GCA
GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION
Post Office Box 7023
Atlanta, Georgia 30357

THE EDDY LINE

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CANOE CLUB CHALLENGE—ROUND ONE GOES TO GCA

by Allen Hedden

June 18, 2011 – Nantahala River, Wesser, NC. The first round of the Canoe Club Challenge was won handily by a GCA team that surprised the other clubs with a great turn-out and a really good performance. Thanks, GCA, for making this happen! Many thanks to all those who braved the rain, lightening and cold (yes, cold in June!) to race, help with timing, and cheer for the participants. GCA ROCKS!!

The down side to the big win is that now we are not the underdog, but the top dog, the favored to win, the big target for the other clubs to take aim at. Soooo, we really need to make a good showing at the remainder of the events. July 16 is the next slalom event. August 13 is the SE Championship Wildwater Race and the finale of the slalom series. I think they score double points for the finale slalom event, so we'll still be an easy target even if we do well in the second round. Put these dates on your calendar and SHOW UP to race, help with timing, or cheer the racers on. The first step to winning is showing up.

The race course was superb for this event. It was an appropriate challenge for entry level boaters while not being intimidating, yet it was a very interesting and fun course for experienced racers. Our thanks go out to Wayne Dickert, the Nantahala Racing Club and the Nantahala Outdoor Center for their excellent job in putting together a fun event. A lot of preparatory work and planning goes into putting on an event like this, and these folks really stepped up to the task.

Special thanks to GCA's Roger Nott, who really made our day by getting things organized and running smoothly for the GCA Team. We really owe you, Roger! Your vast experience in putting on races really showed. And you were still able to account for a significant number of GCA's points by racing in several classes, not to mention encouraging other racers to do more runs, participate in more classes, etc. You were a very effective cheerleader and leader.

I can't say too much about the importance of the volunteers doing the starting and timing for the GCA Team. Each timer can only time one racer on the course at a time. The more timers we have, the more racers we can get down the course in a given amount of time, and the better our chances of maintaining our lead in the series. Many thanks to those volunteers who made our win possible in Round One, and thanks in advance for those who plan to help with Round Two and Round Three.

We now have momentum on our side. Please, let's not get complacent and lose our lead in Round Two. We WILL be the big target, make no mistake. Sheer numbers is what it takes to win this thing, and we have shown that we can bring a lot of people out to represent the club. Let's keep the momentum going moving into Round Two. Come out and make a difference for your club! Race! Volunteer! Cheer!

See y'all there!!!

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SOUTHEASTERN U.S. WILDWATER CHAMPIONSHIPS LIVE ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2011

by John Pinyerd and Roger Nott

The Southeastern U. S. Wildwater Championships, the oldest whitewater race in the Southeast lives on!!!! This year will be our 43rd year!!! The classic top to bottom downriver/wildwater race will be held Saturday a.m., August 13, 2011, under the joint sponsorship of the GCA and the Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC). Last year's race had 88 participants and we are expecting to break 100 this year!

We are delighted to be a part of the NOCs "Canoe Club Challenge" which is really helping to generate excitement about racing that is geared for all paddlers. The first two races in the Canoe Club Challenge series are being held on June 18 and July 16, 2011. The Southeastern's downriver/wildwater race is part of the third and final race on August 13th with the downriver race being held first thing in the morning and the slalom races in the afternoon.

The Canoe Club Challenge slalom races will run between the foot and road bridges at the NOC from 3 pm to 6pm during the series. You can earn participation points for your club (GCA) by racing in both the downriver race and any of the three slalom races. There will be a special trophy and perhaps a boat awarded to the canoe club with the most points at the end of the event series. For more information on the Canoe Cup Challenge see:

http://www.noc.com/noccom/festivals-a-events/canoe-club-challenge/

The Downriver Championships will begin in mass start waves and run 8 miles from the Forest Service's private boater put-in just above Patton's Run to Finish Rock just upstream of the NOC. While the race is geared towards all racers, we traditionally also have several USA Team members participating in a "championship" class. The Georgia Canoeing Association will continue the tradition of paying you $100 if you break any of these 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

In the tradition of the Southeastern's, special awards will also be given for the fastest downriver winners in these classes:

- Charlie Patton Award – C-1 (or OC-1 if faster)
- Julie Wilson Award – fastest female
- Ramone Eaton – OC-2.

These winners' names and that of the fastest boater overall, usually in a K-1, also are engraved on the old Southeastern's trophies.

Awards for the downriver/wildwater and slalom races will be at Slow Joe's Cafe at 7 pm. on Saturday evening, 8/13/2011. The NOC will give prizes, such as free gear or gift cards, for the participants with the best times, most runs, etc. There will be free live music at The Pourover beginning at 8:30 pm.

Preliminary Schedule for the downriver race (assuming a 9:00 release):

- Volunteer Check In: 9:00
- Registration: 9:15 – 10:15 (Forest Service Put In)
- Competitors Meeting 10:30
- Race Begins (first Wave off) 10:45

Come and race, volunteer to help with the race, or just watch and share the good times. For further information and updates about the Southeasterns see http://www.gapaddle.com/ or the USA Wildwater website: www.usawildwater.com. You can also contact:

- Roger Nott: ocapaddler@charter.net (678-316-4935)
- John Pinyerd: jpinyerd@cs.com GCA's Race Master
- Chris Hipgrave: chris.hipgrave@noc.com

See you there!!!

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LETTER TO EPA ON BEHALF OF GCA

June 15, 2011

Water Docket
Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 2822T
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Attn: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2011-0409

Dear Sirs/Madams:

The Georgia Canoeing Association appreciates this opportunity to present its comments on the referenced.

The Georgia Canoeing Association ("GCA") is a not for profit corporation that currently serves 600 famalies. The purpose of the GCA is to unite persons interested in canoeing and kayaking in the watersheds and coastal waters of Georgia and contiguous states, and thereby to provide information, educational and training services and to increase the safety, enjoyment and skills of those canoeing and kayaking in this region. GCA has served paddlers in Georgia and throughout the Southeast since 1966.

While paddling the rivers of Georgia and nearby states for the past 40 years, we have frequently observed the adverse effect on our paddling waters of improperly regulated activities that impact upon the seasonal streams, ephemeral streams and wetlands that nourish the rivers that we paddle. The filling, damming, paving and culverting of the streams and wetlands that are the sources of our rivers has had a markedly deleterious effect on both the quality and the quantity of the rivers we paddle.

After many a rainstorm, we have seen torrents of mud flow into our rivers from small, intermittent and ephemeral tributaries where improperly regulated land disturbing activity was occurring. We have seen fecal coliform counts and other indicia of biological contamination skyrocket. At the same time we have seen the fish, turtles and other critters with which we love to share the rivers become fewer and fewer and in some cases, disappear altogether.

The impact on river flows has been equally dramatic. After rainstorms, the rivers now rise much more quickly and much higher, and then fall much more quickly down to levels that are often too low to allow us to paddle our favorite rivers. This is clearly a function of replacing natural aquatic systems with impervious surfaces.

These problems must be addressed by appropriate regulations as far upstream in the watershed as is legally possible. For the sake of paddle sport and all other users of our rivers, including those of us who drink from our rivers and dispose of our waste therein, we urge your guidance to extend your regulatory reach as far as legally permitted under proper interpretation of judicial precedent. We also urge your regulation to be based on sound science, not political considerations.

Thank you for your efforts to save our rivers.

Yours truly,

Daniel I. MacIntyre
Legal Committee Chair
Georiga Canoing Association

CARTERS LAKE CANOE OVER-NIGHT FACILITIES GILMER BLUE TRAIL—GEORGIA MOUNTAIN STEWARDS

by Don Wells & Haynes Johnson

The Gilmer Blue Trail begins on the east side of Gilmer County on Lower Cartecay Road on the Cartecay River dropping through Class Three Rapids before leveling out at the Cartecay Canoe Launch site. The trail continues west where the Cartecay joins the Ellijay River to form the Coosawattee River. In the Gilmer Country River Park is the next Canoe Launch site. From there eleven miles downstream the trail exits out into Carters Lake where the newest facilities have just been completed on the trail. These facilities provide a camping facility for the canoeists/kayakers to camp overnight or longer before exiting the trail at the Ridgeway Ramp on Carters Lake. The Gilmer Blue Trail is now 34 miles long.

The new facilities consist of a site to beach the canoe's/kayaks, a tenting site, a shed and cooking area, and a moldering privy facility. The facilities are located about 40 ft. above the lake, accessed by an old road bed from the beach location.

Tenting Area

The tenting area is a 20 ft. x 16 ft. flat camp site with a raised 6 x 6 wall. On one end of the wall are seats for the campers to use in packing and unpacking their gear.

Tent Site with Benches and Steps to Beach Site

Cooking Area

The cooking area is located about 50 ft. up the old road bed from the tenting area. This site is approximately 30 ft. x 30 ft. outlined with 6 x 6's and covered in mulch. The site has an improved shelter for protection from inclement weather, an 8 ft. long bench to sit and observe the lake or the evening fire in the fire pit. There are two cooking sites, one a raised charcoal cooker and one a fire pit with grill. A picnic table may be added at a future date. There is also a secure garbage can at the site for rubbish but packing out trash is preferred.

Moldering Toilet

In the back county, providing sanitation facilities can be expensive and add a lot of maintenance. For the Canoe Overnight site, a Moldering Toilet design was selected as it very inexpensive to build and requires no maintenance other than to occasionally bring in a load of mulch to use with the toilet. It is also reported to be the least offensive in smelling.

The Moldering Toilet was first used on Appalachian Trail and other outback trails in the US. This design has a raised chamber built with pressure-treated timbers (6 x 6's in our case but 4 x 4's can be used). The inside of the chamber, 6 ft. x 8 ft. is covered in screen wire to keep flies and other pest out and then decked to cover it. The toilet is placed on the deck and a hole cut through the floor. The toilet is enclosed with a screened-in enclosure built with suitable materials. In our case, we built the structure with 4 x 4's and screened in the enclosure with 3⁄4 T- 11 plywood. A metal roof is added for protection from the weather. Although it is doubtful a handicap person will use this facility, the toilet facility was never the less built to ADA standards with a suitable ramp to allow for wheelchair access. The toilet door was built 36 inches wide to accommodate a wheelchair.

Anyone wanting more information about the Moldering Privy and other backcountry sanitation designs can find it in the Appalachian Trail Conference Backcountry Sanitation Manual.

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.

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.

SKILL BUILDING

by Pat, posted on www.cboats.net

Clubs see a lot of people get interested and do the class II runs, but far fewer get over that first hurdle of paddling more aggressively and controlling their boats in class III, so this list is targeted at getting to that first next level.

It's the conservative approach, not fullgnarlz, but I think it could help a number of paddlers. I think part of the problem is with instruction - we teach people how to do things, but we don't teach them where to do them and how to get better.

What tips would you add to get novices over the hump?

Catch every eddy. Don't just stop in the big "collector eddies". Find your own eddies, especially mid-stream. Catch eddies on your onside and offside. Start looking for eddies above the drops instead of below them! This can be a real key to paddling/scouting harder runs.

Surf every wave. Surfing gives a good benchmark of how you're controlling your boat. The regular surf spots are often popular as much for their eddies as their surfiness, and they may be better suited to experienced surfers. So, always be on the lookout for the waves that suit you. Don't be shy - start trying to surf while you'll struggle to catch a wave, and then your successes will be all the sweeter! Plus, a swim doesn't count if you were surfing!

Don't follow everybody. As above, there's more to the river than the obvious features that the group will use, so find your own groove between group stops. Even where the group does gather, maybe there's an alternative eddy above them or across the river?

Follow somebody. Not sure what eddies and waves you could catch? Pick another boat to watch and try following their lines. Get a friend to play follow-the-leader with you, and take turns leading each other on creative lines.

Swim less. Develop a good low-brace, you'll love it!

Swim more. Go for those eddies, ferries and waves that just might flip you, that's part of learning. Self-rescue is an important skill to develop too!

Make a plan. River reading is a huge part of improving. Never leave an eddy without identifying options for your next moves. Look 5 meters downstream for ferries or s-turns, not just 50 meters downstream for the next big eddy. If you don't know where you were trying to go, how will you know if you're getting there??

Go upstream. When leaving an eddy, don't just look downstream; look across the river, and even up the river, to see if there are any features you could get to. Throw in a ferry or a surf before you turn downstream. Leaving an eddy to ferry above an obstacle is a great way to put a bit of pressure on yourself, so ask yourself whether you can make it above that rock and over to that next channel!

Know your river. When you pass a little eddy or wave that maybe you could've gotten, remember it for next time. Make your home river a different run every time. Find spots like a recognizable cross-river ferry that you can use as a measuring stick to test your progress - try it every time you go by, and see how it feels as you improve. Getting to know a few spots like this will also help you recognize what the river does at different water levels and how to use micro-currents.

Scout. Scouting can help on the rivers you are doing – take a 2nd look at the rapids and search out gutsy new lines. And scouting can help on the rivers you want to be doing – if you're not sure what the rapids are like on a new-to-you run, go for a drive, ride or hike and check them out for yourself.

Pick your spots. Not just on the river, but with your group. A first run on a harder river isn't just about the river, also give some thought to water levels, weather conditions, and especially who is in the group and how they'll be paddling. It'll be most comfortable with a leader who knows you and vice versa (so get to know lots of trip leaders!), and on a day where there's a good supply of experience and patience.

Know thyself. The best indicator of being ready for a new run is when you're at the point of relying on your own judgment in place of advice from others, something akin to: "if you have to ask the price of a menu item, you probably can't afford it". When a trusted instructor, leader, mentor or peer advises that you're not ready and need to sit this one out (we've all been there, and it beats walking out from the middle of a run!), and you find yourself confident in your disagreement with their assessment, then you're probably getting there!

SPRINT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Lanier Canoe & Kayak Club is pleased to host the 2011 USA CANOE KAYAK Sprint National Championships and Masters National Championships August 4 to August 7.

The LANIER CANOE & KAYAK CLUB located at the Lake Lanier Olympic Venue in Gainesville, Georgia is pleased to host the 2011 USA Canoe/Kayak Sprint National Championships and the Masters National Championships, August 4-7, 2011.

Volunteers: LCKC has many opportunities for parents and friends to volunteer during the National Championships. Volunteers will receive free lunch each day and a limited edition t-shirt. If you would like to volunteer please email brenda@lckc.org or call 770-287-7888.

Features:

The 2011 USA CANOE KAYAK Sprint National Championships is open to international athletes!

All US Participants in the USA CANOE KAYAK Sprint National Championships must be a current registered member of USA CANOE KAYAK on July 1, 2011. Club membership will be determined by the athletes listed on the USA CANOE KAYAK roster of each club on July 1st. USA CANOE KAYAK will supply the organizing committee a list of all US athletes eligible to compete by June 15, 2011. This roster will determine club membership AND ELIGIBILITY for the 2011 National. (You will not be able to update your USA CANOE/KAYAK membership at Nationals.)

The 2011 Sprint National Championship will feature live video streaming accessed through the event website - www.lckc.org.

The Lake Lanier Venue is located 3105 Clarks Bridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30506. This is the site of the 1996 Olympic venue for both rowing and sprint canoe, the only ICF World Cup event to be held in North America and the Lanier Canoe 2003 Flatwater World Championships as well as the home of The Lanier Canoe and Kayak Club. The venue is located at Clarks Bridge Park. For more information about the Gainesville-Hall County community visit the Chamber of Commerce website at www.ghcc.com. More information about the venue and club is available at www.lckc.org

Directions to the Venue:
The Lake Lanier Boathouse is located 3105 Clarks Bridge Road, Gainesville, GA 30506. The boathouse is about an hour northwest from Atlanta. Directions to the Venue: from Atlanta, take I-85 north to I 985. Go to Exit 24 and follow the rowing and canoe / kayak center signs to the venue. (Turn left (west) onto Jesse Jewell Parkway at the end of the ramp, turn right at the third traffic light onto the Limestone Parkway, turn right at the second traffic light onto Clarks Bridge Road.) You will come to Clarks Bridge within 1.5 miles. The venue is located just beyond the bridge. The course is on the right; look for the Finish Tower and the boathouse is on the left.

RECREATIONAL KAYAKING - Join your athletes on the water during the practice days before races begin. LCKC will offer kayak rentals to allow spectators to tour the course. This unique opportunity will give spectators a chance to see what the athletes see during the races. Rentals will be available for $10.00 / hour during practice times.

The AWARDS BANQUET will be held on Saturday evening, August 6th at Riverside Military Academy. The National Championships medals will be awarded at the banquet. Tickets for the Awards Banquet are $30 if you pay with your entry. Tickets after the race entry deadline will be $35 and can be purchased prior to July 26 only by contacting brenda@lckc.org. No tickets will be sold after July 26th.

Dates:
Competition:

Sprint National Championships will be held Thursday, August 4th through Saturday, August 6th. The US Masters National Championships 500 meter events will be held as a separate regatta on Sunday, August 7th. All distance events including the USMAS distance events will be held on Saturday, August 6th.

Complete information and entry form can be found at:
http://usack.org/events/1444

TRIP SCHEDULE

July

07/01	Lake Sinclair, Oconee Springs Park ~ Family Friendly	Beginner	Marie Short	404-202-9546
07/02	Broad River	Trained Beginner	Stephen McKinnon	850-567-0395
07/02	Hiwassee - Independence Day Weekend	Trained Beginner	Jack Taylor	770-998-0350
07/03	Hiwassee - Independence Day Weekend	Trained Beginner	Brannen Proctor	770-664-7384
07/09	Chattooga ~ Section IV	Advanced	Roger Nott	678-316-4935
07/09 - 7/10	Nantahala ~ Saturday and Sunday trips	Intermediate	Paul Smith	770-852-1106
07/16	NOC Canoe Club Challenge	Trained Beginner		
07/16	Nantahala	Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770-664-7384
07/17	Nantahala ~ from Ferebee	Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770-664-7384
07/23 - 7/24	Canoe and Kayak Classes	Beg. - Int.	Mike Winchester	770-852-1106
07/30	Recreational Kayak Class (Hiwassee)	Trained Beginner	Mike Winchester	404-877-8433

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 Shirly Tharp at 706-814-0207!

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 gapaddle.com for information

August

08/06	Hiwassee	Trained Beginner	Marshall Busco	404-822-8650
08/07	Chattooga ~ Section IV	Advanced	Roger Nott	678-316-4935
08/13	NOC Canoe Club Challenge	Trained Beginner		
08/13 - 8/14	Hiwassee ~ Saturday and Sunday trips	Trained Beginner	Vincent Payne	678-343-5292
08/27 - 8/28	Canoe and Kayak Classes	Beg. - Int.	Mike Winchester	404-877-8433

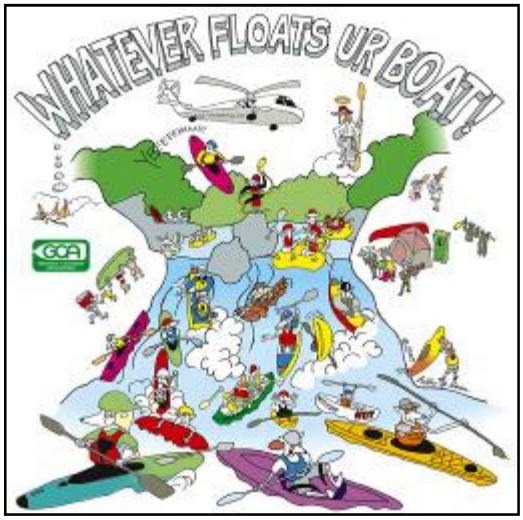
NOC

Canoe Club Challenge ~ Individual Results

Class	Name	Club	Best	Runs
C1	Roger Nott	GCA	82.0	3
C1	Alex Vargas	East Tennessee	82.3	2
C1	Chuck Wilburn	GCA	83.0	2
C1	Whitney	APE's	83.0	5
C1	Chad	AWC	85.5	3
C1	Mark Leume	GCA	120.0	2
K1	Brad Caldwell	Nantahala Kid's Club	66.0	5
K1	Wesley Bradley	APE's	66.0	5
K1	Rick	AWC	71.9	5
K1	Steve Moore	APE's	72.8	5
K1	Todd McGinnis	GCA	73.0	5
K1	David Fox	East Tennessee	76.0	4
K1	Scott Houser	GCA	76.0	4
K1	Drew	AWC	77.2	5
K1	Andy	APE's	80.0	5
K1	Josh Cooldude	APE's	81.0	5
K1	Chuck K	AWC	81.1	4
K1	John McD	CCC	81.3	5
K1	Roger Huff	AWC	82.5	5
K1	Mike	AWC	83.0	5
K1	Nick	AWC	83.3	5
K1	JD	AWC	85.5	3
K1	Roddy Ovetsky	GCA	86.0	3
K1	Jeff Weatherford	APE's	87.0	5
K1	Spencer Muse	CCC	87.8	2
K1	Mark Holmberg	GCA	89.0	4
K1	Tom Bishop	GCA	89.0	2
K1	Ryan Shealey	APE's	89.0	5
K1	Kevin Kaiser	CCC	89.9	5
K1	Jamson Evans	APE's	101.7	2
K1	Billy Etheredge	GCA	103.0	1
K1 Jr	Evy Leibfarth	Nantahala Kid's Club	96.1	3
K1 Jr	Hunter	AWC	99.7	2
K1W	Cheska	AWC	87.4	5
K1W	Melissa Penscott	Nantahala Kid's Club	93.3	5
K1W	Pauline Thynne	GCA	94.0	1
OC1	Edward Stockman	GCA	85.5	5
OC1	David Sink	CCC	85.6	2
OC1	Chad	AWC	85.9	5
OC1	Roger Nott	GCA	87.0	5
OC1	Allen Hedden	GCA	87.8	5
OC1	Mick P	GCA	95.0	4
OC1	Chris Lasley	GCA	95.0	5
OC1	Alex Vargas	East Tennessee	96.8	3
OC1	John Holly	GCA	98.0	4
OC1	Chuck Wilburn	GCA	101.0	4
OC1	Mystery Paddler	APE's	106.0	2
OC1	Dan MacIntyre	GCA	131.0	3
OC1W	Gaby	AWC	87.2	5
OC2	Jo/Don Beyer	CCC	78.8	3
			Total Runs	192

KEEP YOUR E-MAIL 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 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, 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**.
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).

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FALL GALA

by Lisa Haskell
GCA Recreation Chair

We still have about three months until time for the GCA Fall Gala, but I know that some people like to plan ahead so this is some general advance information and will be expanded upon as we get closer to the date. Our Fall Gala this year will be held the weekend of September 16-18, 2011 and will be at the same location as our Spring Extravaganza - Smoky Mountain Meadows campground. The bath houses at SMM are very nice and they have a variety of campsites. Some of the campsites have water and electricity but not all so if you want a site with hookups please be sure to specify when you make your reservation. Also, SMM has 3 small cabins which can be rented if you aren't really fond of camping. Each person is responsible for making their own reservation. Please call SMM at (828) 488-3674 to make your lodging arrangements - be sure to tell them you are with the GCA when you make your reservation. We will try to have trips scheduled for Friday, Saturday and Sunday and will attempt to make sure that all skill levels have an appropriate trip each day. It is a bit harder to schedule a variety of trips in the Fall because the summers here are often dry and natural flow runs can be hard to find by September but we will try to provide multiple choices.

As before, everyone is responsible for their own meals with the exception of Saturday night. We plan to have a group dinner and get together on Saturday night. We will have charcoal and grills, we will ask each person to bring a meat or main dish for the grill (just enough for them) and a side dish or dessert to share. Weather permitting, we will have a group fire in the meadow adjacent to the pavilion after dinner. Be sure to bring a chair so you can join us there.

I'll have more information for you as the date gets closer but this should get you started! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me:

bkhaskell@comcast.net or at (678) 858-2012.

GCA TRIP COORDINATOR PARTNERSHIP

You know that feeling you get when you scout the drop really well from the shore, discuss it with your buds, then jump in your canoe or kayak for the run and when you get to the drop you realize you've no clue what to do? Well this is nothing like that. Take the plunge.

So you want to paddle? And you like to do trips your way? And most of what is posted ia not what you had in mind or the when just aint quite right?

I got your back. Time for you to become a GCA trip coordinator, the single most important job in the club. It is where the rubber meets the road. We will set up a trip, your way. You chose the time the place the participants the weather.... Well the weather is a stretch but I am real lucky for picking pretty days months in advance. I'll help with posting, screening, promoting, waivers, safety spiel, and I can run sweep or lead. I'll do those tasks that you want to delegate.

Canoe and kayak trips on smooth water, black water, real short lakes, class I and II and "class II with the occasional class III whitewater thrown in so I can swim" are all fine. Don't rule out canoe / kayak camping trips or kayak fishing trips. Florida, Alabama, South or North Carolina or Tennessee area trips are doable as well. This will be your trip and you get to do it your way (with my coaching and help with the leg work).

Trip coordination is fun, easy, gratifying and not stressful at all. Call me and put me to work or I'll just stay home and cut the lawn or wash the driveway. *How can you live with yourself?* Call Vincent Payne, 678-343-5292 cell.

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!

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WE'RE ON THE WEB:
www.gapaddle.com

The purpose of the GCA is to have fun and promote safety while paddling.

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.