



Post Office Box 7023  
Atlanta, Georgia 30357

# THE EDDY LINE

Volume 44, No. 1

770.421.9729

www.georgiacanoe.org

January 2009

## In Honor of Jay and Carol Srymanske 23rd Annual Chili Run on New Year's Day

by Rick Bellows

The Georgia paddling community lost two friends the same day when Jay and Carol Srymanske, long time operators of Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions (better known as MOE), both died November 21. Jay was only 59 and Carol only 55, but they operated MOE for nearly 30 years. Jay and Carol are survived by their son, Roy, a graduate of Berry College now living in the Charlotte area.

The Chili Run on January 1, 2009 was to have been the last one sponsored by MOE, which Jay and Carol had decided to close due to their declining health. Instead, this 23rd annual version of the event will be held in their honor. As always, the Chili Run will take place on the Cartecay River near Ellijay.

Shuttles will be provided between 10:00 a.m. and noon by MOE and Cartecay Watershed. Entries in the Chili Cook Off need to be at MOE by noon: eating of the entries and other food will begin about 1:00. At 3:00 p.m., an auction of MOE memorabilia will be held to benefit Hospice of North Georgia, which helped Jay and Carol in their battles against cancer. Chili Cook Off prizes will also be awarded.

The 23rd Annual Chili Run is being jointly organized by GCA's Edward Stockman and Mark Neisler of Atlanta Whitewater Club. Many details were still to be worked out when *The Eddy Line* went to press, but more information is available from Edward on the GCA groupmail or at [estockman@horizongraphics.org](mailto:estockman@horizongraphics.org).



Jay Srymanski. Photo by Doug White of SORBA.

Jay and Carol were as much beloved in the mountain biking community as in the paddling community. According to a post by Doug White of the Chattanooga Chapter of SORBA (the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association), MOE organized what might well have been the first mountain bike race in Georgia. Jay was also on the first SORBA Board of Directors.

A memorial service for Jay and Carol is planned for Saturday, January 3, at 2:00 p.m. The memorial service will take place at Camp Mountaintown. (From the square in Ellijay, go north on Highway 52 to New Hope Grocery (Conoco); turn left on Roberts Ridge Road, then immediately right onto Craigtown Road; go about 3.5 miles, look for sign and turn right on dirt road.) The memorial service will be in an

*Chili Run, continued on page 4*



### What's Inside...

Announcements .....	4
"Chute the Hooch" .....	5
Classified Ads .....	11
Club Information .....	2
Cool Kayaker .....	9
Conservation .....	10
Instruction / Training .....	6
Meeting Minutes .....	6
MLK Weekend .....	5
Presidents' Weekend .....	4
Roll Practice .....	4
Resource Development Chair .....	6
Trip List .....	3
Trip Reports .....	6
Upcoming Events .....	5
Welcome New Members .....	6

# 2009

Happy New Year!



Printed on recycled paper

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Tom Bishop	404.542.1118	bishop.t@comcast.net
Vice President	Matthew Crawford	404-713-2605	mrcrom@mycrom.net
Secretary	Bill Fox	770.532.2424	boswain4@bellsouth.net
Treasurer	Ed Schultz	404.266.3734	heloeddy@mindspring.com
Member Services Chair	Kate Wilkerson	678.560.1071	odiek8@juno.com
Recreation Chair	Mark Holmberg	770.428.6898	m_holmberg@comcast.net
Resource Development Chair	VACANT		
Training Chair	Gina Johnson (Pres. 2004/5)	706.579.1048	haynesandgina@alltel.net
River Protection Chairs	Haynes Johnson	706.579.1048	haynesandgina@alltel.net
	John Holley	478.960.0405	holleyjohn59@yahoo.com
Legal Committee Chair	Dan MacIntyre	404.252.9513	ecm0509@comcast.net
Members at Large:	John Sampson	678.764.6219	john.sampson@gta.ga.gov
	Lamar Phillips	770.939.5087	lamarph@bellsouth.net
	Jay Manalo	706.546.7886	mjmanalo2001@yahoo.com
Directory Editor	Allen Hedden (Pres. 1988/9)	770.426.4318	gacano@bellsouth.net
Race Master/Historian	Roger Nott (Pres. 1982/3)	770.536.6923	ocapaddler@charter.net
Past Presidents:	William Crawford (1966/7)	Payson Kennedy (1968)	Claude Grizzard (1972)
	Margaret Osborne (1973)	Jack Weems (1979)	Mark Levine (1984/5)
	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

Cruisemaster	William Gatling	770.529.7103	gca_trip@yahoo.com
Librarian	Denise Colquitt	770.854.6636	neiceyc@aol.com
River Cleanup Coordinator	Bonny Putney	404.216.9351	bpputney@bellsouth.net
Roll Practice Coordinator	Kate Wilkerson	678.560.1071	odiek8@juno.com

### ***THE EDDY LINE***

Editor	Rick Bellows	678-617-2546	the_eddyline@yahoo.com
Advertising Managers	Betty G. Rose	404.597.0218	bettygrose@gmail.com
	Doug Hoffmann	770.444.9488	douglasghoffmann@yahoo.com
Circulation Manager	Ed Schultz	404.266.3734	heloeddy@mindspring.com

## 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).

*The Eddy Line*, © 2009, is published monthly as the official newsletter of the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc., publication address: 3060 Pharr Court North, #315, Atlanta, GA 30305. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Eddy Line*, c/o Georgia Canoeing Association, P.O.Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357.

Views and opinions expressed in articles and editorials are those of the writer and do not necessarily represent the official views and policies of the club. Material not individually designated as copyrighted may be disseminated **only** by paddling organizations having a newsletter exchange agreement with GCA: proper credit should be given. Publication of paid advertisements does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services advertised.

---

## UPCOMING GCA TRIPS

### January

11	Upper Amicalola	Trained Beginner	Haynes Johnson	706.579.1048
17	Lower Green	Trained Beginner./Intermediate	Donald Robertson	770.266.5649
17-19	Juniper Springs, FL (Note 1)	Beginner	Lamar Phillips	404.229.2939
19	Little River Canyon (Note 2)	Advanced	Dana White	256.435.3827
31	Mulberry	Intermediate	Joan Steed	256.375.0554

### February

2	Etowah (Tunnel Section)	Beginner	Vincent Payne	770.834.8263
13-15	Juniper Springs, FL (Note 3)	Beginner	Gina Johnson	404.512.0832
14-16	Florida Panhandle (Note 4)	Beginner	Lamar Phillips	404.229.2939

Note 1: Car camp at Juniper Springs Recreation Area, Ocala, Florida: four beautiful rivers nearby. Details on page 5.

Note 2: Upper II (Class 3-4+) and Chairlift (Class 2-4-); paddlers can choose to do only Chairlift.

Note 3: Ocala National Forest. Details on page 4.

Note 4: Blackwater River State Park. Details on page 4.

**Check the calendar on the GCA website at [www.georgiacanoe.org](http://www.georgiacanoe.org) for trips, social events, safety classes, etc.**

### 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 William Gatling at 770.529.7103!

---

**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 Cruisemaster, William Gatling at 770.529.7103. 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:** Monday evenings, January through March, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Warren/Holyfield Boys' and Girls' Club near Grant Park in Atlanta. For more information, including dates and directions, see Page 4.

---

## 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. ✂

### Winter Roll Practice

Indoor pool roll sessions are Mondays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on January 5, 12 and 26; February 2, 9 and 23; and March 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at the Warren/Holyfield Boys' and Girls' Club at Berne and Marion Streets near Grant Park.

Directions: Exit I-20 at the Boulevard/Grant Park/ Cyclorama exit. Go south about 1/2 mile to the light at Berne Street and turn left. Go another 1/2 mile and you'll see the facility, a large brick building on the left. Turn left on Marion Street. The pool entrance is in the back — enter via the gate at the far end of the building to unload boats. Boats must be cleaned before entering the pool.

This is your opportunity to learn to roll, practice your roll to stay sharp, teach a fellow paddler to roll or work on other techniques such as wet exits, hand rolls, deep water re-entries, etc. The indoor heated pool is a great place to hone these skills during the cold winter months. ✂

### Ocala National Forest Presidents' Weekend (Feb. 12-16)

by Gina Johnson

Haynes and I are coordinating another beautiful paddling weekend at Ocala National Forest. We have made reservations through [www.reserveusa.com](http://www.reserveusa.com) for the four nights at Tropic Loop at Juniper Springs State Park. Those of you who would prefer a motel can stay in Ocala and meet us at the various rivers.

We will be running the Juniper, Silver and Alexander and looking for other opportunities as well. Please let me know at [gjohnson@naibg.com](mailto:gjohnson@naibg.com) if you can join us. ✂

### 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! ✂

*Chili Run, continued from page 1)*

outdoor pavilion, so dress accordingly.

The 2009 Chili Run will include sale of a commemorative t-shirt. At Jay's request, proceeds from sale of the t-shirts will be divided between the American Cancer Society and Hospice of Northeast Georgia. The design of the t-shirt was not available as *The Eddy Line* went to press.

Channel 2 in Atlanta did a piece on the 1990 Chili Run, including a brief explanation by Jay of how the event got started. That piece can be seen at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=9A1U\\_-6tXpk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9A1U_-6tXpk). ✂

### Blackwater River State Park Presidents' Weekend (Feb. 14-16)

by Lamar Phillips

Please join us for a car-camping paddling weekend over Presidents' Day weekend. We'll be paddling several rivers in the Florida Panhandle area just north of Pensacola. We'll be camping at Blackwater River State Park in Holt, Florida.

Among the trips to choose from in this area are the Blackwater River, Coldwater Creek, Turkey Creek, Boiling Springs and several others. All these rivers are very beautiful and flat with some moving water.

You can make reservations at [ReserveAmerica.com](http://ReserveAmerica.com). My campsites will be #009 and #010.

This will be another great opportunity for some of you new folks to share a great weekend of camping paddling. Give me a call at 404.229.2939 or email me at [lamarph@bellsouth.net](mailto:lamarph@bellsouth.net). ✂

---

## Upcoming Events of Interest

Jan. 1 - 23rd Annual Chili Run, Cartecay River, Ellijay. Edward Stockman, estockman@horizongraphics.org.

Jan. 17-19 - MLK Weekend in Florida canoe/camping trip. Lamar Phillips, 404.229.2939 or lamarph@bellsouth.net.

January 24 - CPR and First Aid course taught by Tonya Butler-Collins. Gina Johnson, 404.512.0832.

February 2 - Annual Groundhog Day Paddle, Etowah River Tunnel Section. Vincent Payne, 770.834.8263 or anotherrierrat@bellsouth.net.

February 12-16 - Florida Camping Weekend, Ocala National Forest. Haynes and Gina Johnson, gjohnson@naibg.com.

February 14-16 - Florida Camping Weekend, Blackwater River State Park. Lamar Phillips, 404.229.2939 or lamarph@bellsouth.net. ✂

---

### January 17-19

## MLK Weekend in Florida

by Lamar Phillips

Come join us for a fun weekend of car camping and paddling in beautiful, sunny, warm Florida January 17 through 19. We'll be car camping at Juniper Springs Recreation Area, outside Ocala, and paddling several rivers in that area including Juniper Springs, Silver Springs and the Ocklawaha River. There are also a couple of other rivers nearby that you might like to paddle.

---

### January 17-18 in Atlanta

## Fifth Annual Chute the Hooch Training Camp

by John Pinyerd

For the past 5 years I have opened my home and my calendar to get my friends out to paddle with me for a couple days in HotLanta in January. I am thrilled to be teaming up again with Chris Hipgrave to make this "Chute the Hooch Training Camp" happen again in Atlanta on the MLK holiday weekend, January 17-18, 2009.

"HotLanta" is the perfect venue for January training as it allows access to several world class coaches and lets us coach racers of all skill levels. If you live in Atlanta or the Southeast region, come on out and play!

This camp is open to anyone who knows how to paddle. This includes anyone who just wants to try out a wildwater boat all the way up to our top racers. We will divide the groups up according to skill levels, speed, etc.

Due to the generosity of our friends in Atlanta, we have boats and home-stays available for anyone that needs them. You just need to RSVP and let us know.

As always, we do not charge for "Chute the Hooch/



We usually see a lot of birds, gators, and other animals on this trip. On our last trip down the Ocklawaha, Buddy Goolsby and Bill Markert scared the heck out of a black bear and caused it to fall out of the tree!

This will be a great opportunity for some of our new members to take advantage of a great trip and break the winter blues.

Reservation can be made for Juniper Springs Recreation Area campground on the internet at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by phone at 1.877.444.6777. My camp sites are #61 and #62 in the Fern Loop. Make your reservation early because this campground fills up on holidays.

Call me at 404.229.2939 or email me at [lamarph@bellsouth.net](mailto:lamarph@bellsouth.net) if you are interested in joining us. ✂

---

Paddling with Pinyerd" (and technically this is a weekend of my friends getting together with me to train and paddle). We would like you to join USACK (and specify wildwater) if you are not already a member for insurance reasons and because it's the right thing to do. And of course the modest membership fee will pay for itself in just a few races.

Coaches will be John Pinyerd and Chris Hipgrave. John Pinyerd is an expert racer in C-1 and C-2. He has earned berths on more than a dozen wildwater teams, a plethora of National Championship titles and four international competition medals and is the reigning C-1 Masters World Champion.

Chris Hipgrave is very accomplished in all aspects of kayaking from Sprint to Marathon. He has qualified for a dozen wildwater teams and has won a boatload of medals along the way, including winning the silver medal at the 2008 Masters World Championships. More importantly there are few folks on the planet that know more about racing kayaks than Chris. As the Director of High Performance Olympic Paddling for USACK, Chris is the coaches' coach. Don't mist this chance to have him diagnose your stroke!

For more information on the schedule, or to RSVP for a boat and/or a home-stay, etc, contact John Pinyerd at [jpinyerd@cs.com](mailto:jpinyerd@cs.com)). ✂



Adkins, Elaine &  
Malone, Patrick  
1242 Lambeth Way SE  
Conyers GA 30013  
H: 770-761-3400  
O: 561-635-6583  
Email: elaineadkins@comcast.net  
Email: pjmalone@pjmesq.com

Davis, Allyson  
416 W. Woodlawn Ave  
North Augusta SC 29841  
H: 803-593-9231  
Email: davis@atc.edu

Gregory, Rebecca &  
Bessette, David  
2419 Brooks Court  
Smyrna GA 30082  
H: 770-438-0570  
O: 678-462-1952  
Email: rgregory2419@charter.net  
Email: dbessette@powereng.com

Hatchett, Josh  
5527 Suffex Green Lane  
Atlanta GA 30339  
H: 731-225-2057  
Email: jbhatchett21@gmail.com

Taylor, Gretchen  
4711 East Forest Peak  
Marietta GA 30066  
H: 678-524-4344  
gtaylo59@yahoo.com

## January 24 CPR/First Aid Class Scheduled

by Gina Johnson, GCA Instruction Chair

GCA will be sponsoring CPR and First Aid classes on January 24. The classes will be taught by Tonya Butler-Collins, a Certified Wilderness First Responder.

Those taking and passing the CPR class will be certified in CPR. That certification is good for two years.

The cost will be \$60 for both classes and enrollment is limited to the first 20 applicants. To sign up, contact Gina Johnson at 404.512.0832.

## Resource Development Chair Needed Gatling Becomes Cruisemaster

The trip list on page 3 is the first one assembled by our new Cruisemaster, William Gatling. William replaces Steve Reach, who recently stepped down. William recently moved from the Atlanta area to Cleveland, Tennessee and says he took over as Cruisemaster because it is a service he can perform for GCA without needing to live in the metro area.

While becoming Cruisemaster, William resigned as GCA's Resource Development Chair. While service as Resource Development Chair, William started the Georgia River Explorer Series. As far as *The Eddy Line* knows, the Resource Development Chair remains vacant.

## Meeting Minutes

As of press time, no minutes of the October 26 membership meeting, the November Executive Committee meeting or the December meeting of the Board of Directors had been provided to *The Eddy Line*. Minutes of those and future meetings will be published when and if provided to *The Eddy Line*.



## Suwannee River Camping

by Lamar Phillips

On Saturday, October 25, Susan and Rod Hardee, Eric Edmundson, Jamie Higgins, David Robinson, Buddy Goolsby, Belton Dykes, Vincent Payne, David Brytowski, Robert Harris, Tater Rutledge and Lamar Phillips met at Fargo Georgia for a four day paddle down the beautiful Suwannee.

It was raining all day Friday so most of us decided to stop in Valdosta for a dry night's sleep before the paddle. Four brave souls, Vincent, David Brytowski, Robert and Tater, braved the rain and camped at Griffis Campground.



### TRIP REPORTS

Saturday morning was overcast and misting rain until about 1:30 p.m. We set shuttle with American Canoe Adventures in White Springs, Florida and were on the river by 11:30 a.m. We had a group that included five who wanted to fish as they paddled: the rest of us were simply on the river to relax and enjoy a leisurely paddle while enjoying the beautiful scenery.

Everyone but Jamie and Belton, who were in sea kayaks, were either in solo or tandem canoes. It was a gorgeous day to be on the river and the scenery was beautiful with many sand bars. The Tupelo and Cyprus trees were numerous with some very unusual shapes growing in the river.

We found a beautiful large sand bar about 3:30 p.m. at about the 9.5 mile mark of our trip and it did not appear that there was another large sand bar for a few more miles, so we pulled off to set up camp. Since we had several champion caliber snorers, we needed a large area to set up our "tent city." Unfortunately, I failed to communicate to Jamie and Belton, who were much faster paddlers, that we wanted to get off the river around 3:30 and to be on the lookout for a large campsite, and they had paddled on down the river and

stopped at a sand bar about a mile further down. About 4:30, Jamie came paddling back up the river and, needless to say, was not in the best of moods. (Justified, I might add). At any rate, she said that the current was strong and they did not feel like paddling back down to get Belton and then paddling back against a strong current to our campsite and we could meet them at their site Sunday morning.

Susan had some great dips, crab and spinach, for us before a dinner of baked chicken and rice, green peas with mushrooms and pearl onions and a peach cobbler desert prepared by Chef Buddy, all cooked in his Dutch ovens. I must say it was all delicious. After dinner, we all gathered around a huge campfire for an evening of B.S. and entertainment by Tater Rutledge. He kept us in stitches.

After a very chilly night, we gathered around another robust fire for breakfast. Again, Buddy prepared breakfast of a Mexican casserole and I contributed by making stone ground parmesan grits. It got us off on a full stomach for a great day of paddling.

I hastily packed my gear and headed down the river to face Jamie and Belton while the others casually broke camp. David Robinson paddled along with me to protect me from a possible mutiny. Jamie and Belton, however, were in a great mood after a long restful nap and had forgiven me.

We four headed downriver and were soon joined by the rest of the group. It was another beautiful day and we did pass another camp site with some fishermen who had been on the river since Friday, having also put in at Fargo.

This section of the river was beautiful, much like the first day. We found another large sand bar at about 19.7 miles from Fargo and were off the river and gathering firewood by 4:00 p.m. Susan and Rod had volunteered to cook a couple of



Relaxing along the Suwannee, where the meals were highlights of the trip. Photo by Lamar Phillips.

An advertisement for JerseyBin. At the top, it says "CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT" in red. Below that, a coupon code "10% off coupon til 31 Dec 08: Visit our website!" is displayed. The main logo "The Original JerseyBin™" is in large, stylized red letters. Below the logo is the website "www.JerseyBin.com". At the bottom, a small text block describes the product: "The JerseyBin is constructed of a durable 8 gauge vinyl recyclable material with a zip-lock style zipper &amp; rounded corners. The shape &amp; dimensions are designed to fit most cycling jersey &amp; outerwear pockets (3-3/4" x 7")." and "MADE IN THE U.S.A." in red.

meals and they enlisted Eric to help.

Susan started off with a couple of great appetizers and Rod cooked lasagna and a cobbler for desert. This was as fine a meal as you could enjoy in a real Italian restaurant and this too was prepared in a Dutch oven. Once again, a great time was had around the camp fire before turning in for a very chilly night, about 40 degrees.

After a roaring fire was started Monday morning, Susan prepared some great cantaloupe and orange slices for us to munch while Rod and Eric cooked the casserole. After a relaxing time around the fire, we broke camp and were back on the river by 10:30.

This section of the river is a little different from the upper section, with fewer sand bars and forest growing nearer the river. The banks are steeper and we had difficulty finding a sand bar large enough to isolate our snorers. As we were only a few miles from the take-out by this time, we called the outfitter and he said the take-out was remote and there was ample room to set up our "tent city," so we stayed on the river to make it about a 16 mile paddle.

We arrived at the take-out and found a really large area to set up camp. After snacks and pizza prepared by Buddy in the Dutch oven, we gathered around the camp fire for stories (mostly by Tater).

Tuesday morning was my turn for breakfast. Unfortunately some of us had carbon-encrusted country ham and biscuit due to my burning about half of them. We did not have to paddle today, so we had a very leisurely camp breakdown before the outfitter picked us up.

By the time the drivers got back to the camp, our partners had our gear and boats all ready to load. After our goodbyes, some of us were on the road home by 11:00 while the rest drove down to look at the shoals and possibly paddle some of the only whitewater in Florida.

All agreed that we had some great meals with a little paddling thrown in and are looking forward to our next camping and paddling trip, MLK weekend in the Ocala National Forest.

## 631 Miles Ardie Olson Thru-Paddles Alabama Scenic River Trail

by Sherry Olson

Just another day paddling in beautiful Alabama.

On October 22, 2008, after 12 days, 2 hours 9 minutes along his journey, Ardie Olson, 47, of Cumming, Georgia completed the thru-paddle of the Alabama Scenic River Trail (ASRT). He became the first paddler to complete the longest single-state river trail in the nation since its designation.

Ardie had signed up for the 631 Prize, a \$1,000.00 prize offered to the first person to complete the entire ASRT. He has contributed the \$1,000.00 prize back to the ASRT Association to use to further their efforts for ASRT.

Ardie started paddling down the ASRT on October 10 at the Alabama/Georgia border on Weiss Lake(Coosa River). He kayaked his way to Fort Morgan, at the mouth of Mobile Bay, stopping along the river/lake system to talk to both print and TV media. He received the key to the City of Wetumpka, and was even interviewed live from his kayak on the water via cell phone by Big Daddy on Win98 radio station.

During that interview, Olson said, "This has been a great way to see Alabama. The southern hospitality has been



**ASRT thru-paddler Ardie Olson and his 21-foot Ruahine OceanX kayak. Photo by Sherry Olson.**

unbelievable. So many people along the way have offered help and several have given me food and drink."

The ASRT takes paddlers through six Alabama Power lakes (Weiss, Neely Henry, Logan Martin, Lay, Mitchell and Jordan) along the Coosa River, three Corp of Engineer lakes/locks (Robert F. Henry/Woodruff, Millers Ferry/Dannelly and Claiborne) along the Alabama River, through the Delta (Bartram Canoe Trail) along the Mobile, Tensaw, Bottle Creek, Apalachee and Blakeley Rivers before crossing Mobile Bay and ending at Fort Morgan, just before the Gulf of Mexico. It is necessary to portage the dams along the Alabama Power Lakes, but a real treat is the going through the lock systems at the dams on the Corp of Engineers lakes.

Along the way, Ardie saw deer, alligators, bald eagles, snow egrets, great blue herons, turtles and wild hogs along the way. He camped most nights, except for a few where locals were gracious enough to offer him a place to stay. In some locations, he had more invitations to stay than he could accept. He said, "The people of Alabama were some of the nicest I ever met."

The sea kayak Ardie paddled is a Ruahine OceanX, a 21 foot carbon/kevlar craft that he has raced in the Texas Water Safari Paddle Race and Missouri 340 races in the past.

Ardie only learned about the 631 Event on October 8 and started paddling on October 10 with little time to prepare. Luckily, all of his gear from the prior Missouri 340 race was still in two boxes ready to load and go. Always up for the adventure, Ardie couldn't pass up the opportunity to have a first descent.

After completing the paddle, Olson said "ASRT was an awesome trip. It was challenging at the pace I was keeping, but would be a great opportunity for relaxing weekend or week

**Betty & Rose Design**



Brochures  
Catalogs  
Collateral  
Annual Reports  
Logos  
Billboards  
Point-of-Purchase  
Ad Specialty

Designer of GCA River Rats at Play teshirt  
aka: "Whatever Floats Ur Boat!"

2175 Lenox Rd B5 Atlanta GA 30324 404.597.0218 mobile  
678.705.1730 fax/phone bettygrose@gmail.com  
www.bettygrose.com



---

# ROCK/CREEK Down Under

Come visit Rock/Creek Down Under and  
save 10% on all in-stock canoes!

---

Right now you can get any Patagonia  
Life Jacket at 40% off!

---

Need to save money after the holidays?  
Come check out Down Under's outlet store for  
discounts on all sorts of clothing, shoes, etc ...  
Up to 50% off!

rockcreek.com/kayak

ROCK / CREEK

ph. 888.707.6709



---

long trips doing a section at a time. I would encourage anyone to spend time in the State of Alabama for a good dose of southern hospitality. Fred Couch, President of ASRTA, with the help of many volunteers, local, state and federal agencies, has put together a great river trail system for all to enjoy. Go



**Small boat, big gates:** Ardie Olson's 21 foot kayak is dwarfed by the gates of an Army Corps of Engineers lock. Photo by Sherry Olson.

check it out.”

The National Park Service has designated the ASRT as a National Recreation Trail. It officially opened June 6, 2008. More information on the ASRT is available at [www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com](http://www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com). ✂

---

## Being A Cool Kayaker

by Erick Jackson, Jackson Kayak

*Editor's Note: This is an excerpt from an article printed on the Jackson Kayak website. It is not intended to be a promotion of Eric Jackson or Jackson Kayak. For the complete article, go to <http://www.jacksonkayak.com/jkstories06/>.*

Just about all kayakers can remember getting encouragement from another paddler in the form of compliments, or simply learning about new opportunities that they didn't know existed and how to find them (like the creek that flows after the big rain, 10 minutes from their house, or how wonderful and easy Costa Rica is to get to.) These paddlers make kayaking more fun for everyone.

You do what you do and that is awesome. Approach paddling with a broad open mind and don't limit yourself by your own prejudice. If you paddle but can't roll yet, good for you: you know that a lot of paddlers are better than you, but you

*continued on following page*

can still help a newbie learn to do their first ferry. If you are one of the top steep creek boaters in the world (either in your own mind or the minds of others) that is something you should be proud of and I hope you will treat each outing from the point of view that you have many years left in a normal mortal life.

How many of those years you will live depends on making the right decisions regarding safety and leaving margin for error each time you hit the water. How you treat others who decide to watch you from the bank, but enjoy other areas of paddling, determines how well you will be treated in return.

My challenge to all paddlers out there is simply this:

1. Know that you aren't cool if you aren't nice, period. When I select a team member to represent Jackson Kayak, for example, I look first at how they treat others. Those who argue, complain, or can't treat a beginner with as much respect as their personal hero have no place on Team JK.

Paddlers who can't have fun on the Chattahoochee, at a play hole, at a slalom race, on the Nile, on a creek or even in a swimming pool don't truly love paddling, they are looking for "what can paddling bring to me". REMEMBER THAT ANY TIME IN YOUR KAYAK IS SOMETHING TO BE ENJOYED TO THE FULLEST (IF NOT, GO BACK TO WORK OR SCHOOL). YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY ONE ON THE WATER, MAKE OTHERS' TIME IN THEIR KAYAK AS ENJOY-

ABLE AS YOU CAN.

2. Try different types of paddling. Get in a slalom kayak, a play boat, or a creek boat. Get on different water, and if possible, travel! Mark Twain once said, "Travel is the cure for prejudice."

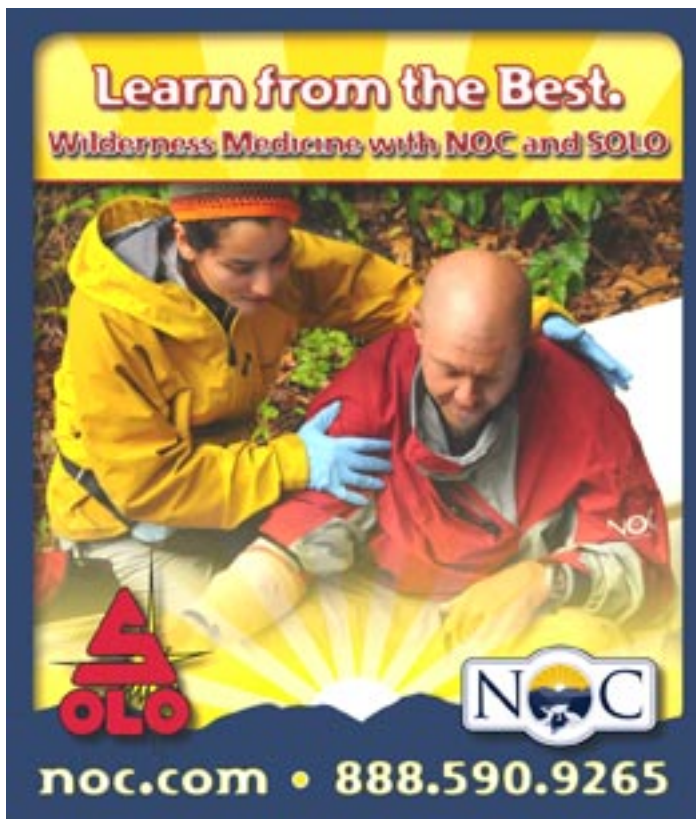
3. Join a club and volunteer. If you are good at what you do, you will be a big help to others that don't have the skills you have and you will be a club hero. Don't try to sell the club on how what you do is better than what the other club hero does, but allow each person who brings something different to the club their chance in the sun.

There is no right or wrong way to enjoy your paddling, it is too individual for that. Me, I like my paddling straight up. I get the river and want to get in the boat and not stop until there is no more paddling to be had. Dane is the same way. Clay likes to hang out and will be the one who will talk in the parking lot about boating for hours on end. Which is better? Neither, everyone has their place.

4. Beware of the magazines, and definitely beware of the kayaker forums. Magazines and forums are awesome and offer everyone something worth reading or looking at, BUT they also are often printing stuff that isn't too far off the Enquirer in terms of looking for the "trends" what is "hot" and what is "not". Paddling is too big to be a fad, and being a "fad paddler" is a waste of your potential and won't make you cool. Forums take it to the extreme.

See you on the river!

EJ



## Six Principles to Live By Paddling in the Wild

from The Washington Kayak Club Bulletin

### 1. Plan Ahead and Prepare

Careful and adequate trip planning and preparation helps to accomplish trip goals safely, while minimizing impacts on the environment and on other users. Know the area and what to expect, including regulations and special concerns of the area. Travel in small groups, during seasons or days of a week when use levels are low. Bears may be present; balance safety concerns in bear country with ecological and social impact concerns. Select appropriate equipment to help you Leave No Trace. Repackage food into reusable containers, creating less trash to pack out.

### 2. Camp and Travel on Durable Surfaces

Whenever you travel and camp, confine your use to surfaces that are resistant to impact. In popular areas, concentrate use. In remote areas, spread use. Hike on existing trails to minimize disturbance to wildlife, soil and vegetation. Choose an established campsite, one with a slight slope so rain water can drain. Use only designated campsites. Store

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

**For Sale:** Dagger Honcho whitewater boat with spray skirt to fit (XL tunnel). \$350 for both. Lisa, 678.858.2012, [bkhaskell@earthlink.net](mailto:bkhaskell@earthlink.net).

**For Sale:** roller loader for loading kayak or canoe on top of car - \$75. Christine, 404.375.3993.

**For Sale:** Current Designs Kevlar Gulfstream Sea Kayak, Derek Hutchinson British design - white w.

black trim, 16' 10" long, 23" wide, weight 46 lbs., retractable skeg, factory-installed Richie deck compass - almost new. Lists for \$3,500, will sell for \$2,500 OBO. Jay, 770.924.1944, [jayfinn@bellsouth.net](mailto:jayfinn@bellsouth.net).

**For Sale:** Prijon Tupo Duo Tandem Kayak - \$800; Stohlquist Charc Drysuit, Model 56115, Gore-Tex, men's size M/L with front zipper, spray skirt tunnel, front relief zipper, full latex booties - needs both wrists cuffs replaced, but

neck cuff recent and footies fine - \$500; Mesh Backpack Stohlsac, medium - \$10; Lotus/Patagonia Shop short sleeve paddling jacket - \$100 new, used, twice - \$25; Stohlquist short sleeve paddling jacket, men's medium - \$10; Rapidstyle Polartek fuzzyrubber long paddling pants, men's medium - \$25; Perception nylon long paddling pants, men's medium - \$10; Lotus short sleeve fleece paddling shirt, men's large - \$10. Hank Klausman, 770.587.0499 or [klausgp@bellsouth.net](mailto:klausgp@bellsouth.net).

food so that it is unavailable to bears and small animals. Before departing, make sure your camp is as clean as or cleaner than when you arrived.



### CONSERVATION

#### 3. Pack it In, Pack it Out

Trash and garbage have no place in the back country. Consider "Leave No Trace" a challenge to take out everything that you brought into the back country. Pack out all of your litter. Repackage food into reusable containers and remove any excess packaging. Dispose of trash and garbage properly.

Store food and odorous items in bear resistant food containers or hang items 10 feet above the ground.

#### 4. Properly Dispose of What You Can't Pack Out

As visitors to the back country, we create certain kinds of waste which cannot be packed out. These include human waste, waste water from cooking and washing. Dispose of human waste responsibly, utilize pit toilets or dig a 6 inch deep cat hole 200 feet from the water. Use toilet paper sparingly, pack it out in doubled plastic bags to confine odor. Minimize soap and food residues in waste water. Consider using boiling water. Avoid contaminating water sources when washing: maintain 200 feet from a water source.

#### 5. Leave What You Find

The Wilderness Act says that wilderness "... is recognized as an area... where man himself is a visitor who does not remain,...with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable..." People come to the wild lands to enjoy them in their natural state. Allow others a sense of discovery by leaving rocks, plants, archaeological artifacts antlers, etc.

Minimize site alteration when camping: do not build structures. Avoid damaging live trees and plants. Avoid disturbing wildlife. Leave natural objects and cultural artifacts for others to enjoy.

It is illegal to remove any cultural objects from National Park areas. Cultural artifacts are protected by the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. All these "pieces of the past" contribute to our understanding of human and natural history. Removing these artifacts takes them out of context and removes a chapter from an important story. If you discover an artifact, enjoy it where it is. Leave it as you found it.

#### 6. Minimize Use and Impact from Fires

The use of campfires in the back country, once a necessity, is now steeped in history and tradition. Stoves are now essential equipment for minimum-impact camping trips. Use dead and down wood only. In high use areas, build campfires in existing fire rings to concentrate impacts. Consider using a large wok, gold pan or other metal container under the fire to avoid making scars on the ground.

These principles and practices depend more on attitude and awareness than on rules and regulations; they must be based on a respect for and appreciation of wild places and their inhabitants.

In the 19th century, we devoted our best minds to exploring nature. In the 20th century, we devoted ourselves to controlling and harnessing it. In the 21st century, we must devote ourselves to restoring it.  
Stephen Ambrose



**Outside World January Special**  
**Get 20% off any in-stock Werner Paddle**  
**with this coupon**  
\*off regular priced paddles

We have a good selection of used boats in-stock that include Waveport Fuses, Pyranha Ammos, Pyranha Burns and Liquid Logic Jefes. Call for details.



The Outside World 471 Quill Drive, Dawsonville, GA 30534  
706-265-4500 or 1-866-375-BOAT  
WWW.THEOUTSIDEWORLD.NET