



The Eddy Line

Post Office Box 7023 Atlanta, GA 30357

Volume 36, No. 9

770.421.9729

www.georgiacanoe.org

September 2001

September GCA Meeting

The September GCA meeting will be held on Thursday, September 20 (the third Thursday), at the Garden Hills Community Center in Buckhead. The program will feature Candace Stoughton, Etowah River Program Manager for The Nature Conservancy and the Upper Etowah River Alliance. Candace will present the collaborative efforts of The Nature Conservancy and the Upper Etowah River Alliance to protect the globally significant aquatic biodiversity of the Etowah watershed just north of Atlanta.

It is estimated that the Etowah basin has more imperiled species than any other river system of its size in the southeastern United States (17 fish species and 16 invertebrate species). The greatest threat to the diverse and dynamic ecosystem of the Etowah River and its tributaries is sprawling urban growth. The Nature Conservancy is working with the Etowah Alliance to promote regional land use planning to steer development away from ecologically sensitive areas. Because the magnificent Etowah watershed is so ecologically valuable, it is crucial that local land use decisions are made with the interests of both people and the river in mind. Working collaboratively with communities we can ensure that the amazing ecological richness of the Etowah watershed is preserved by the people who want to live near her. Please join us for this interesting discussion of one of our "back yard" rivers.

To find the Garden Hills Community Center: From Peachtree Street, go east on East Wesley Road (8/10 mile south of the intersection of Peachtree and Roswell Road). Turn left on Rumson Road. Go about 100 yards to the first intersection and you will see the Community Center on the right.

See you there!!



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Fall Gala Canoeing Affair

The Annual GCA Fall Gala Canoeing Affair will be held the weekend of September 14-16. We will again be hosted by Nelson's Nantahala Campground. On Saturday evening we will have a taco and burrito bar with all the fixings, and the annual bon fire event will again be held (bring a log or two). Trips will be run on Saturday and Sunday to local lakes and rivers. We may even see a return of the Butt Boater vs. Knee Boater Tug-of-War!

See the flyer in this issue of *The Eddy Line* for more information and to make your reservation. Refer questions to Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636.

Several clinics for kayak and open canoe are scheduled in conjunction with the Gala. A clinic description and registration form is available inside.

See ya there!!!



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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 Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636. ✂

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	Lindsay Meeks
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Mary Ann Pruitt
Recreation Chair	Jason Schnurr
Resource Development Chair	Debra Berry
River Protection Chair	Julia Franks
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 gacanoemindspring.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



September

1	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim Griffin	770.498.3695
1	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Sam Blackwell	706.342.0511
1	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Stephenson	770.955.3458
2	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim Griffin	770.498.3695
8	Nantahala (Note 1)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
8	Upper Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Ricky Bowman	770.425.0911
9	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
9	Chattooga Section 3-1/2	Class 3-4 Advanced	Charles Clark	770.998.9544
14-16	Fall Gala Canoeing Affair — Nelson's Nantahala Hideaway — Tipton, NC		Denise Colquitt	770.854.6636
20	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Garden Hills Community Center		Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
22	Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Mike Bilello	770.441.2418
22	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Rick Battaglia	404.256.1716
23	Cartecay (Note 2)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman	770.441.9767
23	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Christison	770.973.6482
29	Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Greg Spencer	404.892.6851
29	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Joy Scott	770.421.2451
29	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Winchester	770.319.8969
30	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Stacey Patterson	770.466.7538

October

4	Board of Directors Meeting — Members Invited — Atlanta Botanical Garden		Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
6	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Paul Therrian	770.513.4986
6	Yellow	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	John McCorvey	770.921.5116
6	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
7	Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman	770.441.9767
13	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Pat Hagan	770.393.1420
13	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Winchester	770.319.8969
14	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Pat Hagan	770.393.1420
19	Club Meeting — Fall Covered Dish Dinner & Elections — Garden Hills Community Center		Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
20	Hiwassee (Note 3)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Alex & Mary Ann Pruitt	770.439.1825
20	Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Revel Freeman	404.261.8572
21	Hiwassee (Note 3)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Alex & Mary Ann Pruitt	770.439.1825

November

15	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Garden Hills Community Center		Kay Redmond	404.237.7242
22-25	Suwanee River (FL) (Note 4)	Class 1 Beginner	Brookie Gallagher	404.872.5211

Note 1 Paddle with the Prez.

Note 2 Clean up trip.

Note 3 Camping weekend.

Note 4: Canoe camping.

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: Wednesday evenings from 6:00 until dark May thru October at the lake at Stone Mountain Park. See announcement in this issue of *The Eddy Line*.

GCA Library Items

The GCA Library has many videotapes and books available to any GCA member. All you have to do is call GCA Librarian Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636 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:

Denise Colquitt
3794 Glenloch Road
Franklin, GA 30217

The following items are currently available:

Videos:

Canoes by Whitesell
Cold, Wet & Alive
Expedition Earth
Faultline (Will Reeves)
First Descents (North Fork Payette)
Grace Under Pressure (learning the kayak roll)
In the Surf
Introduction to Canoeing
Kayak Handling-The Basic Strokes
Mohawk Canoes (promotional w/detailed boat outfitting instructions)
Mohawk Whitewater Canoes (promotional w/ detailed outfitting instructions)
Only Nolan (Promotional, Canoe Technique)
Path of the Paddle: Quiet Water
Path of the Paddle: White Water
Performance Sea Kayaking (the basics & beyond)

Play Daze
Retendo
Solo Playboating!
The C-1 Challenge
Vortex -- low cost storm water sampler
Waterwalker (Bill Mason)
Whitewater Self Defense

Books:

A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Florida
A Canoeing & Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Kentucky
A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Ohio, Vols I & II
A Canoeing & Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Tennessee-Vol I & II
A Hiking Guide to the Trails of Florida
A Paddler's Guide to the Obed Emory Watershed
ACA Canoeing & Kayaking Instructors Guide
Alabama Canoe Rides
AMC White Water Handbook
American Red Cross Canoeing & Kayaking
Arkansas information (assorted)
Basic River Canoeing
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)
Endangered Rivers & the Conservation Movement

Florida information (assorted)
Georgia Mountains
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
Paddling SC-Palmetto State River Trails
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
Southern Georgia Canoeing
The Georgia Conservancy Guide to the North
The Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande
The Mighty Mulberry-A Canoeing Guide
They Shoot Canoes, Don't they?
White Water Tales of Terror
WhiteWaterTrips (British Columbia & Washington)
Wildwater (Sierra Club Guide)
WildwaterWestVirginia
Youghiogheny-Appalachian River
Maps:
The Big S. Fork

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 "gacanoeflipper.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 "majordomoflipper.kapcom.com" and on the first line of the body of the message type:

subscribe gacanoeflipper

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 gacanoeflipper.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. ✂

"In the current market, you should have most of your money in something fairly conservative, such as a coffee can buried under your house. If you want to diversify, you might consider investing in two separate coffee cans."
- Dave Barry.

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 Earthlink as your choice, you can do your paddling club a big favor. When you call to sign up, tell the Earthlink 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 — gacanoer@mindspring.com — for us to receive the proper credit. Thanks for your help!

GCA Web Page

Check it out at <http://www.georgiacanoe.org>. We are continually adding information and links of value to paddlers. Send your ideas for updates to Allen Sinquefield by using the e-mail link for WebGuy at the site. ✂

Weekday Paddlers

Did you know that GCA has a list of paddlers available to paddle during the week? We now have 70+ entries on the weekday paddlers 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

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Email canoeist@mindspring.com

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 July 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. ✂

October GCA Meeting

The GCA meeting for October will be the Annual Fall General Membership Meeting and Covered Dish Dinner, to be held at the Garden Hills Community Center in Buckhead on Friday, October 19, at 7:30 PM. Election of officers for the 2002 year will be held at the meeting. Bring your favorite covered dish or dessert, your latest river pictures, river stories and a good appetite.

NOTE: This meeting is on the third FRIDAY of the month, October 19.

See you there!! ✂

Summer Roll Practice

Joint AWC / GCA Summer Roll Practice will be held at Stone Mountain Lake this year beginning in May and running through the end of daylight savings time in October. Sessions are scheduled for Wednesdays at 6:00

(or earlier). Admission is free once you enter the park (a season pass is highly recommended if you plan to attend multiple sessions).

To get there, enter the park from the Stone Mountain Freeway (East Entrance) and take the first left. Continue about a mile until the road crosses the dam and take the first right into the parking lot. The boat ramp is on the right.

Use the area around the ramp to load and unload boats only. There is a fair amount of power boat traffic putting in and taking out at the ramp. Once in the water, try to stay clear of the ramp for the same reason.

Note: Park regulations do not allow "swimming" at this location, so if you are in the water spotting for someone, an explanation to the park officials may be in order. So far no one has been cited for a violation there.

Volunteers are needed to help with kayak, canoe and C-1 rolling. Your help is appreciated! ✂



***Electronic Eddy Line* Email Failures**

Not getting your electronic version of *The Eddy Line*? The following email IDs had mail failure notices for last month's *Electronic 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, or you may email him at heloeddy@mindspring.com.

Failed email IDs:

ccrawley2@bellsouthips.com Message exceeds maximum allowable size

rjames5559 Need "@" information ❌

Upcoming Events of Interest

September 14-16 — GCA Fall Gala Canoeing Affair — Nelson's Nantahala Hideaway, Topton, NC, Denise Colquitt 770.854.6636.

September 20-23 — Decker Boat Slalom World Championships — Ocoee River, TN, email media@ocoee Whitewater.com.

October 6-7 — Russell Fork Rendezvous — Russell Fork River, Haysi, VA, www.surfbwa.org/russellfork/.

October 12-14 — Southwestern Canoe Rendezvous — Lake Raven, Huntsville State Park, TX, Jim Null, medislide@earthlink.net.

October 26-28 — NOC Guest Appreciation Festival — Nantahala River, NC, NOC Programs Office 888.662.1662, www.noc.com.

December 1 — NRC Jiffy Slalom — Bryson City, NC, Island Park on the Tuckasegee River, part of Bryson City's holiday time festivities, Nantahala Racing Club (NRC) 828.488.2176 ext. 108 or email rhino@main.nc.us.

December 2 — NRC Wildwater Races — Season Finale on the Tuckasegee Gorge, NC, Nantahala Racing Club (NRC) 828.488.2176 ext. 108 or email rhino@main.nc.us.

August 6-10 2003 — Lanier Canoe 2003 Sprint World Championships — Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, 770.287.7888, ConHagler@aol.com. ❌

Russell Fork Rendezvous

by Zina Merkin

The Russell Fork Rendezvous is a totally different kind of event — Joe Greiner described it as the anti-Gauley Fest. The event is a fund-raiser for river conservation, especially for the Russell Fork itself, which is now under siege by plans to drill for gas in an area near the river and inside the Breaks Interstate Park.

The Rendezvous takes place on a reclaimed strip

mine site in Haysi, VA, which has been turned into a city park. It will be held this year on the first weekend in October. There will be music 24 hours a day, camping anywhere you find a bit of grass on which to pitch your tent, entrepreneurial crafts, gear and food vendors, but no true commercial vendors, and lots of tie-dye. Many of the bands are very good, many of the attendees are non-boaters. There is a class V river race through the Russell Fork Gorge which takes place on the first Saturday in October, and one can hike in along the train tracks to view the racers coming through some of the bigger drops. There are also 3 class II-III sections of the river, 2 above and 1 below the gorge, for those of us with less ambitious paddling in mind. It is a very scenic river, and well worth the drive up. Plus, you'd be helping the cause.

The updated web page is not up yet, but you can check out last year's page to get a taste of the flavor of the event. <http://www.surfbwa.org/russellfork/>

- From the CCC email list. ❌

Southwest Canoe Rendezvous

by Linda Gorski

Publicity Chair, Rendezvous 2001

lindagorski@compuserve.com

Due to a conflict with another statewide event, the dates for Rendezvous 2001 have been changed to October 12-14 at Lake Raven, Huntsville State Park. Please mark your calendars to participate in this world class event. For those of you who have "Rendezvous-ed" in the past, you know how fantastic it is to be part of the "gathering of the paddling clan" from Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and the rest of the country. This is the largest on-the-water paddling show in the nation and the Houston Canoe Club is proud to sponsor this great event.

Rendezvous 2001 News:

CLINICS - Once again Rendezvous will offer paddling clinics and workshops by world renowned instructors including Bob Foote, Mark and Becky Molina, Gordon Black, Karen Knight, Ken Fink, Andy Corra, Wayne Horodowich and Wayne Dickert. Last year our clinics chairman Marilyn Peery put together over 100 clinics and she's hoping to add more this year including (by popular demand) a recreational kayaking class on Friday morning. Marilyn's e-mail address is kit.santome@pdq.net.

TEST PADDLE - the newest canoes and kayaks on the market today from the country's largest paddlesports manufacturers and local retailers. Last year's exhibitors included Dagger, Mad River, Mohawk, Cobra Kayak, Kiwi Kayak, Islander Kayak, Perception, Camp Paddle, REI, Sun & Ski Sports, Coastal Paddler, Southwest

Paddlesports, Southwest Canoe and Kayak, Cricket Paddles, David Trail, Confluence, Prijon Wildwasser, WeNoNah, TG Canoe Livery, Windsurfing Sports, Bike Pro, Texas Parks & Wildlife, Texas Canoes & Accessories, Hennessey Hammocks, Canoe and Kayak Magazine, Clyde Neeley and Taste Buds Catering. We look forward to seeing those folks again at Rendezvous 2001.

CAMPING - Last year the Rendezvous Committee reserved approximately 40 campsites especially for event participants. This year we have reserved the entire park - over 175 campsites. There should be plenty of room to accommodate everyone!

REGISTRATION BROCHURE - Information will be posted on the Houston Canoe Club's web site at www.houstoncanooclub.org as it becomes available.

Look forward to seeing everyone October 12 - 14 at Huntsville State Park. Be sure to mark your calendars with these new dates. ✂

Officers Nominated for 2002

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of officers for the 2002 year to the Board of Directors:

President	Marvine Cole
Vice President	Gina Johnson
Secretary	Lindsay Meeks
Treasurer	Ed Schultz

The Board has approved the nominations, and election of officers will be held at the annual Fall General Membership Meeting and Covered Dish Dinner, to be held at the Garden Hills Community Center on Friday, October 19. Other nominations will be accepted at the meeting. Please obtain the potential candidate's permission before making a nomination. ✂



From the Board Room by Lindsay Meeks, Secretary Board of Directors Meeting, August 2, 2001, Minutes

In attendance:

Brannen Proctor, Allen Hedden, Marvine Cole, Ray Channell, Oreon Mann, Lindsay Meeks, Dick Hurd, Ed Schultz, Kathy King, Gina Johnson, Mary Ann Pruitt, Mike Winchester, Gabriella Schlidt.

Minutes of June 7, 2001 meeting approved as corrected.

Treasurer's report - Ed Schultz:

- + July Statement reviewed.
- + Southeastern Races Statement reviewed (final).

Recreation Committee Report - Brannen Proctor for Jason Schnurr:

- + Fall Gala discussed.

Training Committee Report - Gina Johnson:

- + Great safety weekend. Successful on Tuck-A-C-G (You had to be there....). No fall safety clinic on schedule.
- + Multiple clinics will be held at Fall Gala.
- + ACA insurance does not include class III without advanced certification.

- + Permit required to teach on Nantahala (via Wayne Dickert at NOC).

Resource Development Committee Report - No report.

Member Services Committee Report - Mary Ann Pruitt:

- + Mary Vachon took over phone line.
- + Working on new T-shirt for Fall Gala.

Newsletter Subcommittee Report - Ed Schultz:

- + Newsletter passed audit from USPS for periodicals status.

- + Postal rates increased July 2.

River Protection Committee Report - Brannen Proctor for Julia Franks:

- + Clean Water - GCA may be able to have representatives on North Georgia Metro Water Planning District Advisory Board. An item will be in *The Eddy Line*.

- + Ocoee - TVA Stewardship meeting coming up.

- + Tallulah - no update.

- + Chattooga - Park Service has proposed boating management plan. Brannen will respond in writing for the GCA.

- + Meeting at Georgia Conservancy tonight.

Correspondence and other:

- + GCA received invitation to Obed meeting.

- + Georgia River Network requested assistance.

- + American Rivers looking for nominations for endangered rivers 2002.

- + Discussion on signing on to Ojai Coalition's letter against fee demo. Brannen will sign.

Nominating Committee:

- + The committee presented the following slate of officers for the 2002 year:

Marvine Cole - President, Gina Johnson - Vice President, Lindsay Meeks - Secretary, Ed Schultz - Treasurer. Board approved unanimously.

Other Business:

- + Discussion on advertising policy in *The Eddy Line*.

MOTION BY ALLEN HEDDEN: Allow a slightly controversial advertising proposal that was submitted to proceed. Motion passed. ✂

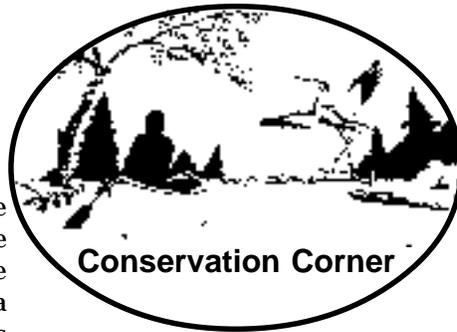
How Can the GCA Be a Voice in Atlanta's Water Clean-up?

by Tom Welander

The new task force working to solve Georgia's water crisis is about to choose its citizen advisors. That is to say, the Board of Directors of the North Georgia Water Planning District is in the process of forming "Basin Advisory Councils," as required by legislation.

These Councils are designed to make sure recreational river users, along with other special interest groups, have a voice in policy making. Naturally the GCA is keen on participating in these forums. There will be separate Advisory Councils representing different parts of the state, so the GCA could conceivably have several members serving in this capacity.

Please contact Tom Welander to recommend GCA members well-suited to serve as our ambassadors. E-mail me at welander@braxis.com or phone 404.228.8654. Thanks!



greatest risk of taking a turn for the worse in the coming twelve months.

River lovers everywhere can pick up nomination forms on-line at www.americanrivers.org, and hard copies will be making their way to your mailbox in the next couple of weeks. American Rivers will accept nominations through October 1, 2001, and the report will be released in April, 2002.

Any individual or organization can nominate a river. In recent years, organizations such as the West Virginia Rivers Coalition, Ducks Unlimited, the Nebraska Wildlife Federation, Trout Unlimited, the Sierra Club, the South Dakota Canoe Association, the Wateree Homeowners Association, Taxpayers for Common Sense, and many others have participated.

Why do these groups go to the trouble? The America's Most Endangered Rivers report has a tremendously successful track record raising community awareness and stimulating civic participation on behalf of the listed rivers — encouraging the public the take action and showing them how.

Entire rivers or selected portions — headwaters, tributaries, riparian wetlands, or estuaries — can be designated. Nominations will be evaluated by three main criteria:

- + The magnitude and imminence of the threat
- + The likelihood that major action during the coming year could either intensify or lessen the threat
- + The regional and national significance of the river

If you are considering a nomination, you can read recent reports at <http://www.americanrivers.org/mostendangered2001/default.htm>.

If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca Sherman at outreach@amrivers.org or 202.347.7550. Please pass on this notice to anyone who might be interested in pulling together a nomination.

Thanks!

Calling All Most Endangered Rivers Nominations!

Is the local small mouth stream starting to smell suspicious as industrial chicken farms multiply in the headwaters? Does the government want to drain a river front marsh claiming it will help prevent floods? Would a proposed dam leave a favorite paddling destination high and dry?

These and other river threats create candidates for the annual America's Most Endangered Rivers report. Each year American Rivers reviews nominations from all across the country to determine the list of the rivers at

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On Litter...

Trash lying on the ground has a tendency to act like cancer, once it starts, others see no need in picking up if there is already a mess, and then soon it escalates to a garbage dump that requires a concerted effort to clean up. When I cook, I clean the pots pans and dishes as I go so I don't have one big mess / chore to deal with later. To pick up a little here and there does not take away from your experience or make it a chore like clean river days or other volunteer efforts and paid employee efforts can

be.

I used to get mad about the "teenagers" throwing trash in my hedge row until one night when I saw a nicely dressed guy in an SUV toss a beer bottle on the side walk, shattering it into pieces, and roar off at 50 MPH in a residential neighborhood. My solution: I put a garbage can behind my hedges where I have easy access to it, and every night I pick up the occasional bottle or trash and throw it away. Problem solved.

I always take a garbage bag with me [on trips] and try to pick up more than I brought in. It is called policing the area. You pick up not only your trash, but the trash of others.

Use [the litter issue] as an opportunity for cultural exchange if you will. Stop and engage the offenders on a friendly level, and then judge them by their response. They may not realize or know any better unless you point the problem out in a non-confrontational and endearing

way. Take a garbage bag with you on every trip and offer to take their garbage in your bag. Or simply pick it up in front of them if they cop an attitude, but do it with a smile. If they truly want to exist in squalor, they will head someplace more welcoming to their habits.

The answer [to litter] is that a lot of things need to be done, and hopefully that will eliminate the majority of the problem. Signage, police patrol/sting operations, trash cans, volunteer clean-up days, personal effort, etc. Remember, the world is not perfect and we will always have at least one jerk who doesn't have a clue and who we can never change. So accept it and pull a little bit of his weight for him, consider it your contribution to society and don't lose any sleep over it, because the jerk just ain't worth the time or consideration.

- *Excerpted from a posting about litter at put-ins, take-outs and along the rivers on the CCC email list by Stephen W. Tullock.* ✂

Instruction / Training

Fall Non-White Water Training Opportunities

by Steve Cramer

I'm planning a few instructional opportunities for September. White water purists can stop reading now. On Sunday morning at the Fall Gala, I'll be meeting with a few folks to play with quiet water free style. I'll be in a regular free style canoe, but you can bring any boat you have to try this out. Free style is pure messing about in

boats, emphasizing boat control, balance, and grace over adrenaline. Not to say you won't swim, though.

The fall sea kayak intro course will be the weekend of September 22-23, in Charleston. One day of basic skills on flat water and a day of mild surf work. In between, some good seafood.

There was so much interest in the July sea kayak rescue clinic that I'm doing it again on September 29, at the Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club. This one day clinic deals with how to stay in your boat, and what to do if you have to come out. Lots of fun.

Call me (706.208.8382) or email (cramer@coe.uga.edu) for details. ✂

Sea Kayaking

Why Learn to Roll?

by Ray Killen

"The first thing everyone wants to learn how to do is to roll a kayak. It's like the search for the Holy Grail." This is what I've heard for about five years now at the start of every one of our Rolls and Rescue classes.

The speaker is a kayak instructor for the Ocean County Dept. of Parks and Recreation in New Jersey. My wife, Margaret, and I are also instructors who have been working with him for a number of years. His point is that when most people get into sea kayaking, they want to learn how to roll as their first priority, when they should be more concerned with learning how to brace well. A really good brace at the right time will prevent the need



that thing?"

Of course, this conversation never really happens. Everyone wants to know if you can roll it, as if this makes you proficient in all aspects of sea kayaking. Even non kayakers know that a kayak can be rolled, but few non kayakers have ever heard about the brace. So if bracing is the meat of this gourmet rolling dinner, then why learn to roll at all?

1. CONFIDENCE!

This is probably the number one underlying reason. I have found that when kayakers develop a solid roll early

for an actual combat roll. Point well taken. How can you argue with that?

"Hey, Joe. How're ya doin'? See ya got one of them there kayak boats."

"Yeah Sam, Picked it up last month. Been practicing a lot"

"Let me ask ya, Joe. Can ya brace

on, they are less likely to fear capsizing and are more willing to experiment, to explore their limits.

When we are having our students practice their bracing skills, it is only to get them to learn the mechanics of it. The only way for them to really develop a good reflexive brace is to be exposed to the actual conditions that will throw them off balance. As we watch them during practice sessions, I always get the feeling that inside, they know they are not going over, because they are not going to push themselves close to the edge. Most of them don't even need the paddle to right themselves.

2. SAFETY!

In learning to roll well, you are, at the same time, learning to brace well, since the latter part of the roll is nothing more than a high brace or support stroke. THE IMPROVEMENT IN YOUR BRACING SKILLS MAY MAKE AN ACCIDENTAL CAPSIZE A THING OF THE PAST. YOU MAY NEVER NEED TO PERFORM A ROLL FOR REAL.

The best way to realize the importance of a good roll is to accidentally capsize in cold, rough water. All that nice practice of a paddle float reentry or assisted rescue in the warm, calm waters of that sheltered bay will severely be put to the test.

An assisted rescue in rough water by someone profi-



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cient in this may take from three to six minutes and a self rescue will take even longer. This will seem like hours instead of minutes. A kayaker with a good, reliable roll will take about five to seven seconds to recover and neither fill the boat up with water nor get his legs wet in the process. Sure beats having to be rescued.

Rescued.... a misnomer when used in this situation. What are you rescued from? You are right back where you started: in the same conditions which capsized you. Think it won't happen again? The only real 'rescue' is not to be dumped in the first place by developing excellent bracing skills through rolling practice.

3. FUN!

I'll be the first to admit that I'm a compulsive roller. I really enjoy it. When I first went down to the Delmarva Paddlers Retreat, I was blown away by the number of kayakers who had developed a tremendous repertoire of Greenland Rolls. Up until then I had never realized how many different ways there are to right a kayak. They made it look so easy and I understand now that doing a roll correctly really is effortless. Technique, not muscle is the answer.

I had a solid extended paddle roll and a good screw roll, but felt that I was expending more energy getting up than was necessary. I knew that this was all right in fairly calm waters, but I had concerns about what would happen if I had to do an actual combat roll in some good size waves. I was determined to learn some of these rolls.

I started messing around with the Queen Anne's Salute, in which the paddle is held vertically in the air and you tip over in that position. Slam! I stopped dead. With this one action, I fully realized the amount of support one can gain from the water.

The more I practiced new things, the better my basic roll became, since I kept missing the new ones and had to resort to the good old Pawlata. Without realizing it I had become very comfortable upside down. This also led to sculling.

Now I was exploring the halfway zone between up and down. Swish, Swish. Just by doing a slow figure 8 with my paddle, I could stay this way indefinitely. Now roll my back over the stern of the boat while sculling and I was up. It was effortless.

I applied it to my Pawlata Roll and found that I basically was using no muscle power at all. I had learned how to use the water for support. Now when I practice my bracing strokes, I find a 100 percent improvement than before I started. A good solid roll can be the first step in a continuing learning experience.

- From the newsletter of the Low Country Paddlers, Charleston, South Carolina. ✂

2001 Canoe/Kayak Slalom World Championships

Ducktown, Tennessee. Not since the 1996 Olympics has the Ocoee River venue seen such a level of world-class competition as on September 20-23, when it will host the 2001 Canoe/Kayak



Slalom World Championships. During the Olympic planning period, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) made a five-year commitment to provide water for competition on the Ocoee. The 2001 World Championships were then awarded to the Ocoee venue.

This event, traditionally staged every two years, has only been held in the United States once — on Maryland's Savage River in 1989. Twice as many athletes as the 135 that competed in the 1996 Olympics are expected to compete for the prestigious title of World Champion.

Approximately 40 countries will be represented with a total of 250-300 athletes participating. Teams from each country are comprised of the top four athletes in each category, with many being former Olympic athletes. The four classes of competition include women's kayak (K-1W), men's kayak (K-1M), men's canoe (C-1), and men's double canoe (C-2). Competition will take place on the 1996 Olympic course at the Ocoee White Water Center in the Cherokee National Forest just west of Ducktown, Tennessee, on U. S. Highway 64.

The activities of "International White Water Week" will begin at Chattanooga's annual CultureFest 2001 which will take place on Saturday, September 15, from 11:00 A.M. until 11:00 P.M. at Coolidge Park. This free multi-cultural family event celebrates the region's ethnic diversity with live entertainment, food, and artisans. More than 25,000 people are expected to attend the festival, which will end with a magnificent fireworks display over the river.

A special highlight will be an evening Parade of Nations across the Walnut Street Bridge, featuring the international white water competitors for the 2001 Slalom World Championships. The parade will give the competing teams a chance to display

International White Water Week September 15-23, 2001 Schedule of Events

Saturday, September 15
CultureFest / Parade of Nations
Coolidge Park, Chattanooga

Monday, September 17
"Cleveland Welcomes the World"
Museum Center at Five Points, Cleveland

September 12 - 18
National Team Training
Ocoee White Water Center

Wednesday, September 19
Opening Ceremonies
Ocoee White Water Center

September 20 - 23
2001 Canoe/Kayak World Championships
Ocoee White Water Center

For information: www.ocoee whitewater.com
423.496.2275

their nation's flags and to mingle and sign autographs with the public. Tickets and T-shirts for the World Championships will be on sale all day at the event.

The official Opening Ceremony for the 2001 World Championships takes place at the Ocoee White Water Center on Wednesday, September 19 at 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to come and take part in the festivities and greet the competitors from around the world.

Scheduled practice sessions for teams begin on Wednesday, September 12, and run through Tuesday,

September 18. Admission is free to spectators who would like to view these practice sessions, but customary parking fees will be charged by the U.S. Forest Service.



Ticketed competition starts on Thursday, September 20, with individual qualifying heats continuing through Friday. Individual finals are on Saturday, September 22, and the exciting Team Race finals are on Sunday, September 23.

In order to stage a competition of this magnitude, a

multitude of workers is required. Approximately 350 volunteers will be involved in this event in jobs ranging from helping with site and course construction to scoring, judging, and T-shirt sales. For further information or to volunteer, please visit the website at www.oceewhitewater.com or call 423.496.2275. ✂

River Access

Proposed Forest Service Changes to Chattooga Boating Regulations

by Don Kinser, Regional Coordinator, American Whitewater

[The following article requests action be taken on an important river access issue. Those of you receiving only the paper copy of the newsletter will not see this until after the deadline for action. This makes it doubly important that those of you receiving the electronic version of the newsletter take immediate action. - Editor.]

Recently American Whitewater has asked for your

help in the fight to gain boating access to the Chattooga Headwaters. In fact many of you helped during the November 1999 Tallulah releases and in the last month by writing letters to the Forest Service. To those of you who did — Thanks!

Finally, after three years, the Forest Service has formally proposed several amendments to the boating regulations on the Chattooga and we urgently need your help again. The deadline for comments to the forest service is August 16, 2001. The paper copy of this newsletter will not be out by that time, but several hundred of you are subscribed to the electronic version, which will be out before this deadline. PLEASE HELP!

Permits, fees, access to the headwaters, and water quality are at stake. If you care about these issues, it is vitally important for you to submit comments on the new

*You've worked on your
paddling skills all summer*

...now take them on the road!

Have you wondered what it would be like to paddle spring's higher flows in the comfort of tropical temperatures? So did we, but not any more! Fall provides enough rain to keep river levels high enough for fun and excitement. Our instructors provide the experience necessary to keep you out of trouble and show you the best spots. If we don't offer a trip that suits your needs, we can create one specifically for your group.

NEW! Brazil

From famous beaches, to the mystic Amazon, be the first to join this exploratory adventure of Brazil's scenic and cultural wonders. While kayaking the many beautiful streams cascading down the mountains surrounding Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, the richness of the Brazilian culture will come to life.



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Fall Savings!

Be looking in the mail for our fall catalog. If you are not on our mailing list and would like to be, please call for our free catalog! These offers are good 'til Oct. 25, 2001:

20% off ALL Silver Creek Paddles, ALL Patagonia water shorts and ALL Kokatat Drysuits!

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Amendment by August 16th! This is true regardless of whether you've written other letters over the past three years, since the agency is essentially starting this month's planning process with a clean slate. And, if you think it's important enough to write comments, then encourage your boating partners to write, too.

For all the information you need to write a letter, including a downloadable version of the Forest Service Proposal and a Draft of American Whitewater's Formal Comments visit the web at www.americanwhitewater.org/archive/article/230/

There is a lot of misinformation about the Forest Service Proposal. Read it for yourself and decide. If you have any questions, I am happy to try and answer them. Just send me an email. Remember, the deadline is August 16! We estimate we need several hundred letters to force them to respond to our comments. Please write now. Email or send comments to:

Mr. Michael Crane
District Ranger
Andrew Pickens Ranger District
112 Andrew Pickens Circle
Mountain Rest, SC 29664
Chattoogariver@yahoo.com

A. You must include the following information in your letter:

1. Name, address, and (if possible) phone number
2. The title of the document you are commenting on: Recreational Boating Use on the Chattooga Wild and Scenic River - Amendment #14

B. You should make the following general points in your letter:

1. That you support American Whitewater.
2. That the Forest Service should respond to American Whitewater's questions and accept our recommendations re Amendment #14.
3. That the "statement of need" is not broad enough and should be expanded to address all boating related management issues on the Wild & Scenic Chattooga River as indicated in the title of the Amendment.

C. Specifically ask the Forest Service to:

1. Reopen access to the Chattooga upstream of Highway 28 under Amendment #14.
2. Raise the current triggers (which are not presently enforced) for providing mandatory boater permits on Sections III and IV for weekends and holidays to:

Weekends and Holidays: 200 people per day

Weekdays: 125 people per day

The 200 trigger has only been hit a handful of times according to Forest Service documentation; however the proposed 175 people/day trigger for Section III and 160

people/day trigger for Section IV has been hit more often and is based on self-registrations that are admittedly under reported. Therefore American Whitewater's higher 200 number represents a more realistic picture of the boating public's use under a 100% compliance scheme.

3. Address water quality-related issues from pollution and sewage on Stekoa Creek and development on the headwaters in the River Amendment or Forest Plan.

Finally:

1. State your opinion on fees. American Whitewater is recommending that there should not be a fee for self-guided use of the river, either to park at any access point or to secure a mandatory reservation or permit. However, if fees are collected, they should target all forest visitors (hikers, boaters, fishermen, bird watchers, etc.) equally and should only be used to maintain existing facilities.

2. Indicate whether you have previously written to the agency about access to the headwaters.

3. Indicate how often you have visited the river for boating or fishing opportunities.

Questions we have received from members about amendment #14:

Q. Is the Forest Service really proposing new restrictions on the boating public?

A. At first glance, no. Caps have existed on self guided boaters for the past two decades and this amendment increases these caps to current use levels (which actually peaked in 1997, possibly due to the drought of the last 3 years). The Forest Service is proposing to cap boating public access on Section III at 175 people per weekend and 125 people per weekday or holiday and 160:75 for Section IV. These restrictions already exist, but are not enforced. There are a couple of problems with these numbers. First, they are based on use data that is admittedly underreported, as it does not account for visitors that don't register at the launch sites. Second, the limits would be very low on holidays, when demand could rationally be expected to meet weekend use.

Q. Will the boating public permit triggers be implemented in the immediate future?

A. No. The action levels before any changes in management protocols regarding self guided boaters occur (i.e. reservations) are unlikely to be hit anytime soon based on historic use levels and self-registration compliance.

Q. Is the Forest Service increasing commercial use at the expense of the boating public?

A. No. The proposed amendment DOES NOT increase the guided boater (commercial) allocations, it only gives the outfitters more flexibility in the type of craft

used (i.e. inflatable kayaks), the number of craft on a given trip and the mix of customers and guide staff on a given trip.

Contact:

Jason Robertson
Access Director
1430 Fenwick Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20910
E-mail: Jason@amwhitewater.org
Phone: 866-BOAT4AW
Fax: 301-589-6121

SYOTR!



GCA Endorses Fee Demo Opposition Letter

At the August Board meeting, the GCA approved endorsement of the Ojai Coalition's letter below that opposes the Recreation Fee Demonstration Program. The Ojai Coalition was formed in January of this year in order to oppose the efforts of lobbyists from the recreation industry and certain members of Congress to commercialize and privatize public lands management.

The Ojai Coalition is made up of individuals from organizations including the Sierra Club, Wild Wilderness, American Lands Alliance, Free Our Forests, and Keep the Sespe Wild Committee, among others. Text of the letter follows:

We, the undersigned, oppose the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program (Fee Demo; PL 104-134 Sec. 315) and ask Congress instead to restore adequate funding to public lands agencies. Additionally, we oppose the private investment and partnerships clause of Fee Demo. We believe that public lands must remain in the public trust and that the corporate sector should not be involved in the policy-making decisions of public lands agencies.

Our concerns with Fee Demo are as follows:

- + the regressive taxation that comes from collecting taxes as well as access and/or user fees for public lands use;
- + the discrimination against low income citizens, in violation of the spirit of equal rights;
- + the encouragement of the privatization of public lands management;
- + the promotion of business and marketing plans in

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public lands agencies, turning them into commercial enterprises rather than stewards;

- + the measurement of the success of the program by compliance and revenues generated, without appropriate public and Congressional debate;
- + the unfairness of providing tax breaks and subsidies to businesses which operate on public lands (grazing, mining, timber), while the public must pay to use those same lands;
- + movement towards requiring public lands agencies to fund themselves through revenues generated rather than through appropriated tax dollars.

For these reasons we request Congress to end Fee Demo in 2002, to prevent any further extensions to the demonstration program, and to restore appropriate recreation funding to the public lands agencies through the regular appropriations process.

Sincerely,

Georgia Canoeing Association



"I would much prefer to paddle, portage, track and wade up some unnavigable waterway to the base of a spectacular waterfall, pitch my camp, and sit there drinking in the beauty, than travel there by road. It isn't the same. The falls you have to work to get to are always the biggest, the best, the most spectacular, even if they aren't as high."
- Bill Mason in *Path of the Paddle*.

Book Review

Sea Kayak Rescue

Sea Kayak Rescue: The Definitive Guide to Modern Reentry and Recovery Techniques, by Roger Schumann and Jan Shriner, 2001

Reviewed by Steve Cramer

I should begin this review with a bit of a disclaimer. I know Roger and have recommended him as an outfitter and instructor in the past. More to the point, Roger once rescued me in the mouth of Tomales Bay (near, as I learned later, the great white shark rookery) after I got slammed by a boomer, so I come to any discussion of his rescue skills with some preconceptions.

Anyway, I was very impressed by this book for several reasons. One is its completeness (well, almost; more about that later). This book talks about more kinds of rescues than I have ever seen collected in one place. More importantly, every rescue mentioned is dissected to a high level of detail, including step-by-step instructions for each, and occasional comments based on the authors' experience with that particular rescue.

Rescue. Let me say a word about that word. Schumann and Shriner begin the book by suggesting that it might be better, especially with less experienced students, to avoid the word "rescue" altogether. Many of us have seen paddlers who consider a class successful if they stayed upright, not whether they learned anything.

Above all else, do not swim! This is partly because they are afraid of being in the water, or of being cold, but perhaps also because they want to avoid being "rescued," and all the emotional and personal baggage that entails. Better, perhaps, RS suggests, to talk about "reentries" instead, a much less loaded word (They also suggest "recovery," but anyone with a wilderness first aid background will prefer to avoid that one).

I was pleased to see that the organization of the book follows my own plan in teaching rescues (Yes, "rescues." Schumann and Shriner give up on the "reentries" idea early on, in a bow to common usage). That is, to begin by teaching braces so that a re-whatever will not be necessary, then to move on to wet exits, basic solo and assisted reentries (OK, I'm going to use both terms), and more complex moves like reenter and roll, Eskimo rescues and rolls, and special circumstances and tricks like sling assists, rescuing loaded sea kayaks, and double reentries.

I think this learning sequence is essential. Practicing bracing moves easily into practicing snapping up off a partner's bow, because the two movements are dynamically identical. This prepares students well for the Es-



kimo rescue. I know that students have trouble learning Eskimo rescues directly if they haven't learned to hip snap yet.

The last two chapters deal with towing in a good amount of detail, and a *Consumers' Digest* review of three commercial products for rescue: the Back-Up, the Sea Seat,

and, yes sp...spo... don't make me say it... all right, sponsons. (Hmm, my WordPerfect spell checker just flagged "sponson" as a misspelled word.) They were fair towards, but not enthusiastic about any of these products.

There are also a couple of chapters about preparation and prevention and basic safety gear. These say basically the same things that we all know about PFDs and signaling devices (no, they don't identify the ultimate hand-held VHF) and float plans, but are useful reading nonetheless, especially if you keep asking yourself "Do I always do that?"

The book is profusely illustrated with black and white photos, usually at least one per page. These are occasionally a bit foggy, but as Schumann and Shriner do most of their paddling in Northern California, it may just be that the light really did look like that.

As an added bonus, there are several stories interspersed among the procedures, with compelling titles like "Reentry at Punta Diablo" and "Counting in Dog Years — Tale of a Rock Garden Bow Rescue." The stories generally avoid the "No shit, there I was..." tenor of most paddling tales, while still maintaining a high level of realism and providing a lesson for the wise to heed.

A few particular techniques merit comment. Schumann and Shriner mention the deck rigged paddle float reentry as a useful ploy, but are not wholeheartedly enthusiastic about it unless you always paddle your own kayak (with the same paddle) and never flip in borrowed boats. They are also a bit disparaging about such Brit standbys as the All In rescue and the HI (AKA, Ipswich) rescue, although they do refrain from Roger's earlier claim that "Ipswich" is an Olde English term meaning "A good way to break a paddle, dude."

A couple of ideas caught my fancy and I tried them out at the 2nd annual sea kayak rescue clinic this summer. For example, incorporating a sling into a paddle float rescue adds a few seconds to the setup time and shaves much more than that from the reentry time, while adding a ton of stability.

Some students who were struggling to keep the paddle in position hopped right back in the boat when we added the sling. As soon as I get the pictures developed, I'll post shots of me reentering from a standing position. I'll see if I can duplicate that move in some waves.

Another of Roger's tricks that most of us use is the rough water simulator for bracing and reentry practice, which consists of someone yanking the kayak back and forth and up and down, grinning maniacally while the victim tries to stay upright or get out of the water. The RWS is a big improvement over the standard "edge 'til you start to fall" bracing drills.

I've hurt myself being the RWS, though, so I've started using a pair of ropes tied to the deck bungees and crossing under the kayak. It requires two people to be the RWS, but you can get a boat really on edge with a brisk pull on the rope. Keep the ropes short, though, so you can be close by to offer a hand up if needed. Wayne Hodorowitz has a variant on this rope trick that simulates a broached surf; he's written about it in *Sea Kayaker*.

I wouldn't feel like I was giving good value in a review unless I had a few quibbles, so let me get into those now. I was interested to find that one of the rescues that I use and teach didn't make it into the book. This is the parallel Eskimo rescue, in which the rescuer approaches the upside down boat parallel (what else?) and lays the paddle across her lap and the upturned hull. The victim reaches up, grabs the paddle between the boats, and snaps

up. I taught this one to Meg so we could demo it, and she really likes it, as the rescuer is very stable. It may be necessary to place the victim's hands correctly on the paddle. Put their thumbs together, Meg informs me, which is a trick I hadn't come up with.

A second departure for me is in the starting position of the paddle float rescue. I really don't like to start aft of the paddle, which necessitates a usually graceless pirouette over the shaft (Schumann and Shriner call this the sea star move, which sounds exotic, but I've never found sea stars to be very graceful), when you could start on the bow side, and in your first move stick your leg into the cockpit. Schumann and Shriner say that this only works for shorter paddlers, but I've got a 33" inseam and size 12 feet, and it works fine for me. Of course, Roger is an ACA ITE and Jan is an IT, so perhaps I'm risking my certification by saying that, considering how rigid and dogmatic the ACA is. (Note to the humor-impaired: I'm joking).

I can't quibble much, though. This book is a solid resource, pulling together most of what there is to be known about sea kayak safety and rescues, and doing it in a readable, occasionally even witty, style. It's definitely worth the \$14.95. ✂

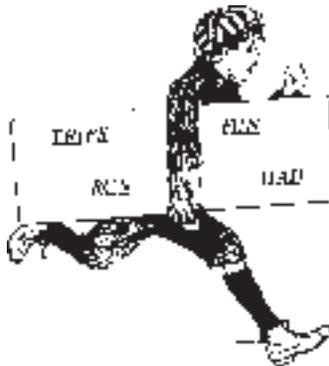
The "Grandes Dames" of the Broad River

by Sharon Strocchia

July 28, 2001. How do you thank two wonderful women for unselfishly sharing thirty years of paddling experience with complete strangers? The extraordinary generosity of Nancy Barker (OC-1) and Polly Heyward (Grumman OC-1) transformed an impromptu outing into a memorable introduction to one of north Georgia's most bucolic rivers.

Faced with the prospect of no sponsored trips available on July 28, a small group of water-needy, newbie paddlers — Jamie Higgins, Christina Lockwood, Ted Souris, John (?) and I (all K-1) — cobbled together a pickup trip via cyber space. Our choice was the Broad River, which none of us had run because of low water levels over the past year. The evening before take-off, Nancy and Polly asked to join our motley crew. Little did we know what a treat was in store.

As GCA members since the early 1970s, Nancy and Polly have run the Broad "hundreds of times." Nancy's first paddling trip in Georgia was on the Broad, and both women instilled a love of paddle sport in their children, grandchildren, and friends on that river. They succeeded



equally well with us: describing fun features ahead, showing us the best lines, patiently securing our safety when one paddler had trouble staying in his boat.

They also made the trip special simply by example. To watch Nancy glide over a rooster tail is to watch the very essence of canoe sport, elegant and timeless. Polly is no slouch either. With a devilish twinkle in her eye, she hauled our boats to the top of a five-foot waterfall, then cheered as we splashed down in triumph.

We probably could have run the river without Polly and Nancy, but we would have missed the pleasure of their company, along with a small piece of paddling history. ✂

Toccoa River

by Mary Vachon

July 21, 2001. Running the Toccoa was questionable. The water level was low, low, low and then it rained! Yes! We met at the McDonald's in Blueridge and then headed for the put-in at Toccoa Valley Campground.

Christina Lockwood, Steve Connor, Bryan Williamson, Ted Souris, Nancy Shaidnagle, and Gene Luckey were in kayaks. Terry Vales and myself were in



The crew. Front: Steve Connor, Chris Bilello, Mike Bilello, Terry Vales, Robert and Matthew McGraw, Zac Cargle. Back: Bryan Williamson, Nancy Shaidnagle, Gene Luckey, Mary Vachon and Randy Cargle.



(Above) Foreground: Bryan Williamson, Christina Lockwood and Ted Souris. Background: Crazy people.
(Below) Robert McGraw and son, Matthew, on the Toccoa.



solo canoes. Mike and Chris Bilello, Robert McGraw and his son, Matthew (5), Randy Cargle and his son, Zac (9) were in tandem canoes. Robert and Randy were going to canoe camp with their sons so their boats were loaded with gear and lent an air of adventure to the first part of the trip.

This was the first GCA trip for Gene, Nancy, Christina and Steve. Welcome to a great sport! We began the trip around 11:30 and stopped for lunch around 1:00, where we left the canoe campers to a camping adventure of their own. We took out at "party rapid" and avoided the hornet's nest on river left. (thanks for the tip).

I had a great time and heard no complaints from my fellow paddlers. I believe fun was had by all. Hope to see you all again on the river. ✂

New River Fever

by Geoffrey S. Kohl

It's Monday — and I just escaped West Virginia. Last Wednesday, the morning of July 4th, the morning of the Peachtree Road Race, I packed my camping gear and kayak into and on my friend Louis Boulanger's car. Louis isn't from Louisiana, though his name would make you think otherwise, not to mention that he cooks Creole food, and at one o'clock on a Monday afternoon, already smells like a Cajun.

That day, we drove six and a half hours to West Virginia in Louis's

GCA Trip: New River
Dates: July 5-7, 2001
Trip Leader: Louis Boulanger

Subaru, two kayaks on top, feeding albums from contra-dancing bands into the CD player. We hit West Virginia at 5:30 p.m., joined a quick barbecue party, and then made camp at Cooter's Cabins & Campin', just a few miles outside the cultural oasis of Fayetteville — and I use that term loosely only to indicate that there was a theater, a half dozen adventure shops, and a church where, on Sunday morning, the rhythm is jumpin'.

At the campground, we found Chris McLoughlin and Connie Logsdon. Chris is a contractor out of Atlanta that is adept at using a hammer — something that whoever built Cooter's cabins was not similarly familiar with. Chris and Connie had been rafting earlier with Class VI Outfitters, a trip down the New River that both called "highly professional." (I will call any outfitter "highly professional" as long as the checks keep coming and are signed by the proprietors. Note to self: don't forget to deposit Class VI check.) The campsite that Chris had constructed for himself was a veritable wilderness palace, complete with hanging sheets, a dog tent and an electric

cooler. It was fit for a sheik.

We settled into camp, arranging tents and eventually kicking back with cold malted beverages, a fire and plenty of insect repellent. We made sure to drink the beer and apply the insect repellent, not the other way around. Bobby Mitchell and Revel Freeman appeared late in the evening. Bobby had brought along a kayak, camping gear and beer. Revel brought two kayaks, camping gear and Cheerios. Everyone present was exceedingly relieved that someone remembered to bring the Cheerios, lest we would have to call the trip off and return to Atlanta. Fireworks from Fayetteville flashed mildly through the trees, though the effect wouldn't have spurred any tax-hating revolutionaries to combat.

Sleep came quickly, but not until after cajoling Revel for bringing Cheerios and no milk, and for not wanting to paddle his new play boat, some sort of crushed milk jug that Dagger is now selling. Great snoring followed.

At six o'clock, the tribe grew restless and began boiling water. Alas, there was to be no human sacrifice, merely the use of coffee presses and the morning's first caffeination. Granola, cereal and more Central and South American product moved us to the river, where we met former Emory University student Kenny Geronilla at the Fayette Station take-out.

Some guy named Rob was with Kenny, and so we all piled into the cars and shuttled ourselves to the put-in of the New River at Cunard. We put on and paddled down through the photo ledge at Upper Railroad and into Lower Railroad. As it turned out, Kenny did not know Rob, and after watching Revel get munched in a big hole after following Rob's advice, it was unanimously decided that Rob was a jerk (far worse words would have been used, were this not *The Eddy Line*). Not long after that, Rob paddled off and did not look back.

The New is a misnomer. It is the second oldest river in the world according to very old river guides, and the watershed is huge. It starts in North Carolina, flows even bigger through Virginia before meeting the West Virginia mountains and rocketing through a gorge with rapids up to class IV intensity at normal water levels. The rapids are of the pool-drop configuration, and generally are wide with many different lines, some large standing waves and a few holes — none of them deadly at the water level we saw the river (9" - 1'6").

There are, however, many undercut rocks, some of them in the center of the flow. The river flows fairly easily until it finds the Keeney brothers: Upper, Middle and Lower. Upper is a big wave train to the right of a house-sized boulder known as Whale Rock, below which one should eddy out and prepare for Middle Keeney, a junky

mixture of pour-over holes, grand waves and "dink" rocks. It empties into a big pool above Lower Keeney, the first of the class IV rapids of the run.

We pulled over to scout the rapid. Lower Keeney starts off with a rooster tail in the middle of the river, with a wave train to the left that surges a few times before crashing into Wash Up Rock, a popular location for the practice of carnage photography. The ideal line is to run straight over the rooster tail while pointed right, which puts you on a course to the right of the big bad rock. Ideals, however, are often not attainable, and the rapid led to three unique situations:

Bobby Mitchell, paddling a Wave Sport Z, managed to flip upside down and perform a fish count that the West Virginia Wildlife and Game Commission surely would have endorsed. He even double-checked his count on the second day to make sure he didn't miss any. Chris, on the other hand, decided he wanted to see how deep Lower Keeney really was and after unwillingly abandoning his vessel at the top, proceeded to touch the bottom with his feet. He informed us that it is deep indeed (and fortunately free from any foot entrapment possibilities).

Revel, on his second day, paddling his oversized milk jug known as the Super Ego, found that you can really whip around a play boat in big water. Sometimes the river whips back. Revel came out of his boat, nearly washed up on Wash Up Rock, but was safely deposited in a swirling whirlpool. Soaked to the core, he recovered his gear unharmed, his ego perhaps bruised.

Excitement didn't dissipate after the Keeneys as we found plenty of surfing possibilities, including Greyhound Bus Stop, a ledge with a hole that at higher levels could stop a bus and the entirety of I-285 like an overturned 18-wheeler during Atlanta's rush hour. On the river left side, the rafts were surfing the hole, but on the right was a great wave. We surfed, ended, ate, swam and surfed some more.

But oh, how the mind forgets... Somewhere above Greyhound Bus Stop and below the Keeneys we paddled near some rafting guests having fun on and off of Jump Rock. Not to be outdone, we found our own rock, and like pilgrims having crossed the Atlantic, pronounced it Stupid Rock. Louis, Bobby and myself climbed out of our kayaks and scaled the rock, finding a perilously flat spot above a 15-foot rock slide. Secure in our 'yaks, we latched onto each other's boats, leaned forward, sliding as one into the water with a mighty splash. We were told we were stupid and so found a rock the second day that was higher, began with a slope and ended with a 10-foot plunge into the river. Rinse, soak and repeat. We came back to Stupid Rock No. 2 again on our third and final day.

Somewhere below the stupid rocks, we paddled a rapid we think is Double Z. While many of us ran left and eddied out, Revel, feeling the effects of his Super Ego, ran center and rock eddied onto a sloping boulder half-hidden by the waves. Stuck as he was, Louis came to his rescue with a waterproof camera. Revel scooted off the rock and landed in a deep, crunchy hole, suffering not only a plastic-grinding rock eddy, but the ill effect of requiring a roll in this long class IV. He made a good showing — C to C, head down, and we were again on our way.

Back at the Greyhound Bus Stop, Chris showed off his fancy canoe-rolling technique. Step 1: Flip. Step 2: Swim. Step 3: Swim back to boat. Step 4: Strap yourself into the boat while upside down. Step 5: Roll. It was sufficient to impress all the decked boaters on the trip, as well as one cute female raft guide who happened to be floating by.

At camp the stories got bigger and bigger until they formed the truth that you now read. Louis cooked his tasty sausage and Cooter showed up to inform us that his buddy had an AK-47 should we try to leave without paying. Cooter, I should note, is a retired auto worker from Michigan who could be mistaken for a native Fayette County West Virginian. He rode various vehicles around his 20-acre campground, including a lawnmower with a trailer, a "cruiser" motorcycle, and a Ford pick-up that said simply, elegantly: Cooter's Cabins & Campin'. He was on bad terms with his neighbors except for his buddy out on the road with the AK-47. There are certain people you simply must keep as friends. All-in-all, the campground was rustic and the land well-groomed. Cooter enjoyed some small talk with us and did not seem to mind the smell of sweaty polypro drifting across his fields.

Exhausted from paddling, we berated each other for goof-ups and answered what the popular bumper sticker NRG stood for. It was revealed that it stood for "nasty river girls," not the previously assumed acronym for New River Gorge. Connie and trip latecomer Jane Rooney were honored as NRGs, as were all female raft guides and every woman in Fayetteville. Jim Maier pulled up later, having driven eight hours up from Atlanta to join us on the third day of the New River.

Saturday's dawn broke and the group split into two groups. Jane, Revel and Connie headed off for the Upper New, a class II/III float from Thurmond to Cunard while the rest of us went to the main run to meet Kenny (sans Rob) and Joe Jenetta and his son Phillip. Again, we posed for the camera at Upper Railroad and watched Louis swim in class II water near Ender Waves. The day was without incident largely. Chris took his Dagger Caption on the perfect line through Lower Keeney, gaining air on three

back-to-back waves. Yours truly decided to roast his shoulders with hand paddles. Cruise, surf, squirt, play — you name it and we did it.

But come Fayette Station rapid, we all got quite a show. First, Jim flipped and attempted seven or eight rolls before flipping back up in the pool at the take-out. Now that's reason enough to get a good breath of air and hang in there. Louis, who was eddy-hopping down the rapid, came over a big wave and collided with Kenny, who was at that moment peeling out of a turbulent eddy. Just a few seconds later, as Bobby was peeling out of the same eddy that Kenny had been in, Phillip came over the incredibly tall wave, and again two paddlers collided, this time flipping both. Unbelievably, Chris was able to get the entire show recorded on his video camera.

That night we ate out, heard some mountain music, googled at NRGs and went to sleep like rocks.

About 5 o'clock on Sunday morning, I awoke to monstrous claps of thunder and pelting rain. My first thought was that it wouldn't be much fun packing up wet gear for the long ride back to Atlanta. Drifting in and out of sleep, the peals of thunder and monsoon-type rain continued overhead. After a half-hour of hard pounding, the storm would subside to a medium rain, then maybe 10 minutes later, it clamored for attention again, dumping more buckets of water on the ground as the front swung back across the county. It continued like this for hours, and we looked out from our tents without joy to see a collapsed tarp that had covered our kitchen and some dry goods. Standing water was everywhere.

At 9 a.m., Louis suggested we all make a break for a big Shoney's breakfast. As we crossed Wolf Creek, a drainage ditch of a stream that in the previous days had contained at the most five cfs and could have flowed through a small culvert, we looked down to see a creek that actually deserved the bridge we rode over.

As we approached Shoney's we saw the full scope of the rain, standing pools of water everywhere and a flood across a road where a truck had stalled out. It rained through our long breakfast, and when it was over, Jim loaded into his truck and left directly for Atlanta. He was the lucky one; radio weathermen were reporting nearly eight inches of rain in a period of a few hours.

A few minutes later we stood back at the bridge that separated us from our campsite. Wolf Creek had risen dramatically, crumpling the steel, concrete and asphalt span like a beer can in the hand of a fraternity boy. Chocolate and swollen, the creek ripped past us across fields and through the woods in its pursuit of an outlet. Unfazed, with the rain starting to slow, we headed back to Fayetteville to hear horror stories.

One was of the Rivers Campground, a pay-to-stay place run by a local rafting company. At dawn the entire campground, filled with hangovers, cars and tents from the previous evening's bluegrass band, had been given an enema. Tents were washed away as their inhabitants awoke to an angry dawn. Cars floated into the woods — we spoke with a woman who had lost everything but her underwear and who slipped out of a tent just as the rising creek began to enter it. The scene was of disgust and utter confusion.

Deprived of what we thought was our only route to camp, Louis piloted Revel, Bobby and myself down some rough mountain roads to see Mill Creek, a creek that the locals like to run after a heavy rain. Suffice to say, it was at what appeared to be a terminal flow. Keeper holes and 20-foot waterfalls mixed with speeds of 30 mph and roving strainers. In the approximately two miles that we hiked along the creek, we counted perhaps four eddies, each requiring a must-make move.

Sewage was floating freely from a treatment plant that was underwater. Even the local hair boaters were in a stir. Voluminous creek boats had been loaded atop old pick-ups that stayed put in the Fayetteville parking lots. There simply was too much water, and where there wasn't too much water, the roads and bridges had washed away.

In the following days, the New River rose to nearly 50,000 cfs, a summer flow that washed away a rail bed and train tracks — the flow was an unmatched summer flow except for the rains that occurred again in late July, which brought the New up to almost 73,000 cfs and cause two deaths.

Back in the Wolf Creek drainage, we saw pick-up trucks where water had flowed three feet over their cabs. In picking our way through the back roads, searching for the unknown route to Cooter's, we saw more washed out bridges. A road, half-suspended by a sliver of mud, allowed us to cross thanks to Louis's expert driving, but it led to the site of a state patrolman's home that had washed away — the home had been paid for two years ago and flood insurance had been canceled. "I've lived here since 1919 and never seen a flood like this," one gentleman told us.

Still we couldn't drive to camp. With the help of a local landowner, we were shown a shortcut through some woods and across an overgrown field. It led to Cooter's place, though we were told not to tell him who let us through. "I don't like him — he's weird," she had told us.

At camp, Chris and Connie had left their camping gear in trust with Cooter and their Jeep, on the fortunate side of Wolf Creek, allowed them to escape to a hotel. After a few hours, the afternoon sun came out and we were able

to pack up our gear. The tents even dried, though anything with more substance stayed soaked. With nowhere to go, our gear still separated from our vehicles by a hike and a flooded creek, we tried to find ways to escape the boredom — checking the creek level every 20 minutes was the chosen response.

At 9 p.m., as dusk was starting to settle, the creek had dropped low enough to allow for a tricky crossing. The entirety of our camp was loaded into Bobby's truck and driven across a now declining Wolf Creek. We picked up Louis's car where the patrolman was surveying the entirety of his possessions: some furniture, a few wet photos and an accordion-like home.

In Fayetteville, we ate barbecue then called it a night. Bobby and Revel drove off for a mad-dash run to Atlanta, while Louis and I parked ourselves in a nearby town for some sleep. On Monday, finally, graciously, we left.

Now, riding back through the mountains, through Virginia, Knoxville, Chattanooga and Dalton, it's all a blur. All I have left are a lot of memories, an undeveloped camera, and a simple NRG sticker that makes me wonder what it all means: New River Gorge? Nasty river girls? No randid gaspacho? Now raining gallons?

If we go back again in 2002, as many of us intend to do, it might even become the New River Gala. Who knows, it could be an official GCA event, complete with a fire-works budget that could put Fayetteville's Fourth of July show to shame...

- Geoffrey S. Kohl is a magazine writer and editor living in Atlanta; he invites all GCA members to contribute to and enjoy his public, non-commercial web site www.southernwilds.com where he is attempting to create an on-line adventure resource for southeasterners. ✂



William (Not Bill) Nealy, 1953-2001

CHAPEL HILL — William James Nealy, writer, cartoonist, avid outdoorsman and author of ten books and innumerable illustrations, died on Thursday, July 19th, 2001. He was 47 years old. He is survived by his wife, Holland (Holly) Wallace, and his mother, Louise Lipscomb Nealy. Sadly, William took his own life following recent bouts with depression.

A world famous cartoonist, William is best-known for his book "Kayak", which combined, to both hilarious and practical effect, detailed river maps and expert paddling instruction, as well as artful caricatures and parodies of the white water enthusiasts themselves. The quality of his work transcends its subject, and his books spawned a host of imitators and made William a cult figure in the world of outdoor sports.

William was born on February 4th, 1953, and grew up in Birmingham, Alabama. His father was superintendent of Homewood Parks and Recreation for seventeen years, and later worked for Birmingham Parks and Recreation, and his mother is a much-loved retired elementary school teacher.

Never comfortable in a highly structured environment, William left high school before graduating and then attended St. John's College, finally graduating from Birmingham Southern. He met the woman who would later become his wife when she was fourteen years old and he was sixteen. They lived in Birmingham for many years, then moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, and later settled in Hillsborough, North Carolina, where he built their home.

William brought a thorough and rigorous intelligence to his interests and avocations, all of which in his hands became arts. Through the vicissitudes of life Holland and William led a charmed existence, and remained devoted to each other for over 30 years.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Interfaith Council, 110 West Main Street, Carrboro, NC 27510, in memory of William Nealy. A local memorial service was held the week of July 30th.

- Excerpted from the *Charlotte News & Observer*.

I never paddled with William, but drew comfort from his books, particularly on the shuttle to a new river where getting trashed was a distinct possibility. Through his books and maps he helped many paddlers run rivers, read water and laugh. We have lost a humorous and inspiring member of the paddling community.

- Bob Brueckner, *CCC email list*.

A terrible loss for the paddling community. William Nealy was an inspiration to paddlers everywhere who enjoyed his humorous and insightful books. William (never Bill) was also a great friend to paddlers. He created, donated and allowed free use of his cartoons for the National Paddling Film Festival and judged several competitions. He also dedicated one of his books to the BWA's infamous Women in Rubber. William also appeared and partied with us at our Spring Clinic in 1984. He will be greatly missed.

- Barry Grimes, *Bluegrass Wildwater Association*.

Another quality that I discovered is that William Nealy is a man that really enjoys the process of learning. His work is laced with some studied references to geology, physics, hydrology and philosophy. He is a curious man, into the concept of the eternal student. He doesn't just get on a mountain bike, ride around, and wipe out. He gets on a mountain bike, rides around, wipes out, and then wants to know why. He also finds pleasure in the details of the learning process that others seem to overlook.

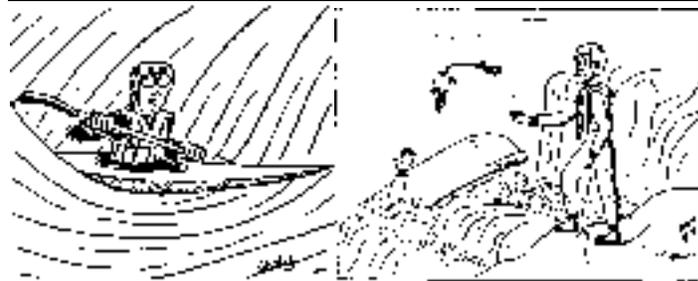
- Ernie Ezis, *from a 1995 interview with William Nealy*.

I remember devouring his book, "Whitewater Tales of Terror" when I bought my first kayak in 1983 as an invincible, never-can-die, 17 year old kid. His writing and drawings had a big influence on my perception of white water river culture and brought me endless laughs and smiles around the campfire. Rest in peace, William. Your work will live on.

- Bryan Stewart, *CCC email list*.

I was quite fond of Nealy's books, I had read every one cover to cover multiple times. William Nealy was an inspiration to me in life. His non-traditional ways of looking at life were both appealing and enlightening. For those of you who kayak and have never read Nealy's book "Kayak", you are missing out on quite a wonderful experience. Rest in peace, William, and know that you inspired and amused more people in your life than most folks could ever dream of.

- Karl Gesslein, *kayak-I email list*. ✂



An Island, the Surf and a Few Turtles

by Jim Griffin

"Oh, yeah!" It was a phrase that arose out of some sort of group consciousness among the family members bobbing in the ocean. Translation: "Here comes a big one!" I was in my C-1, my nephew Travis in his kayak and the rest of the spouses, sibs, in-laws and assorted relatives on surf boards or boogie boards, and we were all waiting and watching the approaching swell, hoping for just the right wave to come in. The perfect wave. Surfing Nirvana.

I glanced over my shoulder as the mass of water began to build, watching for the telltale change in color from olive green to the darker, more ominous shade that marked a wave worthy of serious consideration. As it grew behind me, the wave front becoming taller and steeper, the cry went up, "Oh, yeah!" I began to paddle — two offside strokes and one solid on-side — putting my bow at the precise angle (just a tad to my on-side, please) to insure catching the wave without suffering immediate and humbling consequences.

As the stern began to lift, I leaned back, taking as much weight as possible off the bow, shifting slightly to my right on a brace so that the boat's chine would carve gently into the wave's surface. Then, boat and paddler, we flew down the front of the wave, spray flying off the bow like shattered crystals in the sun, speeding toward to beach. As the wave began to break out into froth, I threw my weight forward now lifting the stern and so gaining a secondary burst of speed. To my right I sensed, rather than saw, that Travis had caught the same wave.... "Yee-haw!"

And so it went, day after day, surfing as long as the tide and our stamina allowed. One afternoon as Travis and I were sitting on the steps of the rental cottage, we starting talking about ocean surfing and how it compared

with our more common experiences as white water paddlers. Not surprisingly, we found more similarities than not. We also decided that most of our acrobatic moves in the waves were more the result of fate rather than intention.

Take side surfing for example. Let's say that your bow is just a teeny bit more to the on-side of that precise angle as you begin your slide down the wave face. As the wave breaks behind you, you then find that your boat is suddenly, inevitably parallel to the wash. Leaning 'down-stream' (i.e., into the wave break) on a good brace will allow you to side-surf the wave all the way into shore. Lean 'up-stream' (beachward) and you are immediately up close and personal with M. Cousteou's exciting underwater world of adventure. [A note here: side surfing on the off-side, at least for me, was never an option, although I did receive a few "10s" for my tumbling act when I tried it.]

Enders are another example. There you are, setting up for your run, but unfortunately you aren't leaning back quite far enough. Result; as the wave picks you up, the bow digs into the water and comes to a complete stop while your stern continues its onward rush to the beach. Now, for one brief, adrenaline-filled moment, the boat is sticking straight up into the air with you looking down at the ocean far below. Then the lights go out. I might add here that Travis attempted (so fate determined) a rear ender, with similar consequences.

Other examples:

Back surfing — When paddling out, a back surf is the unintended result of not having enough forward momentum to breach an on-coming wave break. To carry off a back surf successfully you really have to look like you mean it when you say, "I meant to do that."

Peel outs — A necessary skill for getting back out into the surf before being washed ashore like a beached whale. This requires planting the paddle firmly behind



Travis Griffin catching a ride in his white water kayak off the South Carolina coast.

- Photos submitted by Jim Griffin.

you into the wave break at the end of your run, and pivoting around it to spin back out to sea. Caution: C-1ers should not attempt this on their offside without good insurance coverage.

Rolls — I personally found multiple opportunities to practice this skill in the ocean, although most involved digging my face out of the sand and pushing off the bottom as opposed to your classic set up and hip snap.

Boofs — We noticed that you can catch a lot of air if you time your paddle out to crest a wave just as it is starting to curl. (See 'Back surfing' above should your timing be a little off on this).

Oh, yes. There are many similarities.

We were surfing off an island of which I have had a particularly long and loving relationship. I've been coming here for well over half a century. It is one of the innumerable barrier islands that run like a string of beads all along the coast from North Carolina to Georgia.

As a barrier island, it serves as a nursery to many sea creatures, a fact attested to by the opaque green of the nutrient-rich water and the brown sand, the result of millions of years of accumulated sea shells ground fine by the tides. Life is abundant here. Atlantic dolphin feed scant feet off shore, totally unconcerned that you are floating nearby; hammerhead and sand sharks breed in the river estuaries; blue crabs, shrimp, fish and birds in the thousands make their home in the tidal marshes. And it has always been so. With good eyes and a little patience, a walk along the beach will yield a hand full of ebony shark teeth and fossilized bone, 20 million year-old relics of the Pleistocene.

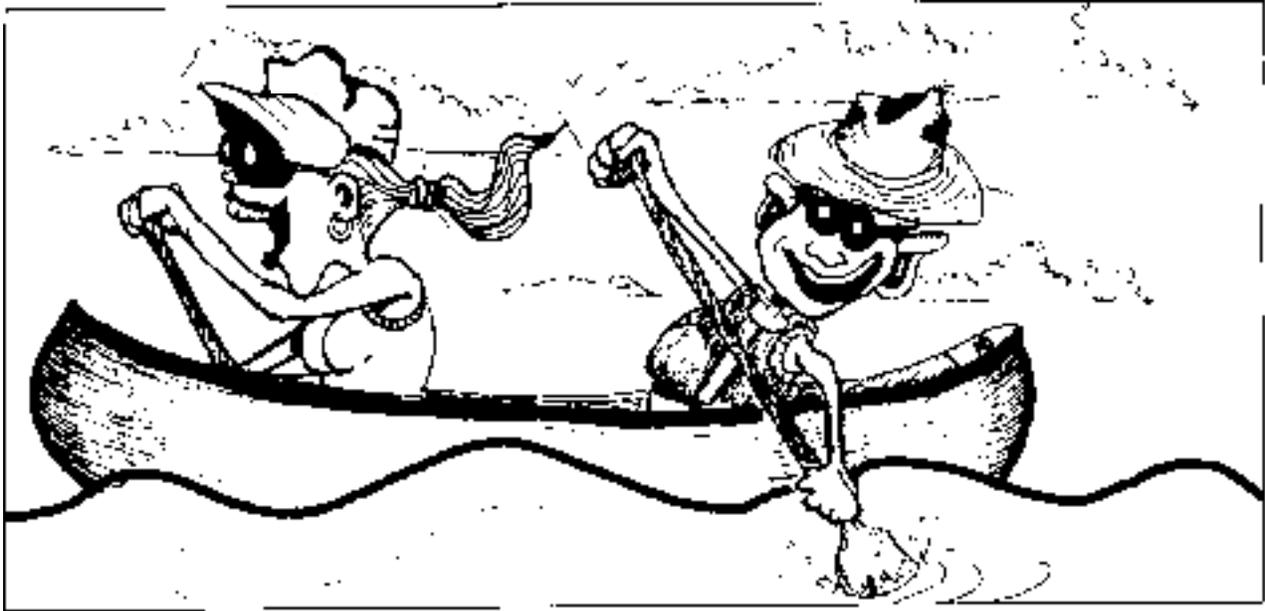
The island is also one of the last remaining nesting spots for the loggerhead turtle, and here we have the conundrum: how do we balance the needs of these huge yet vulnerable animals against our own desires, our need, to experience this place? Beginning in May for eons past, the female loggerheads have swum to the island, struggling up past the high tide mark to lay their clutches of eggs in the sand before returning to sea.

But development over the past several years has destroyed the nesting spots, people innocently walking the beach have frighten off the turtles, and street lights burning late into the night have distracted the hatchlings inland toward road and death rather than to the surf and a chance at survival.

My wife Maggie, my sister and I walked the beach at one o'clock one morning with the park ranger looking for new nesting sites. We spotted no turtles and no new nests, even though the conditions and timing were perfect. The ranger gave us the sobering statistics: three years ago, sixty-plus nests were identified; last year 54 nests were spotted; this year only 39 have been found. Makes you wonder how many there will be next year.

I do ponder on these things. From where I sit in my boat a few yards out I can see the orange tape that marks a single, lonely turtle nest just up the dune on shore. I know that simply by being here, a part of the summer mob that grows larger every year, that I am also part of the problem. It is a conflicting situation. But, it is one that will have to wait until after the next wave. I look behind me and see the water welling up. Its gonna be a good one.

"Oh, yeah!"



cartoon by: Bret Hawkins

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 gacanoes@mindspring.com. PLEASE, NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

FOR RENT - Cottage on secluded mountain lake (Appalachia Lake). Surrounded by National Forest. Two bedrooms/two bath, with sun room/den could be third bedroom. Completely furnished/all amenities (gas grill, washer/dryer, dishwasher, phone, satellite TV/VCR, microwave, phone, etc.). Lots of decks, gentle slope to Lake with swimming/boating area. Close to waterfalls, miles of hiking trails, white water boating/rafting on the Ocoee, Hiwassee, & Tellico Rivers, quite water boating on the lake. Located northwest of Murphy, NC. Call Liz Carter & Butch Horn, 770.967.0318 or e-mail, mohorn@mindspring.com for brochure & maps.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk 14 ft. Center saddle for comfort and ease in paddling. Great beginner canoe..... very stable! Knee pads and air bags included. Good condition \$475. Call: 770.565.8004 or email: Clari770@aol.com.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Legend 16. Great all around canoe. Red royales with black vinyl trim. Rarely paddled and in excellent condition. \$750. Ed Leahy 706.855.0399 or email ymleahy@aol.com.

FOR SALE - Canoe, 2000 Mad River Synergy. Tandem white water canoe. Red with ash gunwales. Fully outfitted with Voyageur foam saddles, knee pads, thigh straps, nylon end bags and end bras. EXCELLENT condition, used only 3 times!!! This canoe is ready for the river. Asking \$800. Retail value is more than double this price. Call Aaron @ 678.852.0213 or Kit @ 770.246.7724.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Mohawk Probe 12, red, outfitted with Perception saddle and two yellow air bags. Well used, with Kevlar patch on the bottom. \$275. Call

Terri at 770.739.9278, teresa.vales@ipst.edu.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger 1990 Encore, Red. Good condition, outfitted with Headwaters air bags and Perception saddle. \$375 OBO or trade for sea kayak or sit on top. Call Valerie at 770.898.9502 or e-mail at valeriefields@yahoo.com.

FOR SALE - Helmet. Pro-Tec full cut helmet with Salamander visor. Dark blue. Medium size. Worn less than 10 times. \$25. Contact Britt Smith at 770.888.1982 or bsmith02@adelphia.net.

FOR SALE - Kayaks, canoe, gear. Dagger Crossfire, \$300. Pryahna creek 280, \$375. OC-1 - Dagger Encore, Perception saddle, wood gunnels, \$400. Drysuits - Stolquist, ladies lg., brand new gaskets, exc. cond. \$150, men's XL, needs new gaskets \$85. Fishing boat - 14 ft. aluminium with trailer and 20 hp motor, \$850. Call Barney or Sherry Spurr at 770.486.9685

FOR SALE - Kayak, Wavesport Frankenstein. Good beginner white water kayak. Great condition, paddled 2 summers, stored indoors. Superb outfitting. ONLY \$275! Includes back band. Deep green/white swirl. Demo can be arranged. 770.801.8060 or paddler@netdoor.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Pyranha Prozone 225. The boat is orange and black and has been used 10 times. Great boat for any play boater or a teenager that's looking to get into play boating. Agressive boats yield quicker returns in skill. \$550 skirt included. John McCorvey, 770.921.5116 or Scott McCorvey, 912.481.0368. Fahimaz7@hotmail.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger Showdown, good condition, \$525; Perception Shock, good condition, \$525; Werner Quest paddle, 197 / 45 degree offset, \$90. Call Chuck or Carole Creekmore at 770.995.5788 or email at ccreekmo@gpc.peachnet.edu.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Wave Sport Frankenstein. Good beginner white water kayak. Great condition, paddled 2 summers, stored indoors. Superb outfitting. Great price \$300, includes back band and floatation bags. Contact 770.801.8060 or email paddler@netdoor.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception Phat, excellent creek boat and for all around paddling. \$500. Call Jim @ 770.587.1172.

FOR SALE - Kayaks. Corsica S, light grey, virtually new. Perception Dancer, green. Dagger Response, dark grey. 3 spray skirts - like new. For sale or will trade for inflatable kayak. 770.471.4951.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger RPM, blue, good condition. I am the 3rd owner so naturally it has some scratches. It has bow and stern caps, a small storage bag attached to the center bulkhead & rear floatation bags. Still a popular boat! \$450 firm. Contact Mike Winchester - 770.319.8969 (H) 770.433.3232 (W) email mike@artplumbing.com.

FOR SALE - Sit-On-Top Kayak, Riot by Wilderness Systems - great on class I,II rivers - great condition, \$400. Also have an Ocean Kayak Yak Board for sale (sit-on-top) - \$250. Call Christine at 706.864.2449 or 706.864.9192, or email at cncasper@nghs.com.

FOR SALE - 2 Canoe Rack Systems. Yakima rack with extended crossbars (will carry two canoes) and locks, has Y6 clips for cars with rain gutters (fits most late '80, early '90 model cars). Seldom used, like new. \$75 OBO. Thule rack with 50" crossbars, canoe clips, fit kit 015 (Ford Thunderbird/Mercury Cougar) and straps. \$60 OBO. Elaine Seyman, 404.786.5648, aesityman@aol.com.

FOR SALE - SUV. Must Sell: Very well maintained 92 GMC Jimmy, 4D, 4WD. SLE Group includes PS, ABS PB, PDL, PW, Tilt Wheel, Cruise, Auto, Air, Roof Rack, Hitch, etc. Kelly BB is \$7075, asking \$6,400. John Pinyerd 770.977.7603 jpinyerd@cs.com.

FOUND - Paddling gear. The following paddling gear was found on Lake Tugaloo (below Chattooga Section IV) on July 1: Paddle, PFD, helmet, booties, sun glasses, shirt. Call Ron or Sandra at 770.435.0903 and identify to claim.

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. 

Eighteenth Annual

GCA FALL GALA CANOEING AFFAIR

September 14, 15 & 16

NELSON'S NANTAHALA HIDEAWAY

www.nantahalacampground.com

Topton, NC

Reserved for GCA Members

Hot Showers, Meeting Room

Fishing, Biking Trails

Hiking Trails, Horse Back Riding Nearby

CAMPING: (most sites have power/water hookup) \$12.00/site (2 persons)/night
\$2.00/night for each additional person camping

CABINS: (sleep 4 people, 1 bathroom, cable TV) \$45.00/night

BUNKHOUSES: (sleep 12 people w/easy access to large bathhouse) \$4.00/bed/night

No pets allowed in cabins or bunkhouses — Must be on leash in camping area

FRIDAY EVENING:

FREE Trip Coordinator Mini-Clinic 7:00 at Meeting House

FRIDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES — Bring your favorite river videos to share!

SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER:

Best Taco / Burrito Bar in the South!

ALMOST All-U-Can-Eat

With all the fixin's you can stand

Price: \$7.00 (Children 12 & Under \$5.00)

Bon Fire Saturday Night — Please Bring Logs!!

Register Early — Late Fee Applies After September 5

BOATING SATURDAY & SUNDAY:

Meeting House at 8:30 a.m. to Organize Trips

RIVERS (water level permitting):

Ocoee, Nantahala, Tuckeseigee, Little Tennessee,

Pigeon, French Broad, Nolichucky, Chattooga,

Upper Chattahoochee, Nacoochee Chattahoochee, Amicalola, Cartecay

Lakes:

Nantahala, Fontana

For further information, contact:

Denise Colquitt 770.854.6636 or NEICEYC@aol.com

GCA FALL GALA CANOEING AFFAIR

Registration Form

To Register – Fill out registration form below and mail QUICKLY (first come, first serve) with your check made out to “GCA” to:

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

Name _____ Phone _____

No. in Party _____

Address _____

Camping:

Number of tents @ \$12.00 (includes 2 people) Fri. _____ Sat. _____

Extra people @ \$2.00 each (over 2 people) Fri. _____ Sat. _____ Total \$ _____

Cabins:

(Kitchen, bathroom, cable tv) \$45.00/cabin Fri. _____ Sat. _____ Total \$ _____

Bunkhouse:

(Each sleeps 12) \$4.00/person Fri. _____ Sat. _____ Total \$ _____

Saturday Dinner - Number of Meals @ \$7.00 (adults) \$6.00 (12 & Under):

\$7.00 _____ \$5.00 _____ Total \$ _____

\$5.00 LATE FEE IF POST MARKED AFTER SEPTEMBER 5 \$ _____

Make check payable to : GCA for Grand Total \$ _____

Willing to lead a trip Saturday or Sunday on:

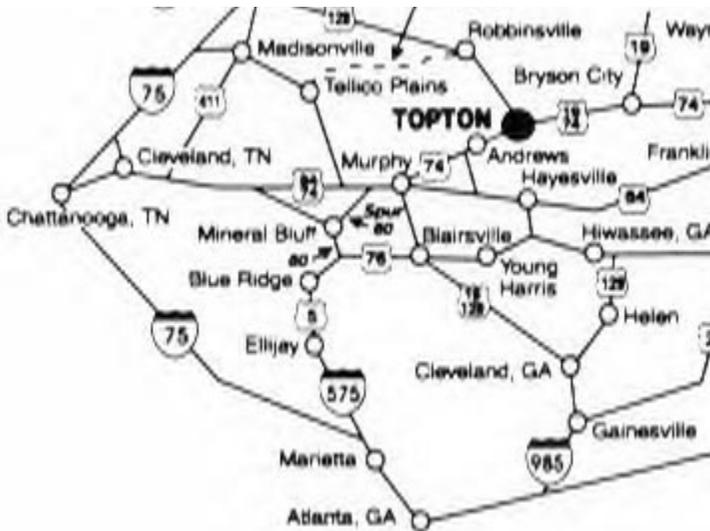
Cartecay _____ Nantahala _____ Tuckasiegee _____ Pigeon _____ Ocoee _____

Upper Chattahoochee _____ Chattooga _____ Other: _____

Lake(s): _____

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1.800.936.6649
www.nantahalacampground.com
P.O. BOX 25
TOPTON, NC 28781

See their website for a map/directions/cabin pictures/hiking trails/area information and more



Kayak and Canoe Clinics

at the Fall Gala

September 15 & 16

Beginner, Trained Beginner, Intermediate

Last chance to pack in a weekend of fun and learning. All levels welcome – beginner to intermediate – kayak or canoe. We'll start on Lake Fontana for basic stroke work before moving to river work on the Nantahala or the Tuckasegee depending on skill level.

ACA Instructors and Willing Assistants – We want you!

Call Knox (kayak) or Marvine (canoe)

for class or teaching information

770.475.3022

or mail your registration to 625 Glendalough Court, Alpharetta, GA 30004

You must be a member of the GCA to register for a clinic. Call 404.421.9729 for a membership application or download it from www.georgiacanoe.org. Dues are \$25. You will NOT be registered until the coordinator receives this completed form and a check for \$50.00 per person. Register now to reserve your weekend of fun!

- Canoe
- Kayak

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- Beginner
- Trained Beginner
- Intermediate

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or prescription medicines \_\_\_\_\_

Disability or physical problems \_\_\_\_\_

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