included two of us who were plaintiffs in the lawsuit, when we reached Smith Island. No knots in your stomach, jokes about "bullet proof vests", large dogs, baseball bats, pistols, and harasement; just the beauty and serenity of a fun rapid, with snow caps on the rocks, snow on the hills, ice on the banks above the water line making wonderful shapes and ice in the eddys. A feeling of relief, of pride in being a part of the lawsuit and in its accomplishments, satisfaction of a job well done. A deep feeling of thanks to our attorneys, the Gale's, and those in the GCA who stood up for what we all believed in. Our paddlers were: OC-1--Barry Hahn, Gwen Bergen, Andy Warshaw, and Carol Mercer K-1--Rhett Smith. Post script:There is a tree down, above canoe eating rock which forces one to paddle out to the left, where there lurks a wonderful pinning rock, which almost flipped one of the group. Be careful. Submitted by C. Mercer

FOR SALE: Mad River ME, excellent condition, stored inside. Study whitewater setup, solo or tandem. Split center, bow and stern flotation. $600 or trade for Dancer. Also, Phoenix Seewun (fiberlastic) good condition, bags, 2 spray skirts. $150. Call David Ashley (R)498-7462, (O)656-3111.

FOR SALE: Two-piece dry suit. Bermudes size medium (women's). Blue and red. Used one season (approximately 25 times). In excellent condition. Retails for $260, sell for $200. Blue Puma down jacket. Lower waist length, very thick down, 6 pockets, zipper liner. Size small, brown. Bought from NOC and worn a dozen times. $60 or negotiable. Carol Moore H/458-6293 W/651-2952.

UPPER SECTION - ETOWAH SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 1988

IT HAD BEEN NOVEMBER SINCE I LAST PADDLED, SO I WAS EAGER TO GET BACK INTO THE WATER, WHEN I CALLED JIMMY GUNTER, WHO WAS LEADING A TRIP ON THE ETOWAH RIVER ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 17TH.

THE DAY DAWNED GRAY, DISMAL, AND RAINING, WITH THE TEMPERATURE HOVERING AT ABOUT 33°, BUT NEVERTHELESS SIX NOT TO BE DEPRIVED, PADDLERS MET AT ARBY'S RESTAURANT ON GEORGIA HIGHWAY 400 IN CUMMING, AND SET OUT FOR THE RIVER BY 9:15 A.M.

AT THE PUT-IN THE RAIN CONTINUED AND THE TEMPERATURE DID NOT EVEN HINT AT RISING ABOVE 34° OR 35°. MOST OF THE GROUND WAS STILL COVERED WITH THE SNOW WHICH FELL MORE THAN A WEEK PREVIOUS, AND WE HAD DRIVEN OVER SOME ICY ROADS ON THE WAY TO THE RIVER!

SOME DOUBTS STARTED TO ARISE, DUE TO THE WORSENING WEATHER CONDITIONS, AND WITHIN 15 MINUTES ALL, EXCEPT JIMMY AND HIS PADDLING PARTNER, JUNE SMITH, HAD DECIDED TO STAY WARM AND DRY, AND COME BACK ANOTHER DAY TO TRY AGAIN!

I AGREED TO RUN SHUTTLE FOR THE TWO DAUNTLESS CANOEISTS, AND THE OTHER THREE, MARY TRAUNER, TOMMY AND CHRISTIANN TAYLOR, QUICKLY DEPARTED FOR WARMER INDOOR ACTIVITIES IN ATLANTA.

HALFWAY INTO RUNNING THE SHUTTLE FOR JIMMY AND JUNE, THIS WRITER, CHANGED HIS MIND, AND DECIDED THAT AFTER DRIVING UP HERE, HE WAS NOT TO BE DENIED AND WOULD GO DOWN THE RIVER AFTER ALL. THE FINAL GROUP CONSISTED OF JIMMY GUNTER AND JUNE SMITH, TANDUM CANOE, AND HANK BAUDET, K-1. THE RUN, DOWN RIVER WAS VERY PRETTY AND THE WINTER SCENE WAS BREATHTAKING. THE SURROUNDING LANDSCAPE WAS COVERED WITH UNMARRED SNOW, AND THERE WERE ICICLES FROM TWO TO FOUR FEET LONG HANGING FROM MANY OF THE ROCK OUT CROPPINGS WHICH LINE PARTS OF THE RIVER BANK.

THE WATER LEVEL WAS A BIT LOWER THAN WE EXPECTED AND NEEDED ABOUT SIX MORE INCHES OF "SNOW MELT" FOR A GOOD RUN. THE RAIN CONTINUED THROUGHOUT THE TRIP, BUT DID NOT DAMPEN OUR SPIRITS. ONCE WE WERE ON THE WATER, AND ENGULFED BY THE BEAUTY PROVIDED BY MOTHER NATURE, ALL AGREED THAT WE HARDLY NOTICED THAT IS WAS RAINING AT ALL!

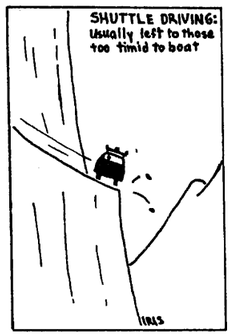
THE COLDEST PART OF THE EXCURSION WAS WHEN WE HAD TO GET IN THE WATER AND CARRY THE BOATS THROUGH THE SNOW AND ICE AT THE TAKE OUT. THIS WAS ALSO WHERE WE ATTRACTED SOME CURIOUS LOOKS FROM A FEW PASSING MOTORISTS!

MANY THANKS TO JIMMY GUNTER FOR LEADING MY FIRST WINTER PADDLING TRIP! ALSO A WARM WELCOME TO TOMMY AND CHRISTIANN, WHO RECENTLY MOVED TO ATLANTA FROM TEXAS. WE HOPE TO SEE THEM ON MORE GCA TRIPS THIS SPRING AND SUMMER. - HANK BAUDET

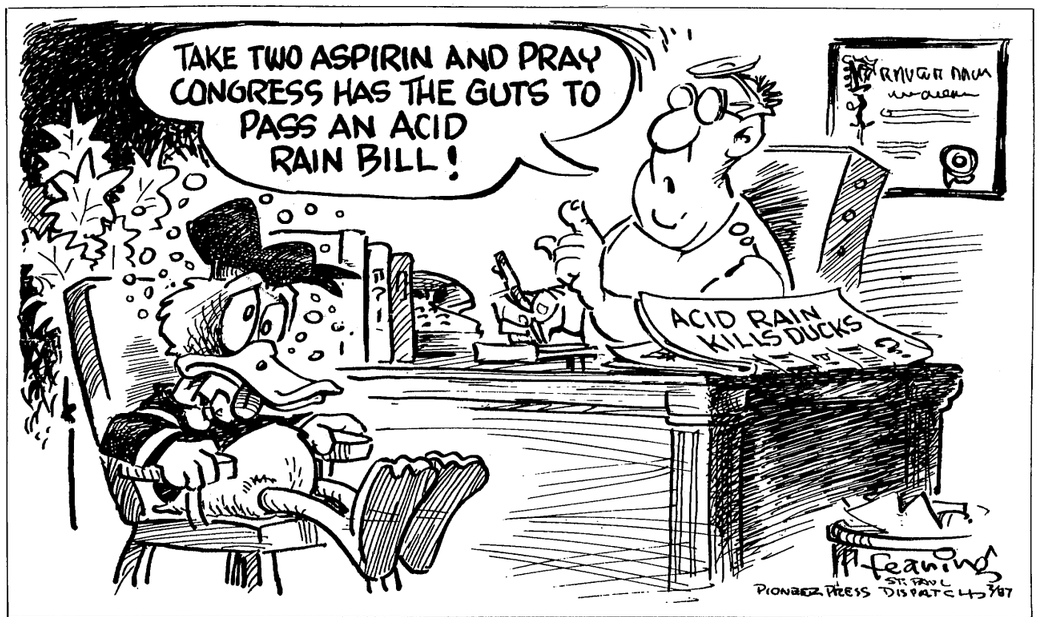
WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR BOAT WHEN IT SNOWS????

1. Have boat races in the parking lot
2. Paddle semi-frozen lakes
3. Borrow your friends plastic boat and use it for a sled
4. Put it up on blocks and go cross country or down hill skiing
5. Slide down the golf course and practice enders in the sand traps

Submitted by: Three very bored paddlers
Snow Jam '88 G. Bergen, R. Smith, C. Mercer



Sat, Dec 19,'87; Raven Cliffs hike; trip coordinators: Gwen Bergen & Carol Mercer A beautiful. cool Sat with no water, why not hike? So 12 adults,3 kids and 2 dogs took to the hiking trails of N. GA., then went into Helen GA. to play tourist, check out the Christmas Shoppe, and eat dinner. All participants had a great time, but expecially the kids--being carried on shoulders and suprising the rest of the group, playing with the reindeer in Helen, and seeing the Christmas decorations. Our hikers were: Gwen Bergen with nephews Christopher and Benjamin and dog wolfgang, Judy Perkins, Scott Wilhelm, John Kruegel, Beth Keyserling, Rhett Smith, Dave and David Andrews, Rex Verleger, Lynn Alley and small friend Joe (Who may have hiked the trail twice he had so much energy) and and cute, friendly dog, Mary McKean and Carol Mercer.



Reprinted with permission from the St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch, February 1987.

TGC Summary

Chattahoochee River Polo Fields

TGC's effort to acquire the Chattahoochee River polo fields for the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area continues. A $5.8 million appropriation is needed to buy the 132 acres. TGC is working with Senator Nunn's and Senator Fowler's offices in an effort to obtain acquisition funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Coastal Marshlands

TGC trustee Lane Morrison has put together a task force to analyze the protection of coastal marshes in Georgia and the existing regulatory scheme under the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act. Two planning sessions were held in June.

Lake Alma

EPA has been encouraged to veto a dredge and fill permit for Lake Alma if it is issued by the Corps of Engineers. This would be an important action because it would reestablish EPA's controls' over wetlands in Georgia. TGC wholeheartedly supports such an action. EPA has a new Office of Wetlands in its organization

Oglethorpe Power Pumped Storage Proposal

Oglethorpe Power Company (OPC) has chosen Rich Mountain as its preferred site for a pump storage facility. At TGC's request, OPC gave a presentation on how it reached its decision. OPC began with 167 potential sites. half of which were in Georgia. It then eliminated all sites which are on primary trout streams or which would conflict with TVA projects. OPC then analyzed technical and economic feasibility and came up with the decision to propose the Rich Mountain site. A more detailed site analysis is underway. OPC will apply to the federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a site license in five or six years. Construction would take about six more years.

While OPC was studying the above choices, TGC had suggested that OPC buy Georgia Power'c uncompleted Rocky Mountain pump storage site. OPC negotiated with Georgia Power and reached an agreement. Rocky Mountain will be developed first. However, OPC feels that a power facility will be built at Rich Mountain eventually, regardless of the Rocky Mountain site, but that it may not be until the late 1990s. TGC will continue to monitor OPC's development proposals and plans to help shape OPC's mitigation of environmental impacts. TGC has not rejected the option of opposing development at Rich Mountain.

Regional Reservoirs

A proposal is developing to build a water supply reservoir in the Ocmulgee River above Macon. There is already a levy which allowed development in the river's flood plain. However, the 100-year flood plain has been expanded and it is anticipated that a 100-year flood would overtop the levy. A reservoir dam above that point on the Ocmulgee is being proposed as an alternative for flood control and drinking water. Sally Bethea is heading a task force gathering information on this and other reservoir proposals. The need for a wetlands inventory is highlighted by reservoir proposals and by fishing lake proposals.

Richard B. Russell Reservoir Lands

Senator Sam Nunn asked Conservancy Executive Director Bob Kerr to meet with Elbert County officials; shortly afterward, Congressman Doug Barnard asked Bob to attend a meeting in Elbert County to discuss the potential establishment of a Richard B. Russell Lake citizen advisory committee. It was apparent that some of the citizens present wanted to establish a political force to push the Corps of Engineers to open up buffer lands for development. Some of them said that environmentalists should compromise regarding the use of reservoir lands. Bob responded that the establishment of the buffer zone was a compromise for the original establishment of the reservoir. He also noted that a citizen advisory commitee would be welcome if established with specific operational guidelines. Congressman Barnard's office will draft these guidelines, and TGC will be asked to appoint a member to the committee.

Sapelo Island

The Board of Regents told EPD that it needs to see EPD's plans for any renovation and use of Sapelo Island facilities before the regents can take any action or position with respect to EPD's proposals. The Board of Regents hasn't received any plans yet. TGC has asked the regents to let us have input on EPD's proposals and our suggestions for an off-island magnet center. It is increasingly apparent that a continuing comprehensive analysis of the ecosystem of Georgia's coast and coastal resource management is necessary to deal with increasing development pressures on the coast.

Swamp of Toa

A proposal to drain portions of the Swamp of Toa near Albany remains with the Corps of Engineers. A permit application was filed, public comment was made, and we now await the Corps' response to the public input. TGC asked for denial of the permit.

Yellow River/Sweetwater Creek Treatment Plant

The state EPD has issued a permit to expand the capacity of the Yellow River/Sweetwater Creek treatment plant from 6 to 12 million gallons per day. Local residents appealed the permit decision. An administrative law judge dismissed that appeal. TGC has discussed the matter with EPD, which indicates its belief that the Sweetwater permit is the strongest one it has ever issued and that the river's water quality may actually improve due to strict monitoring of the permit, which also meets new EPA standards. TGC will analyze the adequacy of standards, methodology and monitoring of waste water treatment facilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about these issues, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Georgia Conservancy, 8615 Barnwell Rd., Alpharetta GA 30201.

FOR SALE: NORTHWEST RIVER SUPPLIES SPRITE II. EXCELLENT CONDITION $400
BLUE HOLE KEVLAR * SUNBURST LXE * BRAND NEW $1200.
MOHAWK "SCAMP" WITH BAGS $350 JOHN SNIDER 876-6545 399-5252

WOMAN'S SMALL FARMER JOHN WETSUIT, $75. PERCEPTION KAYAK PADDLE (198 CM) $60. E.J., W: 257-2305 H: 479-6209.

FOR SALE- KAYAK. Perception Dancer, 2 yrs old, very good condition. Harmony paddle, never used. Blackburn paddle, Harmony sprayskirt, Pogies, and air bags. All for $500. Frank Goulding, 377-5838.

A polite request from the editor.... **TYPE YOUR ADS!** And type all ads or articles border to border, ZERO MARGINS!