



Post Office Box 7023  
Atlanta, Georgia 30357

# THE EDDY LINE

Volume 43, No. 9

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www.georgiacanoe.org

September 2008

## Volunteers Needed

### 40th Annual Southeasterns October 4-5

GCA is sponsoring its 40th Annual Southeastern U. S. Slalom & Wildwater Championships on Saturday and Sunday, October 4th & 5th, 2008, on the Nantahala River, in Wesser, North Carolina. The Saturday Wildwater Championships will begin with a mass start at 3:00 p.m. and will run miles from the rafting put-in just below the Duke Power Powerhouse to Finish Rock near Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC).

There will be a gala party Saturday evening to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Southeasterns, the oldest slalom and wildwater races in the Southeast and perhaps the oldest slalom races in the country continuously held at one venue. The Slalom Championships will Sunday beginning at 1:00 p.m. and, like last year, will be held just downstream of the River's End restaurant.

The Southeasterns are the GCA's biggest social event of the year. You are urged to participate by racing, spectating on or off the river, and/or volunteering to help with the races. There will be the usual classes in both slalom and wildwater for recreational boats as well as for racing boats. You can even win \$100 if you break a Wildwater course. Special awards are given for the fastest C-1 or OC-1, the fastest female and the name of fastest C-2, and the fastest overall gets engraved on the Southeasterns Trophy.

Come join the fun! For further information contact Race Master Roger Nott at 770-536-6923 or 678-316-4935 or at ocapaddler@charter.net. A registration form is on page 15, can be downloaded from the GCA website or can be obtained from Roger Nott, 2335 Stephens Circle, Gainesville, GA 30506-1115.

A registration form to compete in the Southeasterns is on page 15 and a history of the Southeasterns by GCA Historian and Southeasterns Race Master Roger Nott begins on page 5.

## Fall Gala September 19—21

GCA's 2008 Fall Gala will be held September 19—21 at Smokey Mountain Meadows Campground in Bryson City, NC. Attendees are responsible for their own reservations (www.smokeymtnmeadows.com, 828.4883672 or email Freda at smmcamp@yahoo.com.) Non-campers can rent cabins next door at Smokey Mountain Meadows Retreat (virtualcities.com/nc/smokymtre.htm or Linda Parris at 828.488.6347.

In addition to the usual paddling and other fun, John Sampson will be bringing smoked venison hams and smoked turkey. Attendees, please bring a side to share. Please also bring firewood if you have some.

For further information, contact Tom Bishop, bishop.t@comcast.net or 404.542.1118.



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	Andy Warshaw (1986/7)	Jim Silavent (1992/3)	Evelyn Hopkins (1994/5)
	David Martin (1998/9)	Brannen Proctor (2000/1)	Marvine Cole (2002/3)
	Vincent Payne (2006/7)		

### OTHER IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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## Keeping In Touch

To contact GCA, write Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc., P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357, leave a message at 770.421.9729 or call/email one of the folks listed above.

**Groupmail:** GCA maintains a group email list to help members share information of general interest. To sign up, go to [gcalist-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:gcalist-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

**Website:** Information about GCA, forms (including membership application and GCA waiver form), a link to the GCA Store and links to *Eddy Line* advertisers are all at [www.georgiacanoe.org](http://www.georgiacanoe.org).

## All About *The Eddy Line*

*The Eddy Line*, the official GCA newsletter, is available in print or pdf format. To subscribe, contact Ed Scultz at 404.266.3734 or [heloeddy@mindspring.com](mailto:heloeddy@mindspring.com), or mail your request to P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357.

**Submissions/Advertising:** All submissions and advertising should be sent to *The Eddy Line*, P.O. Box 441, Gainesville, GA, 30503-0441 or [the\\_eddyline@yahoo.com](mailto:the_eddyline@yahoo.com).

**Deadline:** The deadline for all submissions, classified ads and commercial ads is the 5th of the previous month (e.g. May 5 for the June issue).

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## UPCOMING GCA TRIPS

### September

6	Upper Ocoee	Advanced	Hank Klausman	770.587.0499
10	Walnut Creek	Beginner	Joe Webb	678.986.2048
11	Walnut Creek	Beginner	Joe Webb	678.986.2048
13	Nantahala	Intermediate	John Scott	770.757.2362
27	Nantahala	Intermediate	Daniel McIntyre	404.252.9513

### October

4-5	<i>Nantahala</i>	<i>40th Annual Southeasterns</i>	<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	<i>See Page 5</i>
11	Upper Russell Fork	Advanced	David Bernard	540.392.5096
12	Upper Russell Fork	Advanced	David Bernard	540.392.5096
13	Nolichucky	Advanced	David Bernard	540.392.5096

### KEY TO GCA SKILL LEVELS

**Flat Water** - no current will be encountered; safe for new paddlers.

**Beginner** - mild current, occasional Class 1 ripples; new paddlers can learn basic river techniques.

**Trained Beginner** - moving water with Class 1-2 rapids; basic strokes and bracing skills needed.

**Intermediate** - rapids up to Class 3; eddying and ferrying skills needed; kayakers need solid roll.

**Advanced** - rapids up to Class 4; excellent boat control and self-rescue skills required.

For more about "class" ratings of rapids, see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Whitewater>.

# Your Trip Could Be Listed in This Space — Call Cruisemaster Steve Reach at 404.579.3166!

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**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 Vincent Payne at 770.834.8263.

**To Volunteer To Lead Trips:** Call the Cruise Master, Steve Reach at 404.579.3166. 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 beginning at or before 6:00, May through October, at Stone Mountain Park. For more information, including directions, see Page 4.

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## Announcements



### Monthly Meetings

GCA **Board of Directors meetings** are generally held the first Thursday of March, June, September and December. GCA **Executive Committee meetings** are generally held the first Thursday of January, February, April, May, July, August, October and November. Meetings are at 7:00 p.m. at Page Perry

LLC, 1040 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 1050, Atlanta, 30338. (I-285 to Ashford Dunwoody NE, left onto Perimeter Center West, right onto Crown Pointe Parkway, park at 1050 and walk to 1040.) All members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, call Tom Bishop at 404.542.1118 to be added to the agenda. Attending meetings is a great way to become more involved in the GCA and ensure transparency in decisions and actions. ✂

### Third Quarter of Fiscal 2008 Financial Statement

by Ed Schultz, GCA Treasurer

#### Receipts:

Dues	\$ 2,725.00
Interest	\$ 448.14
Clinic Fees	\$ 790.00
GRES Fees	\$ 875.00
Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 650.00
River Access Contributions	\$ 275.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 5,763.14

#### Expenses:

General/Administrative (phone, web, supplies)	\$ 1,354.06
<i>Eddy Line</i> Printing, Mailing	\$ 3,597.34

### Summer Roll Practice

GCA Summer Roll Practice is held at Stone Mountain Park at 6:00 p.m. (or earlier) on Wednesday from May through October. Roll Practice is free, but you'll have to pay to enter the park. A season pass is recommended if you plan to attend multiple sessions.

**DIRECTIONS:** Enter the park from Stone Mountain Freeway (East Entrance); take the first left; continue about a mile until you cross the dam; take the first right into the parking lot. The boat ramp is on the right.

The boat ramp has a lot of power boats putting in and taking out, so use the ramp to load and unload only and park away from the ramp. Once in the water, stay clear of the ramp

### Keep Your Email Address Current

Each month numerous "copies" of the pdf version of *The Eddy Line* bounce back due to bad or outdated email addresses. If email to you bounces back, you will be deleted from the recipient list until we get an updated email address.

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. If your email changes, please "unsubscribe" and resubscribe with your new address.

Thank you. ✂

### Support Our Advertisers

The GCA web site now features a "GCA Supporters" web page with links to those who support GCA financially by advertising in *The Eddy Line*. Help those who help us — patronize our advertisers, And when you do, let them know you saw their *Eddy Line* ad and appreciate their support. Thanks! ✂

Directory Postage and Mailing	\$ 329.95
GRES Expenses	\$ 704.72
Clinic Expenses	\$ 400.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 6,386.07

**Net Increase (Decrease) this quarter:** (\$ 622.93)

#### Funds available 07/31/08:

Operating	\$ 2,099.41
River Access (Restricted)	\$ 39,011.15
Life Member (Restricted)	\$ 24,554.23
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$ 65,664.79

New and renewing members in the quarter were 21 fewer than the number enrolled in the third quarter of 2007. The third quarter loss of \$622.93 contributed to the further decline in operating funds available to the club. ✂

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. ✂

## Wishing Xan a Full and Speedy Recovery

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## Upcoming Events of Interest

October 4-5 - 40th Annual Southeastern U.S. Slalom & Wildwater Championships, Nantahala River, Wesser, NC - Racemaster Roger Nott, 770.536.6923 or ocapaddler@charter.net.

October 4 - Berkeley County Blueways Paddlefest, Old Santee Canal Park, Moncks Corner, SC - www.berkeleyblueways.com - Archie Thompson, ilike2kayak@juno.com.

October 13 - Suwannee River Challenge and Marathon, White Spring, FL - 26 miles/52 miles - Rod Price, 407.227.5606, rodprice@hotmail.com.

November 8-15 - Fall Paddle Florida, Suwannee River Wilderness Trail - <http://paddleflorida.org/>.

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## The First 40 Years

### The Southeasterns: A History

by Roger Nott, GCA Historian

As the GCA prepares to sponsor its Southeastern United States Slalom & Wildwater Championships on North Carolina's Nantahala River for the 40th year in a row, we recall many fond memories. The Southeasterns are the oldest canoe and kayak races in the



Southeast and may be the longest continuously held slalom races in the nation.

The first canoe races on the Nantahala were held by the GCA on July 4 and 5, 1969. In 1968, GCA founders Horace Holden, Sr. and Bill Crawford, together with Payson Kennedy, visited the Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington D.C.'s Petersburg races on the North Fork of the South Branch of the Potomac River. They were impressed and met many experienced racers who were excited about the idea of coming to the Nantahala to race the following July. Thus was born what was ambitiously termed the "First Annual Nantahala Race" to promote the sport in the Southeast, as well as advance the cause for wild rivers.

Horace Holden, who in 1972 founded the Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC) and whose son and namesake was to race C-2 Slalom in the 1996 Olympics, chaired that first race. He was supported by Ben Falmen, Director of Safety for the Red Cross, and four founding members of the GCA who would later be elected honorary life members: Payson Kennedy, Rules Chairman; Bill Crawford, Publicity; Bill Close, Art and Photography; and Claude Grizzard, Advertising. Claude printed the race applications and has done so many years since that time.

Now deceased GCA life member Ramone Eaton pro-



vided invaluable guidance and enthusiastic support. It is thus most fitting that since 1993 we have presented in Ray's name a special award for the fastest OC-2 Wildwater team.

Forty racers competed in the first slalom race in the Southeast, an eleven gate course at Delabar's Rock, on July 4, 1969. Payson Kennedy and Claude Terry made the poles and gates and John Sweet, who won the C-1 class, and Stein Leikhart designed the course.

Slalom scoring was different then, as penalties were assessed for one and two gate touches (10 and 20 seconds), for improper negotiation (50 seconds) and for lack of negotiation (100 seconds!). In addition to upstream, downstream, and reverse gates, there were also black and white free gates which could be negotiated any way and typically were hung in challenging and exciting spots.

Charles Seaman won the K-1 class with a day's low score of 115 seconds. Doug Woodward placed second in two classes and had the only clean run. Other slalom winners were Bev Sullivan in K-1W, Brent and Kevin Lewis in C-2 and Carrolle and Swede Turner in C-1M.

The late Roy Wood, a GCA honorary life member, manned the P.A. system and made a jovial emcee. Shortly after the race, he approached Percy Ferebee, who owned the Nantahala Talc and Limestone Company and much of the lower Nantahala Valley. Roy asked Ferebee to donate a few acres at the slalom site to guarantee access and parking for future races.

This initiative led directly to Ferebee's generously donating to the Forest Service almost the entire river valley adjacent to U. S. Highway 19, more than 6,000 acres, while retaining for his company quarrying rights. Thus, as an outgrowth of GCA's first Nantahala race, the river's pristine riparian environment was protected for future generations.

Ironically, the slalom races were never again held at Delabar's Rock, near the site of the present Ferebee Park. In 1970 and 1971, they were set at Patton's Run. From 1972 through 2004, they were held at Nantahala Falls, and for the

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**Julie Wilson Falls on the West Fork of Idaho's Bruneau River, named for a Southeasterns winner and GCA member. Photo courtesy of Roger Nott.**

past four years the course has been set just upstream of Wesser Falls.

103 competitors raced on July 5, 1969 in the Nantahala's first wildwater race. They paddled the eight miles from the confluence of the old riverbed and the outflow from the powerhouse to what is now known as "Finish Rock," just upstream of the present site of NOC, at that time the Tote-N-Tarry store.

Winners that day included David McCallie and Alex Wheeler in OC-2Jr., Anne Davis and Claude Grizzard in OC-2M, Hugh Caldwell in OC-1, John Sweet in C-1, Bill Funk in K-1, Horace Holden and Billy Crawford in OC-2, Carrolle and Swede Turner in C-2M and Brent and Kevin Lewis in C-2.

Brent and Kevin Lewis were the fastest down the river that day at 54 minutes, 9 seconds. Also competing was a postman from Brevard, NC, named Charlie Patton. His time of 1:18:24 was only good enough for sixth place in a field of eight OC-1 competitors.

We suspect that Charlie knew he was not going to win that race when he decided to compete to the best of his ability. You see, Charlie only had the use of one arm! His efforts epitomize the spirit of the Southeasterns over their forty year history and challenge us all today to take part and do our best.

Since 1972, the first year that the "Southeastern" name was applied to the GCA's annual Nantahala races, an award has been presented in Charlie Patton's memory to the fastest single-bladed wildwater racer. It has been won 11 times by John Pinyerd, 4 times by David Mason and 3 times by Angus Morrison.

The following were the ten fastest C-1 racers in the Southeasterns' first 39 years:

1. John Pinyerd	46:43	1997
2. Wayne Dickert	47:26	1989
3. Bob Powell	48:59.16	1996
4. Bailey Russell	49:01	1997
5. Angus Morrison	50:00	1982
6. John Butler	50:06	1981
7. Fritz Orr, III	50:12	1989
8. Mike Hipsher	50:35	1981
9. Michael Beavers	50:40	1998
10. Steven Kuberg	50:44	1997

Angus Morrison owns the open canoe record, 50:12 in 1983. Bill Baxter's time of 51:53 that year still stands as the second fastest open canoe run.

The fastest times in the wildwater each year have usually been in the K-1 Championship class. This class was dominated for many years by Atlanta dentist David Jones, who won each race from 1974 through 1980 and also in 1992 and 2000. Here are the fastest wildwater kayakers and their best times:

1. Terry White	42:04.85	1981
2. Maurizio Tognacci	42:29	1997
3. Mark Hamilton	42:53	1997
4. Ben Lawry	42:35	1998
5. Mike Hipsher	42:48	1997
6. Dan Johnson	43:49.93	1981
7. Dan Shnurrenberger	44:07	1981
8. Roger Myers	44:12	1989
9. John Brennan	45:05	1996
10. Kathy Bolyn	45:20	1989

In 1973, the K-1W slalom championship class was won by Julia Ann Wilson, daughter of the late Ross and Elizabeth Wilson, GCA charter members. She grew up paddling with the GCA and was well-known and loved by its membership. Tragically, she drowned the following spring on the West Fork



**GCA and Southeasterns alum Austin Crane (stern), with Scott McClesky at the U.S. Olympic trials in Charlotte, April 27, 2008. Photo courtesy of Roger Nott**

of the Bruneau River in Idaho, paddling with Walt Blackadar at what is now known as Julie Wilson Falls.

Since 1974, an award in her memory has been given to the fastest female wildwater competitor, usually in the K-1W class. It has been won 3 times each by Carolyn Porter and Kathy Bolyn, who holds the women's record of 45:20 from 1989. Close behind Kathy were Carolyn Porter (45:50) in 1997 and Cathy Hearn (46:39.91) in 1996.

In 1983, Bill Baxter and Les Bechdel set the OC-2 record of 50:06. David Jones and Mike Hipsher hold the C-2 record (45:11) from 1989. In recent years the GCA has offered \$100 to any racer who breaks any of these wildwater records.

There have been many great slalom champions over the years. Michael Vorwerk and Eric Giddens have each won the K-1 championship class 4 times. Ken Cooper and Scott Shipley have done so 3 times each. David Dauphine and Steve Thomas have each won the C-1 championship slalom 3 times. For many years, Steve Thomas and Mike Larimer dominated the C-2 championship slalom class.

From 1983 until his tragic early death, Frankie Hubbard raced regularly in open canoes of his own design and won all but one of the many slalom classes he entered. Tandem open canoeists Carrie Ashton and Bunny Johns were for many years equally unbeatable. Steve Scarborough, Mark Warren, Allen Hedden, Art Fowler, Phil Foti, David Simpson and Michael Abernathy have also had long and distinguished racing careers at the Southeasterns in the championship open canoe slalom classes.

It would be impossible to recognize the many hundreds of racers over the years who have competed with distinction in the Southeasterns. Payson Kennedy, Doug Woodward and Bunny Johns competed in 1969 and are still racing. Payson has raced seventeen times and won the OC-1 master's wildwater race in 2007 at the age of 74.

Roger Nott has competed every year since 1980. Current Wildwater Masters World Champion John Pinyerd has raced for 24 years, and Allen Hedden has competed in 20 annual races. Other racers who have competed fifteen or more years include Fritz Orr, Mark Warren, David Jones, Michael Collier, Larry Castillo, Steve Thomas and Doug Woodward. Each of the above has earned numerous medals.

Most of the U.S. Slalom and Wildwater team members and our recent Olympians have competed in the Southeasterns, sometimes, like two-time Olympian Adam Clawson, from their early teens. Equally importantly, the races have given GCA members and other recreational paddlers the opportunity to improve their skills and experience the excitement of competition in a friendly environment.

Vital to the success of the Southeasterns have been the hundreds who have volunteered year after year to organize and staff the races, including the competitors themselves.

**Nantahala Festival/Guest Appreciation Festival**

**New Dates!**

**September 26th, 27th & 28th**

**Mark Your Calendars for the Granddaddy of All Gear Sales!**

**Canoe club pre-sale begins Friday @ 5 pm**

Arrive Friday and get first dibs on NOC's famous used gear sale. Go to [noc.com](http://noc.com) for the complete GAF schedule and festival information.

Each year teams of forty to one hundred volunteers are assembled by the race masters. Horace Holden performed this role for the first three years.

Since then, the Race Masters for the Southeasterns have been Doug Woodward (1972-3), Tom Lines (1973-4), Jack Weems (1975-6), Ken McAmis (1977), Allen Lewis (1978), Bonnie Wolf and Gwen Bergen (1979), John Shumaker (1980), David Garrity (1981), Hoppy Eager (1982-3), Roger Nott (1984-6, 1989, 1996, 2007-8), John Pinyerd (1987-8, 2005-6), David and Karla Bowman (1990-1), Mary Trauner (1992-4), David Newbern (1995), Wulf Kuehmstedt (1997-8), Doug Klaucke (1999-2000), Brannen Proctor (2001), Gina Johnson (2002-3) and Bruce Fussell (2004).

John and Tee Brower have started each spring race since the mid 1970's. For many years boat inspector Gary DeBacher was equally visible. Other long-time volunteers have included Les Davenport, Havis Johnson, Mark Levine, Allen Hedden, Nancy Barker, Havis Johnson and Ed Schultz, GCA Treasurer since 1988.

The name "Southeasterns" was first used in 1972 when the American Canoeing Association designated the GCA's annual Nantahala race as the "Southeastern United States Slalom and Wildwater Championships." Often the race has also been the ACA's Dixie Division Decked Boat Slalom and

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Wildwater Championships.

Racers, whose annual numbers peaked in 1973 at 400, have represented their paddling clubs since the race's beginnings. Most years since 1984 the Southeastern Cup has been awarded to the recreational paddling club whose members earned the most medals at the Southeasterns.

The GCA could never have held the Southeasters for 40 years without the considerable help of several important outside groups. The 1969 races were cosponsored by the Canoe Cruisers Association of Greater Washington, D.C., the Bryson City Jaycees and the operators of the Hemlock Inn. Duke Power has furnished water every year. The NOC and the Nantahala Racing Club have provided invaluable assistance and support since 1972. The Nantahala Rescue Squad for many years provided traffic control and medical support.

## Grand Canyon Adventure

by Will Gosney

(ghost-written by Betty G. Rose, Grand Canyon Widow)

Sunday, July 6, was the beginning of a trip of a lifetime! Me and fifteen other hardy souls were about to embark on a 16-day river adventure, rafting and camping the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon.



### TRIP REPORTS

For anyone who has ever thought of doing such a thing, every day brings a new panorama, a new set of thrilling rapids — and a new place to hide the “groover!” The ecosystem of this National Park is very

delicate; all water - and I do mean ALL water - goes in the river, no exceptions. All trash, of course, has to be carried out. Minor inconveniences when you consider the magnificence of the experience. Apparently you can burn your trash, but we didn't get that organized.

The trip was originated by Brooks Hinerman and consisted of an odd assortment of paddlers and never-even-been-on-a-river-before novices (usually girlfriends and wives who got talked into this). There were two GCA members in the group, me and Steve Toebben, son of Roger Toebben, who flew into Flagstaff (our starting point) from Alaska, where he is now stationed in the Air Force.

Steve took over the place Betty Rose was going to assume. We had already gotten both of our tickets to fly out there when she realized that a trip of that length, with no layover days, would be too much. After much soul-searching and a few tears, we put the invitation out over many paddling links, and Steve stepped up to the plate. Steve was already familiar with the wild-west kind of big river rafting, having guided on several western rivers. This was a dream of his, too,

In the early years, GCA's Explorer Post 49 set the slalom gates. The Nantahala Gorge Association members, particularly the rafting companies, have cooperated so that river traffic could be regulated to allow the weekend slalom races to proceed uninterrupted. The ACA and the USACK have provided sanctioning, publicity and insurance, and the Forest Service has permitted and overseen the races since 1982.

Increased river traffic on the Nantahala has affected the scheduling of the Southeasterns, which have almost always been held on warm weather weekends. For the first five years, the race was run on the weekend of the Fourth of July. For fifteen years thereafter, they were held in mid or late June. In the late 1980's and early 1990's, they were moved to May or early June. The races have since been held in April, except in 1996, 2007 and 2008, when they were moved to the fall. ➤

so a deal was struck.

All the intricate financing and arranging had been done with a sixteen-member group in mind. Meals for 16 people, 16 days, five rafts, full camp kitchen, water filtration and all the etceteras had to be figured out. PRO out of Flagstaff was the outfitter handling all the details.

Thank goodness Stuart Everett had the foresight to print out an itinerary of each day with a potential camp put-in, a list of the rapids for that day and their class, and the various hikes that could also be squeezed in if there's any daylight or energy left!

By the way, the rapid classification system for the Colorado River is on a scale of 1-10; Crystal in the middle and Lava at the end are both Class 9 big raft-eating rapids. Every day we navigated a mighty series of named classed rapids — and in between were the unnamed ripples, some of which would be at home on the Gauley! But even given the big water, there was a clear line through most of them. We didn't lose



Shelter from the sun is always on issue on the Colorado. Photo by Will Gosney.

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one single raft.

This was my virgin voyage piloting a 2,000 pound inflatable barge. The river moves along at a 5 mph clip and the water temperature hovers around a cool 47 degrees with air temp up to 120 degrees. For this trip, Glen Canyon Dam released between 10,000-17,000 cfs.

The canyon is almost a mile deep (or high, from our



Brooks in the beautiful Silver Grotto. Photo by Will Gosney.

perspective). From the put-in at Lee's Ferry to the take-out at Diamond Creek is 225.9 river miles. There are a total of 89 classed rapids and at least 61 listed hikes along our route (a total of 91 hikes total if you really don't want to miss anything!). At the take-out, it costs \$100 each to ride through the Hualapai Indian Reservation (Grand Canyon toll road). So much for the numbers.

The way to survive 16 days in the high desert is to stay close to the river! For sleeping it was recommended buying a good mesh cot and setting it up as close to the river as possible (beware the high water mark: the river fluctuates during the night!). I chose to sleep on the raft - cool breezes off the river made me glad I included a lightweight flannel throw as well as a couple of cotton sheets.

For clothes, don't bother spending a bunch of money on expensive SPF shirts and things; Goodwill outfitted me with several white cotton shirts, some throw-away pajama bottoms and cheap shorts. Red clay — aren't we familiar with that stuff already — abounds and isn't worth trying to get out.

But one does need to cover up from the unrelenting sun: hats, umbrellas, socks under your Texas, and — nail polish! The ladies in the group accommodated all with lovely shades of pink. Guess what happens when your feet stay wet for 3

*continued on page 11*

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## GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION INSTRUCTION 2008

### Whitewater Kayak

#### Nantahala Falls Weekend

Tom Bishop, bishop.t@comcast.net

September 6 & 7

### Sea Kayak (call for class fees)

#### Sea Kayak Basics - Charleston

Steve Cramer, cramersec@charter.net

Sept 20 & 21

## INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE & CLINIC INFORMATION

Clinics will be taught by ACA-certified instructors and qualified assistants. 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.

### SWIMMING ABILITY:

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.

### PHYSICAL CONDITION:

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.

### EQUIPMENT:

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

### REGISTRATION AND FEES:

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.

CLINIC \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

AGE \_\_\_\_\_

SEX \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ALLERGIES OR PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES: \_\_\_\_\_

DISABILITIES OR PHYSICAL PROBLEMS: \_\_\_\_\_

### 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.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT GINA JOHNSON AT [haynesandgina@alltel.net](mailto:haynesandgina@alltel.net).**

weeks? I didn't want to find out either. Oh, another foot tip - grease and duct tape. Dry air cracks the feet (duct tape) and intensive cream/Vaseline might keep them from getting that way.

Something I realized if I ever get back there is the food situation. We all voted on our preferences on the listserv set up for the group. There were a couple of vegetarians, so they had to be considered. At the end, we had to give up the "halibut" and the "steaks" due to budget constraints, but the food PRO provided was massive.

We could have really done with much less quantity and much less food prep for every meal. For the first few days we stopped for lunch and set up the full kitchen. Finally we got smart and prepared the lunch stuff at breakfast (breakfast being: pancakes, eggs, bacon and sausage!); that was a colossal improvement. Toward the end, we all just wanted a bowl of cereal. But no one went hungry and we didn't have to eat pb&j's day and night.

Another thing to consider if any of you make this trip — set up a duty roster! We pretty much winged it and relied on the volunteerism of the group, which if you, dear reader, have ever had much experience in, usually means some folks wind up doing most of the work! Others are willing to sit back and watch, scratch their nose, take a nap, read their book.

First of all, locating a proper crapper spot, filtering much water for supper/breakfast/lunch next day, setting up the camp kitchen (no small task), cutting up veggies for all the many stir fries we had, etc., etc. Then, next morning, packing all that stuff back into the rafts. I did get an appreciation for how little it takes to actually survive, though. And wondered how the heck William Powell did it.

Okay, you've waded through the gory details about the trip; now for the rapids! Legendary "House Rock" rapid (mile #17.1) is a Class 7 and a piece of cake according to this writer. That was on the morning of the second day;

after lunch we tackled the fabulous "Roaring Twenties," a series of very many Class 4, 5 and 6 rapids interspersed with a whole bunch of "smaller" ones! (Remember how I described

"smaller" earlier?) Sprained a knee in the middle of "Tiger Wash" (mile #26.9). That kept me from hiking back to Silver Grotto, where we stopped for the night.

The next few days were mainly marked by several side trip hikes. Day four's big hike was to the Nankoweap Grannaries (didn't go all the way up on that one, either!). The last part of the hike looks like it's straight up to old Anasazi granneries carved into the rock high up the canyon wall.

Day six started the beginning of really big rapids continuing for four days through the "Jewels" past Phantom Ranch. "Hance," Class 8 (mile #77.2) and "Sockdolager," Class 7 (mile #79.1) were the ones to ace on that day.

Next day, after hiking back to Phantom Ranch (mile #88.1) and posting two postcards via mule express, we began the ordeal of Really Big Water! "Horn Creek," Class 8 (mile #90.8) led into "Granite," Class 8 (mile #93.9) and "Hermit," Class 8 (mile #95.5). "Crystal Rapid," a Class 9 (mile #98.9) began the series called the "Jewels" - "Agate," "Sapphire," "Turquoise," "Emerald," "Ruby" and "Serpentine" all followed in rapid succession.

As an aside: since coming home, there have been reports of three rafts getting stuck in the boulder pile below "Crystal," requiring the Park Service to intervene. I took the safe right line like any normal boater should: others, who wanted to risk death and destruction, took the "hero" line on the left. If you can keep yourself from ferrying back and forth below the rapid, chances are you'll miss that pile.

On day eight we finished up the "Jewels" and enjoyed the next several days of excruciating beauty. No rapids over Class 7. For your information, on day nine, there is a seven mile loop hike that folks can take, getting out of

*continued on following page*



**Scouting Lava Falls on Day 9. Photo by Will Gosney.**



**Steve Toeppen, USAF, out of uniform. Photo by Will Gosney.**



**The End of a wonderful trip. The take-out at Diamond Creek, Day 16, Mile 225.9. Photo by Will Gosney.**

the boats at Thunder River (mile #134.3), spending the night and hiking to Deer Creek (mile #136.2) to get back on the water. No one in our crowd had hiking fever that bad.

Day eleven brought us to the base of Havasu Canyon, a long hike with a series of turquoise blue pools and waterfalls stair-stepping up to the rim. Day twelve was the hike to National Canyon, which I did make. The whole route was marked by hundreds of side canyons, each one providing a day's worth of separate adventure.

Day thirteen (of course!) we finally arrived at our day of reckoning: "Lava Falls," Class 9 (mile #179.7), the nastiest rapid in the gorge. We spent plenty of time scouting from the rocks up above the falls. River guides, printed for each raft by Stuart Everett, proved invaluable. Each major rapid had the "survivors" line clearly explained. After thoroughly securing any loose things, we began our descent. Several brave souls ran the rapid in their kayaks. We all made it through, smiling and exhausted!

The next day was a pretty easy one for rapids mostly marked by hikes, one of which was to the "Book of Worms" fossil site. Then our final full day of paddling, day fifteen, had several smaller rapids, nothing above Class 6, and included the odd Pumpkin Spring, an arsenic-infused bath right by the river. They say it's safe to enter, but I declined, having plenty of arsenic in me already from many years in the construction

field.

One more night sleeping on the raft and then a six mile float to the take-out the next morning. I realized that the current does not slow down when entering into the lower part of the canyon. Not being sure of that, we kept the paddles fairly even to an average of 15-16 miles per day.

We actually could have spent more time in the upper part of the canyon and put in a 40-mile push to the take-out at the end. You know what they say about hindsight. Something to consider when you, dear reader, are planning your own Grand Canyon Adventure!

Well, that's it. Lee's Ferry to Diamond Creek, over 200 miles of pure glory. For me, this was just my first trip. The Canyon will see me again. ✂

## Tuckasegee

by Billy Etheredge

I thought I'd share a quick trip report of the recent Tuck trip led by Todd McGinnis. The day began with Todd, myself, Becca Brown and Sheila Abner meeting on 400 to caprool the rest of the way to Dillsboro, doing our part to stick it to the oil companies.

The plan was to meet the rest of the group at Tuckasegee Outfitters at 10:00. A few unforeseen circumstances left us running a little behind schedule but some quick thinking by Todd and an alternate shuttle plan still put us on the water by just after 11:00.

During the introductions and safety talk, Todd told a story to explain the reason for our tardiness. You see, on the weekends when Todd starts getting ready for paddling, he switches over to this alternative time scale called PAT time, named after one of his paddling friends who is notoriously late. This simply means that if Todd wants to meet this friend at the river at 10:30, he tells the friend to meet at 10:00, meaning the friend will probably show up sometime around 10:45. Well Todd forgot to switch from PAT time to normal time and that along with a larger than normal volume of traffic made for a good story and seemed to appease the group.

We put on with a group of eight, anticipating what would be a great day of paddling. The group consisted of Todd, myself, Becca, Sheila, Steve Reach, Rob Butera and Bernadette Peters all in kayaks and Mark Holmberg the lone open boater. The heat was in full effect but the cool water provided us with some welcomed relief.

It seemed as though everyone had the same idea as I've never seen that many people on the Tuck before. We had a great water level: not sure of the CFS, but the level was noticeably higher than what we had when we ran the Tuck two weeks prior.

The run down to the lunch spot was fairly uneventful. We took our time getting there and spent a lot of time surfing and



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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](mailto:the_eddyline@yahoo.com). Please, no phone-in or hand-written ads. Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

**For Sale:** Seals custom-made neoprene skirt, size small, \$80. Susan, 404.713.0844 or [blueberryhillshorses@gmail.com](mailto:blueberryhillshorses@gmail.com).

**For Sale:** Dagger Approach, 9 foot hybrid whitewater/rec kayak with retractable skeg and watertight hatch, paddled only a few times, suitable for up to 200 lbs. - \$600 (\$700 new). Susan, 404.713.0844 or [blueberryhillshorses@gmail.com](mailto:blueberryhillshorses@gmail.com).

**For Sale:** 4 Yakima Q towers with Pathfinder clips and one 78 inch crossbar, \$100. Also older fiberglass cartop carrier, \$25. Herb, 770.414.0158, 678.571.2132 or [bruderherb@mindspring.com](mailto:bruderherb@mindspring.com).

**For Rent:** Cozy 2BR, 2 bath cabin on an acre with creek, 2 miles from Lake Notely - 1 hour from Nanty, 45 min. from Ocoee, 25 min from Toccoa, Cartecay. Great monthly deal for paddlers or friends of (w. references). 678-613-2533 or [www.emeraldcreekcabin.com](http://www.emeraldcreekcabin.com). (09)

**For Sale:** Mohawk Maxim OC-1 playboat, 8'10", red w. yellow bags, factory outfitting, 3 years old, excellent condition only used 3 times, stored indoors. Weighs 41 lbs. Rockered planing hull for experienced paddler. Belongs to BSA Troop 16, Gainesville. \$1221.25 + shipping new: will sell for \$750 OBO. Roger Nott, 678-316-4935, [ocapaddler@charter.net](mailto:ocapaddler@charter.net).

**For Sale:** Like new Ocean Kayak Drifter, olive, moderately used - Perception Torrent, patched, yellow - each \$350 OBO. Ben Simms, 770.845.6900 or [BenSimms@aol.com](mailto:BenSimms@aol.com).

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ferrying across the smaller rapids near the beginning of the run. At one point, Steve had to get out of his boat to help a mother and child get their raft off a rock they were stuck on.

We stopped for lunch at the usual spot near the Railroad rapid. Some of the group spent some time surfing and playing in the rapid while others relaxed on the rocks. We finished up with lunch and got ready for the more challenging rapids that awaited us downstream.

The first notable rapid we encountered after lunch was Prudential Rock. This rapid can be somewhat tricky but we all styled it and made it look easy. Sheila was especially excited to get a clean run of this rapid after it "gave her some trouble" the week before.

We ran the next few rapids without incident and soon made it to Double Drop rapid. Double Drop is a really fun rapid consisting of some pretty big waves and two decent sized drops. Some of the group just bombed through the middle while others caught the eddies on river right. Either way it was a lot of fun and no one had any problems with it.

We stopped at the beach below Double Drop to rest and goof off for awhile. Todd and Rob both volunteered to swim through the rapid so I could practice using my new throw rope. We ran the remaining rapids after Double Drop without any problems and had a nice peaceful float to the take out arriving just around 4:00.

We finished up shuttle, loaded up the cars, and had only one thing on our mind, FOOD. The group was going in several directions so a big group meal was not possible, but Todd,

Becca, Sheila, and I stopped in Clayton for an Italian feast.

This trip was a lot of fun and a great way to spend a hot Saturday. Everyone had a great run of the river, especially Sheila who is somewhat new to whitewater and had only paddled her new boat a few times before this trip. She paddled very well through all the rapids and hit what I believe was her first roll.

Many thanks to Todd for leading such a great trip. I'm sure that everyone will agree that he did a great job explaining the rapids and making sure everyone felt comfortable. 🐸



At a rest stop on the Tuckaseegee. Photo by Billy Etheredge.

## One Serious Non-Paddling Injury 2008 Chick Paddle

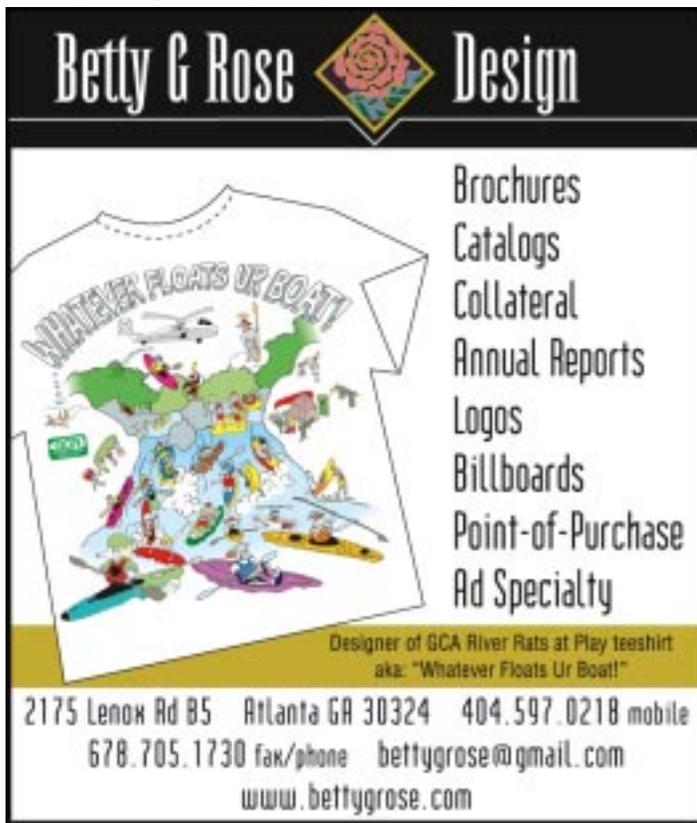
by Karen Saunders, Chief Chick in Charge

Well once again the Chick Paddle has become history. 27 women signed up this year to join in the festivities and paddling up on the Hiwassee. Denise Keller, the Founding Mother of Chick Paddle as we know it, passed on her knowledge and experience this year to me and I tried to hold the reins on 27 wild and willful women. Lord Denise, how did you do it for the last 3 years?

Once again we gathered at Horn's Creek Lodge to spend the weekend and see old friends and make new ones, paddle, cook, talk, laugh and be silly and wicked. Four of us managed to get up there early enough on Friday to get in a paddle on the Hiwassee. It was great, with perfect weather, and we almost had the river to ourselves. By the time we got back to the lodge, another 10 women had arrived and the partying had begun.

We had a great evening, talking and munching our way around a 3' by 8' table full of everything imaginable to eat and partaking in the various beverages on hand. I turned in early (10:30), but many stayed up until 1:30 a.m.

Saturday dawned and, with 2 coffee makers going, we managed to get everyone up and ready to roll at 10 a.m. We



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had a gaggle of kayaks( that's around 20 for you non-southerners), 3 solo duckies, 1 tandem duck and 2 open canoes.

Getting organized at the put in was a challenge to say the least, but with all the experienced boaters, we got on the water and had a good run with only a couple of spills. The Hiwassee was swarming with boaters, rafts and yellow jackets and our newbie ducky girls got some thrills in their first whitewater experience.

Late afternoon Saturday found us back at the lodge sampling "south of the border beverages," delving in the "MIST" and satisfying the munchies. We headed over for our time at the wave pool only to find out we were sharing the pool with a church group. I don't know about anyone else, but I was thinking "Are You Kidding Me?"

We had very little time to shock our pool mates before Xan had a momentary loss of friction on the slick concrete and down she went. That would have been embarrassing in itself, but on top of that she had a bad landing and those close by heard the crack! Long story short, Xan, who is a nurse, said "It's broken." I'm looking at a very badly misplaced kneecap thinking, "this is NOT GOOD!"

I have to say though, my hat went off to Xan. She was a real trooper to hold it together the whole time the ambulance was on the way to pick her up. I think I would have been balling!

Our Chick nurses, Lisa and Susan, got a temporary splint put on her and we all decided to head on back to the lodge after the guys from Horn's Creek loaded Xan up and took her up to the office in a golf cart to await the ambulance. Tracy and Kellie went to the hospital with Xan until William and Xan's parents came up. They discovered Xan had broken both bones in her lower leg (tibia and fibula) at the ankle. She also dislocated her knee cap (patella) on the same leg. Feeling a little deflated, we all went back to the lodge and tried to make the best of it.

We had a huge spread for dinner and everyone outdid themselves again with all the good food. In an effort to entertain ourselves, it's amazing what women will do and of course that led to some gut busting laughter and fun. I believe next year we may have more elaborate party favors to play with! Yeehaw!

Sunday, a lot of us headed for home after some team effort cleaning of the lodge. 3 went back to the Hiwassee, 3 went to the Ocoee and 2 went biking.

Though we had more than the usual share of mishaps this year, it was still a fun-filled weekend and one that I will look forward to every year. I know that for the next few weeks I'll keep having things pop up in my memory that will probably crack me up. You chicks KNOW what I'm talking about!!!!

Yall check in on Xan periodically.....she can only watch so much TV! Until next year.....Chicks Rule!!!!!!

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# 40th Annual Southeastern U.S. Slalom & Wildwater Championships

## October 4 & 5, Nantahala River, Wesser, NC

REGISTRATION FORM (please fill out completely):

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_\_\_ USACK # (if current): \_\_\_\_\_

PADDLING CLUB AFFILIATION (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

### WILDWATER CHAMPIONSHIPS - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4, 3:00 p.m. (1 ENTRY)

Check-in and late registration: 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. - Competitor's Meeting, 2:00 p.m.

Circle Class: K-1 K-1W C-1 C-1W C-2 C-2M C-2W OC-1 OC-2 OC-2M OC-2W

Circle 1: Championship Cruising

Partner's Name (partner must register separately): \_\_\_\_\_

### SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1:00 p.m.

(ENTRY LIMIT: 2 solo, 2 tandem, maximum 3 total)

Check-in and late registration: 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Sunday

Competitor's Meeting: 12:15 p.m. Sunday, between old and new bridges on river left at NOC

Class(es):

Championship: K-1 K-1W C-1 C-1W C-2 C-2M C-2W OC-1(Short) OC-1(Medium) OC-2 OC-2M OC-2W

Cruising: K-1 K-1W C-1 C-2 C-2M C-2W OC-1 OC-2 OC-2M OC-2W

First Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Name (partner must register separately): \_\_\_\_\_

Second Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Name (partner must register separately): \_\_\_\_\_

Third Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Partner's Name (partner must register separately): \_\_\_\_\_

FEES: First Race: \$15 (\$10 if received by October 4) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Additional Races (\$5 each) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Event Fee for non-USACK members\* (\$10) Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL (make check payable to Georgia Canoeing Assn.) TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*USA Canoe/Kayak (USACK) will need to show current membership at onsite registration/check-in.

Please return completed form, payment and completed waiver (USACK Waiver Release Form.pdf to:

Roger Nott, 2335 Stephens circle, Gainesville, GA 30506-1115.

For online registration or questions, contact Roger Nott at [ocapaddler@charter.net](mailto:ocapaddler@charter.net) or 678.316.4935.

On-site registration will be at race headquarters, between the old and new bridges on river left at NOC.



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