

# CLASSIFIED ADS

**FOR SALE:** Mohawk canoe, Royalex and Fiberglass. Paddling equipment. **CHEAP.** 35 minutes South of I-285 in Jackson, Georgia. 404-775-7501. Tom.

**FOR SALE:** Perception rotomolded canoe saddle \$60. Perception rotomolded end storage compartment \$40. Perception neoprene kayak spray skirt Med \$15. Phoenix helmet \$10. Blackburn Sea-1 Kayak Paddle 208 cm w/ hardwood edges, refinished \$90. Call Malcolm Tobias at 365-9028.

Laura Jordon opens the **WARM FUZZY SHOP.** Her GCA friends are welcome and she will give you a hug and swap yarns. Announcing the Grand Opening at Lofty Branch Shopping Village on U.S. 441 between Clayton and Tallulah Falls, Ga. Wool, cotton and silk sweaters and scarves designed and hand-made on a knitting machine by Laura. Come and buy something to keep you warm. And, don't forget the hug for all GCA members.

Classified ads are free to due paying club members.

**FOR SALE:** Whitesell Pirahna with Perception saddle, knee pads, nylon bags. Good Condition, just too big for small paddler. \$800. or will consider trade. Call Patti Adams-Parsons at 449-0360 (D) or 441-2624 (N).

**FOR SALE:** Wenonah 16' tandem canoe. Excellent for recreational use. Removable middle seat. White fiberglass, new condition. \$550. Old Towne Pack 12' solo canoe. Green ABS weighs 33lbs. Good in flatwater and easy whitewater. \$350. Call Jay from 9 AM to 9PM at 992-7426.

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### **CHATTOOGA COUNTY JUDGE HEARS LAWSUIT**

## **FINAL DECISION TO BE DELAYED**

The Honorable Judge Loggins of Chattooga County, Georgia held court on April 15, 1991 for the purpose of hearing testimony for (and against) Injunctive Relief in the GCA attempt to clarify the right of the public to paddle the rivers and creeks of the state of Georgia. For the rest of you non-legal eagles like the writer, this means that we are seeking the right to paddle through land owned by Mr. Ralph Henry along the banks of Armuchee Creek near Summerville, Ga. The GCA along with livery owner Mr. Benny Young, is a plaintiff in the suit brought against Mr. Henry when he attempted to block Armuchee Creek with electrified barbed wire and then had Mr. Young arrested for criminal trespass by simply peacefully paddling this beautiful flatwater river which is a part of the Coosa system. As you may recall in previous articles, Mr. Henry also tried to stop the peaceful

passage of a group of Rome Boys Club paddlers but opted to have Mr. Young arrested instead.

The four hours of testimony heard today layed considerable groundwork for the final trial which should be scheduled for August. The case law introduced by both sides was most interesting, most of which was directly applicable to the case. Mr. Henry's attorney also produced several witnesses who had lived along the creek for varied lengths of time to try to establish that the creek was not passageble by paddlecraft such as canoes, but I must note that none of Mr. Henry's witnesses testified that they had any experience whatsoever in paddling canoes or kayaks down any river. In addition to this, he tried to establish that the river was also impassable due to the many deadfalls and downed trees along the river and that low

water levels experienced in late Summer and early Fall, made it impossible to paddle down the creek.

Judge Loggins decided that because of the length of the legal briefs submitted and the length of the hearing, that he wanted some additional time before making the decision. He indicated that he would make a decision by Monday the 22nd or that he might want first to paddle Armuchee Creek to get his own feel for how floatable the creek really is. He did rule that status quo would be maintained for now and restrained Mr. Young from renting any more boats for floating through Henry's property until a decision was made.

Again, this was a preliminary hearing with the final hearing to be held in probably August. We will let you know Judge Loggin's decision on this issue in the June Eddyline. - A. Warshaw

## CLOSE CALL IN TENNESSEE

Recently I paddled a small remote creek in Eastern Tennessee and had a first hand experience of the need to be prepared. While running a small 2-3 rapid, the 4th boat in our group of 5, an infinity kayak, vertically pinned on the three foot drop. This happened approximately 6 miles into a 12 mile wilderness run. By reacting quickly, we were able to set up a tag line and support the paddler with his head out of the water. With the aid of the rope pull he was able to free himself from the cockpit of his boat and swim to safety. The Infinity has a large keyhole cockpit and without this feature, it is doubtful if he would have been able to free himself. From the time of the pin until the paddler was able to escape, approximately 5 minutes passed. Fortunately our trip had a happy ending. The paddler was unhurt and we were able to free his boat for him to paddle out. We all felt lucky that day.

This experience has reinforced the need for proper safety gear and to ask ourselves if we are prepared for an emergency situation. We needed 1 rope to stabilize the paddler and would have needed 3 or 4 more if he had not been able to free himself. Everyone in our group was carrying a 60' throwbag. This is the most basic piece of safety gear next to your PFD. If

you don't own a rope, go buy one. Buy a full size throw bag. The small rope bags carried by some decked boaters would have been too small to be of use in this situation. Every paddler should also carry 3 carabiners, a prussik loop, a knife and a small first aid kit. Most river accidents happen quickly and time is the enemy. If you don't have the proper equipment or training when the accident happens, you won't have the time to get it. We should all ask ourselves if we have the necessary 1st aid and CPR skills. Red Cross offers an excellent, low cost program and it is readily available. I highly recommend Les Bechdel and Slim Ray's book entitled River Rescue. Our situation was identical to the illustration on page 113. The knowledge in this book is of tremendous value and may save your life. This book can be purchased from the GCA for about \$12. Also, attend the GCA river safety and rescue clinic or trip leader training clinic. And don't assume that you'll remember what you learned 3 or 4 years ago. You can't have too much education. Those of us who have taught it for years learn new skills every year.

One last thought on the number of paddlers in a group and staying close together. After this experience, I believe 4 or 5 paddlers is a minimum for any trip. We had 5 in our group and all 4 of the others were involved in the rescue. We were close

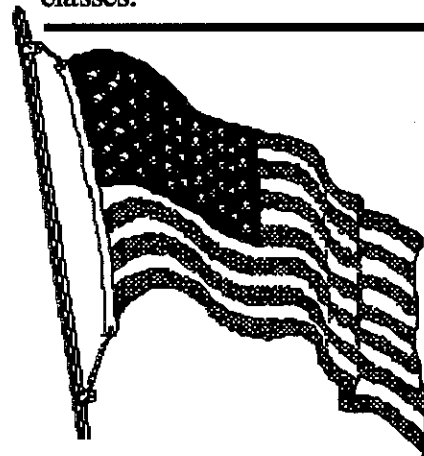
together and able to handle the pin quickly which would have been impossible had we been strung out over a half mile of river.

This situation really hit home on how things happen and can happen any time, and anywhere.

Whether you paddle class 5 creeks or the metro Hooch, you need to be ready. We owe it to our friends. Paddling is a wonderful sport and adequate training, equipment and mental preparation are just part of the program. Submitted by Jim Silavent-Vice President.

## CPR, FIRST AID CLASSES

CPR and First Aid classes will once again be offered on May 20 for CPR and 22 for First Aid. The cost will be \$15 for each or \$7.50 for First Aid if you have last year's book. CPR certification is valid for one year and First Aid certification is valid for three years. Contact Oreon Mann at 522-3469 if you are interested in attending these most important certification classes.



## RACE INFORMATION

Dear GCA Member,

It is now the month of May, the flowers are in bloom and it is time to volunteer to help at the races. This is your chance to give something back to the club. We are in need of people for Thursday, May 16, Friday, May 17, Saturday, May 18, and Sunday, May 19. We need people for each of these days, but the majority are needed for Saturday and Sunday. You do not need prior experience to help. You can commit full or partial days. If you have a personal or vacation day that you can use or if you are among the self employed and can arrange your schedule so that you can take a day off, we need you. If you have never been to the race or helped, it is a wonderful chance to meet others in the club. It is also an exciting event to watch.

We are also in need of assistants in all committees. This is your chance to help us organize for this year and next.

Listed below are the names for the committee heads and their phone numbers. Just pick up that phone and give them a call and say YES, I'll help.

Mel Schoychid, Publicity, 953-3619; John Bell, Boat Inspection, 499-2168; Walter Howard, Scoring, 422-3091; Jim Jones, Timing, 252-6784; Julia Crosby, Gate Judging, 995-9434; Beth Rolle, Gate Hanging, 953-9083; Barb Rogers, Dinner, 448-9245; Elise McIntyre, Lunch, 252-9513; Greg Hood, Safety, 279-9003; Doug Klaucke, Registrar, 873-5691; Mark Levine, Hospitality, 971-5866; Barney Spurr, Cleanup, 461-8760; Mike Collier, Communication, 404-967-2158; Mary Gilreath, Info Booth, 594-8291; Nancy Stroup, General Volunteers, 498-5362; Karla Bowman, Everything Else, 923-0954

The weekend before the race, Mike Collier needs 4-5 people to help with weed control and path clearing. Call him today.

Don't forget to mail your base camp reservation to Marcia Brelsford. Also all those who hang gates on May 16-17 will get Base camp beds for only \$8.00. Call Marcia at 953-3619.

## MORE CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE: Blue Hole Starburst tandem canoe with 2 Perception saddles and Yakima foot pegs, knee pads, air bags, red, good condition. \$650. Also, Perception Dancer XT Kayak, blue, nearly new, with air bags, perception saddle, spray skirt, and kayak cradles for Yakima racks. \$650. Call Allen Hedden at 426-4318 Home or 573-6633 Work.

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## GATLINBURG WHITEWATER

Wet, Wild Wonderful Weekend in the Western Smokies. Saturday, March 2 and Sunday March 3. I had scheduled this weekend trip for the first weekend in March hoping that we would have enough water to catch two excellent but difficult to catch wet weather runs on the Tennessee side of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The river gods were smiling as 1/2" of rain fell Friday night to bring the rivers up to an ideal level. On Saturday we paddled the Elkmont Section of the Little River. The level was 3.35 on the Townsend gauge and 1708 cfs on the Maryville gauge. A perfect level for this trip. Even more amazing were the spring like 70 degree temperatures - highly unusual for this time of year. The Little drains Clingman's Dome and is a small, pristine mountain stream. No single rapid rates above a Class 3-4, but they are numerous and very continuous. We put in a short distance downstream from Elkmont campground and paddled about 8 miles to the take out at Metcalf Bottoms Picnic area. We all enjoyed the warm sunshine at our lunch stop below the Sluice, the most difficult rapid on this run. Paddling on this trip were OC-1 Andy Warshaw, Charles Pennington, Jerry Cope, John Baker, Greg Grant; K-1 Rhett Smith; C-1 Marty Cope.

For the Sunday trip, we met at the Sugarlands Visitor Center and headed through Gatlinburg to paddle the Greenbriar section of the Middle Prong of the Little Pidgeon River, which must win the contest for the longest river name. We again had above average temperatures with an overcast day in the upper 50's. The gauge at the Highway 321 bridge read 1.75 when we started, a little low but certainly a runnable level. Like the Little River, the Middle Prong is a small volume, pristine mountain stream. It drains two of the Smokies major peaks, Mt. Guyot and Mt. Le Conte, and this Middle Prong run is upstream of the one described by Sehlinger and Lantz in their Tennessee whitewater guide. We started in Greenbriar Cove at the confluence of the Middle Prong and Potters Creek. The upper 2 miles of this run define the words technical and continuous. It is hard for the paddler to catch eddies or their breath. Excellent boat control is a must since things happen very quickly on the Middle Prong. The lower 2 miles have more large drops, the last two of which we scouted. This is a relatively short run, only 4 miles long, with an easy shuttle - a good winter run. Everyone was loaded up and on the road by 2:30. We again lucked out with the weather as Newfound Gap got 2" of snow that evening. Sunday paddlers were OC-1 Andy Warshaw, Barry Dulaney, Gene Mason, John Baker, Greg

Grant; K-1 Rhett Smith, Dave Coffee. Thanks to all of you who paddled one or both days on this trip. We had a strong group on both days which made these trips run very smoothly. I will plan to coordinate these two trips again next year. Keep your fingers crossed that we will have excellent water and weather conditions again to enjoy some delightful whitewater and spectacular National Park Scenery. Submitted by Greg Grant.

## CANOE/KAYAK TAX REPEALED

Our Washington D. C. River Rights Committee member called with good news - the boat tax legislation has been amended to exclude "people powered" craft. According to the Federal Register (3/28/91), Section 1.30 - 5, the law has been amended to "except manual propelled rowboats, canoes, kayaks, sailboats, racing shells, rowing sculls and other recreational vessels propelled by oars, paddles, poles or sails attached to an unsupported mast." Write your thanks and support of this exclusion to: Exec. Secretary, Marine Safety Council (G-LRA-2/3406) (CGD 90-067); US Coast Guard Hd. Qtrs; 2100 Second St S.W.; Washington, D.C. 20593-0001. Submitted by Carol Mercer, River Rights Chairwoman.

## MAY ACTIVITIES

## Happy Mother's Day

2	Board of Directors Meeting	Atlanta Jewish Community Center	7:30 P.M.
4	Etowah	1-2 Trained Beginner	Nancy Barker 874-8897
4	Nantahala	2-3 Intermediate	Adrian Freeman 623-9098
4	Chattooga 3	3-4 Advanced	Scott Wilhelm 449-3835
5	Lower Conasauga	2-3 Intermediate	Dan & Elise McIntyre 252-9513
5	Coordinators Choice	2-3 Intermediate	Susan McGilvary 242-9484
11	Alcovy Picnic	1-2 to 3+ Various Sections	Jim Patsios 477-9747
11	West Fork Chattooga	1-2 Fishing Trip 3 Boats Only	Doug Bridges 476-5126
12	Chattooga 2	1-2 Trained Beginner	Laura Jordon 803-836-8498
12	Nantahala	2-3 Intermediate	Bill Mann 242-7748
18	Southeasterns	Nantahala	All Come and Party
19	No other trips Scheduled. Uncle GCA Needs YOU...		
19-22	Buffalo in Arkansas	1-2 Camping, Fishing, Family Outing	Doug Bridges 476-5126
25	Cumberland Plateau Weekend	25,26,27	Andy Warshaw 373-6683
25	Nantahala	2-3 Intermediate	Barry Hahn 252-9538
25	Ocoee	3-4 Advanced	Oreon Mann 522-3469
26	Nantahala	2-3 Intermediate	Barry Hahn 252-9538
26	Coordinator's Choice	1-2 Trained Beginner	Bob Yager 404-234-4933
26	Coordinator's Choice	2-3 Intermediate	Jim Jones 252-6784
27	Nantahala	2-3 Intermediate	Barry Hahn 252-9538

### SPRING ROLLING PRACTICE WITH THE ATLANTA WHITEWATER CLUB BEGINS MAY 1 AT STONE MOUNTAIN PARK. CALL MARK BROWN AT 448-4636 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

To volunteer to coordinate trips, call the Cruisemaster Dave Richardson, at work, 435-3800 or at home at 431-9841. We are always looking for all types of trips from flatwater to high level whitewater. We need Sunday Churchgoer trips, short trips close to home that can be run in the afternoon.

### VOLUNTEER TODAY TO HELP OUT AT THE SOUTHEASTERNs. YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

GCA Board of Directors meetings will convene for a social half hour at 7 P.M. Beginning with the May meeting. Come out and meet some of the members of your Board of Directors and better yet, hang around and get involved in the operations on the Georgia Canoeing Association.

From the Book called "The Almost Perfect State" written in 1927 by Donald Marquis. "For a territory the size of the United States, five million people would be about right. The human population of the entire world should be kept well under a hundred million. If the world were not so full of people and most of them did not have to work so hard, there would be more time for them to get out and lie on the grass and there would be more grass for them to lie on." Submitted by Elaine Jensen.

## DEADLINES

Deadline for the June Eddyline is May 5th. This means that I must receive your typewritten articles, trip reports and classified ads in my mail box by the 5th of the month. If you have a computer, please submit them on a 5 1/4 or 3 1/2 disk as an ASCII file labeled .TXT and include a printed copy. Send all material to Andy Warshaw, P.O. Box 941755, Atlanta, Ga. 30341. I will not accept phoned in material or handwritten items. Please be courteous. Thank you for your help.

## BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M. at the Atlanta Jewish Community Center near the intersection of Brookwood Station and Peachtree St. Meetings are open to all club members and we welcome new faces. If you have an item for discussion, call President Gwen Bergen at 512-7320 so she can add your topic to the agenda.

## GCA BOARD

President	Gwen Bergen
Vice President	Jim Silavent
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Secretary	Susan McGilvary
Cruisemaster	Dave Richardson
Editor	Andy Warshaw
Membership	Scott Wilhelm
Kayak Trng	Malcolm Tobias
Canoe Trng	Doug Klaucke

## WHITEWATER RACING CLINIC

The AWC will host a whitewater racing workshop on Saturday, May 11th just before the GCA Southeastern Championship Races. The object of the workshop is to introduce the weekend paddler to basic racing skills by sharpening the skills and techniques that they use cruising rivers and adding a little knowledge from some of our local racer heads that they have gained over their years of trying to get a little better.

We will cover some gate techniques in the flat water gates at Powers Ferry landing, but will also cover some of the fundamental aspects of racing which can be more important than physical skills. Our goal is to have you racing to your potential and if you can get close, it can be a lot of fun.

I have always felt that racing has helped my cruising skills and feel they you can benefit from it as well. You don't have to make it a second job, just a little work and knowledge sometimes can pay large dividends. My first whitewater race was the Southeasterns and yeah, I was a little nervous, but I was nervous on my first date too and I survived and had a good time in the process.

I am presently putting together a list of instructors and I would like to cover all classes, Kayak, C-1 and Open Canoe in both

Slalom and Downriver. I'd need to know how many would be interested in coming out so let me know ASAP at 921-2942 between 7 and 9 P.M. The workshop will last around 4-5 hours.

The clinic cost will be \$15. with the proceeds going towards the River Rights fund and the effort to keep whitewater in the Atlanta Olympic Games. Submitted by Steve Thomas.

## ETOWAH RIVER

US 19 to Castleberry Bridge - March 3, 1991. What began as a Metro Hooch run transformed into a sunny, beautiful 50's day on the Etowah. Hemlocks, white pine and flowering maples covered the banks. One major eyesore was a house right on the steep river bank. An excellent architectural design, lots of glass stained wooden planks, stairways and balconies perched precariously alongside the river. Nice house, wrong location. After a couple of floods that home owner will be .... upset. Thanks to all who came. OC-2; the Reynolds, Ted and Lissa Jackson; OC-1: Barry Hahn, Christie Piper; K-1 me, a first time trip coordinator, Rhett Smith. Editors note: The Etowah is a beautiful stream which the GCA has not led many trips on in recent years. Lots of class 2 rapids and the infamous tunnel section below the Castleberry Bridge access point.

## HAPPY CAMPERS ALL

Billed as a Florida Flatwater Weekend, this trip put together by Dick Butterworth, was considered an unqualified success by all who took part. Most of the group assembled on Friday (Feb 9th) at the Spirit of Suwannee Canoe Outpost in Live Oak, Florida. After a leisurely start on Saturday morning, the group floated through treetops on a Suwannee River that was estimated to be thirty feet above flood stage. The main channel was quite broad, there was little floating debris, and if one avoided strainers along the banks, it was quite a safe situation in spite of the flood conditions. The current was undoubtedly faster than is normal for this stream, but this contributed to very pleasant paddling. We pitched camp at the take out, which is at the confluence of the Suwannee and the Alapaha. More on this later.

That evening, professional chef Tom Heston prepared an oriental dinner for the group, and it was truly outstanding. After this fine meal, we gathered for a social evening that will be fondly recalled for a long time to come.

The next morning we broke camp and loaded the boats for a three hour trip to King's Landing on the Wekiva River. This is one of the premier examples of semi-tropical

wetland to be found in north Florida. Cabbage Palms, cypress, hardwoods and Spanish Moss created an incredibly beautiful backdrop for uncountable numbers of birds and wildlife. Several of our paddlers saw Alligators, one reported to be around 12 feet long. In addition, several families of raccoons were seen, mothers teaching their kits to dig clams and catch frogs along the river bank. Often, we were as close as 10 feet to these tableaux.

Saturday night we camped in a primitive area of the Ocala National Forest. Chef Tom again held forth, and prepared some of the finest Italian cuisine available this side of Napoli. Campfire chit chat again provided a warm afterglow to a perfect day.

Next on our agenda was Alexander Springs, a small but lively and very interesting seven mile run through heavy forest and swamp covered with water hyacinth. Wading birds were everywhere, as well as songbirds and raptors. Photographers and bird watchers among us particularly enjoyed this float.

At this point, those of us with workaday considerations regretfully headed for home. Three intrepid paddlers, however, stayed on to tackle the Alapaha River, which at this time was 30 feet above flood stage and had a current to be reckoned with. The section paddled normally flows underground at this point, near

its confluence with the Suwannee so this was probably a once in a lifetime chance to be able to say we paddled it.

Four days, four rivers, great paddling, great fellowship. Like the commercial says, it just doesn't get any better than this. If you missed this one, be sure to grab for the next. Attendees were: Dick Butterworth, Carol Faust, Tom Heston, Peggy Miller, Mary McKean, Kitty Taylor, Rhett Smith, Hugh Brock, Barry Hahn, John Hize, Janet Perkins, Alicia Rezak, and Yours truly, Don Bailey.

## SMITH ISLAND

Smith Island section of the Upper Hooch: Sunday February 10, 1991. Thanks to Andy and Shannon Warshaw for running lead and to Mary Trauner for being the sweep, while the rest of us hung out in the middle. Just a fun trip, with enough excitement in Smith Island rapid for Cheryl, who heard her tandem partner holler, "draw, draw, harder!" (We almost hit the rock, but like all good whitewater paddlers, pulled it off without a hitch, took on a bit of water and embellished on the story for her father and sister). Our trip participants were: K-1: Sabina Scheivelbein and Mary's friend Carol; C-1: Mary Trauner; OC-1: Sabina's husband Jim; OC-2: Andy and Shannon Warshaw, Cheryl Warshaw & Carol Mercer Trip Coordinator.