



The EDDY LINE

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770.421.9729

www.georgiacanoe.org

February 2000

February GCA Meeting

With the new year upon us, we'll all want to be dressed appropriately for paddling next season. So, we're having a fashion show! Your GCA paddling buddies will don their favorite duds (each with a funny theme — no doubt) and see who can laugh the most. This fashion show will not only prepare you for paddling in style, but will tickle your funny bone as well. We'll bring the refreshments; you bring your smiles. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 17, at the Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Sandy Springs.

The church is located on Highpoint Road (runs north/south), between Glenridge Road and Windsor Parkway, both of which intersect Roswell Road. From I 285 topside perimeter, take Roswell Road/Sandy Springs exit south (inside the perimeter) to Glenridge Road. Turn left on Glenridge Road and right on Highpoint. The church is on your left about one mile south.

From Buckhead, come north on Roswell Road and take a right on Windsor Parkway and a left on Highpoint. The church will be on your right. From Rte 400 north or south, take the Glenridge Connector exit (north of the toll booth, but still inside the perimeter). Turn west at the end of the ramp. Turn left on Glenridge Road (it's Johnson Ferry to the right) and immediately left on Highpoint Road (marked well). The church is on your left about one mile south.

See you there!!

March GCA Meeting

The March GCA meeting will be our annual Spring General Membership Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner. The date and time is Thursday, March 16, at 7:30 PM at the Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Sandy Springs. We'll provide the utensils and drinks. You provide the food and fun! We'll all get together and share paddling stories and dreams of warmer weather. If you have a favorite video to share, call Kay Redmond (404.237.7242) to arrange for the VCR and TV.

Extravaganza 2000

The GCA Spring Extravaganza 2000 will be held the weekend of May 5, 6 & 7 at Diamond Lure Campground in Ellijay, Georgia. Be sure to mark your calendars. Regina at Diamond Lure has agreed to keep the prices for Saturday barbecue, camping, and Saturday & Sunday biscuits the same as last year. They will also have wood for the bonfire. See the registration form in this issue of *The Eddy Line* for more information.



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If all the rafts in the world were placed end to end, it would probably be the Nantahala.



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Who Ya Gonna Call?

The following list is provided for your convenience:

For general information about the club - Call the club telephone

number, 770.421.9729, and leave a message. Someone will get back to you.

To volunteer to help with club activities - Call President Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384 or contact the committee chairperson for your area of interest.

For information on payment of dues or membership status - Call Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

To sign up for a club trip - Call the trip coordinator at the number listed on the activity list.

To sign up to lead a club trip - Call Cruisemaster Jim Griffin at 770.498.3695.

For change of address or for *Eddy Line* subscription

information - Call Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

If you didn't receive your *Eddy Line* - Call Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

For information on GCA clinics - Call the clinic coordinator listed on the clinic schedule, or call Training Director Gina Johnson at 770.971.1542.

For information on winter roll practice - Call Revel Freeman at 404.261.8572.

For information on placing want ads in *The Eddy Line* - Call Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318, or see "To place an ad" in the Want Ad section of *The Eddy Line*.

For information on commercial ads - Call Advertising Director Jim Kautz at 770.321.9826 or Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318.

For information on videos and books available from the GCA Library - Call GCA Librarian Rachel Gates at 404.296.2280. ✂

Board of Directors Meetings

The Georgia Canoeing Association Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of even months (February, April, etc.) from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, located on Piedmont Road at the Prado, next to Piedmont Park. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, please call GCA President Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384 so he can add your item to the agenda. Attending Board meetings is a great way to become more involved with the GCA. ✂

GCA Executive Committee

President	Brannen Proctor
Vice President	Marvine Cole
Secretary	Tom Martin
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Rachel Gates
Recreation Chair	Jason Schnurr
Resource Development Chair	Debra Berry
River Protection Chair	Dan MacIntyre
Training Chair	Gina Johnson

Submitting *Eddy Line* Material

Deadline for material to be submitted for publication in the next *Eddy Line* is the fifth of the month, i.e., for the January issue, material should be submitted no later than December fifth. The editor must receive all articles, trip reports and want ads by the deadline or they MAY NOT be published in the next issue. To submit material via EMAIL, send to gacanoec@mindspring.com. The text of an article can be placed in the body of a message, and photo images can be attached to the message as attached files. To submit material via COMPUTER DISK submit articles or trip reports on a 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 inch IBM/DOS formatted disk as an ASCII text file labeled with a ".txt" file extension, or as a text file on a 3-1/2 inch high density MacIntosh formatted disk, and include a printed copy (Disks returned only if requested). To submit material via U.S. MAIL, send to: **Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, GA 30066**. All classified ads will be run for two months unless otherwise requested. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Contact Newsletter Editor **Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318** for questions. Thanks for your cooperation. ✂

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



February

2	Board of Directors Meeting	Atlanta Botanical Garden	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
5	Lower Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Maggie Griffin	770.498.3695
5	Leader's Choice	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Tony Colquitt	770.854.6636
5	Leader's Choice	Class 2-4 Intermediate/Advanced	Louis Boulanger	404.373.4775
5	Chattooga Section IV	Class 3-4 Advanced	Duncan Cottrell	770.720.6269
6	Leader's Choice	Class 2-4 Intermediate/Advanced	Louis Boulanger	404.373.4775
6	Chattooga Section IV (Note 2)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Duncan Cottrell	770.720.6269
12	Upper Amicalola (Note 3)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
12	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Debra Berry	404.320.6148
12	Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Keith Taylor	770.956.1767
13	Metro Chattahoochee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Marvine Cole	770.475.3022
17	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Episcopal Church of the Atonement — Marvine Cole			770.475.3022
19	Fighting Town Creek	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Hank Baudet	706.492.4318
19	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Chuck & Carole Creekmore	770.995.5788
19	Town Creek (AL)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Dane White	256.820.1127
26	Upper Etowah	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	John McCorvey	770.921.5116
26	Terrapin Creek	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Dan Roper	706.295.0632
26	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Pat Hagan	770.393.1420
26	South Sauty Creek (AL)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Dane White	256.820.1127

March

1-3	Okefenokee (Note 4)	Smooth Water	Tom Payne	770.914.2428
4	Fighting Town Creek	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Hank Baudet	706.492.4318
4	Tellico (TN)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
11	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jeff Engle	706.548.5015
11	Upper Amalacola	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Toebben	770.804.9416
11	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Patrick Gourley	770.422.1689
16	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Episcopal Church of the Atonement — Marvine Cole			770.475.3022
18	Conasauga	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Dan & Elise MacIntyre	404.252.9513
18	Upper Chattahoochee (Note 3)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
18-19	Four Holes Swamp/Edisto (SC)	Smooth Water (Note 5)	Bill Edwards	
19	Leader's Choice	Class 3-4 Advanced	Duncan Cottrell	770.720.6269
25	Locust Fork (AL)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Dane White	256.820.1127

Note 1: Experience level of trip depends on water availability.

Note 2: Highway 76 to Camp Creek, avoids Five Falls.

Note 3: Monthly Paddle with the Prez — Brannen Proctor.

Note 4: Two night/three day swamp trip.

Note 5: See article in this issue of *The Eddy Line*.

Signing Up: Call the trip coordinator listed to sign up for trips. Call early in the week to ensure you get a spot on the trip, and in consideration for the coordinators, PLEASE avoid calling late in the evening.

Training Trips are a combination of recreation and training designed to attract those boaters who have completed a formal training clinic and would like some on-the-river time with instructors practicing what you learned in the clinic and expanding your skill level.

To Volunteer To Lead Trips: Call the Cruisemaster, Jim Griffin, at 770.498.3695. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flat water to class 5 white water. Our excellent trip schedule depends on the efforts of volunteers, so get involved and sign up to coordinate a trip on your favorite river today! The GCA needs YOU!

Chattooga Trips are limited to 12 boats on ANY section on ANY trip, club trip or private (USFS regulation). Your cooperation in protecting this National Wild and Scenic River is appreciated.

Roll Practice: Monday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Warren Memorial Boys & Girls Club pool near Grant Park. Contact Revel Freeman at 404.261.8572

GCA Library Items Available

The GCA Library has many videotapes and books available to any GCA member. All you have to do is call GCA Librarian Rachel Gates at 404.296.2280 to find out what is available. The cost is \$3.00 per tape or book for postage and handling.

Any / all donations or loans to the library are welcome. (Please, no bootleg video copies.) Send them to:

Rachel Gates
PO Box 1485
Pine Lake, GA 30072

The following items are currently available:

Videos:

A Second Helping - A Review of Kayak Basics Canoes by Whitesell
Cold, Wet & Alive
Faultline (Will Reeves)
First Descents (North Fork Payette)
Grace Under Pressure (learning the kayak roll)
Heads Up, River Rescue
Introduction to Canoeing
Kayak 101 (mastering the basics)
Kayak Handling - The Basic Strokes
Only Nolan (Canoe Technique)
Path of the Paddle: Quietwater
Path of the Paddle: Whitewater
Performance Sea Kayaking (the basics & beyond)
Plunge!

Prijon Wildplay Wildwasser Sport
Solo Playboating!
Take the Wild Ride
Tallulah Gorge (Rob Maxwell)
The C-1 Challenge
The Kayaker's Edge
The Open Canoe Roll (Bob Foote)
Ultimate Canoe (Niagara Gorge & Other Rivers - Whitesell)
Waterwalker (Bill Mason)
We Come to Play (Orosi)
Whitesell
Whitewater Groove

Books:

A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Florida
A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Ohio, Vols I and II
ACA Canoeing & Kayaking Instructors Guide
A Hiking Guide to the Trails of Florida
Alabama Canoe Rides
AMC White Water Handbook
American Red DCross Canoeing & Kayaking
A Paddler's Guide to the Obed/Emory Watershed
Arkansas information (assorted)
Basic River Canoeing
Boundary Waters I&II
Brown's Guide to Georgia
Buyer's Guide 1993 (Canoe Magazine)
Buyer's Guide 1994 (Paddler Magazine)
Buyer's Guide 1996 (Paddler Magazine)
California Whitewater - A Guide to the Rivers
Canoe Racing (Marathon & Down River)
Canoeing Wild Rivers

Carolina Whitewater (Western Carolina)
Cruise of the Blue Flujin
Cumberland River Basic Canoe Trail Guide
Endangered Rivers & the Conservation Movement
Florida information (assorted)
Idaho Whitewater
Indiana Canoeing Guide
Kentucky Wild Rivers
Missouri Ozark Waterways
Northern Georgia Canoe Guide
Ohio County Maps & Recreational Guide
Paddle America (Guide to trips & outfitters)
Paddle to the Amazon - The World's Longest Canoe Trip
Path of the Paddle
People Protecting Rivers
Pole, paddle & Portage
River Rescue
River Safety Anthology
River's End (Stories)
Sea Kayaking Canada's West Coast
Song of the Paddle
Southeastern Whitewater
Tennessee Canoe Guide
The Georgia Conservancy Guide to the North Georgia Mountains
The Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande
They Shoot Canoes, Don't they?
White Water Tales of Terror
White Water Trips (British Columbia & Washington)
Wildwater (Sierra Club Guide)
Wildwater West Virginia
Youghiogheny

Announcements

GCA Email List

The member response to the GCA email list has been great. We have at this printing over 300 subscribers. Thanks to Mike Kaplan and our friends at Kaplan Communications (an Internet Access Provider) for providing software and server space for the GCA email list.



Here's how the list works:

By sending an email to "gacanoes@kapcom.com" you automatically reach all subscribers to the list with the message. Anyone can use the address — it's just another email address — and all subscribers will get the email. The list is an "open list", i.e., anyone can subscribe to it mechanically by sending an email to "majordomo@kapcom.com" and on the first line of the body of the message type:

subscribe gacanoes

You will receive a verification that you are sub-

scribed and a welcome message with instructions on how to unsubscribe and various other commands available through the service. Be sure to save this information for future reference.

All GCA announcements and forwarded email from other sources concerning new river access issues, late breaking news items of interest to the paddling community, etc., will be sent out via the GCA email list at gacanoes@kapcom.com. If you want to receive any of this information, please subscribe to the list using the above instructions. Also, don't be shy about using the list to send out or to request information about paddling related topics, rivers you're interested in, etc.

By the way, should you change or lose your email ID, please take a minute to "unsubscribe" your old ID and/or to "subscribe" your new one. ✂

GCA Web Page

Check it out at <http://www.georgiacanoe.org>. We are adding information and links of value to paddlers with each update. Send your ideas for updates to Allen Siquefield at allen.siquefield@corp.bellsouth.net ✂

Need an Internet Service Provider?

If you plan to sign up with an internet service provider for the first time, or if you plan to change providers, and are considering MindSpring as your choice, you can do your paddling club a big favor. When you call to sign up, tell the MindSpring sales rep you were referred by Georgia Canoeing Association and we will receive a \$20.00 credit toward our monthly ISP subscription cost. You will need to give them the GCA email ID — gacanoec@mindspring.com — for us to receive the proper credit. Thanks for your help!

Weekday Paddlers

There has been good response to the request to develop a list of paddlers available to paddle during the week. We now have 70+ entries on the list, including members who are retired persons, those with variable or non-standard work schedules, those available to paddle weekdays when school is out (students and teachers), and even those who have a lot of vacation time to burn and want to take vacation days for paddling. The list includes members who paddle smooth water as well as all classes of white water

If you would like to be included in the list, please call Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318 and leave your name, phone number, days of the week you are available to paddle, and class of water (flat, I thru V) that you are interested in paddling. You will then receive an up-to-date copy of the list. The list will be re-published quarterly (January, April, July, October). Updates are available by request through the GCA phone line. If you received your copy of the list more than 3 months ago, you should request an updated copy (the January update is out). There have been considerable changes to the list. To receive an up-to-date copy, call the GCA phone line at 770.421.9729 and leave your name and address with a request for the updated list. ✂

Upcoming Events of Interest

February 5 — Locust Fork Invitational Canoe & Kayak Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.
February 25-26 — National Paddling Film Festival, Lexington, KY, NPFF, 120 Victory Ave., Lexington, KY 40502, www.surfbwa.org/npff.
March 4-5 — Mulberry Fork Canoe & Kayak Races — Garden City, AL, Registrar to be announced.
March 25 — Locust Fork White Water Classic Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.

March 24-26 — La Lousiane Free Style Symposium — Mandeville, LA, John Steib, 225.654.5224.

March 31, April 1-2, 14-16 — ACA Kayak Instructor Certification Clinic — Wesser, NC, Bruce Williams 404.231.5642.

March 31, April 1-2 — NOC Spring Splash — NOC, Bryson City, NC, 828.488.2175.

April 14-16 — East Coast Canoe & Kayak Symposium — Charleston, SC, Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission, 843.795.4FUN, www.ccprc.com.

April 22 — Canadian Olympic Trials — Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.

April 29-30 — Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championship Races — Nantahala River, NC, David Martin, Registrar, 404.351.8208.

May 5-7 — GCA Spring Extravaganza — Diamond Lure Campground, Ellijay, Denise Colquitt, 770.854.6636.

May 19-21 — Ocoee Rodeo, Upper Ocoee, Ocoee White Water Center, TN, Jayne Abbott (828.645.5299, email jhabbott@aol.com).

July 22-23 — Georgia State Games — LCKC, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.

August 8-12 — USCKT Sprint National Championships, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.

September 1-3 — Marathon World Championships — Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

September 22-24 — Lanier Paddlefest — LCKC, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com. ✂




Winter Roll Practice

Joint GCA / AWC winter roll practice is back! It will be held on Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 beginning the first Monday in January, and running through the last Monday in March. Our host is the Warren Memorial Boys' and Girls' Club on Berne Street near Grant Park. Once again, the ACA carries our insurance for this event, and non-ACA members will be required to sign up for an ACA event membership at an additional cost of \$5.00 for the entire event (January thru March). This is in addition to the \$5.00 per session paid to defray pool rental expense. ACA members, have your ACA number available or pay for an event membership. Revel Freeman is our Roll Practice Coordinator. If

you have questions about roll practice, or would like to volunteer to help, either with instruction or keeping track of money and waivers, call Revel at 404.261.8572. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

TO GET TO THE WARREN CLUB POOL: Go east on I-20 from downtown and exit at the Boulevard / Grant Park / Cyclorama exit. Go right about 1/2 mile to Berne Street on the left (at a traffic light). Turn left and go about another 1/2 mile and you'll see a large brick building on the left at the corner of Berne and Marion Streets. Turn left. You are at the Warren Club building. The pool entrance is in the rear. Enter through the gate at the far end of the building to unload boats. Parking is available beside the building and in the lot across Marion Street.

BE SURE YOUR BOAT IS CLEAN. A hose is available at the door to rinse out river mud, old birds' nests or cobwebs. 

The National Paddling Film Festival

Lexington, Kentucky. February 25-26, 2000.

Born on a dare, the National Paddling Film Festival (NPF) was started 17 years ago by some energetic Bluegrass Whitewater Association (BWA) paddlers who had the brilliant idea to combine a terrific excuse for a party with homage to the river gods. From humble beginnings in a drafty barn transformed with several hundred yards of black plastic, the NPF has fast-forwarded into the 21st century as a multi-media, digitally-enabled, celebration of paddle sports.

Propelled by the BWA, whose members donate hundreds of volunteer hours to make it happen, the NPF raises money for river conservation and access. All proceeds from this non-profit event go to American Whitewater, American Canoe Association and other river causes. Last year the NPF donated close to \$10,000 to AW, ACA, and the West Virginia Rivers Coalition!

The NPF competition offers three mediums for paddle sports image artists: motion entry, still image and a safety poster contest. In the motion category, the Festival showcases a broad array of instructional, travelogue, hair boating, comedy and other genre paddling videos, both professional and amateur. For the still image competition, entrants submit either 35 mm slides or digital images which are judged by the audience, with a color printer given to the still image winner. The digital division, which premiered last year, was a huge success. Finally, the safety poster contest is divided into three age categories, with cash awards in each.

Deadlines:

Motion Entry January 28, 2000

Still Image, slide or digital, February 11, 2000

Safety Poster February 25, 2000

Highlights so far will include:

Ken Whiting seminar on playboating -- his latest film "Play Daze" is entered in the competition.

Coran Addison has promised to enter 3 films. (this guy wants to win bad....)

Feather River video.

Russell Fork documentary.

The silent auction is a major component of the NPF, thanks to generous manufacturers and outfitters who donate an outstanding variety of paddling gear and apparel. The gear is laid out at the festival site, with bid sheets to keep track of who's bidding what. The video feed to the auction room allows you to keep an eye on the films while catching up with old friends or debating which dry top to bid on. We also hope to auction off a boat on-line!

Last but not least, there is always a party after the competition, where you can enjoy being with friends, talking with some of the videographers and photogra-



Join us for the
17th annual national paddling film festival!

Showcasing Paddlesports image artists from around the world!
Enter your videos, slides, digital images, and river safety posters. Includes raffle, silent auction, and party.

February 25-26, 2000 Lexington, Kentucky

For entry deadline and other information:
www.paddlesports.org/npf or NPF, 126 Victory Ave., Lexington, Ky. 40502
All profits go to ACA, AW, and River Conservation

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Please support our Film Festival major sponsors who care about River Conservation:

Adventure Medical Kits Canoe Kentucky Chums
Dagger Impex Kokotat Lotus Designs
Madawaska Kanu Camp Outta Hand Productions
Pacific Water Sports Paddler Perception
Performance Video Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center
Riot Savage Spyderco Wave Sport

Photo: NPF 1999 Best Paddling Image Winner by Jeff Keller

phers, and hooking up for paddling trips. So plan ahead, keep your eye out for those photo-ops, join us as entrant or visitor, but DON'T MISS THE NPFF 2000!!

For details and updates on special events being planned for the festival, check the web site at <http://www.surrowa.org/npff>.

Electronic *Eddy Line* Email Failures

Not getting your electronic version of *The Eddy Line*? The following email IDs had mail failure notices for the January *On-Line Eddy Line* mailing. Send any corrections or changes to Ed Schultz, 3060 Pharr Court North #315, Atlanta, GA 30305, or call Ed at 404.266.3734. lmontagn@czarnowski.com
Ichambers@atlanta.org
woladwi@roc.mobil.com
rsully@alltell.net
tigcpa@aol.com
mar102ppl@hotmail.com

Four Holes Swamp/Edisto River (South Carolina) March 18-19

This outing will actually consist of two one-day trips. Saturday will be approximately 12.6 miles on the Edisto River, taking out at Givhans Ferry State Park. Sunday will be a four hour trip through part of Four Holes Swamp. This part of the swamp is a sanctuary in the Francis Beidler Forest and consists of 3600 acres managed by the National Audubon Society.

Sunday's trip is limited to six canoes and will be led by a naturalist from the Forest. Cost is \$50.00 per person. The sanctuary contains the largest remaining virgin forest of bald cypress and tupelo gum plus a large population of song birds, reptiles, and large birds such as barred owls, wood ducks, herons and ibis. If enough people sign

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up for the Four Holes Swamp trip, one group can go Saturday morning, one Sunday morning.

Camping is available at Givhans Ferry State Park and motels are available nearby for about \$25.00 per night. Call Bill Edwards for more details, 706.321.9063 or e-mail at mavistoo@aol.com.

La Louisiane Free Style Symposium

Allons Pagailler!

The basic principles of canoeing, bio-mechanics, hull mechanics, and paddle mechanics are universal. Free Style Canoeing uses an empirical approach to evolve these principles to their highest and most efficient form safely and conveniently on quiet water. If you are interested in increasing your technical skills in open canoeing, please join us at La Louisiane Free Style Symposium on March 24, 25, & 26, 2000, in Mandeville, LA. Nationally ranked instructors will provide the best possible instruction, the first of a series of new regional competitions will exhibit the finest in Free Style paddling. Other amenities include a private venue, Cajun cuisine, a music jam, and fais-do-do (social time). Come pass a good time, cher!

For information contact :

John Steib

25125 Bickham Road

Jackson, LA 70748

Phone 225.654.5224

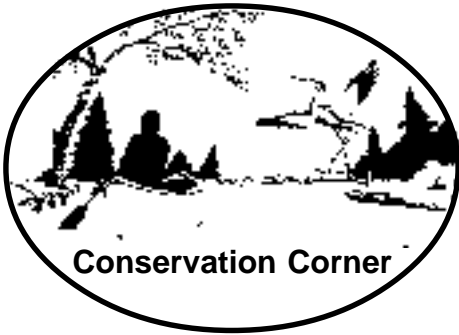
E-mail j-ssteib@worldnet.att.net



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We specialize in canoe and kayak instruction and guiding. Rivers and adventures for all ability levels. Services range from fully guided and outfitted paddling and nonpaddling adventures to shuttle service only. We know Costa Rica and its rivers.



GCA River Cleanups Spotlighted

**For those who think river
cleanup trips don't do anything
substantial for our rivers....**

These photos were taken on a recent river cleanup trip on the Upper Chattahoochee coordinated by Jason Schnurr. The photos were taken by Beth Fordyce and submitted by Bill Reeves.

Top right is Tommy Price collecting and loading a tire onto his C-1. Left is Tommy hauling a tire on the river. Bottom right is the whole crew, Tommy, The Hawk, Charlie Pyrtle, Anita, and a participant whose name escaped the submitter, with the entire tire cache.



Mountain Top Removal Update

Judge Limits Valley Fills, Byrd Rider Defeated (For Now)

West Virginia's mountain top removal/valley fill issue has been heating up and boiling over the past two months. On October 20, federal district court Judge Charles Haden handed down a ruling limiting valley fills from mountain top removal operations. In the weeks following, West Virginia's congressional delegation, led by Senator Robert Byrd, tried to pass federal legislation that would have overturned Haden's ruling. In his decision, Haden said that many types of valley fills have been permitted illegally, and that it is against the law to dump mining waste in perennial and intermittent streams — those that flow year-round or at least six months of the

year, respectively.

In mountain top removal coal mining, entire mountain tops are blasted away to reach thin seams of coal, leaving behind flat, barren moonscapes. The "overburden" rock and soil is dumped into adjacent valleys, burying streams. A state Division of Environmental Protection (DEP) inventory shows that over 1,000 miles of West Virginia streams have been permitted to be buried by valley fills.

Because of destruction from mountain top removal and valley fills, West Virginia's Coal River was named one of America's top ten most endangered rivers in April 1999. Mountain Top removal has been permitted to happen almost without question, although its long-term environmental effects still haven't been documented.

Immediately responding to Haden's ruling, Gov. Cecil Underwood enacted a hiring and spending freeze in

the state government. DEP Director Michael Castle refused to permit valley fills currently being built to advance further downstream, even though Haden's ruling applies only to future permits.

DEP lawyers immediately appealed Haden's decision to the US 4th Circuit Court in Richmond. Judge Haden, in response to the overblown reactions to his ruling, stayed his decision pending a ruling by the Richmond court. The time-frame for that court's decision is approximately nine months.

In an attempt to nullify the potential effects of Haden's ruling, West Virginia's congressional representatives drafted a legislative "rider" that would have gutted and changed key provisions of the Clean Water Act. Byrd threatened to hold up federal spending bills unless the White House promised not to veto any bill with his rider attached.

Byrd's efforts launched Mountain Top Removal and the Clean Water Act into the national spotlight, and editorials from New York Times to the Los Angeles Times lashed out against Byrd and the rider. In response, West Virginians flooded Congress and the White House with phone calls, letters, and personal visits, and many national, regional and state conservation and citizen groups called on Clinton to stick to his promise to veto any anti-environmental riders.


Thanks in large part to the hard work of West Virginia Rivers Coalition (WVRC) members and affili-

ates, the congressional session came to a close, and no legislation containing Byrd's rider was signed into law, for now. Yet Byrd has promised to raise the issue again when Congress re-convenes in January. It is likely he'll try to attach another rider to a supplemental appropriations bill in early February.

In addition, Byrd is working with the White House to strike a deal, and the word is that the Clinton administration is willing to compromise this time.

National environmental groups were most impressed that Byrd could be defeated in these efforts the first time around, but are concerned about a second attempt. Be prepared to dig in for another tough battle. Things will be heating up again this winter, and WVRC can keep you posted as to what you can do to help!

If you'd like help protect West Virginia's fabulous rivers and streams, sign up for WVRC's free e-mail listserve. Just send an e-mail to nfetty@neumedia.net to subscribe. You'll get action alerts on issues like Mountain Top Removal, factory farms, wetlands destruction, drinking water supplies and Clean Water Act enforcement. You'll contact elected officials and regulators, come out for public hearings, or write letters to the editor.

West Virginia Rivers Coalition is a statewide river conservation group that seeks the conservation and restoration of West Virginia's exceptional rivers and streams. To learn more, call 304.637.7201, or e-mail wvrc@neumedia.net. 

Incident at Right Crack

by Michael Babcock

On Saturday, December 11, I witnessed the most troubling event I have seen on a river. It happened at Right Crack on the Chattooga River. The USGS gauge was at 1.7 when we checked it that morning and about 1.68 when we finally put in.

It was a pick up trip and a fair size group kind of hung together from the put-in. Everyone seemed to be handling themselves quite well and I never even thought of quizzing anyone about their experience on the river. My paddling buddy and I were pretty much watching out for each other, out in front of this group, but meeting up with them at most every play spot.

Corkscrew went well, and after watching most of the party behind us run, I ran down Center Crack got flipped and rolled up catching an eddy, mid river, a little way down stream to hold up. What I watched from this eddy



is still playing through my mind.

I saw one of the boaters from the group behind us come through Right Crack, just sliding by the top of the log that's wedged in there. I was asking myself what he was doing there when I saw a young man in a Pirouette S enter Right Crack, broach, pinning, bow on one side, stern on the other, and turn over upstream. Immediately following this, another boat entered the slot plowing into the Pirouette and putting two people in Right Crack upstream of that log. Both boats pinned vertically behind

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the log.

It was a helpless feeling not being able to make the attainments back up to Crack as what seemed like long seconds went by with no sign of either of them. My paddling buddy was at the bottom of the slot and said he felt helpless, too, as there was no way he could get up there in time to do any good. I don't know how long they were in there, but the lad came up not far down stream, and the other fellow popped up soon after. Thank God they were both thrashing around and trying to swim.

By the time I got back to Crack one boat was out of the water, but the Pirouette was showing only about a foot and a half, pinned vertically up against the log. It didn't look like it would be coming out, but we decided to try a vector pull before going to the trouble of setting up a Z-drag, and the vector pull worked.

Everyone was pretty well shaken but the only real casualty was one paddle that snapped in half. If that's the price of this little adventure, we all got off dirt-cheap.

The man who ran Right Crack first was kicking himself in the butt for leading his friends down this dangerous line. He said he thought that was the line at that level. He hadn't scouted and hadn't asked.

As it turns out, the second boater to enter the water was attempting to rescue the first. This could have easily taken both of their lives. We wasted no time pointing this out.

As far as I can tell they seemed to believe that they were washed under the rock to the right of the crack and spit out back toward the left below the chute.

Five Falls is a beautiful but challenging run. This is the second near tragedy that I am personally aware of in the last month.

I read two guidebooks several times before I ever paddled Section IV and never paddled it without someone along who knew the river better than myself. I have scouted every rapid and walked many of them more than once.

I want to thank the people who showed me the way down that river. I'll be forever indebted. Please be careful out there. And don't stop thinking about what you're doing. ✕

What to Learn as a Novice / Intermediate

by Rich Kulawiec

I ran into someone recently who got me thinking — who it was isn't important, 'cause I've bumped into a number of people like this recently, and it could have been any of them. This was someone who told me about how

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they'd run the Black River (NY), which I thought was pretty impressive, albeit not an appropriate run for an inexperienced paddler. And how they'd like to someday run the Gauley (WV).

I admire that aspiration. I've shared it. But as I watched this person paddle, I noticed they couldn't use a Duffek, had trouble making eddy turns/peel-outs in class II, couldn't sustain a ferry, had difficulty reading water! Yet all they talked about was learning hole-surfing tricks, and getting a boat that would make it easier to do them.

If it were an isolated instance, this wouldn't worry me that much, but I keep running into people just like this at an increasing rate. I find myself wondering if some of the noticeable increase in incidents and fatalities is due to folks confusing the ability to do cool moves in a hole with the ability to paddle difficult rapids. I don't know.

Maybe I am way off base here, but I am going to hand out advice anyway:-) Remember that it is fully worth what you are paying for it!

1) Don't start with a rodeo-squirt boat. Yes, they're big fun, but because they're a specialized design optimized to do certain things really well, they sacrifice other things and make it harder for you to develop solid paddling skills. Get a general-purpose all-around boat which is good for learning solid basic paddling skills.

Besides, you're not really "buying" your first boat: think of it as "leasing" it until you outgrow it (at which point you will have a much better idea what you want in your second boat). And if it floats, you can sell it — probably to someone following in your footsteps.

2) Speaking of solid, basic paddling skills, learning how to do 360s and retendos and all those other nifty rodeo moves is great, but they're not substitutes for things like a powerful forward stroke, a crisp eddy turn, and the ability to do ferries in heavy current. Hole playing isn't all there is to river paddling.

Not that learning how to control your boat in a hole isn't a very useful skill and lots of fun; it's both. But when you get to harder rivers, part of the object is to stay out of some of the holes, because they are not nice friendly playgrounds — they are big ugly things that will send you deep enough that it gets dark.

So practice your basic skills, in flat water and in class I-II, because if you try to practice in class III-IV, your focus will be on staying upright, not on honing your technique. Besides, it's not necessary to paddle really hard rivers to develop most skills.

If you work a class II-III run hard enough — by doing class IV moves and not just floating through the rapids — you can develop good white water skills while incurring much lower risk than you would if you were on a solid class

IV run like the Arkansas Numbers. Get Kent Ford's "Drill Time" or "The Kayakers Edge" videos. Work through 'em.

Or try some of these:

Figure 8 (eddy turn, ferry, eddy turn, ferry).

Now do it backwards, i.e., lead with your stern.

Try doing attainments (climbing up rapids), which will test your ability to correctly judge speed, angle, and lean. Run a rapid and try to catch "every" eddy.

Work on "dive" moves where you go into eddies and "don't" turn.

Try learning to back ferry.

Now minimize the stroke count that it takes to do all of these.

Work on S-turns through eddies.


Eventually, if you practice enough, these will become reflex actions that you don't have to think about in the middle of a class IV drop. Not only will this keep you safe, it'll free up your brain to help you look for good surfing spots.

3) Lessons. When you think you've done enough of this stuff and now you're pretty good, then save up your pennies and go spend them on a day-long private lesson with someone who is really, really good — someone like the people you'll find at Nantahala Outdoor Center (Or try to catch Kent Ford for a lesson if you can). You're likely to come away with enough tips, pointers, and exercises to keep you busy for months.

4) Recognize that every time you move up a notch in difficulty, it's like being a beginner again, albeit at a higher level with more consequences to messing up. So don't attempt to progress faster than your skills allow.

Realize that as you do successively harder rivers, you will pass the dividing line between "Gosh, it'd be nice if I could make this move" and "Sure would like to hit this roll" and move into "I had BETTER make this move" and "This would be a BAD time to swim". Know which side of this line you are on, and realize that the line moves with weather, water conditions, fatigue, etc.

5) Finally, learn to play in holes! 'Cause if you paddle long enough, one day you'll find yourself in one that you didn't intend to be in. It'll help if you're somewhat familiar with your surroundings.

- *From the ACA Delaware Division Newsletter via "The Spray", newsletter of the Colorado White Water Association.* 

"What is the difference between unethical and ethical advertising? Unethical advertising uses falsehoods to deceive the public; ethical advertising uses the truth to deceive the public."

- Vilhjalmur Stefanson (1879-1962).

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Instruction / Training

From the Training Chair

The GCA will host the First Annual Paddling Gymkhana on April 15. This will be a day of games and paddling drills that we will hold on one of the Atlanta area lakes. It will be a wonderful opportunity to get the cobwebs out of your boat and tune up your paddling skills for the upcoming paddling season. There will be a \$10.00 per person fee to cover expenses. All types of paddle craft are welcome. For more information, please call Gina at 404.257.3060. See you there! ✂

Points to Ponder

Wanted: A Reason to Keep Racing

by Scott Wilkinson

I'll never forget my first slalom race. It was on the Ocoee River, in solid class III water. I had no roll and no racing experience. (Olympic gold medalist Joe Jacobi told me it was years before he had a good race on the Ocoee.) On my first practice run, I flipped and swam before I ever got to the start eddy. So I got another practice run. This time, I made it to the start, but flipped and swam before I got to gate 1. On my third attempt, I made it through gate 1, then flipped and swam. Bruised and dejected, I pulled out of the race and sat on the bank 400 miles from home.

I never had a good race on the Ocoee. That first race haunted me and created a mental block, so now I don't like the Ocoee. But I find solace in the fact that I'm not alone. Each year, many new racers (and some experienced ones) get trashed in races held on big white water. And many of those people drop out of the sport in frustration.




Race Watch

There is a code of machismo in white water slalom which is perpetuated by the racing elite: if you can't handle it, get out. Sure all the top racers have had their fair share of wipe-outs, but most of them overcame these difficulties through stubborn persistence. Now many of them believe that the "survival of the toughest" is the best way to ensure that the weenies are weeded out.

Some top racers have even told me that "you can't get good in this sport unless you take your licks." This is a moronic philosophy, akin to saying "you can't learn mountaineering unless you climb Denali and nearly freeze to death." In white water, like anything else, a gradual learning process that doesn't involve getting battered or breaking a boat is entirely possible. Except in the U.S. today...

Nowhere is this trial by fire more evident than in the current slalom race circuit. Almost every race falls within one of two categories: novice or expert. Notably absent is a solid intermediate level race series.


What is intermediate? A true intermediate course should either be 1) class II water with a moderate course or 2) class II-III water with a very easy course. There should be no intimidating, do-or-die moves where the



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** Shamelessly lifted from "Water Line", Newsletter of the Houston Canoe Club.*

penalty for mistakes is getting trashed in a hole or missing the next three gates.

Take a look at the most popular races: the Savage, the Ocoee, Wausau, Tohickon Creek, South Bend, Dickerson, Tariffville Gorge, Zoar Gap, the Rattlesnake on the Housatonic, Vail, Durango... all are expert courses. On the other end of the scale are the Penn Cup race, the now-defunct Fredericksburg, Va., race, or the sporadic-at-best Dartmouth slalom on the Lower Yough.

Many of the most popular sites could be used for intermediate races if the courses weren't so difficult. But here is another problem: course designers typically set the courses for the top racers rather than for the intermediates. Who can blame them? If the course is set for intermediates, top racers will complain and won't show up in the future.

The sport is so small in the U.S. that everyone from team members to novices are thrown together in one pot. This results in C-ranked paddlers often being forced to compete against the likes of Jon Lugbill. Where's the motivation for intermediates to keep at it? And where's the motivation for more people to get involved in the sport if their next race after the Penn Cup is the Ocoee?

What the sport desperately needs right now are more people willing to organize intermediate races for the

benefit of recreational racers, retired racers, and serious racers who aren't ready for the Ocoee. These races should be good ones, on rivers with deep water and reliable flow. None of this hit-bottom-at-every-stroke stuff. (Somehow the big races always seem to be able to have good water... why can't the intermediate ones?)

More importantly, there should be emphasis and encouragement on achievement at the C and D levels for its own sake, instead of viewing these levels as merely stepping stones to the A and B ranks. A good example would be a National C/D Championships, held at a different time and place than existing nationals and not open to A/B ranked racers.

Another possibility would be to organized more C/D and recreational races in conjunction with bigger events. This happened once at the 1989 team trials on the West River; a C/D race was set up downstream from the A/B course. It was an excellent intermediate race. Unfortunately, there were pins and injuries on the A/B course when those paddlers would have benefited just as much from racing downstream.

The bottom line is this: many people (including myself) don't have Olympic fever and have no desire to reach the A/B ranks of slalom racing. But they do want to be able to go to a race, be somewhat challenged, make all the gates, and have fun. We often hear a lot about the idea of slalom becoming more popular in the U.S., but it will never happen without providing more fun ways for recreational paddlers to get into the sport.

USCKT cannot be expected to help, as its stated purpose is to develop athletes capable of winning medals in international competition. And even though promoting recreational racing would be to USCKT's benefit (because it would provide a larger pool from which to find top athletes), it will never be its primary focus.

The Centers for Excellence program is not the solution either. Again, the Centers for Excellence exist for a sole purpose: to groom top athletes. The same could be said of the thriving junior programs around the country. There is nothing wrong with cultivating Olympic athletes. But the racing bureaucracy should also say "We'd be happy to get more people in racing, whether they're 10 or 60, knowing full well they will never win medals, much less make the National Team!"

USCKT and the Centers for Excellence have limited resources, and their priority is understandably at the top. So perhaps it would be beneficial to create a new organization devoted to purely recreational racing. One thing is certain, the sport will not grow from the top down. Slalom in the U.S. resembles a pyramid standing on its point... a very unstable position to be in.

One final note: inevitably some people will read this and say, "But what about such-and-such race? It's for intermediates!" My apologies for leaving your race out. But my point stands. There aren't enough and what few that exist aren't taken seriously. We're talking about a mind set here.

As for myself, I'm temporarily burned out on volunteer work. I love racing, but I won't go to the Ocoee to race again, because year-round training is no longer a priority in my life. (And I don't enjoy getting trashed in holes.) I'd welcome the chance to go have fun at a good intermediate race.

They say if you want something done, you have to do it yourself. I hope I'm not the only one who would like a reason to stay involved in racing.

- From USCKT "Winning Blade", Volume 3, Number 3, April 1993, via the NWSC email list. ✂

The Southeasterns Are Coming!

The GCA's biggest annual event, the Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championship Races, are scheduled for April 29-30, 2000, at the Nantahala River in Bryson City, North Carolina. The race is conducted with the help

and support of the Nantahala Outdoor Center and the Nantahala Racing Club.

We need lots and lots of volunteers to help with various aspects of the races. Sign up sheets are included in this issue of *The Eddy Line*. Please respond quickly to ensure your choice of volunteer assignments. The Southeasterns weekend is the single biggest social event the GCA has each year. Come out and be part of the fun!

Racing is arguably the best skill building activity a paddler can undertake. In order to encourage new racers to participate in the novice / cruising classes, the race will feature slalom championship classes for both decked and open boats on Saturday, and novice / cruising classes (with less challenging gates) for both decked and open boats on Sunday.

There will be the usual wild water race, as well as a short "Fun Run" down river novice race ending above the falls, day and time to be announced. We are also considering a "Puppy Slalom" race using only the gates below the falls.

To receive a race registration packet (if you haven't raced at the Southeasterns in the past), contact registrar David Martin at 404.351.8208.

See you at the races!! ✂

River Access

The following is a letter sent from GCA's River Protection Chair to Lonice Barrett, Georgia's DNR Commissioner, concerning the need for public access points on many of the rivers we commonly paddle.

Daniel I. MacIntyre

Direct Dial (404) 253-7706

E-mail dmac@wsblaw.com

January 14, 2000

The Honorable Lonice Barrett
Commissioner of Natural Resources
East Tower, Suite 1252
205 Butler Street S.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Re: River Access Improvements

Dear Commissioner Barrett:

Thank you for meeting with me last month to discuss how the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Canoeing Association can work together. The mission which I was given at that meeting was to bring back to you a list of rivers where the paddling community would most appreciate support from the Department of Natural

Resources in the form of launch ramps and other access improvements. Since that meeting, I have posed this question to a number of paddlers, in person and through an internet list-serve which the Georgia Canoeing Association sponsors. I have also polled the Georgia Canoeing Association Executive Committee and Board of Directors. The following is our synthesis of the consensus of what I have heard.

1. Chestatee River. The first river that we would like the Department of Natural Resources to take a look at is the Chestatee. At normal water levels, the Chestatee is navigable from Turner's Corner (intersection of U.S. 129 and GA. 9) to Lake Lanier, a distance of thirty-two miles. The scenery on this river is beautiful. It has some challenging rapids, but also has sections which are suitable for trained beginners. The major problem with paddling this river is access.

The most critical access point on the Chestatee is at Coppermine, the traditional take-out point for the Upper Chestatee run and put-in point for the Middle Chestatee run. Coppermine is located where the Chestatee flows under Tesnatee Valley Road in Lumpkin County. It is a beautiful area that would be perfect for development as a small state recreation area. Although I have never seen it, I understand the copper mine at Coppermine might also have some potential for being developed as a park attraction. The problem is that the current owner of the land, for good reason which does not involve paddlers, is no longer amenable to the use of his property.

This creates real difficulties for paddlers. Immediately downstream from the Tesnatee Valley Road bridge is the most challenging navigable rapid on the Chestatee (Coppermine Rapid). This rapid is a solid class 3 at normal water levels. It is appropriate only for skilled paddlers and most of us like to scout a rapid before we run it. Because of the location of the bridge relative to this rapid, a put-in from the highway right-of-way at the bridge to run the middle section of the Chestatee puts you immediately, without an opportunity to scout, into Coppermine Rapid. The only portage around Coppermine Rapid is through the private property which is now closed. This effectively closes the Middle Chestatee to trained beginners, which is unfortunate because it is a perfect trained beginner river below Coppermine Rapid. This inability to take-out below Coppermine Rapid and carry back up to the road also makes it impossible to finish the more advanced run on the Upper Chestatee with a run of Coppermine Rapid.

Though Coppermine is the most critical access problem on the Chestatee River, there are several other traditional access points which could be significantly and fairly inexpensively improved. In point of fact, the entire Chestatee River from Turner's Corner to Lake Lanier could be developed with only a modest investment into a premier canoe trail and linear park.

2. Cartecay River. The second river on our list is the Cartecay River in Gilmer County. The section of interest runs just south of and parallel to Highway 52 from Lower Cartecay Road to the take-out on the WMA at the end of the dirt road off of Highway 52 at the Gilmer County Prison.

This is a beautiful class 2-3 stretch of white water which is paddleable for most of the year. It is probably the most heavily paddled stretch of river in the state. It has been presided over for many years by an excellent outfitter by the name of Jay Srymanske, owner of the Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions. A major problem, however, has arisen at the put-in at Lower Cartecay Road.

For many years, paddlers accessed the Cartecay River at Lower Cartecay Road without problems. About ten years ago, someone (believed to be Gilmer County although the county has no record of it which anyone has been able to find) built some very nice wood steps down to the river.

About three years ago, Burly Stover, the owner of the property around the bridge, died and the property passed to his heirs. The combination of the new owners and an ever increasing number of paddlers using the access has created a long simmering crisis. For the moment, the property owners have given Jay Srymanske control of the access, and he has been willing to take on that responsibility, but there is no assurance that this is going to work as a long term solution. The state badly needs to secure access to this most paddled river in Georgia and, in connection therewith, do something about parking and provide some minimal facilities, such as Porta Potties.

The river below Lower Cartecay Road has about six miles of incomparable white water. About three miles below Lower Cartecay Road is the Blackberry take-out. The next take-out is about five miles further and is in the WMA which is between the Gilmer County Prison on Highway 52 and the river. That take-out is much appreciated by the paddling community, as it is another three miles of dead flat water before the next access point to the river. Further improvement of that WMA take-out would, however, be greatly appreciated. I think everybody who has taken out there has suffered a skinned knee or a twisted ankle, and I would be surprised to hear that there had not been a broken ankle or a seriously injured knee.

3. Talking Rock Creek. The next river on our list is Talking Rock Creek. The section most frequently paddled runs from the GA 136 bridge to an access point on the recirculation reservoir below Carter's Dam. This is a distance of eighteen miles. It can be done in one day, but it is far more pleasant trip as an overnight camping trip. Just about halfway down the river is a gorgeous area with a forty to fifty foot cliff on river right and a flat fairly open area of flood plain on river left. For many years, we did weekend trips and camped in this area which is part of the Talking Rock WMA. Unfortunately, about five years ago, four-wheel off road vehicles found this area and began amusing themselves by cruising through our campsites. We no longer do this as an overnight.

Talking Rock Creek is another area that would lend itself very well to the creation of a linear river park. It is remote, it is beautiful and it has rapids which are interesting but can be negotiated by a trained beginner. About all that would need to be done to secure this river for the use of the people of Georgia would be to improve and provide some security at the put-in on GA 136 and to provide some security, and perhaps minimal facilities (picnic tables and Porta Potties) at the camping area. The take-out is fine as it is.

4. Upper Chattahoochee. Fourth on our list is the Upper Chattahoochee from Helen to Lake Lanier.

Fortunately, another excellent outfitter, Ann Gale and her Wildwood Shop have secured and provide access on the most popular stretch of the river which runs between GA 115 and GA 384 (Duncan Bridge Road). The problem which we have along this section is uncontrolled development of the river banks in violation of all sedimentation and setback requirements. Upstream from Highway 115 to the intersection of GA 17 and GA 75 south of Helen is twelve miles of very pleasant paddling appropriate for trained beginners. The current access points are at GA 17 and Sautee Creek and at GA 255. Modest improvements at both of these access points would be greatly appreciated. An access point near the intersection of GA 75 and GA 17 near the Indian Mounds would also be much used and appreciated.

5. Coosawatee River. The next river that needs access improvements is the Coosawatee from Ellijay to Carter's Lake. The current put-in is at a Gilmer County park off of GA 5. There was once a boat launch area there, but it has now been moved. The replacement of that boat launch would be greatly appreciated. The major problem with the Coosawatee, however, is the take-out. We often laugh that the Coosawatee is a class 2 river with a class 4 take-out. The take-out area is in the headwaters of Carter's Lake about a half mile off of a good Forest Service road, but that half mile is impassable by anything other than the hardest four wheel drive SUV with a skilled driver, and many of those have been known to be stuck down there. This also serves as the take-out for the Mountain Town Creek paddle, which is an exquisite trained beginner run in Spring and early Summer and whenever else the water is high.

6. Alcovy River. A little known paddling gem in Winter, Spring or at other high water events, is the Alcovy River which provides about a mile of exciting class 3+ white water as it falls into Lake Jackson. This white water area runs alongside a Newton County park which provides a very nice environment and satisfactory take-out. The problem is, there is no put-in. The Alcovy River runs parallel to and very close to GA 36 for about 12 miles above this white water area. This should provide numerous opportunities to create access.

7. Etowah River. Finally, we would modestly suggest the ultimate river park, the Etowah from Hightower Road northwest of Dahlonega to Lake Alatoona. This is a watershed which desperately needs to be protected for the benefit of Lake Alatoona. It is a trained beginner river from beginning to end. It ranges in scenic values from exquisite

mountain stream at its beginning to urban as it flows through Canton.

The access point on the Etowah which is in most immediate need of aid is GA 9 about six miles south of Dawsonville. This is the put-in for one of the most paddled sections. Unfortunately, there is no place to leave cars or unload boats except on the shoulder of a very busy Highway 9.

Of course, I cannot begin to describe or do justice to any of these areas in this brief letter. I, and others at the Georgia Canoeing Association, would enjoy the opportunity to take you and appropriate members of your department to these our favorite rivers, show you firsthand the access problems we have and the solutions which we suggest, and hopefully, paddle some of these beautiful rivers with you and others in your department. We look forward to this as the beginning of a long and rewarding endeavor to help the Department of Natural Resources protect and increase the enjoyment of Georgia's rivers.

Very truly yours,

Daniel I. MacIntyre

DMA:cjl

cc:

Governor Roy Barnes

Bob Kerr

Brannen Proctor

Allen Hedden (for *The Eddy Line*)

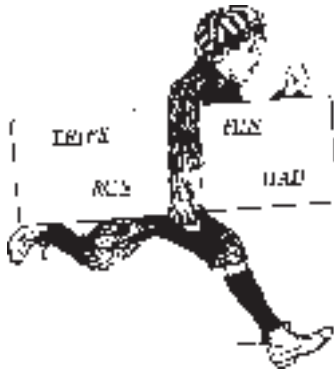


Queen Island, Darien River

by Steve Cramer

November 13-14, 1999. Mike Moody had been after me for a long time to come down and paddle with him in the coastal marshes around Darien, so I decided to coordinate a sea kayak camping trip to an off-shore island. Mike suggested a place called Queen Island, which is located on Doboys Sound, SW of Sapelo and NW of Little St. Simons Islands. For some reason, only Athens paddlers signed up, so besides me and Mike there was Meg, Lonnie McBride, Will Hazelhurst, Belita Gordon, and John Reebers.

We drove down to Darien Friday night and stayed at the Fort King George Motel, an establishment with a name much grander than its accommodations. Saturday morning, after breakfasting at the Pizza Place (really) we all met at Mike's place, Altamaha Wilderness Outpost, and put on at the Darien shrimp docks at the last hour of the incoming, nearly slack, tide. Everyone was in a plastic sea kayak, all Perceptions except for Belita's Necky. The plan was to paddle down river on the ebb tide, camp on Queen, and come back up on the flood then next morning.



Mike projected the trip at about 3 hours. He was wrong, of course.

The trip was relaxing and scenic. About 1 mile down, we came to a long dike that dates back to the 18th century rice farming days. It encloses an area of hundreds of acres, with the water level regulated by simple cannon valves. I watched a fisherman land a plate-sized flounder over the tops of four big blue crabs. I was tempted to stay there and collect the makings of a great dinner, but we had miles to go, and I had forgotten my crab net.

After the dike, there is no land until you get to Queen, which means that the relief opportunities are limited. Sea kayakers have developed a variety of techniques to deal with this problem, but all of our group was iron-bladdered enough to not need them. Except for Mike, who found a small shell bank and got out to pee and was instantly beset by a couple of thousand no-see-ums. John and I had contemplated doing the same until we observed Mike's waving and cursing. Even sitting in the boats 6 feet off shore we attracted a cloud of gnats. For the record, you can't outrun them in a sea kayak, but eventually they seem to lose interest.

At about halfway, we branched onto the Rockadunney River, so as to come out on the southern side of Queen.

Around 4:00, we arrived at Queen, so figure 5 hours in the boat. My GPS said we were 8 miles from the put-in, but considering the meanders, we estimated we had paddled about 12.

Will had been down a few days before, and had cleared a campsite. The camping opportunities are limited, as Queen is mostly marsh, with only a thin strip of sand and scrub running around its southeastern shore. Unfortunately, the shore in front of the best camping spot is not beach, but oyster beds and small mud bluffs, so you have to come in elsewhere and carry down a few hundred yards. There was only a few inches of surf, so the landing was easy.

By the time we had set up camp, cooked, and eaten dinner, it was dark. You could see the Sapelo light off to the Northeast. We knew that's what it was because we had seen the candy-striped lighthouse during the day. I was in bed by 8:00, which severely disappointed about 10,000 mosquitoes, but I think a few of us stayed up later to feed them.

The next morning dawned clear and cool. We were back on the water about 9:30, looping up around the east and north sides of the island. On the way in, we paddled past a few ballast islands. These are quite impressive piles, perhaps a half acre each, composed of the discarded ballast rocks that the old sailing ships carried from Europe. I marveled at how disciplined they had been to dump the rocks all in the same spot. A couple of the islands are currently graced by ramshackle cabins, which Mike claims are habitable, or may be in the future. The phrase "any port in a storm" comes to mind.

Near one island, a fisherman in a powerboat had just landed a good-sized sheep head. He proudly displayed it and showed us the fish's teeth, which it uses to eat

barnacles, shells and all. Any orthodontist would have been proud of that mouth of teeth.

The trip back upriver was uneventful, except for having to dodge shrimp trawlers. We had hoped to ride the tide, but it turned when we were still a couple of miles out, and so the last bit was slow going. Belita graciously allowed me to practice my towing skills, but she kept paddling, so mostly I didn't really do anything. Will claimed to have seen a 'gator, and I'm sure I heard one entering the water, but we didn't see any other animals. We did see great blue herons and wood storks, though, and of course gulls and pelicans. Oh, and half a dozen dolphins, which are always a thrill.



A trip report of sorts.... The above photo was taken on a GCA caving trip coordinated by Bill "Hawk" Reeves on December 18. Pictured are Hawk, Jason, Tyler, Denise, Brad and Mike. - Photo by Paul Smith.

River Water Cleanliness

Paddling in Costa Rica

by Ray McLain

Ray McLain is a Wisconsin paddler who now lives in Costa Rica after retiring from corporate life as an engineer. His "resume" includes: ACA and USCKT slalom competitor (open canoe and decked boats), gate judge at the 96 Olympics, ACA certified instructor (white water level) for canoe and kayak, leader of paddling youth programs + both as Team Manager for the US Jr. Team and for Wisconsin kids, a national officer (Treasurer) for the ACA, and an Honorary Life Member of his local club, the Green Bay Paddlers United. Ray has been answering questions of paddlers from around the world who are

interested in a Costa Rica paddling vacation. He has compiled a series of articles, sharing answers to questions commonly asked. For further information, contact Ray at RMcLain@CostaRicaRios.com, or check his web site, www.CostaRicaRios.com.

The rivers of Costa Rica vary all over the map regarding their cleanliness and freedom from human waste, animal waste, or other contamination. I will make the standard excuses — the country is poor, the population is exploding, the construction of sewage systems was not required before housing construction and urban growth, and the local officials tend to put their meager resources into more visible and pressing needs.

Every time there is a hepatitis outbreak, the database builds for better sewage and waste treatment — but as a nation, Costa Rica has not put priority into sewage

systems and keeping the downstream rivers clean. There is some priority for keeping the water supplies — the mountains — free from contamination, but even there we hear of cattle ranching, cutting of the forests and planting of crops. We hear concerns about siltation and reduction of drinking water quality. We all need to let the leaders know of our concerns.... If every tourist would write a

Most Clean

Pacuare, Lower
Pacuare, Upper
Pejebaye, Upper
Penas Blancas, Lower
Penas Blancas, Upper
Rio Balsa
Sarapiqui, Upper
Toro

Moderately Clean

Chirrup
Corobici
Orosi
Pejebaye, Lower
Sarapiqui, Lower

Least Clean

General
Paccar
Reventazon

High Level Boat Carnage

by **Chuck Creekmore**

This article is a sequel to the two articles on the First K-2 Descent of Tallulah Gorge that appeared in the January issue of The Eddy Line.

Tallulah Gorge - Sunday, November 21, 1999. I was chosen number 42, (last in the first call) in the walk on lottery. Charlie was one below the cutoff. Since we were in a Nyami Nyami K-2 kayak, we had to hang around until Charlie was cleared to go. One of the other paddlers offered to give us a spot on his pass. We worked with the ranger and AWA volunteers to get cleared. We were cleared to go by approximately 9:30, relatively early for today's higher water release.

I believe that the Sunday release is in the 700-800 cfs range as compared to the 500 cfs release on Saturday. This would be our third run on the river but our first at the higher water level. We had been told by experienced Tallulah Gorge river runners that some of the rapids would be harder and some would be easier. Oceana was reportedly easier. So on to the 585 steps we went.

At the bottom, it was clear that the entrance rapid was more furious than on Saturday. Where you could see rocks sticking out of the water on Saturday, the entire rapid looked like it had been hit by a recent snowfall. Everything was white. We watched some of the boaters go through this rapid as they were thrown left into a right brace after the last pour over rock. The smoothest runs seemed to be just right of the rock in the middle followed by a hard left just in front of the bottom pour over. Just then, one boater walked past us and headed back up the stairs. I heard that she hurt her head in the rapid. I have

no idea how she got back to the platform. This could be an interesting day. Undaunted, we put on.

Having said this, I will now share my impression of the water quality of our frequently paddled rivers. This is based upon siltation during rains, and offal and other contamination.

We entered the first rapid and turned hard left before the last pour over as planned. The boat was pushed so fast and hard to the left that we spun around behind a drop off ledge and lodged with the front of the boat on a rock and the back resting on some bushes and remnants of small trees. We were high and dry — what a start!

I was paddling the back and Charlie was in front. My back was toward the lower part of the rapid. It was about a 3-foot drop back into the water. We talked and decided that the best way out was for me to push the back off and slide backward into the water. We did and dropped into the eddy below. So far, so good.

The next rapid is over a ledge drop and on between a gate rock on the left and the cliff side on the right. A lot of current piles into the gate rock, and it is difficult to maintain a lean into the rock as we found out Saturday. This time we took the ledge further right and sailed through the gateway to Oceana with no problems.

Oceana looked awesome. The rooster tails at the top left and the middle left were much higher than on Saturday. The "Thing" was blowing higher than I had seen before. The hole below was much bigger. We opted to run the left line as we had done in our solo boats the week before and in the N² K-2 the day before.

We watched a few probe boaters run this line and noticed that most were going through or just left of the top rooster tail. We chose to run the left center of the top tail and turn left as much as possible at the middle tail. I chose a pry for the turn stroke. Believe me, it is over fast. To my knowledge, I think we hit the line as planned but popped out the bottom into a left side surf in the hole.

We maneuvered our way to a nose-in position and paddled out backwards. Charlie said that the water force threw him down to the back deck when we hit the "Thing" just as it had done on Saturday, but he recovered in time for the side surf. Actually, the ride into the "Thing" on Sunday was much less violent feeling for me than it was the day before.

We headed on down the river. My attention was now on Bridal Veil. With the bigger water, sometimes the rapids look different. I wanted to be sure that we remembered the approach line correctly and decided to check with some of the other boaters. I saw Duncan Cottrell and asked him to review the line. This seemed to upset Duncan in that he thought we did not know the line at all. I explained that we had run the river the week before in solo boats and the day before in the N², but that this would be our first run at the higher water levels. Duncan calmed down a little and asked if we wanted him to join us. We said sure.

We talked about the line, which is essentially a right to left approach to wind up in an eddy on the left side above the drop. From there, you may slide down the left side of Bridal Veil and avoid the big hole at the bottom. We set off to follow Duncan through the rapid, starting on the left to right move for a maneuver down the right channel, around a pour over drop, and back to the left. In retrospect, I believe that we started too low in the rapid and in our zeal to get to the right, we pointed the boat too far right with insufficient downstream speed. This set us up in a left back ferry position and the fast water ferried us left.

Whatever the reason, we wound up too far left in the rapid and were forced into a very shallow but fast water area filled with rocks and small trees. The trees kept us from throwing proper corrective strokes or braces and the rocks soon threw us around enough that we flipped. My roll attempts were thwarted when the paddle kept hitting rocks or trees. We were inverted and still moving very fast. I could not tell how Charlie was faring in the front, but I felt no roll snaps.

I decided to bail before things got worse or we got pinned, making escape more difficult. As it turned out, I came out of the boat first. I grabbed a tree and climbed up on a rock in fast current. In the process, I had to let go of my paddle to hold on to the tree. I looked and saw Charlie out and near the back of the boat.

Just as Charlie snagged a landing spot, the boat stopped dead against a small tree consisting of two trunks of about three inches and one inch in diameter respectively. Charlie said that he was trying to push off the bottom as I came out. We were all out safely and could get to shore by using rocks and trees. It did not look like the

tree would be strong enough to hold the boat for long. Boy, was I wrong.

The boat was pinned dead amidships with the cockpits facing upstream. The current held the boat against the base of the tree. With a volume of 125 gallons, the N² weighs more than 1,000 pounds (half a ton) when full of water. Water was pouring into the cockpits and over the boat, creating an eddy behind it. The boat could not be budged to move in either direction. It was pinned too hard to roll the cockpits downstream.

A single pull rope could not move the boat. I thought our day was over until the water was shut off, but soon several boaters showed up and joined in to help. There were 8 or so boaters helping to pull this thing off. We tried a Z drag, but it pulled the front grab loop off the boat. We tried to pass a rope through the cockpits to provide a pulling point, but the current was too strong to work the rope past the bulkheads.

We were able to hook a line to the back grab loop, but there was concern that this would just pull that loop off, too. Finally, someone came up with the idea to tie a line to the tree and pull the tree over enough to free the boat while a second line was attached to the back loop to reel the boat in. After moving the line up high on the tree to use it as a lever against itself, the tree bent over and the boat sprang free.

We pulled the boat to shore and dumped the water. The boat did not fold but there was a dent fully across the underside of about 4 inches wide and about 3-4 inches deep. It looked as though someone had laid the boat across a pole and played teeter-totter on a hot sunny day. It looked bad, and some of the paddlers who helped extract the boat suggested taking the "Sliding Rock" exit trail. We thanked the people who did such a marvelous boat extraction job as they returned to their boats to head on down the river. Duncan Cottrell stayed with us.

Someone said that my paddle was down below Bridal Veil. Normally, I carry a set of hand paddles in the N² but on this day, I had forgotten and left them in my Gradient. We decided to drag the boat down to the bottom of the drop, recover my paddle, and see how the boat would handle before making a final decision on our next move.

Just as we started to drag the boat to the left slope of Bridal Veil, our attention was drawn back to the tree filled rapid. A swimmer was in the rapid, and her boat, a Micro 230, was pinned against a tree very near where we had just freed the N². Her paddling partner entered the rapid to help. Duncan and Charlie threw her a rope, and she got to the bank safely. Her paddling partner was now standing on a rock near the boat. They got a line on the boat and the man on the rocks was able to lift the boat off the tree

without much difficulty. Charlie and Duncan reeled the boat in and all got back safely to shore. It felt like a little pay back to help a paddler after we had just received so much help ourselves.

We returned to the task at hand. Getting down that steep, slippery rock slope at Bridal Veil would be a trick. One of the boaters at the bottom of the drop said that the paddle down there was broken. He brought the paddle up, and I found that it was not my paddle and that one blade was broken in half close enough to the shaft to be useless. Charlie still had his paddle.

We made a more careful examination of the dent in the boat. The dent in the underside area between the cockpits was behind the front seat and in front of the aft bulkhead. The dent would provide no interference with either paddler. We decided that I would use the broken paddle in a seal launch slide into the water down the rock just on the left side of Bridal Veil and then paddle on into the eddy below. It was a hairy ride into the squirrely water. I was of little use with the broken paddle, but Charlie pulled us into the eddy. Duncan had a breakdown paddle in his Crossfire. He loaned it to me.

The breakdown paddle was a metal shaft type with straight plastic blades, the kind that you see paddlers in rental duckies use. I had trouble getting used to the heavy weight, the 90-degree offset, and the lack of an oval shape to feel the blade position. It was clear that I would have to adjust to feel the water resistance when setting proper blade angles. After a few practice strokes, I thought I could do it. We returned the broken paddle to the spot where we found it and headed down the river.

My strokes through the rapids were not as quick or strong as before, but we were moving down the river. The dent did not seem to have a major effect on the boat handling. After going down the chute below Bridal Veil, and a couple of other drops, we soon hit one of the pour over drops and flipped. Presto! We rolled up. Things might be OK.

Then, at the first drop above Amphitheater, we stalled at the base of the drop and flipped. We rolled up, but before we could get oriented, we flipped again, rolled up, still in rough water, and went over for the third time. I finally rolled up the third time to find Charlie out of the boat. Charlie had snagged his paddle on the bottom and was not about to let go. Hanging on to the paddle had pulled him completely out of the boat. Now sitting in a boat full of water, I fought to paddle into the near eddy but could not power the waterlogged boat on in.

Duncan got out and tossed a rope toward me but it was not far enough. The unstable boat was being pushed out of the eddy and against a rock at the bottom of the eddy

line. Wanting no part of getting caught between the rock and the boat, I bailed out and attempted to swim back into the eddy, dragging the boat in after me. I was determined to hold onto my paddle this time, which made swimming more difficult. The current grabbed the back of the boat, sliding it around the rock and back into the current. With the front of the boat between the eddy and me, it swung around pushing me back into the fast moving water.

Looking downstream and seeing that the drops did not look too severe, I tried to hang on to the equipment until the next set of eddies. The boat, my paddle and I moved on through the rest of the Amphitheater rapids. Two passing boaters came to me as I was floating through the fast water and encouraged me to drop all and swim. It took me a while to realize they were right. Although I was blowing right through the small holes and rapids, I was getting exhausted. I finally let go of my paddle and grabbed onto a rock in a good enough eddy that I could hang on.

One of the boaters got my paddle, and the other was able to snag the boat onto a rock bar jutting out into a stream. The boat was not pinned, and with a little effort, they pulled the boat into a more secure position. I had recovered some energy and got to my boat and paddle. I thanked these boaters and they set off down the river.

After draining the boat, I proceeded to assess the situation. I pulled the boat on down past the next small drop so that when Charlie showed up, we could put back on in a calmer situation. Charlie appeared on the far side of the river, and with the help of yet another boater, swam across to me. Charlie showed me his broken paddle. It was split over on the lower quarter of one blade. It looked like it could be used enough to get through most of the stuff left.

We got back in and were rejoined by Duncan. Charlie's patience was getting thin, he was a little cold, and it was getting late. We needed no further incidents. We agreed to walk Tom's Brain Buster, which we did, but we paddled everything else without further problems. The powerhouse and lake never looked so good.

We got to the take-out at about 4:35 PM. The GPC people shuttle was waiting for us. The woman driving the shuttle said that there was some concern about us and that some of the DNR park rangers had gone to Bridal Veil looking for us. Someone had reported that we were walking out. The rangers had figured out that we had gone on down the river. When I talked to the rangers later, they did not seem too upset about any of this.

I felt bad that we had to put some people out to help us. We were never seriously hurt or physically harmed except for the usual scrapes and bruises that could be

expected from the events that occurred. I was not too happy about losing my Silver Creek paddle, but I hoped that some hiker would find it one day and call the number written on the paddle.

The Perception boat shuttle showed up. When we lifted the boat to load it, we noticed that the bottom dent was more than 80% healed. We headed back to the registration area. When we got there, my paddle was leaning against my Yukon. Suddenly, it seemed like a pretty nice day after all.

Epilogue:

Posted On Newsgroups: rec.boats.paddle:

Thought you might enjoy the story that went with the paddle. It was given to me on the shuttle bus by a guy who didn't want to face Chuck after the evil deed he did. It seems he broke his own paddle at or above Bridal Veil. When he got to the bottom, he was contemplating how he was going to make it out with only one blade. (Of course, a real man would have started with only one). He spied Chuck's paddle on shore & looked around. Seeing no owner, and needing a paddle himself, he made a trade and paddled away with it. He felt somewhat ashamed at the

end and gave it to me. I'm really sorry I missed the carnage with the camera!

Posted On Newsgroups: rec.boats.paddle

I am the malefactor that stole the paddle. But let me explain.... There I was, having barely survived my encounter with Bridal Veil Falls, stuck up a creek with a broken paddle. I begged and pleaded with all who went by for the loan of a break-down paddle, but alas, the evil, greedy industrialists who manufacture kayaks have made the damn boats so small that this valuable safety item will no longer fit into them. I strapped on a pair of hand paddles. As I had no clue how to use them, I was invoking the protection of our Creator by reciting the 23rd Psalm, when — Eureka!! — my compatriots discovered a paddle propped against a rock downstream, unattached to a boater. After a thanksgiving prayer, I grabbed the paddle and beat it out of there before somebody showed up to claim it. I believe that Chuck was divinely inspired when he cast the paddle on the waters, thereby by saving my ass. But others may have their own interpretation.

Thanks Chuck,
Steve Edwards



THE ART OF PADDLING



Self Portrait with Paddle by Van Gogh



Surf Zone by Picasso



How Mona Got Her Paddle Back by Da Vinci



Whitewater Gothic by Wood

CLASSIFIED ADS

TO PLACE AN AD - Want ads of a non-business nature are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business-related ads are \$5.00 for up to 50 words, \$10.00 for larger. Send your type-written ad to: Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Dr., Marietta, Ga. 30066, or email to gacanoem@mindspring.com. PLEASE, NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

FOR SALE - Boats & equipment. Coleman camper pop-up - \$3200 (used 10 times-w/queen, reg. and youth beds). Canoe trailer \$1200 (never used/just to show). C-1, Dagger Cascade \$775 (like new/with skirt/air bags). Kayak, Perception Corsica \$825 (with skirt/airbags/paddle-204cm). Canoe, Dagger Caption \$950 (set up tandem/new air bags/knee-boots/used 6 or 8 times). Canoe, Mohawk Probe 12 \$850 (air bags/team edge out-fitted/floatation bag-bra for storing extras). Stohlquist dry suit (XL) \$375 (never used). Stohlquist dry top (XL) \$195 (used 2 times - made for anyone, but especially for kayakers). Kokatat Gortex dry suit (S) \$475 (used 2 times). Kokatat dry top (M) \$150 (used 6 or 8 times). Kayak paddle travel bag \$60 (never used-padded). Canoe paddle travel bag \$45 (never used-padded). All equipment and apparell in excellent shape with unisex sizing. Thanks for your patience in reading this. Call 912.471.6925.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mad River Explorer. Good condition. Red. \$600 OBO. 404.365.1628 or email at dolld@towers.com.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Wenonah Sundowner 16' 6" tandem touring canoe, fiberglass Tuf-weave with center rib stiffening, sliding bow seat, rear foot brace, tan; excellent condition. \$550. Call Wayne Guerke

evenings at 912.386.2104 (Tifton, GA); email wguerke@surfsouth.com.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Rival, 1998, purple, brand new, never paddled, with Dagger air bags. \$925. Bryan 770.886.2705.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Rival white water canoe fully outfitted and only paddled one season. Comes with new float bags, pump for bags, two new wet suits, PFD, Werner paddle + spare, Stohlquist splash top, 50 ft. throw rope, bilge pump and small dry bag. All for \$1,000 or \$800 for canoe only. 706.867.9869.

FOR SALE - Dry suit, Kokatat size medium, 2 years old. \$100. Call Dickie @ 770.987.8423.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Savage kayak by Fury, with skirt. \$350.00 or best offer or trade for a bigger kayak. 770.938.5892.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception 3D, paddled 2 summers on Ocoee only. \$550. Call Jim @ 770.587.1172 (evenings).

FOR SALE - Kayaks, Dagger RPM \$550; Dagger Gradient \$600; Dagger Freefall LT \$375; and Perception Pirouette S Proline \$300. Also ask me about my sea kayaks I will be selling soon. All boats in good condition. Call Todd at 770.818.0960 or e-mail tce1@bellsouth.net.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger RPM MAX (w/w kayak for larger paddlers), good condition with stern floatation bags included. Werner rodeo paddle (carbon fiber blades) 203cm almost new. Total package \$850. Call Eugene MacIntyre at 770.435.8887 or e-mail: emacintyre@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception ARC (Purple/Green). Excellent Condition never paddled on the river. \$525. Kayak, Pyranah Mountain 300 (Turquoise). In good condition with rear air bags. \$375. Perception Horizon Line graphite kayak paddle. Like

new. \$200. Silver Creek kayak paddle recently refinished by Sliver Creek, not been in water. 202cm 70 feather. \$325. Call Allen 404.842.7746 work 770.985.6793 home.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Pyrahna Acrobat 270 - \$275. Also have medium Patagonia drytop (like new condition) - \$45 and Werner paddle - \$75. Call Knox: 770.475.3022 or email playboatn@aol.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Prijon Seayak 16' 1" touring kayak with adjustable rudder, yellow; excellent condition. \$600. Call Wayne Guerke evenings at 912.386.2104 (Tifton, GA); email wguerke@surfsouth.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Pyranha H2. 2 months old. Great creek boat. \$650. Call Dickie @ 770.987.8423.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception 3D, 2 years old. \$500.00. Call Jim @ 770.587.1172.

FOR SALE - Paddle, kayak, Werner Ocoee .8 203cm. 60degree, like new, \$120. Charlie 678.380.5265.

FOR SALE - Sleeping Bag, REI 15 Degree Nod Pod, like new, retail \$180, asking \$90. Call Todd at 770.818.0960 or email tce1@bellsouth.net.

HELP WANTED - Summer Job: Kayak instruction assistant for Boy Scout Camp near the Chattooga. Must be 21 and have valid driver's license. Need to be a competent intermediate paddler, but ACA certification is not necessary. Call Jim Ledvinka at 706.353.3027.

HELP WANTED - Yes, the GCA needs your help. We need volunteers to serve on committees, label and mail newsletters, etc. Call 770.421.9729 and leave a message. ✂



GCA SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA

May 5, 6 & 7

**Diamond Lure Campground
Ellijay, Georgia
(9 miles from Ellijay)**

EXCLUSIVELY RESERVED FOR GCA MEMBERS

**HOT SHOWERS, CLUB HOUSE
FISHING AND BOATING LAKE
MOUNTAIN BIKING AT M.O.E.**

CAMPING

**\$6.00/site (2 persons)/night
\$2.00/night for each additional person**

PLEASE, ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH!!

**SATURDAY NIGHT CATERED DINNER, BINGO AND BONFIRE
PRIZES FOR BINGO!!**

**Best Bar-B-Que in North Georgia
Pork, ribs and all the fixings
Price \$10.00 (Children 12 & under \$6.00)**

Homemade sausage & biscuits available Sat. & Sun. morning - \$1.00 each

Register early — late fee applies after April 28

BOATING SATURDAY & SUNDAY

**Rivers (water level permitting):
Ocoee, Nantahala, Cartecey, Toccoa, Amicalola,
Chestatee, Etowah and Upper Chattahoochee**

**Mohawk Factory Rep is bringing boats for a Demo Weekend — flat water &
white water**

**For further information, contact:
Denice Colquitt 770.854.6636**

**GCA SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA
Registration Form**

TO REGISTER — Fill out registration form below and mail QUICKLY (notice late fee below) with your check made out to "GCA" to:

Denice Colquitt
3794 Glenloch Road
Franklin, GA 30217
For questions, call 770.854.6636

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Camping:

Number of tents @ \$6.00 (Incl. 2 people) Fri _____ Sat _____
Extra people @ \$2.00 ea. (Over 2 people) Fri _____ Sat _____ Total \$ _____

Saturday dinner: Number of meals @ \$10.00 _____ @ \$6.00 _____ Total \$ _____

Sausage & Biscuits @ \$1.00 ea. Sat _____ Sun _____ Total \$ _____

\$5.00 LATE FEE IF POST MARKED AFTER APRIL 28 \$ _____
(Per registration form)

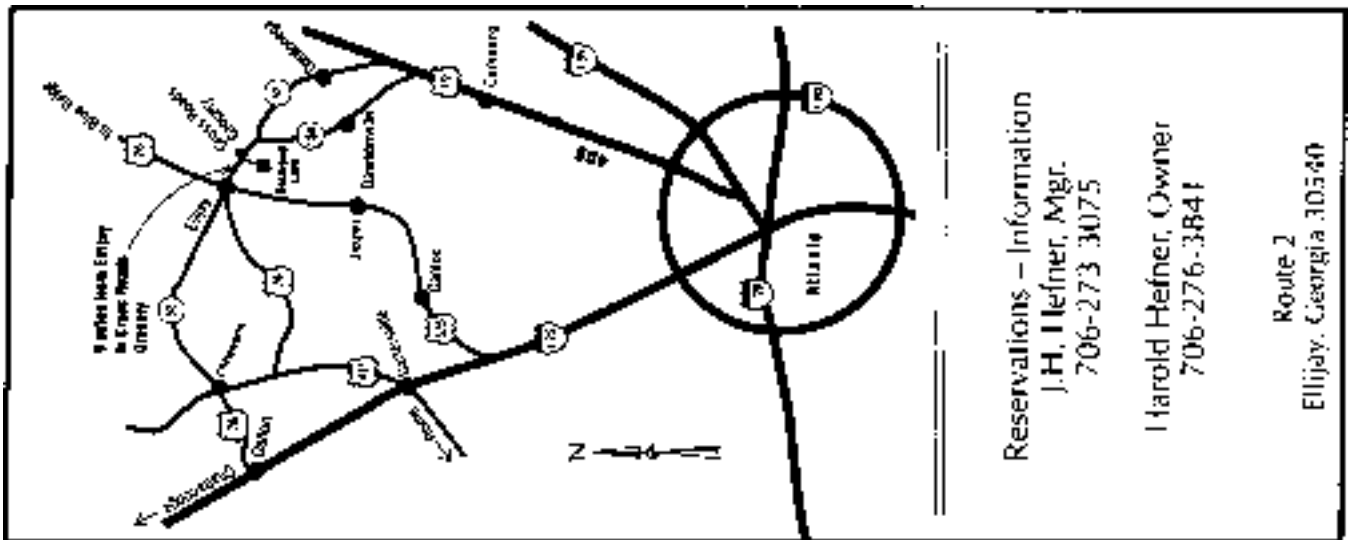
Make check payable to GCA for total of: Total \$ _____

Willing to lead a trip Saturday or Sunday on:

Cartecay _____ Etowah _____ Upper Amicalola _____ Chestatee _____

Lower Amicalola _____ Upper Hooch _____ Other _____

[Detach & save map]





2000

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION'S 32nd. S.E. US SLALOM & WILDWATER CHAMPIONSHIPS NANTAHALA RIVER, WESSER, NC-APRIL 29-30, 2000

We need your help for this premier event.

This is your opportunity to be part of the Georgia Canoeing Association's largest event of the year. Indicate your preference (s) and mail to Virginia Balbona today.

Every serious volunteer will be awarded a free race T-shirt.

Gate Judging_____

If you like power then this position is for you!
(Training will be available before the race).

Timing_____

Can you operate a stop watch? Check here if you do.

Course Setup_____

Ever been close to a construction site?
Just follow Jason Schnurr's orders on Thursday
afternoon of April 15, and Friday April 16.

Safety_____

You can do this if you know how to throw a rope.

Fund Raising_____

Only if you expect lots of raffle prizes.

First Aid_____

Doctors, nurses, EMTs check here.

P.A. + Communications_____

Can you talk? Check this one.

Site Construction_____

If you have ever moved or pitched a tent,
this one is for you.

Course Takedown_____

This is an important job. If you want to be
important check here.

Scoring_____

4+4=? If you guessed 8 then you qualify for
this important job.

Hospitality_____

If you like munchies and buffets check here.

Booth Management & Sales_____

If you dream of big bucks and free T-shirts
check here.

River Traffic_____

Here is your chance to make them rafters
do what you want.

Name: _____

Phone am: _____ - _____ - _____

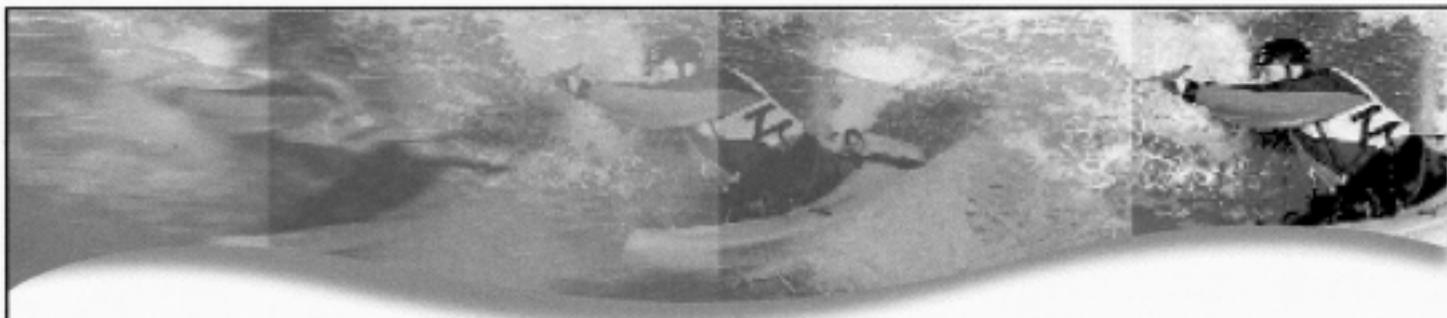
Street: _____

Phone pm: _____ - _____ - _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP _____

Mail this completed form **to:** Virginia M. Balbona, 2268 Ashleywood Drive, Tucker, GA 30084



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