



Post Office Box 7023  
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# THE EDDY LINE

## Special Points of Interest:

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- *Whitewater Warriors Weekend*—page 5

VOLUME 45, NO. 4

JULY/AUGUST 2010

## CHATTOOGA RIVER CLEANUP

By Roger Nott

Saturday, June 19, 2010

We had a great crew to clean GCA's adopted section of the Chattooga, Thrift's Ferry to Bull Sluice. We had great weather and a good water level (1.84 on the USGS gauge). Participating were Sheila Abner, Kevin Ballard, Evelyn Hopkins, Jeff and Roxanne Lankford, Robbie Short, and Jack Weems in kayaks; Chuck Wilburn in an inflatable C-1; and I in my 16-foot Buffalo paddling OC-1. Sheila and Roxanne also paddled inflatables, which transported bags of trash more easily than the decked boats. Evelyn paddled with a later group but caught up to us and filled a bag for us at a particularly messy access point.

We met at Hwy. 76, where we checked in with the USFS Ranger, and then drove to Thrifts Ferry and scoured the banks and bed down to Bull Sluice, enjoying frequent cool dips in the clear water. We left 9 bags of trash at Hwy. 76, where Kevin, Jack and the women took out and we enjoyed a break with drinks and snacks. The rest of us then leisurely and playfully paddled to Woodall Shoals.

Our clean-up was again co-sponsored by American Rivers, as part of their National River Clean-up Program, and they also provided trash bags, tee shirts, and snacks, to go along with the club's traditional cold beverages and

good fellowship at the take-outs.

We had a great time and had a wonderful, congenial mix of old and new GCA members. Kevin has just moved to Georgia from Pennsylvania, and Sheila is also a new member. Robbie and I have paddled together on several club trips since he joined the club about six years ago. Evelyn, Jeff and Roxanne have been active members since the early 1980's. Evelyn was our President from 1993 to 1995 and several years ago retired with her husband to Clayton. Jeff, with whom I have shared many river exploration trips, has been working for the past couple of years in Durham, NC. He is now back at home in Atlanta but may soon be accepting a post in San Francisco. I joined the GCA in 1974 but became more active in 1978 when Jack Weems, former GCA president, appointed me to the GCA Board as the club's Exploration Chairman.

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## THE EDDY LINE

### CARTECAY RIVER TRIP REPORT

by Dick Hurd

June 27, 2010

This trip on the lower portion of the Cartecay, from DNR to the new outfitter, Cartecay River Experience, which I call section 4, was listed for trained beginners. It is an ideal section for the new paddler to practice their skills. The river level was 1.85, decent for out purposes. Eleven boaters went the distance. We got out at CRX for lunch and six boats continued to the park in Ellijay. This last piece gives the beginner a few nice rapids; one Class II, to test their abilities, but a lot of flat water going on into town. Along the way, the Ellijay River enters from the right, and the river becomes the Coosawattee. So, we got to paddle three rivers in one day!

Participants: Dick Hurd, Carrie Wozniak, Peter & Dorate Gabris, Doug Ackerman, Meg Grantham, Leslie Gold, Bobby Batchelor, Theresa Neill, Carol Reiser, Marie Short, and David Guyton.

BTW...the DNR takeout now has some major improvements, notably a good put-in just above the stairs we have used for take-out. So launching either canoe or kayak is quite easy.



### TESNATEE/CHESTATEE TRIP REPORT

by Roger Nott

Saturday May 22, 2010

We had a wonderful trip on Tesnatee Creek and the Chestatee River. Our congenial crew included Kelly Harbac in a kayak and Dave Leigh, Dorothy and David Vezzetti, Rob White, and I in OC-1's. We paddled from just upstream of Town Creek Road for about 7.7 miles to the bridge just upstream of the Copper Mine. We enjoyed beautiful weather and scenery and a low but adequate water level (1.65 at Hwy 52), enough for an exciting and successful run of Tesnatee Falls below the Dugas' Gold Mine dam. The profuse mountain laurel on Tesnatee Creek was in its peak bloom and was unusually colorful and beautiful. At the Chestatee confluence we paddled and pulled up the Chestatee to take in the dramatic and imposing Grindle Shoals.



Roger Nott Running Grindle Shoals



## 2010 CHICK PADDLE: AUGUST 20-22

by Karen Saunders

Calling all chicks! June is ticking away and Chick Paddle is just a couple of months from now. If you'd like to paddle the Hiwassee and/or raft the Ocoee, like to have good food and socialize with some great women, then Chick Paddle is the place to be! (Sorry, no roosters allowed!) This year we will return to the cabin at Eagle Adventures. Each year is a mix of new paddlers and veterans hanging out for a few days, paddling, rafting, cooking together, soaking in the hot tub, talking for hours and being entertained in VERY Memorable ways! If you've been before or are new to GCA, you'll have a good time. If you are interested in joining us, the dates are August 20-22. Cost is \$50/person. (that covers 2 nights at the cabin) We'll paddle the Hiwassee on Fri, if they are releasing and for those that can get up there early, and Sat. Paddling the Hiwassee again on Sunday or Rafting on the Ocoee is being scheduled for Sunday. (Cost is extra for rafting) If you want to be a part of the fun, please contact Karen Saunders at: [karen5@bellsouth.net](mailto:karen5@bellsouth.net)

by Lisa Haskell—Chick Paddle Rafting:

We will be rafting the Middle Ocoee on Sunday, August 22nd at 1pm. The cost for this trip is \$46.00 per person. To sign up to raft with us call NOC at 1 (800) 232-7238 and press "2" for rafting reservations. Let them know that you want to add your name to an existing reservation. The reservation is under my name, Lisa Haskell and the reservation number is 36464. Once you have signed up and paid your fee please send me an e-mail to let me know that you will be joining us. Just so you know, if you cancel your reservation more than 10 days in advance you will receive a full refund. If you cancel your reservation 2 - 9 days in advance you can receive a 50% cash refund or a 100% credit voucher toward rafting with NOC which is good through next season. If you cancel the day of or the day before the event it is non-refundable. If you want to join us, go ahead and sign up now - there are a limited number of spaces and once the 1pm trip is full they will not be able to add you. Just remember the cancellation policy! Hope to see you at Chick Paddle!

## YOU MAY BE A FEMALE RIVER RINNER IF...

You practically salivate at the sound of rainfall; well it is almost as good as sex.  
Men just look better with a paddle in their hands.  
You like men in skirts.  
Your e-mail address has something to do with rivers.  
You spend every weekend and vacation with a bunch of guys, but you aren't dating any of them.  
You can strip down to naked and change your clothes in the open, in front of other people, and not think twice about it.  
You can't drive over a bridge without looking for water under it.  
Your hairstyle is dictated by if it looks okay with a helmet on or after the helmet comes off!  
Your idea of a complete first aid kit is a roll of duct tape, Superglue and Monistat.  
You spend more on sunscreen than on hair care and makeup combined.  
You choose a new car based on whether or not your rack system will fit it.  
You go to a formal function in the winter and the only formal you own is off the shoulder. People ask if you have a skin disorder, but you still have PFD lines in January  
River lingerie is Coolmax underwear. It dries quickly.  
Your boats are worth more than all of your furniture combined!  
Your Mom has stopped saying, "Be careful this weekend."  
Your Mom has also stopped saying, "Go where the men are so you can get married." You are where the men are and are no closer to giving her grandchildren!  
Your Mom stopped trying to get you to pick out china and silver patterns and now buys you Lexan for gifts.  
"Wet, sticky hole" and "blowing a ferry" in casual conversation don't give you pause.  
When looking at a new house your first consideration is, "Is the garage big enough to hold my boats?"  
You search the country for a place to live for it's proximity to year round whitewater.  
You can't look at water in a gutter without imagining tiny runs and miniature waves and holes.  
You feel all mushy inside when your boyfriend gives you a dry top for Christmas.  
(Excerpted from <http://www.stupidguidetricks.com/sillystuff.html>)



## THE EDDY LINE

### CLOSE CALL AT WOODALL—SAFETY FIRST

This story is from the Foothills Paddling Club email list. It's a great sales pitch for face protection on your helmet.

OK folks, I'm going to "out myself" and my carnage story from the weekend in the spirit of "learn from watching others instead of doing it yourself". I was with the Chattooga 3.5 trip on Saturday, which was a wonderful day on the water all around. The people were great, the river was fun, the weather was good, etc. I was paddling my brand-new-to-me boat, and having a fun time getting used to it. Then, I provided some carnage.

Here's the story—We were at Woodall, sneaking to the right. I caught the eddy mid-river just before the rocky chute, let myself drift too close to the little hole adjacent to the eddy while looking over the line, caught my stern in the current, and flipped. (I was not accustomed to \*having\* a comparatively lengthy stern to catch, since paddling so much in the Star.) I set up to roll but before I could execute it, I'd already drifted into very shallow, very rocky water. As I was tucked forward, I went over the edge of the non-line rocky drop option near the sneak. (Can't recommend this line, especially not upside down—probably not right side up either. It wasn't smooth.) I encountered numerous rocks, got yanked all around, and ended up lying on the back deck between the boat and the rocks, unable to reach my grab-loop. It was a fairly awful position to be in, and I could feel the rocks hitting my chin bar and grinding off to the side...it was clearly the only thing keeping my face off the rocks. I also found rocks with both arms, shoulders, torso, back, etc.

I had my progress abruptly halted at one point, and assumed I was pinned, but fortunately I momentarily popped free. By the end of the chute/drop, I'd let go of my paddle and took a swim in the eddy pool at the bottom. The remainder of our group did an awesome job with boat/paddle/me recovery. I was kind of disoriented, and one person in particular did a really nice job of assessing me and talking to me and making sure I got to shore. He made eye contact the moment I surfaced—must remember how reassuring that is! Clayton followed me down the rocky non-line chute upright and reports that it is not a good

alternate line and that there is a piton rock at the bottom.

Upon recovery assessment, I discovered that my spray skirt was ripped completely through around the front cockpit rim. I'd guess my 'sudden stop' sensation had to do with my cockpit rim catching on a rock. I was/am pretty battered from all the rocks, but my helmet really saved the day. I'd felt like wearing it regularly (vs for a 'select few' runs) was a good idea before, but it's now proven itself and totally earned a permanent position in my personal gear set. One of the prominent thoughts in my head as I was grinding along, and still now, is "Thank God I have the full-face on". I would probably be in a surgical recovery suite with a wired jaw and an unintentional makeover instead of just home and sore had I not been wearing it.

Once back in the boat, the remainder of Woodall rapid went smoothly, even with the damaged skirt taking on water.

Another concern people sometimes mention with the chin bars is the fear of them getting caught if you're dragging along. Mine didn't during this event, even though my cockpit apparently did. I tried to keep my chin tucked to protect my neck, but I doubt I really succeeded with it. Make of that what you will.

Bottom line, I highly recommend the face-protection helmets. You can add face cages to most standard helmets—NOC can help with that. WRSI makes a chin bar that attaches to their standard helmet without modification. My full-face helmet is an FNA (due to my apparently huge head), Clayton's is a Shred Ready (what I deemed the best option for a normal-sized head when I was researching all of this). New options are now available too—the Sweets one wasn't out when I bought us ours 2 yrs ago. My big factors in deciding were field of vision, fit/comfort, coverage, and construction quality per price point.

I'm glad that I'm mostly OK, but it does scare me a bit to think of how easily a friend could sustain that sort of accident and need the resulting medical care. It's worth considering, particularly the next time you want to replace a helmet!

Elizabeth



## WHITewater WARRIORS WEEKEND

by Jack Taylor (a/k/a Chief Silver Fish)

This is the first smoke signal for the second "Whitewater Warriors Weekend" on the Nantahala River the same weekend, August 20-22, as the Chick Paddle. "Whitewater Warriors Weekend" offers GCA "Braves" something to do on the Chick Paddle weekend.

"Whitewater Warriors" will camp as a "War Party" at the Smokey Mountain Meadows Campground on Friday Aug. 20 and Saturday Aug. 21 nights. Please make your own reservations at SMMC, 828-488-3672. Ask for Campsites 44-49. A "Scouting Party" will go to dinner in Bryson City both nights. "Pow-wows" will occur at Smoky Mt. Meadows for those braves who prefer to have dinner there. Campfires will blaze both nights. The theme for these will be, "How to Identify and Distinguish Canoe and Kayak Droppings Along Riverbanks."

Brannen Proctor (a/k/a Chief Silver Wolf) is coordinating open-to-all GCA paddling trips on the Nantahala River on Saturday Aug. 21 and Sunday 22. Brannen has invited a "Raiding Party" from "Whitewater Warriors Weekend" to join his paddling trips. Please contact Brannen, 770-664-7384 to sign up for his trips. If some "Warriors" want to paddle other rivers, "Raiding Parties" will form for those rivers.

Please give me, Chief Silver Fish an email or call, 770-998-0350 to join the second "Whitewater Warriors Weekend." Last year's WWW succeeded, and fun was had by all, just read the trip report at [www.gapaddle.com](http://www.gapaddle.com) keywords, Whitewater Warrior.



## PADDLING CHOICES

by Mark Holmberg

Do your non-paddling friends worry about you because you find it hard to concentrate when it rains? Do you worry that extended periods of sun will ruin your weekend or vacation plans? We fully understand. The southeast is a great place live and paddle and our rivers and streams are well worth protecting.

Since the first of the year and right through the spring there were many days that I checked gages obsessively while planning the next paddling trip. And I suspect that most of you have similar obsessions because I see you on the rivers on a regular basis. The wet weather has allowed us to paddle free flowing rivers at many different levels. I have paddled sections 3 and 3.5 of the Chattooga several times this year at 1.6 to 2.6 on the bridge gage. The varying water levels make the Chattooga somewhat different every time I carry my boat to it. Other free flowing rivers that I visited this year were never the exactly same each time, including the Upper Chattahoochee, Amicalola, Broad, Cartecay, Toccoa, Tellico, Whites, Chestatee, Etowah, and in Florida, Juniper, Ocklawaha, and Silver.

Since the start of summer just two weeks ago, the weather has dried up and the summertime high pressure system over the southeast has settled in. However, we are fortunate to have a variety of dam controlled rivers to choose from. I have recently visited the Nantahala, Pigeon, and Hiwassee rivers. These are indeed semi-wild rivers, however flows are obviously more predictable compared to the free flowing variety.

Regardless of where we paddle, whether it is whitewater or flat water, we are fortunate to have a variety of paddling choices in our area which are worth protecting. There are ever increasing pressures on our water resources from several sides. Just one of these pressures comes from potential develop the Nantahala gorge. An article from Smoky Mountain News can be found at: [http://www.smokymountainnews.com/issues/06\\_10/06\\_30\\_10/out\\_fr\\_nantahalagorge.html](http://www.smokymountainnews.com/issues/06_10/06_30_10/out_fr_nantahalagorge.html) I urge everyone to be knowledgeable of developing proposals to dam, divert, and develop rivers and to be proactive in protecting them.



## THE EDDY LINE

### RIVER COURTESY—MUST READING FOR ALL PADDLERS

- From the newsletter of the Tennessee Valley Canoe Club.
- by Carroll Viera

At our paddling clinics we added quite a few new people to the boating community. New paddlers have so much information to absorb that sometimes it's hard to keep it all in mind. Now might be a good time to review some common river courtesy rules and to ask if we've been observing them. Here are some important ones:

Before getting on a river:

Patronize local merchants. Buy gas and groceries from businesses near the rivers. Doing so will help create good will between paddlers and the local population.

If using a put-in on private property, ask permission from the land owner before getting on the river.

Help with the shuttle. If someone else takes your boat to the put-in, shuttle the driver back to the put-in after the trip, pay any parking fee (at the Hiwassee, for example), or give the driver a dollar or two for gas.

Shuttle drivers: Be sure that other drivers know where you're going. All drivers should always keep the car behind them in sight. If a caravan gets separated at a traffic light, those who get through should turn off at the first convenient spot to wait for others to catch up.

At the put-in:

Keep your boat out of the way of the launch site until you're ready to get on the water. Once on the water, move away from the launch site so that other boaters can get on the water.

On the river:

1) After entering an eddy, back up and leave room for the next boater. If the eddy is small, exit the

eddy so that the next boat can get in.

2) Remember that traffic moving downstream has the right of way, so it's a river rule:

a) not to pull out of an eddy in front of traffic coming downstream

b) to exit a play spot (such as a surfing wave or hole) for downstream traffic.

This rule applies whether the downstream traffic consists of a kayak, canoe, raft, tube or any other river craft. Remember this rule particularly at crowded play spots. Don't assume that the paddler coming from upstream has the expertise to avoid you and can choose another route. (Alternatively, if you ARE the downstream traffic, don't assume that the person in a hole has the expertise to get out of the hole and thus out of your way.)

3) Line up for play spots. Don't barge in front of someone waiting to enter a play spot and don't re-enter a play spot until everyone in line has had a turn. It is sometimes easy for a kayaker to maneuver in front of canoes waiting for a turn, so advanced kayakers may need to caution beginners about this practice.

4) Don't be a hole hog. If there is a line at a play spot, exit the spot after a short turn and get back in line.

5) Don't tailgate, especially in rapids. An easy way to slow down before going into a rapid is to back ferry or to turn around and ferry for a few strokes upstream.

6) Pack out all trash. Cigarette butts and peanut shells are trash, too. And, if you pack out a little more trash than you brought in, our river cleanup days will be easier.

7) Stay between the lead and sweep boats on an organized trip.

8) On an organized trip, keep the boat behind you in sight.

*(Continued on page 9)*



## THE EDDY LINE

### 50th ANNIVERSARY OF KIRSCHBAUM KAYAK RUN

RRFW Riverwire

Fifty years ago this June, Walter Kirschbaum piloted his homemade fiberglass kayak on The Colorado River through Grand Canyon. Kirschbaum was the first paddler to kayak the entire Canyon running all the river's rapids.

Kirschbaum learned to kayak in his homeland of Germany, and raced his boats before he began to enjoy exploring remote rivers more than he enjoyed racing. In 1953, Kirschbaum won the Kayak Slalom World Championship.

Obtaining a permit to paddle Grand Canyon required, as Kirschbaum put it, "rather rugged methods", including a thirty minute shouting match between Grand Canyon National Park Ranger Dan Davis and Kirschbaum's attorney friend Ty Dines.

One of Davis's requirements of Kirschbaum to get a permit was that he kayak Cataract Canyon. After successfully running Cataract Canyon, which Kirschbaum noted required "more skill in dodging rocks than any rapid in the Grand Canyon at 40,000 cubic second feet" Kirschbaum received a permit from Davis to kayak the river.

Walter and his wife Ruth built the fourteen foot long by nineteen inch wide fiberglass kayak in their attic in Denver Colorado, lowering it out the attic window once it was done.

Accompanying Kirschbaum were Dines in his freight canoe with an 18 horsepower outboard, and Ted Hatch, running a motorized pontoon boat with six selected passengers.

In order to keep up with the motor boats,

### Keeping In Touch

To contact GCA, write Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc., P.O. Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357 .

**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 <http://www.gapaddle.com>.

Kirschbaum would head out of camp before the others, and would wait for their company at major rapids.

While making a right to left run at Hance Rapid, all went well until Kirschbaum was rolled over in the rapid's tail waves. Sucked out of his kayak and stripped of his paddle by a powerful whirlpool, Kirschbaum swam through the "pleasantly warm" (pre-dam) river water to his kayak where he retrieved his spare paddle off the back of his boat.

With new paddle in hand, Kirschbaum rode his upside down kayak to a small beach where he bailed out his boat, then gave chase for his paddle. Once he caught up to his paddle, he pulled to shore and waited for the other two boats.

Dan Davis had asked Kirschbaum to portage Lava Falls, but Kirschbaum ran it left of the Ledge Hole, and found it an easier run than "many another rapid in the Grand". What troubled him most was eating his way through most of his food by day three.

Kirschbaum went on to run other sections of the Colorado River, including the first kayak runs of Gore Canyon, Cross Mountain of the Yampa, and the Black Canyon of the Gunnison.

Kirschbaum's boat had no foot or thigh braces, and no seat, as he believed that to use more than what he considered the minimum of equipment was a sacrilegious insult to the natural purity of the canyons he so loved.

While Walter Kirschbaum tragically died in New Mexico in 1972, River Runners for Wilderness is proud to honor his legacy of river running, noting kayakers still ply the Colorado River in Grand Canyon to this day.



## TRIP SCHEDULE

Date	Canoe and Kayak Trips, Classes, and Club Events	Difficulty /Class	Coordinator
<b>July</b>			
7/11	River exploring @ High Falls state park	Beginner	Marie Short
7/15	Ocoee	Advanced	Allen Hedden
7/17-18	Canoe, Kayak, and Recreational Classes - 2 Days	Various	Gina Johnson
7/17	Nantahala	Intermediate	Paul Smith
7/18	Nantahala Falls (Over and Over and Over again)	Intermediate	Paul Smith
7/18	Kid Friendly ETOWAH RIVER- Dawson Forest Kid Friendly	Beginner	Vincent Payne
7/23	Ocoee	Advanced	Allen Hedden
7/24	Broad	Trained Beginner	Jeff Engel
7/31	Hiwassee River Information	Trained Beginner	Brannen Proctor
<b>August</b>			
8/1	Hiwassee	Trained Beginner	Jack Taylor
8/7	Essentials of River Safety Class - \$35	Everybody	Gina Johnson
8/14	Canoe, Kayak, Recreational Classes	All Levels	Gina Johnson
8/14	42nd South Eastern Races "Canoe Club Challenge	Non-GCA Event	See Article
8/17	Lower Ocoee	Beginner	Allen Hedden
8/21-22	Hiwassee - Chick Paddle	Trained Beginner	Karen Saunders
8/20	Whitewater Warriors Weekend-Smokey Mountain Meadows	Camping	Jack Taylor
8/21	Sea Kayak Strokes Class	Beg to Int	Steve Cramer
8/21	Nantahala	Intermediate	Brannen Proctor
8/22	Nantahala	Intermediate	Brannen Proctor

Check the calendar on the GCA website at <http://www.gapaddle.com> for additional trips, social events, safety classes,

**Your Trip Could Be Listed in This Space — Call Cruisemaster William Gatling at 770.529.7103!**

### 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>.

**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 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:** see Page 6.



## THE EDDY LINE

(Continued from page 6)

9) Share the river. Give fishermen plenty of room (and don't ask if they're catching anything!) Respect rafters, too. Some good paddlers had their first river experience on a commercial raft trip.

10) If another paddler gets into trouble, help him or her so long as you can do so without jeopardizing your own safety.

After a trip:

1) Be sure that people who drove to the put-in have a ride back to their cars. Always offer to shuttle drivers back if they have taken you to the put-in. One trip leader announces that no one leaves until everyone has a ride.

2) Return any gear (such as ropes) you may have borrowed.

3) At schools and other club functions held in campgrounds, respect other campers. Observe quiet hours. Even slamming car doors can wake up someone who's asleep.

Obviously, many rules of river courtesy are also rules of river safety. Pulling out of an eddy in front of another boat, for instance, can cause a collision. Also, we need to remember that discourteous paddlers do exist. Sometimes it's safer to yield the right of way to such a paddler. Maybe he / she is unaware of rules of courtesy rather than just ignoring them. Trip leaders can help by reviewing a few rules of river courtesy at the beginning of a trip or by mentioning them as the need arises on the river. In the end, river courtesy is mostly a matter of common sense: treat other boaters the way you'd like to be treated.

- From the Tennessee Valley Canoe Club newsletter.

## THE 42nd ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN US WILDWATER CHAMPIONSHIP

The 42 Annual Southeastern US Wildwater Championship, the oldest whitewater race in the Southeast, will be held during the morning of Saturday, August 14, 2010. From 4 pm to 6pm that day the third of NOC's Canoe Club Challenge citizens' slalom races will be held between the foot and road bridges at the NOC. The first two citizens' slaloms will have been held on June 19 and July 17, 2010. The slalom races will be set on a "first timer friendly" slalom course. The Nantahala Racing club will award a special trophy to the canoe club with the most points at the end of the three slalom races. For more information on the Canoe Cup challenge see: <http://www.noc.com:80/nocom/festivals-a-events/canoe-club-challenge/>

The Wildwater Championships will begin in a mass start and run the 8.2 miles from the rafting put-in just below the Duke Power Powerhouse to Finish Rock just upstream of the NOC. Course records: K-1 – Terry White, 42:04.85, 1981; K-1W – Kathy Bolyn, 45:20, 1989; C-1 – John Pinyerd, 46:43, 1997; OC-2 - Bill Baxter and Les Bechdel, 50:06, 1983; C-2 – David Jones and Mike Hipsher, 45:11, 1989; OC-1 – Angus Morrison, 50:12, 1983. Also special awards are given for these wildwater winners: Charlie Patton Award – C-1 (or OC-1 if faster); Julie Wilson Award – fastest female; Ramone Easton – OC-2. And the name of the fastest overall, usually a K-1, also gets engraved on the old Southeastern Trophy.

On Saturday evening there will be free live music at The Pourover beginning at 8:30 pm.

For further details about the Southeasterns see <http://www.gapaddle.com/> or call me, Roger Nott, 678-316-4935



**WELCOME**

These members have recently joined GCA. New members are the life blood and future of the club — call one near you and arrange to paddle together.

Baar, Lesli  
606 Vinings Forest Court SE  
Smyrna GA 30080  
H: 770-438-8853  
W: 678-777-1314  
Email: leslibaar@aim.com

Ballard, Kevin W.  
2475 Rogers Mill Road  
Danielsville GA 30633  
H: 610-417-6745  
Email: kwbsjb@gmail.com

Batchelor, Bobby  
110 W Mendal Lane  
Cochran GA 31014  
H: 478-714-1044  
Email: bobby@gaelevator.com  
Email: gaelevator@aol.com

Blevins, Juliene  
97 Willow Wood Circle SE  
Atlanta GA 30317  
H: 404-769-0842  
W: 404-682-2440  
Email:  
julie.blevins@atlcap.com

Byars, John & Robin  
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### "Boating Uncle"

My uncle loved to fish and he would go out almost every weekend. He would come home from work on Friday afternoon, put the boat on top of the station wagon and pack his gear. My aunt always had food packed for him. He would return on Sunday evening.

My uncle died, sad but he did.

My aunt was selling the boat, and told the above story to a prospective buyer.

The buyer said, "Lady, I don't know how to tell you this, but this boat has NEVER been in the water."

My aunt never found out what my uncle did on his weekends, but her grieving time was very short.

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## THE EDDY LINE

### IT'S ALL IN THE LEGS

by: Bob Yarmey

Paddle.net

It was mid-summer of 2006, and I had planned my most ambitious coastal outing yet. It was to be a 140 mile 5 day solo outing beginning with a launch from Rockport, Maine. My itinerary was to include Vinalhaven, Isle Au Haut, Deer Isle, Castine and Islesboro. This was to be a serious sea kayaker's Nirvana. Late evening of my first day out, along Vinalhaven's ocean side coast, I spotted a very small relatively flat island. It appeared to be sitting suitably a foot or two above the high water line. I set up camp and since it was forecast to be a fair night, decided the tent would not be necessary.

A bit of backstory before we continue:

I am a bilateral above-knee double amputee. I suffered the loss of both legs from an experimental airplane crash in 1986. While in the rehab hospital for the better part of a year, I resolved that whatever I was left with, the Good Lord and I were going to carry on in full enjoyment of life - regardless. 10 years ago my young brother Paul, suggested we look into sea kayaking. Since we often visited my folks in Newcastle, Maine, it sounded like an exciting challenge. The first time out - man was I hooked! This alternate form of immensely enjoyable mobility was more than what any doctor could have prescribed.

Now, back to the small Maine island...

Preparing for sleep, I removed both my full length leg prosthesis (still in the kayak pants), I left them leaning amid-ship of my kayak. It had been an exhilarating yet strenuous 10 hours of paddling. Sleeping under the stars with a refreshing salty atmosphere, light sea breeze and gentle rhythmic and hypnotic wave action quickly led to a deep dream-like heavenly slumber. Just at dawn's early light, I was awakened by the sound of a lobster boat horn. Several lobster boats had stopped with great

curiosity to investigate a rather uncommon sight. It was low tide and there - like a mini Noah's Ark, was a solitary sea kayak perched about 12 feet above the sea on a sharply peaked mini island. Against the kayak was what must have seemed like one half of a lifeless body! No wonder it had attracted their attention!

The lobster-men had broken their busy routine to investigate and try to make sense of it all. Startled from my peaceful deep slumber from their boat horn, the alive upper half of me sat up out of my sleeping bag, I flashed them a thumbs up. They shouted out several questions - was I OK? Did I require any assistance? What were my intentions? I responded "all is well, thanks for your concern and in about 6 hours (when high tide reoccurred) I plan on casting off with no problem!" I observed a few shaking heads as these kind hearted but hopefully less bewildered lobster-men pressed on with their runs.





## DNR, TNC PURCHASE DAWSON COUNTY LAND

DAWSONVILLE - More than 450 acres in Dawson County have been purchased for conservation purposes.

The 469 acres includes two miles of the Amicalola Creek and its tributaries and connects two previously separate tracts of the Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area.

The buyers are the state Department of Natural Resources and the Georgia Land Conservation Program.

Contributions from a number of public and private entities enabled the state to purchase the tract for \$3.2 million.

Facts about the Dawson Land Conservation purchase (compiled by the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority:

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Georgia Land Conservation Program (GLCP) acquired 469 acres of prime conservation land in Dawson County, which includes two miles of the Amicalola Creek and its tributaries.

. Long a conservation priority for the state, the tract is a critical connection between two previously separate tracts of the Dawson Forest Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

. The property protects a vital segment of Amicalola Creek that supports at least 27 native fish species, three of which are endangered. All three tracts together protect more than 15,000 acres.

. The Amicalola is a Priority One stream in the Etowah basin, as identified in the State Wildlife Action Plan. Rare species known from the area include the federally-endangered Etowah darter and the state-endangered holiday darter. This WMA is also important to black bears, and one of the most popular WMA's for all types of recreation, from hunting and fishing, to hiking and canoeing.

. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) in Georgia acquired the property from the Forestar Real Estate Group in 2008 at a reduced price and held it until the state could

arrange funding. TNC contributed \$2.15 million through a discounted sale of the property to the state.

. Contributions from a variety of other public and private partners – the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service; the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation; the Robert H. Dobbs, Jr. Foundation; the Mountain Conservation Trust; the Lyndhurst Foundation; Trout Unlimited; the DNR; the GLCP and anonymous private donors - led to the state's purchase of the property for \$3,247,158.

. Sixty-three land conservation income tax credits were awarded to generous Georgia landowners for land donations that conserved 38,660 acres in tax year 2009.

. In addition to direct land purchases, DNR and the GLCP offer land conservation state income tax credits of up to \$1 million for land donations and conservation easements on land. More than 200 tax credits have been awarded, and more than 70,000 acres permanently conserved in Georgia since 2006 when the credit was established.

. Since 2005, the GLCP has conserved more than 171,000 total acres.

. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) works to sustain, enhance, protect, and conserve Georgia's natural, historic and cultural resources for present and future generations, while recognizing the importance of promoting the development of commerce and industry that utilize sound environmental practices. For more information on the DNR, or Georgia Land Conservation Income Tax Credits, please visit: [www.gadnr.org](http://www.gadnr.org).

. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) is a leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. To learn more, visit [www.nature.org/georgia](http://www.nature.org/georgia)



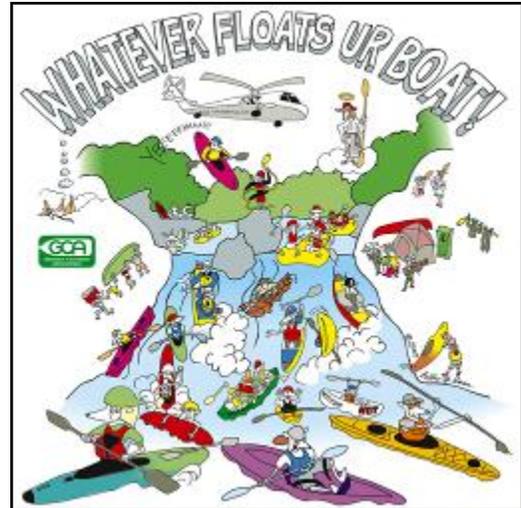


## THE EDDY LINE

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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 re-subscribe with your new address. Thank you.



### 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*, at: [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. August 5 for the September/October issue).

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.

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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*, 458 Windsor Drive Marietta, GA 30064 or email to [the\\_eddyline@yahoo.com](mailto:the_eddyline@yahoo.com). Please, no phone-in or hand-written ads.

For Sale:

Soque River Lot for sale. 2 acres, 360 ft river frontage located next to Hwy 105 bridge. Can be divided to 2 lots. Secluded but easy access. Nice 3 mile class 1 paddle to confluence of Chattahoochee. Below appraised value. \$135,000 Gary Gaines [ggaines105@aol.com](mailto:ggaines105@aol.com) 770 654-5501





# BASICS OF RIVER SAFETY STARTS AT YOUR FEET

by Clay Wright, Team Jackson

Let's face it, wearing shoes on the river is more for the people we paddle with than it is for ourselves. For ourselves, walking out barefooted in the cold dark is really unappealing (once your Tevas are lost with your kayak). For our paddling partners, the time you lose cautiously toe-stepping from rock to rock instead of leaping boldly across rugged terrain and into the river to save a pinned / swimming / drowning companion will never be forgiven.

The days of "my sandals are in the back" excuse are long gone... today's booties fit into every boat made. If you run rivers, especially isolated, long, pin-prone, cold ones, you wear shoes.

Choose either a paddling specific "shoe" with a heel cup that runs up high for comfort, or a 'Sock-fit' where the sole is minimal. Climbing-shoe rubber is such a huge benefit on rocks it's probably not worth buying a shoe without it. A low-profile kayak-specific design with a heel-cup should solve your comfort complaints AND give you and your paddling partners additional

safety. But old running shoes with a section of the heel sole and foam cut off (for a low-profile fit) should work just fine.

Going "barefoot" on the river is like showing up without a rope...

Having shoes in the back of the boat, but not ON your feet, is like setting safety, but leaving your rope upstream still clipped in your boat.

Paddle safe!

- From the newsletter of the Tennessee Valley Canoe Club.

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

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*GCA is a member-operated paddling club with over 800 family and corporate memberships comprising more than 2000 Individuals. Canoeists and Kayakers of all ages and paddling abilities are equally welcome. Some of our mutual interests include whitewater river running, creeking and playboating, river and lake touring, sea kayaking, paddle camp outs and competition and racing activities. We espouse conservation, environmental and river access issues as well as boating safety and skills development. Group paddling, training and social activities of all kinds are conducted throughout the year thanks to the volunteer efforts of our many members and friends. Membership is NOT limited to Georgia residents.*