



Winter Roll Practice

Joint GCA / AWC winner roll practice is back! Indoor pool roll sessions will be held Mondays from 7:00 to 9:00 PM beginning the first Monday in January and running through the last Monday in March, with the exception of the MLK holiday. Plan to take advantage of this great service provided by your club. Whether you want to learn to roll, practice your roll to stay sharp, teach a fellow paddler to roll, or work on other techniques such as wet exits, hand rolls, deep water re-entries, etc., the indoor heated pool is THE best place to hone these skills in the middle of the winter.

NEW LOCATION: Due to scheduling problems at the old location, we will be going back to the Warren Memorial Boys' & Girls' Club. The club is located at the corner of Berne and Marion Streets near Grant Park. To get there, exit I-20 at the Boulevard / Grant Park / Cyclorama exit southbound. Go about 1/2 mile to the traffic light at Berne Street — turn left. Go about another 1/2 mile and you'll see a large brick building on the left at the corner of Berne & Marion Streets. Turn left. You are at the Warren Club building. The pool entrance is in the rear. Enter through the gate on the far end of the building to unload boats.

Once again the ACA carries our insurance for this event, and non-ACA members will be required to sign up for an ACA event membership at an additional cost of \$5.00 for the entire event (January thru March). This is in addition to the \$5.00 per session paid to defray pool rental expense. ACA members, have your ACA number available or pay for an event membership.

Revel Freeman is our Roll Practice Coordinator. If you have questions about roll practice, or would like to volunteer to help, either with instruction or with keeping track of money and waivers, call Revel at 404.261.8572.

BESURE YOUR BOAT IS CLEAN. A hose is available at the door to rinse out river mud, old bird's nests or cobwebs.

December GCA Meeting

The December GCA meeting will once again be the Annual Holiday Party. The party is scheduled for Friday, December 20, at 7:30 PM at the Garden Hills Community Center in Buckhead. Bring a covered dish and/or a dessert, a festive holiday mood, some good paddling tales and an appetite, and we'll all get together and celebrate the Holiday Season. At this writing, we are still working on a possible program (entertainment) for the meeting.

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!!



What's Inside...

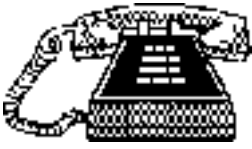
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Happy Holidays!!



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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 Marvine Cole at 770.475.3022 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 Mike Winchester at 770.319.8969.

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 Jim Albert at 770.414.1521.

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 Geoff Kohl at 404.457.3517 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 Marvine Cole at 770.475.3022 so she 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	Marvine Cole
Vice President	Gina Johnson
Secretary	Tom Bishop
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Vacant
Recreation Chair	Gretchen Mallins
Resource Development Chair	Cameron Pach
River Protection Chair	Jim Tibbetts
Training Chair	Jim Albert

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 gacanoem@mindspring.com. The text of an article can be placed in the body of a message, and photo images can be attached to the message as attached files. To submit material via COMPUTER DISK submit articles or trip reports on a 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 inch IBM/DOS formatted disk as an ASCII text file labeled with a ".txt" file extension, or as a text file on a 3-1/2 inch high density MacIntosh formatted disk, and include a printed copy (Disks returned only if requested). To submit material via U.S. MAIL, send to: **Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, GA 30066**. All classified ads will be run for two months unless otherwise requested. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Contact Newsletter Editor **Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318** for questions. Thanks for your cooperation. ✂

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

December

5	Board of Directors Meeting — Members invited — Atlanta Botanical Gardens		770.475.3022
8	Metro Chattahoochee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Mike Winchester 770.319.8969
8	Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Edward Stockman 770.441.9767
14	Metro Chattahoochee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Mike Winchester 770.319.8969
14	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor 770.664.7384
20	Club Meeting — Annual Holiday Party — Garden Hills Community Center —	Marvine Cole	770.475.3022

January

18-20	Ichetucknee Springs/Crystal River (FL)	Smooth Water	Morris Friedman 770.469.8414
20	Little River Canyon (AL)(Note 1)	Class 3+ & 4- Advanced	Dane White 256.435.3827

February

6	Board of Directors Meeting — Members invited — Atlanta Botanical Gardens		770.475.3022
17	Town Creek (AL)	Class 3+ Advanced	Dane White 256.435.3827

March

8	South Sauty (AL)	Class 4 Advanced	Dane White 256.435.3827
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Note 1: Upper II & Chair Lift sections.

Your Trip Could Be Listed in This Space — Call the Cruise Master and Sign Up Now!!

Signing Up: Call the trip coordinator listed to sign up for trips. Most trip coordinators will move a trip to an alternate venue if the water levels and conditions for a particular trip are not favorable. 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 was learned in the clinic and expanding skill levels.

To Volunteer to Lead Trips: Call the Cruisemaster, Mike Winchester, at 770.319.8969. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flat water to class 5 white water. Our excellent trip schedule depends on the efforts of volunteers, so get involved and sign up to coordinate a trip on your favorite river today! The GCA needs YOU!

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

Roll Practice: Monday evenings from 7:00-9:00 PM January thru March at the Warren Memorial Boys' & Girls' Club pool. See announcement in this issue of *The Eddy Line*.

Attention GCA Members!!!!

Be a hero and sign up your friends as GCA members. Not only will you be helping to grow the club, but starting in February, MTI Adventurewear will be giving away two PFDs to new members every month. That's right, MTI will send out PFDs (white water or touring) for 2 lucky new members each month throughout the 2002 year. Names of winners of this random drawing will be published each month in the newsletter. You can check out MTI's line of products at www.mtiadventurewear.com.



PO Box 890178

Weymouth MA 02189

Email: info@mtiadventurewear.com

Ph: 781.340.5380

Fax: 781.340.5382

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

Godforsaken Sea: Racing the World's Most Dangerous Waters
Happy Isles of Oceana: Paddling the Pacific
Homelands: Kayaking the Inside Passage
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 Proteeting 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 South Fork

Announcements

GCA Email List

The GCA email list has at this printing about 300 subscribers. Thanks to Mike Kaplan and our friends at Kaplan Communications for providing software and server space for the GCA email list.



Here's how the list works:

By sending an email to "gacanoelists.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 "gacanoelists.kapcom.com" and in the BODY of the message type:

subscribe gacanoelists.kapcom.com

You will receive a verification that you are subscribed 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 gacanoelists.kapcom.com. If you want to receive any of this information, please subscribe to the list using the above instructions. Also, don't be shy about using the list to send out or to request information about paddling related topics, rivers you're interested in, etc.

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

GCA Web Page

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

Canoe Outfitting & Repair

Featuring Voyageur™ Products

Custom outfitting of your open canoe or C-1
Saddles, thigh straps, air bags, knee pads, skid plates
and more

ABS repair for worn, cracked or broken hulls

Canoe Instruction

Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced levels

Call Allen Hedden 770.426.4318

Email canoeist@mindspring.com

Get *The Eddy Line* Via Email

The Eddy Line is available via email as a .pdf (portable document format) file. This format allows subscribers to view formatted text, graphics, page layout — virtually the entire *Eddy Line* — just as it appears in printed form. Plus you can see it at least a couple of weeks before the printed copy arrives via snail mail. You can also print out a paper copy of the .pdf file and it looks just like the snail mail copy (except most of the photos are in living color).

The .pdf version requires only Adobe Acrobat Reader (or some equivalent) software in order to view it. Acrobat Reader is usually present on most PCs running Windows operating systems, or can be downloaded for free from the Adobe web site at <http://www.adobe.com>.

To subscribe to the email version of *The Eddy Line*, send a request via snail mail to:

GCA

c/o Ed Schultz, Treasurer

3060 Pharr Court North #315

Atlanta, GA 30305

Or you can email your request to Ed Schultz at heloeddy@mindspring.com.

Or on your annual renewal form, just check the block for the *Electronic Eddy Line* and INCLUDE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS so we can send *The Eddy Line* to you electronically. ✂

And the Winners Are....

The lucky winners of the new PFDs from MTI Adventurewear in the New Member Drawing for the month of September 2002 are George & Ruth Gray. Congratulations, George & Ruth!! Membership Chair Cameron Pach will contact you regarding your choices of PFD type.

Watch for the November winner announcement in the next *Eddy Line*. ✂

Mail Failure Notices

Since members are no longer charged for receiving the *Electronic Eddy Line*, we cannot bend over backward to ensure email addresses are kept up-to-date. If your email address comes back with a mail failure notice, you will be deleted from the recipient list for the *Electronic Eddy Line* until we get a request to be added back with a current email address.

Also, if we get a mail failure notice against an email ID on the GCA Email List, that ID will be unsubscribed. It is the subscriber's responsibility to maintain the subscription with the current email ID.

Your cooperation is appreciated — it makes less work for our volunteer staff. ✂

Upcoming Events of Interest

December 7-8 — Tuckaseegee Jiffy Slalom & Wild Water Race — Bryson City, NC, NRC 828.488.2175 ext. 108, www.nrcrhinos.com.

January 1, 2003 — Cartecay Chili Run — Cartecay River, Ellijay, GA, Jay Srymanske, 706.635.2524.

April 11-13, 2003 — East Coast Canoe & Kayak Festival — Charleston, SC.

February 8, 2003 — Locust Fork Invitational Canoe & Kayak Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.

March 1-2 — Mulberry Fork Canoe & Kayak Races — Garden City, AL.

March 22, 2003 — Locust Fork Classic Canoe & Kayak Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.

April 26-27, 2003 — Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championships — Nantahala River, Wesser, NC, Knox Worde 770.475.3022.

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

Fall Meeting and Elections

The Fall General Membership Meeting and Covered Dish Dinner was a great success, with Scott Shipley providing a wonderful entertainment program, and the members providing a fantastic array of food.

Annual elections were held, and the following officers were elected:

President	Marvine Cole
Vice President	Gina Johnson
Secretary	Tom Bishop
Treasurer	Ed Schultz

Our thanks go to these people for their willingness to serve the club! ✂

Anna Belle Close, 87, Liked Heavens, Earth

by J.E. Geshwiler

Atlanta Journal-Constitution Staff Writer

When Anna Belle Close was a girl living near Washington, her mother took her almost daily to the Smithsonian Institution. Often, her mother napped while the 5-year-old explored exhibit after exhibit. Thus began a beautiful friendship between Anna Belle and the world of nature. She would go on to be a devotee of the stars and planets, of plant and animal life and of wilderness and wild rivers, especially of the Georgia variety.

Mrs. Close, 87, died Friday, October 18, of complications from Alzheimer's disease at Heritage Hills Special Care Center in Columbus.

In 1940, Mrs. Close was uneasy about moving to Atlanta and joining her husband of one week, William Close, said her daughter Dixie Turman of Columbus. On the train ride, however, the conductor periodically called out, "If you're bound for Atlanta, you're on the right track." Mrs. Close took that as a good omen, her daughter said.

The couple settled in Decatur, and their home eventually became the after-meeting gathering place for the Atlanta Astronomy Club, of which she was a charter member and later president. "I remember as a child going to bed to the sound of conversation and laughter and the smell of Mother's coffee," Mrs. Turman said.

She and her husband, who died in 1994, traveled to Canada to see a total solar eclipse and to South America in 1986 to view Halley's comet. She went on a picture-taking safari through East Africa, including Mount Kilimanjaro. During the late 1950s, she invited friends to her back yard to view orbiting Soviet and U.S. satellites through a 16-inch telescope Mr. Close built himself.

She had plenty of earthbound interests, too. She was president of the Georgia Canoeing Association in 1975 and white-watered down most of Georgia's more challenging rivers.

She hiked the North Georgia hills with the Appalachian Trail Club and the Georgia Botanical Society and often went birding with the Audubon Society. She had two file boxes full of index cards on birds she had spotted and catalogued.

And she kept a menagerie at home, mostly of the feline and canine variety. "Mother said she saw stray dogs and cats coming down the sidewalk and purposefully turning into our yard in hopes of being taken in as our pets," her daughter said.

She was a generous hostess, often inviting foreign students at local colleges over for meals and occasionally

as roomers.

Survivors include two other daughters, Carol Taylor of Lawrenceville and Lila Rivera of Broken Arrow, Okla.; a son, William Close of Snellville; nine grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. - From "The Atlanta Journal-Constitution" 10/22. ✂

Cartecay Chili Run

by Jay Srymanske

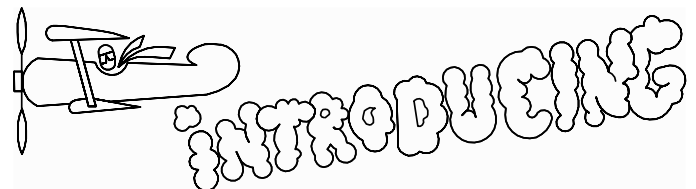
With frost in the air and winter coming, it can only mean the 17th Annual Cartecay River Chili Run on January 1, 2003, is coming fast. A proud tradition started when Gary Foster stated he would do the run on 1-1-87.



Archive photo of the first Cartecay Chili Run, January 1, 1987. - Submitted by Jay Srymanske.

Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions has hosted the event under all conditions possible. A great day on the river followed by a great chili cook-off or bowl of chili can't be beat. Nothing can top bringing in the New Year with the dip of a paddle and the dip of a spoon with the originals.

Shuttles from 10 AM, chili from 12 noon, and chili results at 3 PM. See you then, or for more info call 706.635.2524. Always here for paddling folks, Jay. ✂



Welcome New Members

The GCA would like to welcome the following new (and nearly new) members. New members are the life blood and the future of the club. Thank you for joining us!!

October

D.G. & Amy Pearse

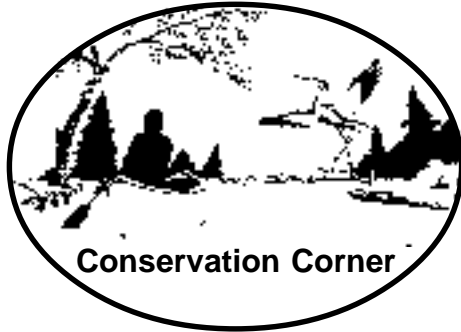
Columbus OH

Nancy S. Shue	Huntsville AL
George & Ruth Gray	Atlanta GA
David & Carol Shankle	Nashville TN
Temptie & Timothy Knapp	Riverdale GA
Thomas A. Sayroe	Marietta GA



Mayor Franklin Announces Plan to Overhaul Atlanta's Sewers

Atlanta officials announced a comprehensive, multibillion-dollar plan to improve water quality in the city's streams. The plan, called Clean Water Atlanta, attacks dirty city streams by fixing



the city's aging sewer system so it no longer leaks, by stepping up water-quality monitoring and by creating a storm water utility that will oversee storm sewer projects and collect the money to pay for them...

...By late 2003 — when the utility should be ready — residents will also face a new rain tax to generate money for the storm sewer repairs. Typically, the fee is figured by the amount of impervious surface on a property. Buildings with large parking lots and roof tops pay the most. A utility also would assess charges against other governments, such as Fulton and DeKalb Counties or the state, for rainwater that spills off highways within the city...

...Sally Bethea, executive director of the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, hailed the city's plan as a boon to water quality. The Riverkeeper helped force the sewer cleanup by suing the city over its repeated overflows.

"Riverkeeper is 100 percent behind this mayor," Bethea said. "She understands what it will take for Atlanta to manage its water and wastewater. This is a great day for Atlanta."...

Prepared remarks by Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin on the "Clean Water Atlanta" initiative:

"...What I am interested in is creating the cleanest streams and rivers of any large city in America. And that is the goal of Clean Water Atlanta. My commitment to you is to create the cleanest urban streams and rivers in the country within a decade..."

"...To ensure that we maintain this program over the long term, I have asked Sally Bethea and the Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper — one of the most-respected

[KAPLAN COMMUNICATIONS AD WOULD NOT PRINT IN .PDF FILE

water quality organizations in the state — to take on the formal oversight of the program. The Riverkeeper will put together a team of environmental organizations to serve as the city's advisory group for water monitoring. This group will make sure that the city's program fulfills its potential."...

- Excerpted from "The Atlanta Journal-Constitution" 10/16 via the GCA email list.



Boat Safe — Avoid Hypothermia



Even when the weather is warm, do not forget that in many areas the water can be very, very cold. A sudden unexpected wake or other "unbalancing event" can land you in the frigid water. Although the possibility of drowning from falling into the water is a real threat, so too is hypothermia.

Hypothermia is a condition that exists when the body's temperature drops below ninety-five degrees. This can be caused by exposure to water or air. The loss of body heat results in loss of dexterity, loss of consciousness, and eventually loss of life. A few minutes in cold water makes it very difficult to swim, even to keep yourself afloat. In addition, a sudden, unexpected entry into cold water may cause a reflexive "gasp" allowing water to enter the lungs. Drowning can be almost instantaneous.

Your body can cool down 25 times faster in cold water than in air. If you examine the chart below you will see that survival time can be as short as 15 minutes. Water temperature, body size, amount of body fat, and movement in the water all play a part in cold water survival. Small people cool faster than large people and children cool faster than adults.

PFDs can help you stay alive longer in cold water. You can float without using energy, and they cover part of your body, thereby providing some protection from the cold water. When boating in cold water you should

consider using a flotation coat or deck-suit style PFD. They cover more of your body and provide even more protection.

Hypothermia does not only occur in extremely cold water. It can, and does, occur even in the warmer waters of Florida and the Bahamas.

Hypothermia is progressive — the body passes through several stages before an individual lapses into an unconscious state. The extent of a person's hypothermia can be determined from the following:

1. Mild Hypothermia — the person feels cold, has violent shivering and slurred speech.
2. Medium Hypothermia — the person has a certain loss of muscle control, drowsiness, incoherence, stupor and exhaustion.
3. Severe Hypothermia — the person collapses and is unconscious and shows signs of respiratory distress and/or cardiac arrest probably leading to death.

Conservation of heat is the foremost objective for a person in the water. To accomplish this, limit body movement. Don't swim unless you can reach a nearby boat or floating object. Swimming lowers your body temperature and even good swimmers can drown in cold water.

If you can pull yourself partially out of the water — do so. The more of your body that is out of the water (on top of an over-turned boat or anything that floats), the less heat you will lose. Especially keep your head out of the water if at all possible — this will lessen heat loss and increase survival time.

Hypothermia Chart

If the Water Temp. (F) is:	Exhaustion or Unconsciousness	Expected Time of Survival is:
32.5	Under 15 min.	Under 15 - 45 min.
32.5 - 40	15 - 30 min.	30 - 90 min
40 - 50	30 - 60 min.	1 - 3 hours
50 - 60	1 - 2 hours	1 - 6 hours
60 - 70	2 - 7 hours	2 - 40 hours
70 - 80	3 - 12 hours	3 - Indefinite
Over 80	Indefinite	Indefinite



Heat Escape Lessening Position — H. E. L. P.

Wearing a PFD in the water is a key to survival. A PFD allows you to float with a minimum of energy expended and allows you to assume the heat escape lessening position — H. E. L. P.

This position, commonly referred to as the fetal position, permits you to float effortlessly and protect those areas most susceptible to heat loss including the armpits, sides of the chest, groin, and the back of the knees. If you find yourself in the water with others, you should huddle as a group to help lessen heat loss.

Treatment of hypothermia can be accomplished by gradually raising the body temperature back to normal. Re-establishing body temperature can be as simple as sharing a sleeping bag or blanket with another individual, or applying warm moist towels to the individual's neck, sides of chest and groin. Remove wet clothes as they inhibit heat retention. A warm bath could be used for mild to medium hypothermia, gradually increasing the temperature. Keep arms and legs out of the water and do not attempt to raise the body temperature too quickly.

Do not massage the victim's arms and legs. Massage will cause the circulatory system to take cold blood from the surface into the body's core, resulting in further temperature drop. Do not give alcohol, which causes loss of body heat, or coffee and tea which are stimulants (and cause vasodilation) and may have the same effect as massage.

- From the www.boatsafe.com web site.



The First Aid Kit

by **Tod Bethea**

I have been asked what I felt should go in a first aid paddling kit. I am a family practice physician with a great interest in the outdoors. I am especially addicted to paddling. I try to keep it simple.

The list for our small kit is:

A variety of Band aids, large, small, knuckle, butterfly/steristrips, etc.

A roll of cloth first aid tape

Tincture of benzoin

Duct tape

4x4 telfa/ nonstick pads

4x4 gauze pads

Small squirt bottles of saline solution(same as contact lens wash), Hydrogen peroxide, and 10% iodine solution (ask about allergies before using this)

Antibiotic ointment (Neosporin makes some single use packets called Neo-to-go which are good)

Benadryl/diphenhydramine 12.5 mg chewable tablets

Tylenol

Ibuprofen/motrin/alleve etc.

Aspirin 81 mg chewable

Immodium/loperamide for diarrhea

Tums for other stomach problems

Tweezers or fine pointed hemostats

Large safety pins

Feminine pad to assist in stopping bleeding from larger cuts

Tampon the ob or other smaller brands for a persistent nosebleed

Ace bandage 2"

A few Powerbars or their equivalent

A CPR shield(You do know CPR, don't you!)

All this will all fit in a small dry bag or a wide mouthed Lexan bottle. I put them in a few Ziploc baggies then the dry bag for extra precaution.

For more remote trips I add:

A SAM splint (about \$15)

Sawyer extract kit for stings, bites etc (\$12)

Space blankets

Comments:

I am a generic kind of guy, but have found Bandid brand Tuffstrips and Waterblockers work particularly well. For a scrape or cut, I squirt it off with the saline then hydrogen peroxide then the iodine or antibiotic cream. The benzoin will help the bandage stick.

An alternative is to put the band aid on the wrap with one layer of first aid tape then cover with duct tape. Duct tape directly over a wound is a bad idea. For deeper cuts the butterfly strips with the benzoin works well; just make sure to clean thoroughly first.

And, yes, cuts can be superglued, but most people do it wrong by putting the glue on the edges of the wound and pressing together which actually slows healing and increases scarring. It needs to be a fairly straight wound and very thoroughly cleansed. Push the edges together then run several thick beads of glue over the wound and hold 'til dry. This can work but I have had better luck with butterfly strips.

I prefer the chewable Benadryl for 2 reasons, easier to give and a smaller dose. It is good for stings and bites and rashes. The sooner given the better. An adult can have up to 50 mg (4 tablets) but 12.5 works for me and doesn't make me drowsy. (Yes, I am a wimp when it comes to medicine).

The ibuprofen is good to have for sprains or strains, again the sooner the better. The aspirin is good in the rare case of chest pain possibly related to the heart. It has been shown to improve survival after heart attacks. It can be given while help is being gotten.

A good shoulder/arm sling can be made from pulling

the bottom of the shirt over the arm and pinning it near the collar. A spray skirt also works for this.

If anyone has severe allergies, they should carry an Epinephrine injection / Epi-pen. These can be life saving. If given, the person should still seek medical attention because they can wear off. These do require a prescription, so ask your doctor.

Training in CPR and first aid is invaluable. I recommend this to each and everyone. You may never need it, but if you do it could save a life.

I am sure I left something out and would love to hear suggestions. I am going to wilderness medicine conference (complete with swift water rescue class) at the end of the month and will let you know of anything new.

- From the Atlanta Whitewater Club email list. ✂

Share the Rivers: Protect Our Ability to Enjoy Them

America Outdoors and American Whitewater recommend how to share rivers, safely. A joint guideline has been introduced by both groups that includes recommended river running 'etiquette' for commercial and non-commercial paddlers. Intended to address the increases in shared use of river resources, the RiverShare guidelines establish a reference by which new paddlers and commercial river guides alike can better share rivers as collective stewards for these precious resources.

Positive, cooperative relationships between river users are important to the future of paddle sports and to the future of rivers themselves. Please follow the guidelines below in an effort to establish or maintain positive relationships with other river users. Unnecessary conflicts may result in unwanted regulations and enforcement actions that may limit opportunities and enjoyment of the river.

Rules of the Road

* At put-ins and take-outs behave in a friendly, positive manner toward others and be helpful to those who might need assistance. Be mindful of the time that you are spending occupying the launch or take-out area so that you do not unfairly restrict opportunities for others.

* Allow for spacing up and downstream of others, particularly in a rapid, and seek to avoid collisions. Colliding boaters should not leave the scene without checking with the other paddlers and making sure that they are unhurt. Do not take any action that escalates conflict.

* When entering a rapid, the upstream craft has the right of way. Those entering the current should yield to those already in it. Never cut in front of an oncoming boat.

* When exiting the current, avoid eddies that are full, if

possible, and take care when entering occupied eddies. Exit an eddy when you see approaching boats, to facilitate your safe exit and entry, respectively.

* When playing, avoid blocking navigation by yielding to oncoming, upstream craft. Exit a play spot after a reasonable time to allow someone else to use it.

* Always provide assistance to others who are in trouble or who are injured. Provide whatever assistance you are qualified to give or help them in obtaining assistance.

* When traveling on rivers and camping overnight, consult with other groups on the water about their stopping and camping intentions, and strive to cooperate by spreading out among desirable locations. Do not invade another party's campsite: If darkness, emergency or other factors require you to set a camp close to others, always explain the situation and attempt to gain their understanding while respecting their privacy.

- From the American Whitewater web site. ✂

Year 2000 White Water Injury Survey

by Rick Shoen & Mike Stano

These are summary results of the Year 2000 White Water Injury Survey. Full data has been published (June 2002) in the journal Wilderness and Environmental Medicine.

Between June and December 2000 we collected 319 useable responses regarding boating demographics, equipment and injuries from hard shell canoe and kayak paddlers across North America. These were collected both through our web site and hard copy responses. Raft and inflatable kayak paddling was excluded. We hope you find this of some interest.

Demographics:

Women: 28%, Men: 72%

80% were between 20 and 50 years of age. 14% were less than 20; 2% were over 60 years.

Kayak was paddled exclusively by 63%, and some of the time by 90%. Canoe was paddled exclusively by 6.6%, and some of the time by 33%.

The average years of paddling was 7.3.

50% paddled 0-50 days a year. The average days per year was 67 with a range of 5-300.

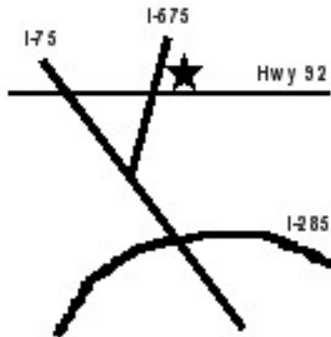
Most boating was done on class 4 and below. 38% did some class 4+, and 25% did some class 5 (an average of 10% of their boating time).

Equipment:

11% used a helmet face guard an average of 2.75 years. 69% of users felt it had protected their face. We cannot answer if they caused any problems.

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12% of kayakers used a bent shaft paddle an average of 11 months.

72% of kayakers used 45 or 60 degree feathered paddles. 5% paddled unfeathered paddles. 14% of kayakers decreased feather angle to help with wrist problems, and 73% of those felt it had helped.

22% wore paddling gloves.

Miscellaneous:

14% reported the diagnosis of or treatment for giardia infection. 64% of those felt it came from their paddling activities. The background rate of giardiasis in the U.S. is reported at 4%.

27% had been injured hiking on shore during a paddling trip. Women were more likely to be injured hiking (36% vs. 24%).

Injuries:

We divided injuries into acute (a known immediate injury) and chronic (a slow onset overuse injury). There were a total of 673 injuries reported (2.2 per respondent). This included 391 acute (1.22/respondent) and 285 chronic (.9/respondent). The injury rate was estimated to be 1.8

injuries per 1000 days paddled. By comparison, Alpine skiing, cross country skiing, and wind surfing have estimated rates of 3.2, <1, and 1 respectively. These rates should be taken with a grain of salt.

Injuries overall were most common at the shoulder, wrist/hand, and elbow/forearm areas.

Direct trauma (laceration, contusion and abrasion) and sprain/strain were the most common acute injuries. Chronic overuse injuries were dominated by tendonitis and sprain/strain.

Medical visits were obtained for 42% of injuries (47% of acute injuries and 36% of chronic injuries).

Surgery was performed for 3.7% of injuries including 13% of acute shoulder injuries.

14% of injuries affected paddling longer than 24 months. Chronic injuries generally affected paddling longer than acute injuries (25% vs. 5% affected paddling > 24 months). Back/chest/hip (trunk) injuries had the most duration of effect on paddling for both acute and chronic injuries. Fractures were 9% of acute injuries and most common in back/chest/hip and ankle.

Shoulder dislocation was reported by 6% of surveyed. Lacerations represented 31% of wrist/hand injuries, and 38% of head/face/neck injuries.

As might be expected, injury incidence rose with increased exposure as expressed by years paddled and days per year.

Injuries comparison by gender showed a potential difference in back/chest/hip injuries. Men reported significantly more acute back/chest/hip injuries, while women reported more chronic back/chest/hip injuries. For other areas of injury, the reporting either was proportional to the gender ratio or reported statistically insignificant differences.

Comparison by craft showed kayakers had significantly more head/face/neck injuries (17.6% vs. 5.0%). Canoeists had more chronic elbow/forearm injury (30% vs. 17%). The most commonly reported acute canoe injuries were at knee/leg; canoe chronic injuries were most common at elbow/forearm. Kayak injuries were most common at shoulder area for both acute and chronic injuries.

There was a trend that play/rodeo paddling had higher rates of injury than general river running. Creek and slalom boating may also have higher rates, but the statistics were not adequate.

Surveys have significant limitations; all the data has to be taken with caution. We have to trust the respondents' report and memory. Injured persons may be more likely to respond even though we encouraged the never injured. The complexity of this survey might lend to error. Even so, the results raise questions and point out possible trends.

A prospective following of paddlers over time would clarify true rates of injury, especially if backed up with medical records. We hope that all you paddlers will continue to participate in future studies of paddler injuries.

We wish to thank all participants in this study, and the very many who helped in so many ways.

- From "The Bulletin", newsletter of the Washington Kayak Club. ✂

Help Needed!

I'm in need of willing helpers to fill several race crew positions for next year's Southeastern Race. As many of you know, the race has been run by a few hardy souls over the last five to ten years. These people need a break! It is time for newer club members to step forward and agree to help. None of these positions are difficult, and those of us who have helped in the past will be here to help train and assist.

If we are going to continue to put on this race, we need your support. We need coordinators or co-coordinators for the following positions: Registrar, Timing, Starting, Hospitality, Safety, Publicity, Sponsorship. Please e-mail me at gwminc@mindspring.com or call at 404.226.8363.

Thank you, Gina Johnson, Race Master. ✂



Race Watch

unwilling in moving forward to provide water on the Upper Ocoee in order to support the local economy through a healthy white water and tourism industry.

The Championships themselves marked a number of firsts in the sport of free style kayaking. The event was the first to recognize champions from each age and ability level. The event also became the place for amateur athletes to earn their pro status for 2003.

Tennessee native Javid Grubbs wowed the crowd with an impressive array of aerial moves clearly identifying that a new era in free style paddling is here to stay. Grubbs went on to become the Men's Pro National Champion. The National Championship had a purse of \$10,000 in cash and prizes.

- From the American Whitewater on-line newsletter. ✂

Ocoee River and Teva White Water National Championships

Ducktown, TN — The 2002 Teva White Water National Championships concluded seven months of intense competition on the Teva Tour and kicked off AW's "Free the Ocoee" effort. The event was an overall success that gained the interest of 4 regional TV networks, several newspapers and radio talk shows.

It coincided with the expiration of a 5-year agreement to provide 20 releases annually for events, drafted and signed in 1996 by the TVA. The TVA has been

Paddle Power Kayaker Flips Over Water 'Roller Coaster'

by Michele Clock

Thursday, October 17, 2002. Ten-year-old Willy Dickerson hops out of his dad's green pickup truck and walks around back to get his skirt. His spray skirt, that is. It's an essential piece of equipment for Dickerson, a Mount Rainier fifth-grader who is also a top kayaker.

Willy buckles the skirt. It seals the open space between his body and the edges of his kayak's hole, making his boat watertight. He straps on his PFD, or personal

flotation device, and his helmet. Kayak in tow, Willy sets off for the Brookmont feeder canal, a stretch of water near the Potomac River in Bethesda. He crosses the Clara Barton Parkway and the C&O Canal towpath, and winds down a narrow dirt path that leads to the water.

He places his 13-foot-long kayak in the water and settles into it. It's something Willy does once or twice a week, both with and without his team, the Valley Mill Paddling Club.

Willy started with the sport as a 7-year-old, starting at Valley Mill's summer day camp. Two years ago, he advanced to Valley Mill's year-round paddling club. Alongside his mainly 14- and 15-year-old teammates, he practices on the Brookmont course each Wednesday night.

"I don't think about school too much on Wednesdays," Willy said. "I'm thinking I want to be wet."

Willy specializes in slalom, which involves powering the kayak through a series of gates in a specific order — both upriver and downriver. The gates are pairs of poles that hang straight down from cords, ending just a few inches above water level. Seconds are added to an athlete's total time when he or she touches the gates. The lowest score wins.

"It's rare, but it's great when they start that young," said Jennifer Hearn, who knows Willy and was an assistant coach for the 2000 United States Olympic Kayak Team. "To find equipment scaled down is the major hurdle. In the past you had to build it yourself." (Willy's kayak is made of carbon fiber, Kevlar and fiberglass. He saved up and paid a third of the \$800 price himself.)

Willy already has mastered the basics of kayaking,

including most of the strokes, or methods of paddling his kayak, and the all-important roll: flipping upside down in the water and getting back upright.

"I had been paddling awhile before I tried to roll," said Willy. "My instructor showed me for about 10 minutes and it took about a week of doing it all day — I was extremely scared about it."

He's not scared anymore. Now Willy loves to show off his rolls. He says that he can roll an "infinite" number of times without getting dizzy.

"I just need to stop for some extra air every once in a while," Willy said.


Willy says he loves the feel of being on the water. "It's just so cool, it's like you're sliding on the water. It's like a roller coaster, it's just so fast and fun."

The hardest thing for Willy and other young kayakers is getting over the fear of fast-moving rapids, places where the water turns white as it rushes over rocks.

"When I'm at the rapid, at the top, I think about all the ways I could die," Willy said. "Most of the time I can't really die, but I just start to think about how I could."

Last weekend Willy earned his third first-place finish at the Penn Cups, a series of slalom races held each fall on Pennsylvania rivers. This spring Willy participated in a Junior Olympic Kayak Qualifier at Brookmont, and he hopes to make the Junior Olympic Kayak Team next year.

He also hopes to be paddling for a long time. "There's a man who is 77 and he still paddles. He's at every race," Willy said. "I'll be kayaking until I die."

- From "The Washington Post" via the USACanoe/Kayak email list. 

River Access

GCA Appeals USFS Chattooga Management Plan Amendment 14 Decision

The following is the text of an appeal filed by the Georgia Canoeing Association of the decision made by the USFS outlined in the Sumter National Forest Chattooga Wild & Scenic River Recreational Boating Use Amendment 14 Environmental Assessment (EA) and Decision Notice. River Protection Chair Jim Tibbetts, aided by Lindsay Meeks, did an excellent job of identifying and justifying the club's objections to the provisions adopted in the Decision Notice to the Forest Service. If you have questions about this appeal, or better still, if you are interested in working with Jim, Lindsay and other members of GCA's River Protection Committee to protect the boating

public's access to the Chattooga or other rivers, please contact Jim at the number given at the end of the Appeal Notice.

Notice of Appeal Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 217 October 15, 2002

Regional Forester
USDA Forest Service
1720 Peachtree Road, NW
Atlanta, GA 30367-9102

Copy: Forest Supervisor
USDA Forest Service
Francis Marion & Sumter
National Forests
4931 Broad River Road
Columbia, SC 29212-3530

Under provisions of 36 CFR 217 this is an appeal by the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc. (GCA) of the Sumter National Forest Chattooga Wild & Scenic River Recreational Boating Use Amendment 14 Environmental Assessment (EA) and Decision Notice dated August 30, 2002,

signed by Forest Supervisor Jerome Thomas.

The GCA represents over 1000 family members, many of whom paddle the Chattooga on a regular basis. We specifically object to sections 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 in the EA wherein the designations of Commercially-Guided Boaters and Self-Guided Boaters are defined, and to section 1.7.2 the exclusion of consideration of Boater Access above Highway 28.

River User Designations

The final Amendment 14 decision removes the designations of private and commercial river users in Appendix M of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the Sumter National Forest (August 1985) and replaces these definitions with the classifications of guided and self-guided river users.

GCA objects to this change in river user designation and seeks to have the designation returned to the more accurate private vs. commercial user classifications, and seeks that all related language within the EA match this designation.

Reasons for Objection

- * No justification was made for this change in the EA or any prior documents.
- * This change was done despite significant public comment against it.
- * This language change significantly alters the composition of the two groups and yet was never agreed upon by the public, nor was it presented or proposed publicly as anything other than an assumption.
- * Comments that were sent regarding this change were not acknowledged in the EA or the Decision Notice.
- * The guided and self-guided river user designation is without precedent in other river permits systems. The private and commercial river user designations are the standard used in other river permit systems such as Colorado River in the Grand Canyon, Tuolumne Wild and Scenic River, Nantahala River, Ocoee River, Salmon River, Youghiogheny Wild River, and many others.
- * The change would potentially allocate customers of special use permit holders against the self-guided user allocations. These river users are there as a result of commercial activities sanctioned by the USFS through a special use permit and would not otherwise represent private user demand. Yet this artificially created user demand would encroach upon the true private user's ability to access the river.

Specific Changes Sought

- * Correct the language in the entire document to reflect the true nature of the distinction between commercial and non-commercial boaters.
- * 1.2.1 Return the language to the previously accepted

Commercial Boaters from Commercially-Guided Boaters. All craft owned by commercially permitted companies, including those supplying guided raft trips, shuttle service, rentals, and/or training, would be identified as commercial.

- * 1.1.2 Return the language to the previously accepted Private Boaters from Self-Guided Boaters. All craft not owned by one of the commercially permitted companies would be identified as private. Craft rented at non-permitted companies would also be considered as private.
- * 1.3 Change language to reflect a Private/Commercial designation instead of the Commercially-Guided/Self-Guided designation.
- * 1.4 Correct the language to reflect the Private/Commercial designation that was in effect in the 1985 Forest Plan instead of the Commercially-Guided/Self-Guided as incorrectly stated.
- * 1.7.1 Change language to reflect a Private/Commercial designation instead of the Commercially-Guided/Self-Guided designation.
- * 2.0 Change all alternatives to reflect a Private/Commercial designation instead of the Commercially-Guided/Self-Guided designation.
- * 4.5 Change language to reflect a Private/Commercial designation instead of the Commercially-Guided/Self-Guided designation.

Boater Access Above Highway 28

The EA simply dismissed the consideration of boating use above Highway 28 as out of scope of the analysis and limited the scope of Amendment 14 to boating use on Sections I-IV of the Chattooga River. This was done despite significant public comment supportive of lifting the ban on boating above Highway 28 over the last 7 years. The GCA objects to boating above Highway 28 not being considered.

Reasons for Objection

- * No analysis of use of a river system can be complete if only a section of the river is considered. This EA is on the Chattooga Wild & Scenic River, and without including these sections of the river it is only a partial assessment.
- * No justification has ever been made for keeping boating off these sections of the river.
- * The decision ignores significant public demand for boating access on these sections of the river.
- * By opening up the upper sections of the river the impact may be spread across more areas.
- * With more miles on the river that could be boated, there may be a better wilderness experience for all.
- * The closure of the river above Highway 28 is inconsistent with other USFS management plans with navigable river systems.

* Perceived potential for user conflict between the fishing community and the boating community on this part of the river is either overstated or would not exist. Angling and boating use are complimentary and not in conflict. Angling and boating use will generally occur at different times under different river conditions.

Specific Changes Sought

- * Open up access to the river above Highway 28.
- * At a minimum, an analysis needs to be completed that includes all river access as one of the alternatives.
- * Establish a management prescription for the river above Highway 28 similar to that of Overflow Creek and other creeks throughout the USFS forest lands. In other words, realize that use will be highly weather dependent and self-regulating and does not require an active management approach.

Appellant:

Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc.
c/o James R. Tibbetts
River Protection Chair
981 Berne Street
Atlanta, Ga. 30316
H- 404.624.4817 W- 678.587.1524.



Fall Fee Demo Update

This Fall, a few things have happened on the Fee Demo front. This update includes a legislative update, an update of Fee Demo in the courts and an update on resolutions against Fee Demo.

Legislative Update

Legislatively, two bills were introduced this year to make Fee Demo permanent. One would make the program permanent for the Park Service, Forest Service, Fish & Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Land Management. The other would make Fee Demo permanent only for the Park Service.

Nothing has happened with either of these bills; nor with previous bills to end or make permanent the program. With a "lame duck" Congress coming back into session soon, nothing should be expected to happen. Additionally, some key proponents of Fee Demo, including James Hansen of Utah, will no longer be in Congress in the next session.

Once the new Congress begins, we'll need to have a new round of letters to Congress; not only to alert new members of Congress that Fee Demo should be ended, but to remind continuing members that we still don't want to see a permanent program.

Fee Demo in the Courts

There has been movement in the courts on Fee Demo

recently as well. Terry Dahl, a Fee Demo protester from Santa Barbara, lost his appeal to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on October 11. They ruled that the Forest Service could apply the fee to any forest visitor, regardless of their activity — including passing out literature against Fee Demo.

However, the court also ruled that a violation of the program is only an infraction punishable by a maximum \$100 fine (with no possible jail time). The Forest Service had attempted to make a violation a class B misdemeanor, punishable by up to a \$5000 and/or 6 months in jail.

The attorney on the case, Mary Ellen Barilotti, has filed to have her appeal on behalf of Mr. Dahl reconsidered by the court. None of the constitutional issues or conflicts with existing law were addressed by the court.

The Fee Demo Legal Challenge Fund continues to seek donations to support the ongoing effort to appeal Mr. Dahl's case, as well as the class action lawsuit filed on behalf of citizens harmed by Fee Demo. Go to <http://www.freeourforests.org/legalfund.html> for more information, including how to donate.

Sedona City Council Opposes Fee Demo

On October 22, the Sedona City Council voted 5-2 to pass a resolution to restore proper funding for public lands in order to eliminate the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program known in the Sedona area as the "Red Rock Pass." One of the dissenting votes came from a council member calling for a stronger resolution. This makes Sedona the 26th government to pass a resolution opposing Fee Demo, including 4 state legislatures, 16 counties, and 5 other cities.

The Arizona No Fee Coalition, which helped make this resolution come to be, plans to bring more resolutions to other governments in Arizona.



What is the Future of the Upper Ocoee?

The Tennessee Valley Authority has decided to use water in its rivers for power generation rather than other beneficial uses, contrary to the result of analyses of all economic data and the interest of the public.

The Upper Ocoee River is at risk of running dry. Based on Management decisions made by the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Upper Ocoee River may not flow in the future. The Upper Ocoee is the site of the 1996 Olympics, World Cup Slalom and American Whitewater Ocoee Rodeo free style events.

* Aside from two days of releases that are 'left over' from the cancelled 2001 World Championships due to 9/11/01, there will be no more releases scheduled for non-commer-

cial recreation and events as there have been for the past six years.

* The 'per customer' fee charged to commercial outfitters will make it unaffordable for them to run rafting trips on the Upper Ocoee.

Economics support an Upper Ocoee with its water flowing. TVA is choking off an important segment of the local economy — river-based tourism — by its refusal to share Ocoee river water. The economic impact of water used for white water recreation on the Ocoee outweighs the value of water used for power production by over 30 to 1. White water releases (twenty days per year) cost TVA ratepayers \$0.02 annually.

* Commercial rafting on the Upper Ocoee currently produces \$210,000 per day. The cost to replace this power is only \$6,650 for the equivalent 9-hour period.

* White water releases provide over 30 times more benefit for the local economy than does power generation.

* Lost power cost per day 9.5 hr. release x 28,000 kw (Ocoee #3 power) x \$0.025 KW/hr = \$6,650 per white water release

* Cost to TVA ratepayer: \$6,650 WW release / 8,000,000 ratepayers = \$0.0008 per WW release

* Annual cost to TVA ratepayer assuming 20 days of releases: 20 days x \$0.0008 = \$0.02 cents annually [Calculations derived from USFS 1996 DEIS for the Upper Ocoee River Corridor Recreational development]

The public supports an Upper Ocoee with its water flowing. Members of the public want TVA to increase recreational opportunities. 34% of those who attended public meetings during the Spring of 2002 felt that recreation should be TVA's top priority, while only 1% felt that it was a priority for TVA. Many of these respondents directly mentioned the Upper Ocoee as a concern. Conversely, 11% of attendees thought that TVA's top priority should be power generation, while 48% felt that it was their current priority.

TVA has ignored the interests of the public. TVA has made management decisions that ignore the input of the Southeastern Tennessee economic community and the interest of the public. The only water releases that are planned for the Upper Ocoee in 2003 are the two days allocated in 2001 for the World Slalom Championships. Thereafter, TVA plans to release no more water for the use of private citizens. Separately, TVA plans to raise the levy for outfitter customers to \$12.50, a level that cannot be regained sustainably by these businesses. Since they also have to meet minimum usage levels each year, this levy is certain to drive outfitters off the river and leave the river dry.

American Whitewater is asking citizens to help keep

water flowing in the Upper Ocoee. Ask the TVA Board of Directors to take responsibility for the regional economic data and voice of public opinion. We want TVA to provide water releases for public, non-commercial use and to establish a fair economic model with commercial outfitters on the Upper Ocoee that will be sustainable for the long term.

We ask that citizens write to the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors and ask them to maintain the Olympic legacy and the public trust of the citizens of Tennessee and the Southeastern US to free the water that belongs to the Upper Ocoee.

Background on the Upper Ocoee

The Upper Ocoee River, which brought the world to Tennessee as host of the 1996 Olympic white water slalom events, may soon be permanently dewatered by the TVA, leaving its mighty riverbed dry, its raging waters abandoned, and its proud Olympic heritage forgotten. Tragically, this \$26 million investment in bringing a world-class white water course to Polk County, a burden borne largely by local taxpayers, will be left for dead, restored exactly to its condition before 1996. In other words, dry.

Water is allowed by the TVA in the Upper Ocoee riverbed and Olympic course only in two instances: 1) when local outfitters pay for the water, and 2) during the 10 days of "free" water provided by the TVA for events such as the Ocoee Rodeo and the United States Olympic Slalom Team Trials. The board had made public that events must look to be "self-sufficient," in other words, pay for the water.

This board decision means that the Ocoee Rodeo, with an 18-year history, will no longer occur on the Upper Ocoee. Neither will national or international slalom events find a future home in Polk County. This fall's AW-sanctioned TEVA White Water National Championships will be the last white water event held at the Ocoee White Water Center. TVA stated that they have been "subsidizing" the white water industry long enough and that it is time to start fully recovering their costs.

TVA was established in 1933 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as part of his New Deal to steer the United States economy out of the Great Depression and specifically to generate prosperity within the Valley. As a result, TVA was charged with a fundamental responsibility to support economic development within the Tennessee Valley, primarily by helping communities help themselves.

But how do TVA's plans to terminate recreational releases on the Upper Ocoee fulfill its Congressional mandate to further economic development in the region? TVA is choking off an important segment of the local economy in the Polk County area — river-based tourism —

by its refusal to share Ocoee river water. It is estimated that the local economic impact of water used for white water recreation on the Ocoee outweighs the value of water used for power production by more than 30:1.

However, this data reinforces a dangerous notion of paying for water. Water in rivers is owned by the public under the Public Trust Doctrine and should not be inequitably withheld from the public. By claiming ownership of the Ocoee's water and demanding remuneration for lost revenue, TVA makes river outfitters vulnerable by making them the cornerstone of the local economy, which in turn makes the local economy vulnerable. Rafting companies simply cannot afford to pay for water long-term, especially since TVA is not entitled to ownership of the Ocoee's water.

Donating water for recreational purposes is a common practice for other power companies. For example, in 1993 Georgia Power teamed with both paddlers and community members to create releases on the Tallulah River and its dramatic river gorge left dry since 1913. In addition, Georgia Power generously donated approximately 3000 acres of land surrounding the gorge to the state of Georgia to establish Tallulah Gorge State Park.

Because of the Tallulah's small watershed, Georgia Power estimates a revenue loss on the Tallulah of \$75,000 per 10-day season, or approximately \$40 per boater per day. It realized that white water releases were infinitely more valuable to the surrounding community than to the company, because for a multi-billion dollar corporation, \$75,000 makes a very inconsequential impact on company economics.

On white water release weekends, Tallulah Gorge State Park experiences over 20,000 more visitors per year to the park, which in turn introduced 20,000 new visitors each year to the local economy. Georgia Power's unselfish decision to release water on the Tallulah at a cost to them truly revitalized a local economy and seamlessly brought a large utility, white water boaters, and an entire community together.

But unlike Georgia Power, TVA refuses to cooperate with boaters or with the community. It is unfortunate that the largest power company in North America with revenues of nearly \$7 billion will not forsake \$133,000 per year for releases on the Upper Ocoee River, hardly a dent in TVA's financial statements, to protect Tennessee's Olympic legacy, let alone to protect and nurture a local economy dependent on water releases.

TVA is not subject to the authority of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and therefore does not have to give recreational and environmental issues equal consideration to power generation and does not have to

cooperate with other federal agencies like the Forest Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service like private dam owners do. TVA's private competitors must comply with many social and ecological standards that TVA chooses to ignore.

TVA only manages three white water reaches in its entire system (the Hiwassee, Rock Island, and Ocoee) yet has countless miles of white water buried beneath reservoirs. Neither the Hiwassee or Ocoee are equitably managed for the recreational benefits they provide. TVA is mandated to provide for navigability under the TVA Act. The Ocoee is a navigable river, yet it is dewatered by TVA to the point where navigation is impossible. White water releases on the Upper Ocoee have no or minor impacts on lake levels upstream and white water releases will have negligible environmental impacts.

In 2001, TVA initiated a study on its reservoir operations, and for over a year, American Whitewater attended public meetings in hopes of that the study would recognize white water recreation as a project purpose for the Ocoee #2 and #3 stations. At those meetings, the public spoke. 34% of those who attended public meetings during the spring 2002 felt that recreation should be TVA's top priority, while only 1% felt that it was a priority for TVA. Many of these respondents directly mentioned the Upper Ocoee as a concern. Conversely, 11% of attendees thought that TVA's top priority should be power generation, while 48% felt that it was their current priority.

Unfortunately, TVA's Reservoir Operations Study (ROS) ultimately resulted in management decisions that ignored the input of the Copper Basin economic community and the interest of the public. The final draft of the ROS, due in February 2003, will include every reservoir and downstream interest in the entire TVA system except the Ocoee.

American Whitewater found the ROS completely disingenuous because of TVA's refusal to include a 1997 USFS plan to increase Upper Ocoee release capacity to 74 days instead of 20; its unilateral decision, without concern for public input, what information is and is not included in the decision making process; and its attempt to marginalize the significance of the Upper Ocoee by compartmentalizing regionally, yet placing burden on a broad region of ratepayers.

In 2003, the only water releases that are planned for the Upper Ocoee are the two days allocated in 2001 for the World Slalom Championships. Thereafter, TVA plans to release no more water for the use of private citizens. Separately, TVA plans to raise the levy for outfitter customers to \$12.50, a level that cannot be regained sustainably by these businesses. Since they also have to

meet minimum usage levels each year, this levy is certain to drive outfitters off the river and leave the river dry.

Unless TVA changes their expectation of full cost recovery or an alternative source of funding is developed, recreation on the Upper Ocoee will most likely end after the 2002 season. Direct negotiation with TVA has failed, continuing an unfortunately common trend for the Ocoee. In 1984, it took intervention by the United States Congress itself to secure recreational releases on the Middle Ocoee.

American Whitewater believes that:


- * The long-term financial well-being of the local community outweighs TVA's decision to withhold water from the Upper Ocoee River, and furthermore that white water recreation on the Upper Ocoee creates no detriment to the financial health of TVA.
- * This local financial well-being results from white water recreation, not from lake recreation or power generation.
- * The \$26 million public investment in the Ocoee White Water Center is not a one-time deal and should not be destroyed by TVA's unwillingness to share water.
- * The public owns the Ocoee's water, not the TVA. It is a public resource designated under the Public Land Trust; therefore TVA has no mandate to charge fees for its use.
- * White water releases have no effect on lake levels because TVA currently operates its Ocoee/Toccoa hydroelectric projects at least 95% of the year, and white water releases use the same amount of water as, if not less than,

power generation.

To help remedy this situation, American Whitewater proposes these key initiatives:

- * Legislation should be introduced and passed that recognizes white water recreation a project purpose of Ocoee #2 and #3.
- * A long-term management agreement should be developed between the State of Tennessee, TVA and the Forest Service, which recognizes the state as the managing authority.
- * The current contract between the state and TVA and the legislation authorizing releases on the Middle Ocoee must be retained.
- * The public must ask the TVA Board of Directors to take responsibility for the regional economic data and voice of public opinion.

We want TVA to provide water releases for public, non-commercial use and to establish a fair economic model with commercial outfitters on the Upper Ocoee that will be sustainable for the long term. We ask that citizens write to their congressional representatives and to the Tennessee Valley Authority Board of Directors and ask them to maintain the Ocoee's Olympic legacy and the public trust of the citizens of Tennessee and the Southeastern United States to free the water that belongs to the Upper Ocoee.

- From the American Whitewater web site, posted October 8, 2002, by Sutton Bacon. 

Paddlers in the Mist

by Becca Brown

It was a warm and cloudy day when five paddlers braved the "too low, too cold, and too rocky" Upper Chattahoochee. Actually on Sunday, November 10th, the river level was a nice 1.7 feet. Of course another few inches would have been great, but we were satisfied with what we had and no one whined. Marvine's rule is always good, "Don't complain about the water level," and as we also say, "It is low enough."

The brilliant yellows, oranges, and reds of our boats (except for my blue one) were mirrored along the riverbanks by the peaking fall colors in the trees. As we paddled along, one boat and then another disappeared into the thick mist that blanketed the river. Our senses were heightened to hear the sounds of white water approaching along the bends in the river. Everyone had good runs and smooth lines. A few of us practiced our rolls on purpose and some rolled by need. We surfed every wave and hole we could find and even became one with a rock or two.



After our lunch of doodads, Luna bars, and sub sandwiches, we encountered the scattered rain shower and headed downstream. We were fortunate that the thunderstorms and tornadoes held off until we were off the river. The little bit of rain was refreshing. There were occasional gusts of warm breezes that seemed very tropical and odd for the beginning of November.

At one point along the river we spotted a box turtle slowly making its way across the river. It was struggling and almost looked dead. Ray decided to rescue it and gave it a ride across the river to higher and drier ground. He commented that he might not do the same for a fellow paddler. He would be tempted to say, "Swim, you pin-head!" A great blue heron flew ahead of us for a while and then disappeared into the mist. We looked for snakes but none were visible.

Right before Horseshoe Rapid, the sun began to peek out. We had our fill of surfing here and headed to the little waterfall on the left. There was some discussion about running the waterfall. The line looked clear, but the

shallow pool at the bottom engaged our attention and we abandoned that idea. I guess our brains were working at this point.

The day was magical with warm breezes blowing

through laughter, relaxed paddling, and pleasant conversations. Tom Bishop, Becca Brown, Ray Channell, and Don Piper paddled kayaks. Connie Venuso paddled her open canoe. A good time was had by all. ✂

Ohoopsee River Canoe Trip

by John Henderson

October 21-23, 2002. Wide, white sand bars along the Ohoopsee River make it an ideal canoe camping experience. Add wild turkeys, hawks, ospreys, kingfisher, deer, clear water and great October weather and the trip is arguably one of the finest Georgia has to offer. Jacques Artley and I put the old Grumman in at the Hwy 152 bridge near Cobbtown, Georgia.

At the first glimpse of the river, we knew it would be a great trip. After paddling about six miles, we chose one of the numerous 'choice' sites, set up camp and cooked a chicken and rice supper — with toast! We paddle hard, although that's questionable, then eat well.

Hunting dogs, a few coyotes and an owl or two complimented the song of the river that evening and through the following morning. We stayed up late because the scheduled full moon was on a slow rise and did not reach full power until 10 pm. Cloud cover had delayed the maximum exposure, but the wait was well worth it.

Perk coffee and oatmeal began the second day and a ten mile cruise on the lazy river. Two years ago we discovered that PB&J sandwich lunch stops are much more efficient and relaxing with a table and folding camp



Sand bars and cool clear water.

chairs. Now we don't leave home without them.

We encountered Pendelton Creek in early afternoon and went upstream in an exploratory fashion — but found it a little too tight and dense for easy paddling. After a brief tour and a quicker retreat, we resumed our journey on the much broader Ohoopsee River.

Another night on another sand bar doing the same thing never gets boring with all the beautiful Ohoopsee



Left: Bow paddler Jacques in loaded canoe. Below: Remote campsite and Miller time.



scenery. As we lounged in our camp chairs enjoying the river sounds and digesting a tuna casserole supper, a lone fisherman in a motorized canoe stopped at our campsite with an offer of bass and bream. One hour earlier and that fat bass would be in and the tuna out. Maybe next time.

The third day was short, with a four mile paddle to a landing well past the Hwy 280 bridge near Reidsville. Water levels are best during spring and winter — but we

had caught everything just right. One minor portage occurred on the second day, but that resulted in an opportunity to explore another sand bar and look for unusual rocks and animal tracks.

For those considering an enjoyable canoe camping experience, visit the Ohoopsee River Canoe Club's web site www.ohoopseecanoeclub.com for additional information on the Ohoopsee and other local rivers. ✂

First Time at Tallulah Gorge

by John Steimke

I had been thinking about paddling Tallulah Gorge for a couple of years. I almost paddled it two years ago, but the friend who offered to lead me down had to cancel. He had a good excuse. He had broken a finger and had cut his face on Tallulah's Entrance Rapid the weekend before. I took that as an ominous sign and did not pursue a trip on the river again until I saw Duncan Cottrell's trip announcement in *The Eddy Line*.

I first met Duncan on a GCA trip that he led on the Chattooga about four years ago. I called him about his Tallulah trip and he politely asked for my resume. He was underwhelmed by my experience on the Chattooga, the Ocoee and one trip on New River Gorge, but agreed to take me anyway. To prepare myself I read the AWA river description. I also reread Geoff Kohl's January *Eddy Line* article with its vivid descriptions of rapids and carnage.

On Saturday morning I drove to the river. As I was driving, I kept reviewing my contingency plans. If I cut my face, do I get stitched up in Clayton or drive home? If I knock out a tooth, do I bother my dentist at home or wait until Monday? Would I be able to drive with a dislocated shoulder? My preoccupation was a contributing factor in my collision with a deer. My car was only slightly damaged and I was able to drive on to the river.

I met Duncan and his friend J. T. at the boater parking lot. No one else had called Duncan so he converted the GCA trip to a private one. We walked to the top of the stairs where a cheerful AWA volunteer collected our disclaimer forms, then we started down.

The 592 steps were not as bad as I anticipated. I slid my kayak down the stairs at the end of a short length of strap. Most paddlers bridged their boats across both hand rails and slid them down that way. Of course, some shouldered their boats. The scenery in the gorge on the way down was spectacular.

At the bottom of the stairs I was relieved to see that there was enough room for everyone on the deck and that we could take some time to scout Entrance Rapid. At this and every other rapid Duncan told me how to run the rapid

and what hazards to look out for. I listened very carefully.

I stayed upright for Entrance Rapid and Autobooof so my anxiety level decreased a notch. We portaged Oceana down a steep muddy trail. Duncan said that the rapids would become more difficult and he was right. I started flipping but was able to roll up. Because of stern squirts, I spent some time looking at the sky.

My run on Brain Buster was ugly, bouncing off rocks and ending backwards. J. T. entertained himself by looking at the expression on my face as I ran the rapids. At the end of the run I was elated that I had no injuries and no swims. After the lake paddle the good folks from NOC provided a shuttle back to our cars.

On Monday morning I bored everyone at work with the story of my Tallulah Gorge trip. The Tallulah run was a peak experience for me and I will return in the spring. I could have gone back the next weekend, but maybe I should not press my luck so soon. ✂



Follow the sign!?!

New Kid on the Block

Paddling with grace and precision,
For the sake of "paddling" alone,
On a quiet lake or nearby pond,
To relax or simply tone,

Is reason enough to try Free Style:
A Christie, a Post, or a Wedge,
And then for an added thrill,
To keep you on the edge —

Try an Axle linked to a Reverse Move,
And proceed in the other direction,
Play some NEW AGE to spice up the atmosphere,
It's a mind and body connection!

The skills you acquire are fun,
As well as rewarding and useful,
After hours of practice like anything else,
You will "dance" and feel more youthful.

It's neat to be one with your boat,
To heel it and spin on a dime,
With the ability to control its every move,
You can show off and have a good time.

Your neighbors may think you are crazy,
As you perform figure eights with a smile,
On a glassy lake while the sun goes down,
But that, my friends, is FREE STYLE!!

- Ishurdo Dancelot (AKA Debby Baker)

*Reprinted by permission of the author from the
December, 1992, issue of the Hoosier Canoe Club
Newsletter.*

*[Debby Baker and her husband Reggie, who live in
Indianapolis, Indiana, are certified by the ACA to
teach both White Water and Solo Free Style.]*

- From the newsletter of the Houston Canoe Club.



OTHER CLASS IV

L	L	E	H	G	N	I	M	A	E	R	C	S	K	Z
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BIG NASTY
BOTTLENECK
BULL SLUICE
COLOSSEUM
CORKSCREW
DOUBLE Z
EXIT LEDGE
JAW BONE
KITCHEN
KOONTZ FLUME
LITTLE SPLAT
LOWER KEENEY
MASH
MIDDLE KEENEY
S TURN
SCREAMING HELL
SEVEN FOOT FALL
SHOULDER SNAP
SLANTED CREEK
STAIRSTEPS
THE NARROWS
THE TWIST
WONDER FALLS
ZOOM FLUME

- From "The Watershed", newsletter of the Tennessee
Scenic Rivers Association.

CLASSIFIED ADS

TO PLACE AN AD - Want ads of a non-business nature are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business-related and non-member 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 SALE - Canoe, Mad River Synergy white water canoe, 2000 model, 15.5'. This top of the line canoe is complete with wood gunwales and a Royalex hull. Very light and strong. Professionally outfitted with voyager saddles, knee and ankle pads, double thigh straps, and 2 voyager nylon flotation bags. This boat has been used only four times and has been stored inside since new. Excellent condition. Steal this boat for \$650. Call Chad at 404.455.0143.

FOR SALE - Canoes, Dagger Legend 15' and 16', \$650 and \$700; Necky

Looksha IV \$850, Necky Eskia, \$825; Necky Zoar, \$750; Necky Amaruk Tandem Kayak, \$1100; Dagger Freerfall LT white water kayak, \$250; Canoe/Kayak Trailer, \$1250; Aquabound touring paddle, \$60; Lotus PFD, \$45 (youth, xs, s-m, l-xl and xxl). Call 770.818.0960.

FOR SALE - Dry suit, Kokotat women's size S, \$80. 423.510.1959.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger Animas, purple, used, but still has plenty of river trips left in it, great beginner kayak and big water boat. Flotation bags included. \$250. Call Jackie 404.622.6825.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger Crossfire, teal blue, good condition, suitable for relatively small adult (5'2", 110 lbs used to paddle in it). Asking \$180. Great kayak for beginners. Spray skirt (small) that fits a kayak like Crossfire, and PFD (small). Best offered price. Contact John at 678.778.8334 or Rumiko at rumiko@runbox.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak. Wavesport

Godzilla white water kayak, used one season (about 10 times), stored indoors, excellent shape. Great boat for beginners or larger paddlers. Boat only, \$450 obo. Call PJ at 404.486.8676.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception, Method Air, 2 years old - used 6-8 times, good condition, flotation bags, cockpit cover, kept indoors, \$575. PADDLE - Werner Freestyle, 45 deg., 201cm, \$95. Ron - 770.422.2311.

FOR SALE - Paddling pants, Mountain Surf Monsoon Pants, size XL. Brand new with store tags. Retail price at NOC store was \$94.95. Asking \$55. 404.636.9339.

FOR SALE - Sit-on-top, Wilderness Systems Kaos -- great surf and class I-II white water boat. Thigh straps and seat included. \$375. Christine 706.867.6096.

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



Clyde's Christmas Truck - Submitted by Clyde Patrick



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