



The Eddy Line

Post Office Box 7023 Atlanta, GA 30357

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770.421.9729

www.georgiacanoe.org

July 2007

The Great Eddy Line Masthead Contest

See Page 18

Chattooga Public Hearing, Standards Workshop Show Up, Speak Up For Upper Chattooga Access

by Rick Bellows

After several months of collecting data on the various uses of the Upper Chattooga, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) announced on May 25 that it had "completed the data collection phase" of the Visitor Use Capacity Analysis ordered as a result of an appeal by American Whitewater. The data collection process included just two days of paddling on Sections 1, 0 and 00 by a panel of expert boaters, including GCA's Don Kinser.

On June 18, 19 and 21, USFS conducted Open House Meetings in Clayton, GA, Highlands, NC and Walhalla, SC "to share the results of the visitor use capacity analysis and outline how the public can be involved in the development and analysis of alternatives." If you weren't able to attend one of these meetings, look for a summary of the information presented by USFS at www.americanwhitewater.org.

The next steps are two events that will provide an opportunity for involvement by the public - including the paddling community - in how the collected information is to be used. The first is a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 10 (time not yet announced) at St. John's Lutheran Church in Walhalla, SC. The Public Hearing, according to USFS, is "to document public comments regarding specific suggestions for managing the Upper River corridor."

The Public Hearing will be followed by a full-day "Standards Workshop" on Saturday, July 14, also at a time to be announced, also at St. John's Lutheran Church. At the Standards Workshop, says USFS, "the public will be asked to provide input on proposed standards for all resources along the Upper Chattooga and management actions that might be needed to ensure those standards are met."

Reading through the USFSspeak, the July 10 hearing will be to solicit comments on proposed standards and the July 14 workshop will be to get further input on the standards and input on how they are to be put into effect.

In short, the hearing and the workshop will be our opportunities to have our say in whether and how the proposed standards will be adopted and enforced. Put another way, it will be our opportunity to address whether or not the new standards will continue to bar paddling on the Upper Chattooga.

If ever there was a time to get involved, show up and make our voices heard, this is it. Use a vacation day, postpone your Ocoee run, hire a sitter for kids or critters - just make the time and get there. Yes, gas is expensive and Walhalla is a long drive for most and not convenient to drive to - go anyway. This one is important!

Have a Safe and Happy Independence Day



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Who Ya Gonna Call?

GCA Contacts

For general GCA information:
Call 770.421.9729 and leave a message; your call will be returned as soon as possible.

To volunteer for club activities:

Contact GCA President Vincent Payne at 770. 834.8263 or the chairperson of the relevant committee.

For membership or dues info:

Call GCA Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

To sign up for a club trip:

Call the trip leader at the number in the trip list.

To sign up to lead a club trip:

Call GCA Cruisemaster Steve Reach at 770.760.7357.

For information on GCA Clinics:

Call the coordinator listed on the clinic schedule or Training

Director Gina Johnson at 404.512.0832.

For information on winter roll practice:

Call Lous Boulanger at 404.373.2907.

For information on the GCA Library:

Call GCA Librarian Denise Colquitt at 770.854.6636

Eddy Line Contacts

To submit or send written materials:

Email to the_eddyline@yahoo.com or mail to The Eddy Line, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503-0441.

To contact an Editor:

Use the email or address above or contact Editor Rick Bellows at 678.617.2546.

For information on commercial or classified ads:

Contact Advertising Manager Rick Bellows at 678.617.2546 or by email at the_eddyline@yahoo.com.

For subscription information, to change your address or if you don't get your copy of the newsletter:

Contact GCA Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734. ✂

Board of Directors Meetings

The Georgia Canoeing Association Board of Directors meetings generally are held quarterly the first Thursday of the last month of the quarter (March, June, September, December) at 7 PM at the Carl E. Sanders Family YMCA in Buckhead, 1160 Moores Mill Road, Atlanta, Georgia 30327. All GCA members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, please call GCA President Vincent Payne at 770.834.8263 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	Vincent Payne
Vice President	Tom Bishop
Secretary	Jamie Higgins
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Kate Wilkerson
Recreation Chair	Denise Keller
Resource Development Chair	William Gatling
River Protection Chair	Don Kinser
Training Chair	Gina Johnson

Submitting Eddy Line Material

Deadline for material to be submitted for publication is the fifth of the prior month, e.g. December 5 for the January issue. Material received after deadline MAY NOT BE PUBLISHED. GCA members are encouraged to submit articles, trip reports, editorials, photos, cartoon, etc. Letters to the Editor are also encouraged. **Submissions should be typed, single spaced and not indented: if possible, please prepare articles in "plain text" rather than in a word processing format.** Material may be submitted to the_eddyline@yahoo.com or to **The Eddy Line, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503-0441.** The text of an article can be placed in the body of an email or as an attachment: photo images can be attached files. If possible, please submit photos and other graphics in "jpg" or "tiff" format and specify the photographer of each picture. To submit material via disk, please contact us for information. Classified ads will run for two issues, but will be rerun at the advertisers request. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Contact Editor **Rick Bellows, 678.617.2546** or the_eddyline@yahoo.com if you have questions. Thank you.. ✂

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UPCOMING GCA TRIPS

July				
1-3	New River Gorge (Note 1)	Class 3-4 Advanced	Louis Boulanger	404.894.2957
1	Chattooga - Section 3/3.5	Class 3-4 Advanced	Peter Chau	864.885.9477
7	Chattahoochee (Note 2)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jack Taylor	770.998.0350
8	Chattooga - Section 3/3.5	Class 3-4 Advanced	Peter Chau	864.885.9477
14	Chattooga - Section 3/3.5	Class 3-4 Advanced	Peter Chau	864.885.9477
15	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	John Scott	770.757.2362
21	Etowah Note 3)	Class 1-2 Reained Beginner	Lamar Phillips	770.939.5087
22	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	John Scott	770.757.2362
28	Chattooga - Section 4	Class 3-4 Advanced	Roger Nott	770.536.6923
29	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Rhett Smith	404.729.9201
August				
24-26	Chick Paddle	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Denise Keller	770.591.0980
September				
21-23	Fall Gala	All Levels	Denise Keller	770.591.0980
October				
12-14	Goose Pastures (Note 4)	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Lamar Phillips	770.939.5087

Note 1: Class 4 - Cunard to Fayette Station.

Note 2: Buford Dam to Settles Bridge.

Note 3: Section below Allatoona Dam

Note 4: Aucilla and Wacissa Rivers and Slave Canal.

Your Trip Could Be Listed in This Space — Call Cruisemaster Steve Reach at 770.760.7357!

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 for 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.

Canoe Camping Trips are multi-day trips, generally on flat or mild water, with at least one night of camping. For details on a scheduled trip, call the trip coordinator. To arrange a trip, call President Vincent Payne at 770.834.8263.

To Volunteer To Lead Trips: Call the Cruise Master, Steve Reach at 770.760.7357. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flatwater to class 5 whitewater. 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). Boating is prohibited above the Highway 28 bridge. Your cooperation in protecting this National Wild and Scenic River is appreciated.

Roll Practice: Wednesday evenings from 6:00 until dark, May through the end of Daylight Savings Time, at Stone Mountain Park. For more information, look for the announcement in *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)
I Said Left, Stupid: A Video Guide to the Chattooga River (Sect. 2 & 3)
In the Surf
Introduction to Canoeing
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
The Middle Fork of the Salmon River (Idaho) — by Photographic Expeditions
Trailside: White Water Canoeing the Chattooga River
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
ACanoeing 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 & Kayanning 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 & Kayaking Guide to Georgia
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
Youghiogeny-Appalachian River
Maps:
The Big South Fork

Announcements

GCA Email List

By joining the GCA group email list, you can share information with over 400 members and others. Here's how the list works:

By sending an email to "gcalist@yahoogroups.com" you automatically reach all subscribers to the list with the message. Only those subscribed to the list can send email to the list.

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 posted on the GCA email list. If you want to receive any of this information, please subscribe.

The email list is intended to facilitate communication, so don't be shy about using it to invite others on paddling trips, to discuss paddling related issues or to disseminate or obtain



information about paddling related topics, rivers you're interested in, etc.

To subscribe to the list, send an email to "gcalist-subscribe@yahoogroups.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.

When you change or lose your email ID, please take the time to "unsubscribe" your old ID and to "subscribe" your new one. ✂

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 the GCA web committee at gcaweb@gmail.com. Membership applications, GCA waivers and other forms for use by members are also available on the site. ✂

Mail Failure Notices

Each month the electronic version of *The Eddy Line* results in numerous mail failure notices from members with bad or discontinued email addresses. If email can't be delivered to your email address, you will be deleted from the recipient list for the electronic version until we get an updated email address from you.

When GCA receives a mail failure notice in response to an email to you on the GCA Email List, you will be automatically unsubscribed by the listserve software. You are responsible for keeping your email address current. Thank you — it makes less work for our all volunteer staff. ✂

Summer Roll Practice

GCA Summer Roll Practice will be held at Stone Mountain Park at 6:00 p.m. (or earlier) on Wednesday from May through the end of Daylight Savings Time. Roll Practice is free, but participants will need to pay for entry to the park. A season pass is recommended for folks who plan to attend multiple sessions.



To get to roll practice, enter the park from Stone Mountain Freeway (East Entrance) and take the first left. Continue about a mile until the road crosses

the dam, then take the first right into the parking lot. The boat ramp is on the right.

The boat ramp is very busy with power boats putting in and taking out, so use the ramp area to load and unload only and park away from the ramp. Once in the water, try to stay clear of the ramp for the same reason.

Please note that swimming is prohibited at this location. If you're in the water spotting for someone, be prepared to explain to park officials that you are not "swimming."

Roll practice is an informal arrangement that requires volunteers. If you can help with kayak, canoe or C-1 rolling, your assistance would be appreciated. ✂

RICHARD C. BELLOWS, P.C.

Attorney at Law

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Support Our GCA Supporters

The GCA web site now features a "GCA Supporters" web page with links to the companies that support GCA financially by advertising with us. Help out those who help us out — patronize our advertisers. Thanks! ✂

Whitewater Kayak Instructor Certification

Private Classes - 1-2 People

No prior instruction experience necessary, but you will need river skills (including a roll). Whether you want to teach or just be a better paddler, I can help. Other private instruction available: rolling, river skills, stroke review.

Steve Thomas

ACA Instructor Trainer

87-88 US Canoe/Kayak Team

770.455.0476 or wh2osteve@earthlink.net

Outside World Paddle Days

Every Monday in June and every Wednesday in July (except July 4) The Outside World will be holding free "Paddle Days" on Lake Lanier. Starting at 7:00 p.m. and running until dark, The Outside World will be having free demos and kayak football games. No experience is required and it should be fun for all. It is a great experience just to get out and meet fellow paddlers.

Paddle Days will be held at the Thompsen Creek Access. From Highway 400 near the store, go east on Dawson Forest Road to the lake. (The road will change names when it crosses Highway 53.) Bathrooms are available.

If there is a specific boat you want to try out, call The Outside World at 1.866.375.2628 to make arrangements.

A river seems a magic thing. A magic, moving, living part of the very earth itself.

Laura Gilpin, The Rio Grande, 1949

Volunteers Needed Southeastern Slalom and Wildwater Championships

by Roger Nott, Race Master

At its June 7th quarterly meeting, the GCA Board voted to schedule our 39th Annual Southeastern U.S. Slalom and Wildwater Championships for the weekend of October 6 and 7 on the Nantahala. With less than 4 months 'til race time, we need as many people as possible to step up now and volunteer to help with the race.

There are many roles for the volunteer: gate judge, scorer, timer, publicity committee, and many, many others. Our most immediate need is for someone to volunteer to be Race Registrar, to receive race applications and collect money. If you can help in any way, please contact me as soon

as possible: Roger Nott, 2335 Stephens Circle, Gainesville, GA 30506 770.536.6923, ocapaddler@charter.net.

The Southeasterns are one of the oldest continuously run annual races in the country and were the first whitewater slalom races ever held in the ACA Dixie Division states. The races have always been sponsored by the GCA and have a proud tradition which is equaled by few other national races.

We had originally planned to hold the Southeasterns this year on April 21-22, the weekend before the U.S. Slalom Team Trials. When we learned that almost all the serious slalom racers would be at Charlotte that weekend, practicing for the Team Trials, we opted to postpone the race 'til the fall, a great time for racing and for holding the club's "biggest social event of the year." Mark your calendars. Plan to race and to help with the races. 

Spring Extravaganza Report

by Denise Keller, GCA Social Chair

Greetings. Well, the 2007 SE started off on Friday the 4th with numerous paddle trips on the Nantahala and club members making their way to Smokey Mountain Meadows Campground for the weekend. Friday night there was a nice fire and a visit from Juliet Kastorff of Endless Rivers Adventures for a talk and slide show of what ERA plans for the 2007

paddle season.

Saturday morning we awoke to rain. Lot's of happy paddlers. We met at the gazebo and Matthew Crawford started to give out water levels. We had trips on Lake Fontana, the "Nanty," the Tuckasegee and the French Broad. Everyone headed off to paddle in the rain. I stayed behind to help our caterer, Monica Cook, prepare the foil packets that were to be cooked on the coals of the bonfire for the Saturday evening dinner.

It's about 3:30 Saturday afternoon and it's still raining! We have to get a big fire going by 5:30. It starts to pour! Monica tells me that we may have to go to Plan B. The only problem, there is no Plan B.

So, I did the only thing I could think of - prayed! and hard! Between 3:30 and 5:00 I recited a total of 1589 "Hail Marys" "The Our Fathers", and "Glory be to the Fathers." It worked! Around 5:00ish it stopped raining. Monica and I just looked at each other in stunned silence, but not for long as we had a fire to get started. It didn't rain the rest of the evening.

Sunday dawned into a beautiful day. There was lots of paddling on the Nanty. All in all the weekend worked out well.

Thanks to all the members that attended this year's SE. It's always a pleasure to see old and new members. Thanks to Doug Woodward for attending a Nantahala paddle on Saturday and joining us for dinner that evening.

Thanks to Mark Singleton for joining us for dinner and bringing a slideshow of what AW projects are in the works. I had the pleasure of introducing Mark to Doug on Saturday. They'd talked on the phone and e-mailed, but had never met.

Thanks to the trip coordinators, the cabin mates, SMM campground, the fire starters and to all the GCA members - we had a nice turnout. I'll get some pictures of the SE in the next *Eddy Line*.



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Georgia River Explorer Series

by William Gatling, GCA Resource Development Chair

On April 28th we completed the third and final trip of the Georgia River Explorer Series on the Chestatee River. We are still totaling up the exact amount of money that we made, but we should finish with a donation of well over \$1,000 for the River Access Fund and 50 new GCA members.

Slide shows of all three trips are on www.georgiariverexplorer.org on the main page. The slide

shows tell the story of what happened much better than I can.

The GRES was a big project that required a lot of volunteers to accomplish, but almost all the organizers and safety boaters have said they had fun and want to help again next year. The energy and enthusiasm of the participants was contagious. Unlike the SE Races, Tallulah, *The Eddy Line* or GCA Galas, the main duty of all the Explorer Series volunteers was to paddle. It was very much like a GCA trip with a LOT of boats.

Thanks to everyone that helped make this possible. <

Reel Paddling Film Festival

Endless River Adventures will host the 2007 World Tour of the Reel Paddling Film Festival on Sunday, September 2, in the Nantahala Gorge. The 2nd Annual Reel Paddling Film Festival will share some of the best canoeing, whitewater and sea kayaking films of the year.

Proceeds from the showing at ERA will benefit the Nantahala River Conservation Fund. Tickets are \$15 in ad-

vance, \$17 at the door. Advance tickets go on sale July 1.

The festival will also include a raffle for a Wave Sport boat. The admission price includes one raffle ticket, and others will be available for \$5. The band "Commonwealth" will play at intermission.

More information is available from Maggy Williams, 828.488.6199, or at www.endlessriveradventures.com or www.reelpaddlingfilmfestival.com. <



Welcome New Members — Directory Additions

The following is a list of all members who have joined the club since the last update. We will try to include this information on an on-going basis so you can add new members to your Directory. New members are the life blood and the future of the club, so call one near you, introduce yourself and maybe arrange to paddle together.

Averett, Ben & Sharon
1136 Mossy Rock Road
Kennesaw GA 30152
H: 770-919-9851
O: 678-642-0603
O: 678-642-5246
Email: benaverett@mindspring.com

O: 706-799-6829
Email: pbooker@kilpatrickstockton.com

Powder Springs GA 30127
H: 678-355-9851
O: 404-372-0010
O: 770-337-2294
Email: brogan_t@bellsouth.net
Email: khunt@inglett-stubbs.com

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1524 Shirl Lane
Jacksonville FL 32207
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Email: piebiz@bellsouth.net

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Email: alwayskayaking@yahoo.com
Email: ryan.b.brown@gmail.com

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Brannen, Bob
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Jesup GA 31545
H: 912-427-7903

Brogan, Tom &
Hunt, Karen
544 Mount Park Drive

Caskey, Norma
7020 Silver Fox Trail
Cumming GA 30040

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Email: norma.caskey@gmail.com

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Email: bigyankee86@gmail.com

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2800 Chelsea Place NW
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O: 770-500-6794
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Email: jns1962@aol.com
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Jasper GA 30143
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Upcoming Events of Interest

July 7 - 31 mile Chattahoochee paddle - www.ucriverkeeper.org/community4.html.

July 10 - Public Hearing re. User Capacity Analysis of the Upper Chattooga (Sections 1, 0 and 00) - St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla, SC - www.americanwhitewater.org, www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms.

July 10-15 - ACA Whitewater Open Canoe Downriver and Sprint National Championships - Youghiogheny River, Ohiopyle, PA - e.sharp@att.net or watson@telpage.net.

July 14 - USFS "Standards Workshop" re. Upper Chattooga (Sections 1, 0 and 00) - St. John's Lutheran Church, Walhalla, SC - www.americanwhitewater.org, www.fs.fed.us/r8/fms.

July 14 - Chattahoochee Evening Paddle - Morgan Falls Dam to Paces Mill - www.ucriverkeeper.org/community4.html.

July 15-21 - Junior Wild Water World Championships -

Saluda River, Columbia, SC (Classic Race), Charlotte White Water Park (Sprint Race), John Pinyerd, 678.357.7843, email jpinyerd@cs.com.

July 20-22 - ACA Open Canoe Slalom National Championships - Wausau Whitewater Park, Wausau, WI - www.americancanoe.org.

July 21 - 27 mile Chattahoochee paddle - Azalea Park to Paces Mill - www.ucriverkeeper.org/community4.html.

July 28 - Overnight Chattahoochee paddle - www.ucriverkeeper.org/community4.html.

July 28 - Dan River Race - Claudeville, VA - William McDuffie, 910.948.2609, www.kiblervalley.zoomshire.com.

August 7-12 - USCA Marathon National Championships - Allegheny River, PA - www.uscanoe.com.

August 11 - Paddle Mania - Chattahoochee River, Medlock Bridge to Franklin, GA - 24 hours continuous paddling - www.ucriverkeeper.org/community4.html.

August 24-26 - GCA Chick Paddle - Horn Creek Campground - Denise Keller, 770.591.0980, baloata@bellsouth.net.

August 25 - 9th Annual AW Ohiopyle Over-the-Falls Festival and Race - Youghiogheny River, Ohiopyle, PA - www.americanwhitewater.org.

September 2 - Reel Paddling Film Festival World Tour - Endless River Adventures, Nantahala Gorge - Maggy Williams, 828.488.6199, www.reelpaddlingfilmfestival.com or www.endlessriveradventures.com. (Proceeds to Nantahala River Conservation Fund.)

September 8-9 - Tsali Challenge Triathlon (3.5 mile lake paddle, 4.5 mile trail run, 12 mile mountain bike ride - Tsali Recreational Area - NOC, Bryson City, NC - 800.232.7238, www.noc.com.

September 15 - Lumber River Challenge (10 miles for rec canoe/kayak, 40 miles for USCA C-1, C-2 and kayak) - William McDuffie, 910.948.3238, wlrnmcduffie@nctconnect.com.

September 21-23 - GCA Fall GAla - Denise Keller, 770.591.0980, baloata@bellsouth.net.

September 21-23 - AW Gauley River Festival - Summersville, WV - www.americanwhitewater.org.

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September 29 - Mountain Island Challenge - racing and rec kayaks only - Mountain Island Lake, Charlotte, NC - Rick Garcia, 704.588.8221, rigarcia222@aol.com.

September 29-30 - 32nd Annual Outdoorsman Triathlon (1 mile swim, 4 mile run, 8 mile paddle - Wesser, NC - Kirk Havens, 804.785.2107, kirk@vims.edu or Ed Sharp, 540.752.5400, e.sharp@att.net, www.outdoorsmantriathlon.org.

October 6-7 - 39th Annual Southeastern U.S. Slalom and Wildwater Championships - Nantahala River - Roger Nott, 770.536.6923, ocapaddler@charter.net.

October 13 - Race Around Roanoke Island - 26 mile relay race for 2-4 men, women, mixed - Manteo, NC - Kirk Havens, 804.785.2107, kirk@vims.edu or Ed Sharp, 540.752.5400, e.sharp@att.net.

How Old Is Your Spray Skirt?

by Bob Grosso

from the Merrimac Valley Paddlers Listserve

Now I'm sure many of us have heard someone complain that their wetsuit had shrunk. Snicker snicker - sure, it was the suit that shrank. But I've got proof now that neoprene does shrink over time.

Last week my son wanted to take the kayak out to practice rolling. He'd dragged out the boat and my old spray skirt. Old. Like this one dated back to 1986.

He couldn't get it over the cowling. I helped. I nearly broke my fingers trying to stretch that skirt to fit. That skirt was never tight. It was a Harmony skirt that fit comfortably but always had enough give that you could grab between your side and the cowling and rip it loose if you wanted to exit without the grab loop.

Well, here's the scary part. After paddling around while the rest of us were swimming, and practicing his rolls, we decided to call it a day. When he went to exit the kayak, he

grabbed the loop and pulled. And it just came off in his hand. It just tore right out. I told him to grab the flab and pull the skirt off sideways. Oh, yeah - no flab. Punch down! That popped it off.

That was a sobering experience.

Lessons?

-Inspect and test the gear on which your life could depend.

-Retire equipment that is long past its prime.

-Before you push off, verify you can pop the skirt.

-Paddling while others are swimming in the same pond with you is NOT a buddy system if they can't reach you in time.

-Wear your blade even when just out to practice rolling.

I'm sure there are more, but these are the ones that come readily to mind. We're both grateful the day didn't end in tragedy.



Hiwassee Paddle Snake

by Kent Upshaw

from the Birmingham Canoe Club Listserve

Some people from the Huntsville Canoe Club were paddling the Hiwassee the weekend of June 2-3 and my buddy Matt paddled ahead through the rapid after Lunch Stop in order to snap a few photos. He was holding onto a rock with his left hand and snapping photos with his right.

After a few minutes, he felt a pain in his left hand and looked down to see a snake attached to his ring finger. The snake let go and darted into some leaves so he grabbed the paddle and smacked the leaves to expose the snake. He recognized it as a copperhead and let the group know what had happened.

They made the decision to paddle to the takeout without making any stops and to keep his hand in the cold water as long as possible to slow down the swelling. By the time they got to the takeout his hand/forearm were described as "looking like Shrek." They hauled ass to the Cleveland ER, where they gave him anti-venom and an IV and then the doctor made a decision to transport him (not sure if it was ambulance or airlift) to the Chattanooga hospital because they were better equipped to handle this.

I talked to Matt's wife and they were going to be holding him a second night and then expected him to be released. She says everything seems to be going well and the swelling has *continued on following page*



Sometimes it's just really, really important to stay upright or quickly roll back upright. Applies to Hiwassee snakes and Chattahoochee gators as well as great white sharks. Photo from the internet, courtesy of Jeff Wood, AWC.



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Directions from Seneca, SC: Follow Hwy 123 to Hwy 76. Go west for approx. 25 miles. On the left side of the road.



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dropped down a lot. She said the bite area looks like disgusting and is black and bubbled up. Luckily he had removed his wedding ring before they started paddling or it would have been cut off at the ER. ❄

New River Hazards

Shari Heinz reports two new hazards on the Chestatee between Copper Mine and Highway 52. The first is a beech tree fallen from river right just below the turn after Blasted Rock. With most of the river blocked, the only passage is river left. The current, however, flows right into the strainer.

The second hazard is a spruce about a half mile further downriver, just past Baptism Beach. The tree fell from river left and blocks about 3/4 of the river, leaving a passage on river right.

There is also a new deadfall on the West Fork Chattooga, between the Overflow Creek Road and Warwoman Road bridges. It's visible from Overflow Creek Road on your way to the bridge. The tree fell from the left bank and it appears there's room to get under it's top on river right. At a bit higher water level, however, it could require a portage on a very brushy bank.

Safety First: if you see a new hazard, please post it on the GCA listserv and email it to the_eddyline@yahoo.com. ❄

Kayaker Dies in Atlantic

by Rick Bellows

A Georgia sea kayaker died in May when his tandem kayak was swamped by storm-generated waves in the Atlantic Ocean off southern South Carolina. Stephan Lee and a friend set out in already rough seas that ultimately reached an estimated six feet in height.

The other paddler was found, along with the kayak, the day after the two swamped. Lee's body was found several days later, washed up on a beach at Huntington Island.

The rough seas were caused by a tropical storm centered well out to sea. Unlike on rivers or lakes, safety on the ocean can be affected by weather hundreds of miles away.

In an unrelated incident, another Georgia man drowned in the Gulf of Mexico in what was originally reported as a kayaking incident. By the next day, however, it was determined the man had returned a rental kayak shortly before his death and was swimming with friends at the time. ❄

The wise man has his follies no less than the fool, but herein lies the difference: the follies of the fool are known to the world, but are hidden from himself; the follies of the wise man are known to himself, but hidden from the world.

Charles C. Colton (c.1780-1832)

Chattooga Clean-Up Trip

by Roger Nott, GCA Historian

GCA celebrated National River Clean-Up Week by sponsoring a June 9 river clean-up on the section of the Chattooga the club has adopted since 1990, from Thrifts Ferry Landing to Bull Sluice. This was the fifth time I have coordinated a clean-up on this section for the club and each time I've been joined by a congenial, hard-working group of volunteers.

They were on June 10, 2000, kayakers Priscilla Dixey, Kay Hess and Buck James and open boaters Richard Hanberry, David Johnson, Glenn Kent, Kevin McInturff and Brannen Proctor. On June 17, 2001, we had Kevin and Cherie McInturff paddling tandem open, Zack Gowin in a C-1 and Beth Fordyce and me in OC-1's.

On June 28, 2003, we had our largest group: Mona Hassan and Sam Wilburn in kayaks and Jim Albert, Randy Elam, David Johnson, James McCay, Dorothy and David Vezzetti, Chuck Wilburn and me in solo opens. On June 6, 2004, the cleaners were Steve Reach in a kayak and open

boaters Dorothy and David Vezzetti and me.

This year we had a small but dedicated corps: Mark Fishburn in a kayak covered the center of the stream, and open boaters Will Gregory and I each took a side. As usual we had a warm, sunny day and low water (1.13 on the USGS Hwy. 76 gauge), perfect conditions for a clean-up. We were in the water as much as on it, and it felt good! Will brought his underwater goggles, which were helpful when Mark spotted cans on the bottom and we could make refreshing dives for them.

We took a slow, relaxed pace, which enabled us both to scour the bed and banks and also to view and appreciate the abundance of flowering plants, fish and other wildlife. We also saw ample evidence of the advancing woolly adelgid infestation of streamside hemlocks! (We all must support UGA's predator beetle breeding program!!!) ✂



Kayakers Against Cancer

by Rick Bellows

This is a busy summer for kayakers combining their sport with the fight against cancer. In early May a group calling itself Kayak4AKure set out from Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota on a full-length paddle of the Mississippi River. Their 2552 mile trip was to end at the Gulf of Mexico on or about June 13.

Closer to home, kayaker Katie Hilleke, whose cancer was diagnosed and treated last year, and friends Stacy Heer and Robin Betz have created Boof Against The Odds. They

are kayaking rivers throughout the county this summer "to celebrate the gift of life after facing down cancer."

The women estimate they will paddle 300 miles and are seeking donations based on their paddling miles. Flat amount donations are also welcome. Donations are tax deductible and 100% of the proceeds will be split between the Lance Armstrong Foundation and First Descents, a kayaking camp for young adults living with cancer.

Pledge forms and more information are available on the group's website at www.simplelifeadventures.com. ✂

Tallulah Gorge Photo Contest

Do you have a really good photo of Tallulah Gorge? How about a great shot from one of the release days? Tallulah Gorge State Park is looking for photos to be used in its 2008 calendar.

Think your photo is good but maybe not that good? Well, you may not have that much competition. According to Assistant Chief Ranger Joe Wood, no entries have been received yet. The deadline for entries is August 13.

Photos need to be submitted on a disk, and there are some other rules. They can be read at www.gastateparks.org: drop down to Tallulah Gorge State Park and click on the link for the photo contest. ✂



Kayak4AKure paddlers John Dubina (front) and Louis Breckenridge set out from Minnesota's Lake Itasca for the Gulf of Mexico. Photo by James Bordewick, *Park Rapids (MN) Enterprise*.

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Hayesville to Fires Creek Confluence, NC Hiwassee River

by Allen Pogue

Author's Note: This river's name is frequently spelled "Hiawassee" in some areas. I have left out the first "a" to indicate to the reader that this is actually the same river as the (very popular) stream that flows through Reliance, Tennessee, and because that is how I think of it.



I was sick most of the week, but since I had gone back to work on Friday I couldn't see any reason to stay home Saturday. Especially since I got the

chance to explore another new run, and it's one that's been on my target list for about two years: a section of the Upper Hiwassee above Lake Hiwassee.

The Hiwassee is familiar to most paddlers in the Southeast region as a beginner run in the gorge below Apalachia Dam, but the Hiwassee is a large river with a huge watershed and there are several other runnable segments. The most well-kept secret is probably the Dries section, which is a rarely run Class 3-4 wilderness segment, but there are also many

miles of Class 1-2 above Hiwassee and Apalachia Dams and it was the latter that we had in our sights. The stretch we headed for is below TVA's Chatuge Dam.

We met up in the metropolis of Ranger, North Carolina (with its single stoplight). On the way there I had to wait for a red light in Ducktown, Tennessee, which proves that the entire world is being developed. Someday there are going to be traffic signals and truck stops with McDonalds in them all along the Appalachian Trail. Anyway, we headed from there through Murphy and down Highway 64 even further into rural Far Western North Carolina (FWNC).

The crew consisted of Steve and Carrie Smyth, Lois Newton (plus her two dogs, Jack and Peanut), Betsy Westerfield and her brother John Maher, and the author. Kayaks had the upper hand although the number of paddlers was equal for both teams with Steve and Carrie tandem and Lois and her two dogs also in a canoe. Everybody else was in kayaks and it was John's first time in a kayak, although he was experienced with inflatables and sit-on-tops.

Nobody in the group had ever run the section, although Steve Smyth had scouted out potential put-ins and take-outs and we both had paddled a section of the Hiwassee just downstream as part of a creeking expedition over the winter. This is one of my favorite situations: nobody knows what's coming. This makes it into an exploratory type run, which is

fun even if it's only Class 1-2.

We finally decided to launch just off the highway in Hayesville, where we received permission from a gas station to use their parking lot next to a road bridge. It wasn't too bad of a launch, although it was a little hard for the beginner to get in the kayak there for the first time. Below was a tree-lined section with a few houses and a whole bunch of logs and strainers. We instructed John on the avoidance of wood and everybody headed downstream at a leisurely pace. After a short distance a major stream comes in from the right, adding some flow. Steve thinks it was probably Tusquitee Creek.

The first couple of miles were pretty nice. Despite



John Maher running a small shoal in a SCUD on the Upper Hiwassee. Beginners are hilarious. Photo by Allen Pogue.

beautiful it became.

Unfortunately, after another creek or two came in, the riverbed began to widen to the point that the water was spread a little too thin. We were warned by a friendly local who said that it was about to get really shallow ahead and he was right. The last two miles became what Steve termed "a beatfest." It really was too low. I still managed to not get out of my kayak but only by exhausting myself and leaving about a pound of



Lois and Jack run a K-9 tandem in a typical Class 1+ shoal on the Upper Hiwassee. If you look very closely you can see that it is actually a "tri-part" crew - small dog Peanut is peeking from the stern. Photo by Allen Pogue.

drought conditions, there was plenty of water and we encountered a few Class 1 to 1+ shoals with maybe an isolated 2-. It was easy to get stuck, but if you picked your lines carefully you could usually slot your way through with a minimum of hull damage.

Some parts of the river in this stretch are heavily wooded and we all discussed the absolutely spectacular display being put on by the blooming mountain laurel this year. I wondered if it has something to do with the very dry conditions.

There were various waterfowl all along the river in this stretch. We saw numerous mallards and a lot of Canada geese. We also saw an assortment of other wildlife at various times, such as kingfishers and a beautiful hawk soaring over a meadow near the takeout. The forest ranged from deciduous to pine and hemlock. The banks were lined in places with walls of rhododendron and laurel. Everybody agreed it was a beautiful run and the farther we got from town, the more



At times it seemed like we were walled in by Mountain Laurel in full bloom. Photo by Allen Pogue.

plastic on the rocks of the Hiwassee riverbed.

We finally got to the takeout, exhausted from the rocky last couple of miles and glad to be off the river. I would have to say that it was still well worthwhile to paddle, if for no other

continued on following page

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reason than that I had not done it before and now I get to cross it off my target list. The extreme drought that we are currently experiencing has caused me to lower my threshold for low water runs. But I think it would be best to either paddle it with more natural flow or wait for a sustained release from Chatuge Dam.

Unfortunately the TVA Operating Guide is currently indicating that the level in the lake is well below normal for this time of year so I don't think we can expect sustained releases anytime soon. Still, it's a good Class 1-2 run and should be given consideration for a wetter year. 

Cheoah

by Hank Klausman

Here are the survivor reports for the Famous Five on our Cheoah run, some in their own words, so you can get the flavor of this mighty creek. This was my fourth time, but I have never attempted the Big Falls. Also, I really had a scare my first run when the water level was so much higher than announced that it became Class 5 instead of the anticipated Class 4. See my September 19, 2005 report in *The Eddy Line*.

Knox Worde had paddled it many times and was our unofficial leader, even though he had swum the day before in some hole near the top of the run. Peter Elkon had paddled as far as the Big Falls several times until either bad swims or lost

gear forced him off. Tom Welander, our sole canoer, had nailed many successful runs here, and became our entertainment with several "must" rolls above some nasty spots. David Asbell, a veteran the Grand Canyon, Tallulah and Chattooga Section 4, was our only first timer. He took some convincing, and his reluctance was based on all the scary initial trip reports plus David Ashley's swim over the Big Falls which completely shattered his wrist.

The setting was perfect. Clear sky with temperatures in the 70's and water that was clear and cool. The promised release was 850 cfs, but the Bear Creek gage about 7 to 8 miles downstream showed 1050-1100, which put difficulty at Class 4+.

We put in at O'Henry's parking lot, just below Joanne's store. It was worth missing the first mile or so for the convenience. At this level and since most of us knew approximately where to be in each rapid, it was generally a Class 4 run until just above Bear Creek Falls (a/k/a the Big Falls).

But it was very busy. Tom commented that everyone looked so smooth and comfortable, but when we gathered in the eddies he admitted our facial expressions were different than usual. After a mile or so of nonstop boogey water, someone asked David if he was finally relaxing. He replied that excited and anxious would be better words.

We took a break after about 4 miles, as we knew the

bottom dropped out in the last 2 to 3 miles. As we crashed our way toward Big Falls, I didn't want to miss the takeout above the scout/portage. The one hundred plus yards approach to the Falls is a minefield of rocks and holes. In fact, I now officially designate this section as "Minefield." There is no agreement on which side to run and both have their own hazards.

I was thinking about trying this lead in and then the Falls for the first time, but was unsure what side to start down and how to run the Falls. There are three routes over the twelve foot drop. The far right is a curving sluice with hole at top, diagonal curler in middle and hole at bottom, plus rocks below. While scouting and videoing this route, I had seen people flip in top hole, get slammed onto rock by middle curler and either stuck or flipped at bottom. Several paddlers came up with bloody faces from rocks below. I had invested in a face mask for my helmet.

The middle part is called the Creek Route because you glance off the left guard rock on the first of two drops. Then through a line hole and finally off a ledge about six



Doug Scarborough runs the left line of Yard Sale in this composite photo by Rob Maxwell from the American Whitewater website.

to eight feet. The far left was a straight twelve foot drop but at low water it looked bony, plus if you didn't get enough momentum it looked like you could piton and be pulled under the falls. Besides this is the ledge David Ashley had swam over and damn near ended his paddling career.

I was leaning toward the Creek Route because it broke the drop into two parts. But the youngster who gave me a shuttle ride convinced me the left side was easiest as single shot. Not technical, so all you needed was momentum and knowing where to go off (about 8 feet left of a rock).

All of us pulled out river right on road side to inspect, except Knox. He waited until I set up a rope then ran the right side of Minefield with no trouble, which convinced me that would be my path. He ferried across and ran left ledge cleanly. Tom started down the left side of Minefield and smoothly cut to center to put himself above the Falls. He took the right sluice

and midway down he was slammed into the rock on right. He made his second roll and I'm surprised his face wasn't bloody.

That left me, Peter and David watching and thinking. Peter said he had been very apprehensive all day. As we completed each section, he felt like it hadn't been so bad and was relieved, but got anxious for next part. This was the first time he had made it to the Falls without having to take out. He knew the last 2 miles were the hardest, and didn't want to push his luck. He had done well so far and decided to take out here. Asbell was aware of the difficulty to come and wanted no part

of the Minefield approach or Falls. I kept looking, but the messy lead in and confusion on where to run the Falls ruined my nerve. I remembered the advice of my Costa Rica trip leader, Greystoke, who had paddled worldwide, "If you don't see a clear route within thirty seconds, then walk." David and I carried our boats around the Falls. Now there were four of us.

The last one to two miles come quick



Open boater Dooley Tombras boofing the Falls. Photo by Memree Phillips from the American Whitewater website.



Upside down kayaks show why its called Yard Sale. Anonymous photo from the American Whitewater website.

and dirty with no let-up. David followed me closely to avoid certain dangerous places like the next ledge below Big Falls and the left side monster holes at Tapoco Lodge. Tom flipped right above one of the bigger holes. He floated past me and David sitting helplessly in an eddy, hoping he would roll in time. Tom hit his second roll just at the lip. Of course, the canoe was swamped and we still don't know how he made an eddy to bail. See his comment below. I think everyone had some roll practice and Tom probably more than anyone, but we all stayed in our boats to the lake. There were no boats or gear in the lake for us to tow across as in earlier runs. I can only conclude the paddlers are getting better or smarter.

We didn't get home until 10:00 p.m. and I slept for over nine hours. The next day I sent an email to all: "What a great day we had together. David did an awesome job on first time

continued on following page

run, as I knew he would. Knox was solid as a rock (I guess he didn't want to show us how well he swims. I don't think anyone has ever seen him swim). Peter and I were on our games, and Tom provided all the entertainment (rolling above holes, etc). Regards, Hank."

Asbell answered: "Thank you. It was indeed a fine day. I would characterize my Cheoah experience as exciting, satisfying, and leavened with persistent fear that I was about to paddle over some blind drop into a keeper hole. There are very few good places to swim. The long, continuous stretches of difficult rapids remind me of the Watauga. Many of the Cheoah's rapids are reminiscent of the Upper Ocoee, particularly Blue Hole and Trash Can. I think the gauge at O'Henry's read 2.45."

Welander replied: "Everyone looked so smooth and comfortable to me, little stands out as noteworthy except when we gathered in eddies and I could see people's facial expressions were a little different than usual. I'll send my POV on my wipe outs by tomorrow. Tom."

Hank to Tom: "Thanks Tom. Can you explain about our expressions? Stark terror? We did all admit to NOT being relaxed. Thanks for saying I looked smooth and comfortable. But I was never really comfortable until the lake. Never have been on that river. Same as Section 4 after Bob Geoghy died in Left Crack in 1975, before I ever ran that section. Hank."

Per Tom: "When we gathered in eddies below a couple of those wild drops, you had a look of blank astonishment like I haven't seen before...as if you had been abducted by space aliens and just returned from the ship, and you were pretty sure it actually happened but you probably ought not to mention it to anyone."

Thoughts upon capsizing (per Tom):

1) Decide. Decide. Oh man. I can't tell whether I'm clear of the hole that ate me. Decide, hurry, decide.

2) Maybe I'm free. Maybe I'm way downstream. Roll up NOW!

3) Okay, right, that doesn't work.

4) Turtle up NOW! Get inverted. Retract into the shell. Head, get up there with knees. Lips, go find air! Move it! Go! Go! Where on the river am I? I hear Jim McCool, my SWR instructor, say "I gotta feeling something reeaaal bad's fixin' to happen!"

5) Inhale once. Inhale twice. This time set up first. Go now!

6) Okay that worked. Great. I'm a swamped orange locomotive headed for hell. Gimme an eddy! Please. Eddy. Gimme gimme gimme....

We plan to go back next Sunday. Maybe one day I'll attempt Minefield and the Bear Creek Falls. But either way it is an awesome run. 

Your Newsletter, Your Choice What Should *The Eddy Line's* Masthead Look Like?

by Rick Bellows

If you were paying attention when you first started reading this edition of *The Eddy Line*, you may have noticed we have a new masthead (the green thing at the top of the front page). Or, actually, an old masthead.

Beginning with the May edition, *The Eddy Line* sported a new masthead (shown on the right below) designed by Baris Savas, whose business prints the newsletter. It turns out, however, that the editor isn't authorized to change the mast-

head. The old masthead (on the left below) was apparently voted into being by the membership, and only the membership can replace it.

Besides, some members didn't like the new masthead. The primary complaint I've heard is that it includes only canoe paddles and no kayak paddle. I'm a kayaker and that didn't bother me, but it clearly did bother some folks.

So, for the moment, we're back to the old masthead. But that situation may or may not be permanent.

Announcing THE GREAT EDDY LINE MASTHEAD CONTEST. Between now and August 1, members are encouraged to submit a design for a new masthead. All the potential designs - including the "old" and "new" designs below - will be printed in the September issue and members will be



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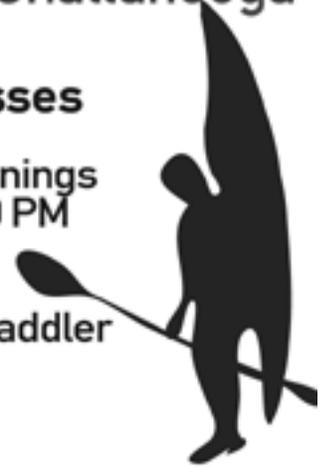
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asked to vote on which one is best. That will become *The Eddy Line's* masthead.

There are some ground rules. The masthead must be 7.75 to 8.25 inches wide and 2 to 2.25 inches high. It must include the name of the newsletter, the address information under the name and all of the GCA logo (the box to the left in the examples below). Other than that, the content and look of your proposed masthead is up to you.

Proposed mastheads can be submitted in color or grayscale, but the winning masthead will be printed in green on each issue of the newsletter. If you want your entry to have a particular shade of green, it needs to be submitted in color.

(Sorry the examples below aren't in color, but the green can only be printed on the front and back pages.)

Entries should be emailed to the_eddyline@yahoo.com. If you prefer, your entry can be burned onto a CD and mailed to P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503. Please format your entry as a tiff or jpeg file - my old version of Photoshop can't handle some of the newer formats. NO PAPER SUBMISSIONS - scanning is beyond my techoliteracy level.

If you have questions, please email them to the_eddyline@yahoo.com. Questions of general interest will be answered on the GCA listserv or, if received in time, in the August issue of *The Eddy Line*. ✕





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Editorial

Thank You, William

by Rick Bellows

This spring's initial Georgia River Explorer Series was a rousing success. Intended to increase club membership while raising money for the river protection fund, it brought some 50 new members into the GCA and raised over \$1,000. With articles in newspapers all over the state, it also raised awareness of the club, the sport and the rivers.

Quite a few volunteers - GCA members and non-members - helped out with the planning and execution of this initial Georgia River Explorer Series. But the primary force behind it from the start was William Gatling, GCA Resource Development Chair.

It was William who contacted all those club volunteers who helped out. It was William who arranged for the cool GRES logo and the t-shirts to put it on. It was William who organized and spearheaded the months of necessary preparation, choosing rivers, contacting outfitters, scheduling scouting trips, advertising, insurance, etc. ad infinitum.

But even more importantly, it was William who came up with the idea for the club to organize and lead paddling trips as a way to increase membership and raise river protection funds. What a great idea - supporting the club by doing what we do anyway - paddling. That kind of creative thinking is what can keep GCA or any other organization healthy, active and relevant.

Bravo, William. And Thank You.



Letter to the Editor GCA Members,

I believe the GCA needs to change. The GCA should publish all transactions in *The Eddy Line* to be reviewed by all members. The GCA should publish, on a yearly basis in *The Eddy Line*, a full financial statement every year of where our money is invested and where it is spent. These decisions should be made by the club in a mail-out form in *The Eddy Line*

and not the officers of the club who are placed in office by the good ole boys.

We have lost interest in our club by the interests of a few and actually have spin-off clubs due to the dissatisfaction of membership within the GCA. Then the GCA wonders why people do not join or continue membership.

On that note, we should vote on officers and issues through *Eddy Line* mail out ballots. Any issues brought up that are not liked by the good ole boys are thrown out by parliamen-

tary procedure by the ten or so that go to the meetings to monitor their own interests. Again, the long time treasurer has done a good job but he should not make money decisions by restricting or limiting without a general vote which should be published like any other organization.

The membership needs to take the club back and make their own decisions and our officers should make a commitment to make our club democratic for the greater cause. Issues that need to be looked at: Is the club name for the interest of the greater club The Georgia Canoe and Kayak club? There should be a census every two years of the members - how many canoes, kayaks, sea kayaks etc. - to see where to help everybody's interest. Creating competitions that are profitable for the club and fun for the paddling community instead of losing money and letting the 3 or 4

members compete in their own class who win because there are no competitors.

We can become the club and water power of the past along with being a national force to be reckoned with on river issues. Make meetings accessible and the minutes printed or accessed for all to see. The officers to be elected should have a river resume and why they want to be elected and what they are going to do to make our club stronger.

We need to take our club back! We joined because we love the water and want to protect it, so let us make a commitment to change the club and make our own decisions. Let us vote, pass or not, it is our club.

Sincerely,
Joe Webb
Lifetime Member of 18 years



CLASSIFIED ADS

Non-business ads are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business and non-member ads are \$5 for up to 50 words, \$10 for larger. **Ads must be received by the fifth of the month to be published in the following month's issue.** Mail ads to *The Eddy Line*, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA 30503-0441 or email to the_eddyline@yahoo.com. Please, no phone-in or handwritten ads. Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

For Sale: Pyranha I:3 222, lime green, in perfect shape inside and out, asking \$495. Call 770.975.3112 or email dtemplin45@comcast.net.

For Sale: Dagger Transition, \$150 - Wilderness System Woodsman, \$300 - Mad River Canoe, 17', new parts, \$600 - Perception Sea Lion 17' sea kayak, \$450. Call Pat at 678.450.9901, leave message.

For Sale: Wave Sport EZG 60, \$600 - 2005 model, blue with all outfitting. Capacity 180-240 lbs. In like new condition, only used for surf kayaking. Chuck Spornick, libeds@yahoo.com.

For Sale: Jackson Rocker kayak, \$450 - good condition. Michael Houchins, 770.328.8618, mghouchins@yahoo.com

Boats For Sale: Dagger Transition, \$150. Wilderness System Woodsman, \$300. Mad River Canoe, 17 foot, new parts, \$600. Perception Sea Lion 17 foot sea kayak, \$450. Pat, 678.450.9901, leave message.

For Sale: 4 HP Deluxe long-shaft (20 inches) 1992 Johnson/OMC outboard with reverse, Model #J4DHLET - two gas tanks plus extras, seasonal service performed, fresh water only. Blue book value \$450. I-85 and 316 area. Call Howard at 678.376.7689, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. or email TheHallCompany@mindspring.com (subject: 4HP outboard).

For Sale: Greenland Paddle, \$100. Beautiful inlaid woods, 85 inches long, about 26 ounces - padded case included - never used. Would make an attractive decorative piece. Mrspeh@aol.com or 706.543.8480.

For Sale: Yakima Outdoorsman 300 roof rack system (2 58-inch crossbars for compact pickup, \$350 or best offer. Carries boats without a camper, leaving bed free - like new - MSRP \$484. Email for internet address of specs. Kim, 770.466.0635, mattienizzy@yahoo.com.

For Sale: Thule rack set, \$150. LB58 bars, 387 tower set (gutter foot pack/high), 878XT set-to-go kayak saddles (4 pair) - good condition. Penny, 404.862.0417, happynowiam@bellsouth.net.

For Sale: Spray Skirt, \$30 cash. Like new SEALS Inlander - Golden Gate No. 7 - fits any 57 x 22 cockpit (Pungo) - was \$45 new. Gwinnet Mall area. Call Howard Hall, home 678.376.7689, work 404/321.6111-ext.6050.

For Sale: Whitsell Canoe, \$200 - 14 feet, very used but still in reasonable shape. Jerry Holladay, 404.321.6746.

For Sale: Flotation Bags, \$30 cash. Like new NRS flotation bags - split pair, each 36 x 16 inches, taper to 3 inches - were \$45 new. Gwinnet Mall area. Call Howard Hall, home 678.376.7689, work 404/321.6111-ext.6050.

REMAINING 2007 GCA INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE & CLINIC INFORMATION

Clinics are taught by ACA-certified instructors and qualified assistant. In order to provide individual attention, the maximum student-to-instructor ratio is 4:1. Events will be coordinated by GCA Members. Space is limited.

EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

BASIC WHITEWATER SAFETY:

This is not a Swift Water Rescue course, but rather a one-day safety course focusing on the skills needed to immediately effect a rescue after an incident has occurred. It follows the American Canoe Association's Basic White Water Safety curriculum and is a full day of learning and practicing simple safety concepts and rescue techniques. The morning is demonstration and land-based exercises, including throw ropes. The afternoon is water-based exercises, including self-rescue, rescue of others and retrieval of boats and gear. If you haven't taken a river safety course, or haven't taken one recently, this is a great first or refresher course. The only prerequisites are basic paddling techniques such as those learned in a beginning paddling course.

RECREATIONAL KAYAK:

This class is designed for recreational kayak boaters who want to experience moving water and Class 1 & 2 whitewater. Basic safety will be reviewed and river skills will be practiced.

CLINIC DESCRIPTIONS

SEA KAYAK:

These courses are for longer, narrow kayaks with rudders or skegs. The beginner class is two days of basic strokes, maneuvers, and rescue skills. One day is on quiet water, the second is in mild surf. Instruction level will be geared to the skill level of the participants. For more information see <http://webpages.charter.net/cramersec/skflyer.html> and <http://www.acanet.org/sei-coastal-kayak.htm>

TRAINED BEGINNER WHITE WATER KAYAK & CANOE:

Participants should have had fairly recent beginner level instruction and at least 5 days of white water experience after the instruction. Participants should be able to do basic maneuvers on Class 2 rivers (eddy turns, peel outs & ferries). Polish-up beginner skills, plus bracing and rolling (kayaks).

INTERMEDIATE WHITE WATER KAYAK & CANOE:

Participants should be comfortable paddling class II-III whitewater such as the Nantahala, wish to master the kayakroll in rapids and learn how to play confidently in Nantahala-type waves and holes. Intermediate kayakers should have a 100% flatwater roll and a 50% reliable combat roll in class II rapids. Saturday morning lake session working on strokes and rolls (kayaks) and an afternoon session on a Class 2-3 river working on turns, surfing, eddy hopping, etc. Full day Class 2-3 river trip on Sunday.

PHYSICAL CONDITION AND SWIMMING ABILITY:

Whitewater paddling is a physically and mentally challenging activity that requires fitness, flexibility, and a positive attitude in stressful situations. Kayaking is a high-risk activity for individuals with a history of shoulder dislocations. Applicants should discuss potential physical limitations with the Coordinator before signing up. You must be able to swim and should not panic with your head under water. Beginning kayak clinic participants will spend a lot of time upside down inside their kayaks on the lake. All students will practice swimming & self-rescue skills in rapids.

REGISTRATION:

To register for one of these clinics you must be a member of the Georgia Canoeing Association. For an application to join the GCA go to the GCA Web Site at <http://www.georgiacanoe.org/membership.htm> or call 404.421.9729. Dues are \$25. Classes are \$65 per person for a two day clinic or \$35 for a one day event, unless otherwise stated. To register for a clinic, call the coordinator of the clinic for more information, including questions on your skill level and/or course objectives. You will NOT be registered until the coordinator receives this completed form and a check for appropriate fees. Please don't wait to register. All classes are subject to being closed due to student limits or being rescheduled or canceled if there are insufficient students registered. Registration closes ten days before each class due to insurance and planning considerations.

EQUIPMENT:

You must furnish all of your own equipment. You will receive a detailed list of required and recommended equipment.

FEES:

Two Day classes are \$65.00 for instruction or events. One Day classes are \$35.00

Fees included American Canoe Association Insurance: ACA members' fees are reduced by \$10 per class or event.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:

If you wish to cancel or switch to another date, please notify the Clinic Coordinator as soon as possible. If you cancel at least 10 days before the first class session your fees will be refunded. After that, refunds will be made only if a replacement is found.

Clinics will be conducted rain or shine.

REMAINING 2007 INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

Whitewater Kayak

Nantahala Falls (Working in the Falls)

September 8 & 9

Louis Boulanger

Louis.boulanger@ece.gatech.edu

Intermediate II (Nantahala)

September 29 & 30

Haynes and Gina Johnson

Haynesandgina@alltel.net

Recreational Kayak

Introductory White Water (Tuckaseegee)

July 14, Whitewater Class 2

Jamie Higgins, Jmhiggins_99@yahoo.com

Safety

Basic White Water Safety (Amicalola)

July 14

Gina and Haynes Johnson

Haynesandgina@alltel.net

Whitewater Canoe (Solo and Tandem)

Trained Beginner (TBA)

August 18 & 19

Jim Albert, jimalbert@gmail.com

Sea Kayak (call for class fees)

Steve Cramer, cramersec@charter.net

Intermediate I (Tuckaseegee)

August 25 & 26

Gina and Haynes Johnson

Haynesandgina@alltel.net

ISea Kayak Weekend - Charleston

Sept 29 & 30

Sea Kayak Strokes - Athens Area

August 11

CLINIC _____

NAME _____

AGE _____

SEX _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

EMAIL _____

ALLERGIES OR PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES: _____

DISABILITIES OR PHYSICAL PROBLEMS: _____



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