GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION

The EDDY LINE

POST OFFICE BOX 7023 • ATLANTA, GA 30357

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March GCA Meeting

The March GCA meeting will be our annual Spring General Membership Meeting and Pot Luck Dinner. The date and time is Thursday, March 16, at 7:30 PM at the Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement in Sandy Springs. We'll provide the utinsils and drinks. You provide the food and fun! We'll all get together and share paddling stories and dreams of warmer weather. If you have a favorite video to share, call Kay Redmond (404.237.7242) to arrange for the VCR and TV.

The church is located on Highpoint Road (runs north/south), between Glenridge Road and Windsor Parkway, both of which intersect Roswell Road. From I 285 topside perimeter, take Roswell Road/Sandy Springs exit south (inside the perimeter) to Glenridge Road. Turn left on Glenridge Road and right on Highpoint. The church is on your left about one mile south.

From Buckhead, come north on Roswell Road and take a right on Windsor Parkway and a left on Highpoint. The church will be on your right. From Rte 400 north or south, take the Glenridge Connector exit (north of the toll booth, but still inside the perimeter). Turn west at the end of the ramp. Turn left on Glenridge Road (it's Johnson Ferry to the right) and immediately left on Highpoint Road (marked well). The church is on your left about one mile south.

See you there!!

Extravaganza 2000

The GCA Spring Extravaganza 2000 will be held the weekend of May 5, 6 & 7 at Diamond Lure Campground in Ellijay, Georgia. Be sure to mark your calendars. Regina at Diamond Lure has agreed to keep the prices for Saturday barbecue, camping, and Saturday & Sunday biscuits the same as last year. They will also have wood for the bonfire.

Craig from Mohawk will be bringing up demo boats again for attendees to check out on the lake or the river. Saturday night will again feature Bingo with prizes, some furnished by our friends at Mohawk.

There will also be a free, abbreviated Trip Coordinator Training Clinic held on Friday evening, May 5, 7-9 PM. No advance registration is required.

See the registration form in this issue of *The Eddy Line* for more information.

April GCA Meeting Cancelled

Due to the proximity of the scheduled meeting date to both the Spring Extravaganza and the Southeastern Championship Races, There will be no GCA Meeting in April. Look for details on the May Meeting next month.

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Who Ya Gonna Call?

The following list is provided for your convenience:

For general information about the club - Call the club telephone number, 770.421.9729, and leave a message. Someone will get back to you.

To volunteer to help with club activities - Call President Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384 or contact the committee chairperson for your area of interest.

For information on payment of dues or membership status - Call Treasurer Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

To sign up for a club trip - Call the trip coordinator at the number listed on the activity list.

To sign up to lead a club trip - Call Cruisemaster Jim Griffin at 770.498.3695.

For change of address or for *Eddy Line* subscription information - Call Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

If you didn't receive your *Eddy Line* - Call Ed Schultz at 404.266.3734.

For information on GCA clinics - Call the clinic coordinator listed on the clinic schedule, or call Training Director Gina Johnson at 770.971.1542.

For information on winter roll practice - Call Revel Freeman at 404.261.8572.

For information on placing want ads in *The Eddy Line* - Call Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318, or see "To place an ad" in the Want Ad section of *The Eddy Line*.

For information on commercial ads - Call Advertising Director Jim Kautz at 770.321.9826 or Newsletter Editor Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318.

For information on videos and books available from the GCA Library - Call GCA Librarian Rachel Gates at 404.296.2280.

Board of Directors Meetings

The Georgia Canoeing Association Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of even months (February, April, etc.) from 7:00 to 9:00 PM at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, located on Piedmont Road at the Prado, next to Piedmont Park. All members are encouraged to attend. If you have an item for discussion, please call GCA President Brannen Proctor at 770.664.7384 so he can add your item to the agenda. Attending Board meetings is a great way to become more involved with the GCA.

GCA Executive Committee

President	Brannen Proctor
Vice President	Marvine Cole
Secretary	Tom Martin
Treasurer	Ed Schultz
Member Services Chair	Rachel Gates
Recreation Chair	Jason Schnurr
Resource Development Chair	Debra Berry
River Protection Chair	Dan MacIntyre
Training Chair	Gina Johnson

Submitting *Eddy Line* Material

Deadline for material to be submitted for publication in the next *Eddy Line* is the fifth of the month, i.e., for the January issue, material should be submitted no later than December fifth. The editor must receive all articles, trip reports and want ads by the deadline or they MAY NOT be published in the next issue. To submit material via EMAIL, send to **gacanoe@mindspring.com**. The text of an article can be placed in the body of a message, and photo images can be attached to the message as attached files. To submit material via COMPUTER DISK submit articles or trip reports on a 5-1/4 or 3-1/2 inch IBM/DOS formatted disk as an ASCII text file labeled with a ".txt" file extension, or as a text file on a 3-1/2 inch high density MacIntosh formatted disk, and include a printed copy (Disks returned only if requested). To submit material via U.S. MAIL, send to: **Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Drive, Marietta, GA 30066**. All classified ads will be run for two months unless otherwise requested. Hand-written or phoned in material CANNOT be accepted. Contact Newsletter Editor **Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318** for questions. Thanks for your cooperation.

The Eddy Line (USPS 017773), published monthly, is the official newsletter of the Georgia Canoeing Association, Inc., publication address: 3060 Pharr Court North, #315, Atlanta, GA 30305. Annual subscription price of $20.00 is included in the $25.00 membership dues. Periodicals postage paid at Atlanta, GA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Eddy Line*, c/o Georgia Canoeing Association, P.O.Box 7023, Atlanta, GA 30357. READERS: Send old and new addresses and an *Eddy Line* address label. Telephone 770.421.9729.

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UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

March

1-3	Okefenokee (Note 2)	Smooth Water	Tom Payne	770.914.2428
4	Fighting Town Creek	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Hank Baudet	706.492.4318
4	Tellico (TN)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Ray Channell	404.636.5944
4	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Mike Winchester	770.319.8969
5	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Linda Delery	404.688.3047
5	Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Revel Freeman	404.261.8572
11	Broad	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jeff Engle	706.548.5015
11	Upper Amalacola	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Toebben	770.804.9416
11	Upper Chattahoochee	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Patrick Gourley	770.422.1689
11	Upper Abrams Creek	Class 3-4 Advanced	Roger Nott	770.536.6823
12	Lower Abrams Creek	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Nott	770.536.6823
16	Club Meeting — Entertainment — Fun — Episcopal Church of the Atonement — Marvine Cole			770.475.3022
18	Conasauga	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Dan & Elise MacIntyre	404.252.9513
18	Upper Chattahoochee (Note 1)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384
18	Middle Tellico (TN)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Jason Schnurr	770.422.9962
18	Edisto River (SC) (Note 3)	Smooth Water	Bill Edwards	706.321.9063
19	Four Holes Swamp (SC) (Note 3)	Smooth Water	Bill Edwards	706.321.9063
19	Upper Amicalola	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Dave Chaney	770.973.7910
19	Lower Amicalola	Class 3-4 Advanced	Charles Clark	770.998.9544
25	Hiwassee	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Pablo Murphy	770.592.4981
25	Talking Rock Creek	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Alan Reaid	770.974.4581
25	Locust Fork (AL)	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Dane White	256.820.1127
26	Cartecay	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Stacey Patterson	770.466.7538
26	Leader's Choice	Class 3-4 Advanced	Duncan Cottrell	770.720.6269

April

1	Toccoa	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Jim Griffin	770.498.3695
1	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Toebben	770.804.9416
1	Ocoee	Class 3-4 Advanced	Jimmy Nipper	770.931.1667
2	Nacoochee Hooch	Class 1-2 Trained Beginner	Tom Martin	770.662.0058
2	Nantahala	Class 2-3 Intermediate	Roger Toebben	770.804.9416
2	Chattooga Section 3-1/2	Class 3-4 Advanced	Keith Taylor	770.956.1767
2-4	Okefenokee Family Outing (Note 4)	Smooth Water	Roger Nott	770.536.6823
6	Board of Directors Meeting	Atlanta Botanical Garden	Brannen Proctor	770.664.7384

Note 1: Monthly Paddle with the Prez — Brannen Proctor.
Note 2: Two night/three day swamp trip.
Note 3: See article in this issue of *The Eddy Line*.
Note 4: Two nights in swamp. Each adult must be accompanied by child under 18.

Signing Up: Call the trip coordinator listed to sign up for trips. Call early in the week to ensure you get a spot on the trip, and in consideration for the coordinators, PLEASE aviod calling late in the evening.

Training Trips are a combination of recreation and training designed to attract those boaters who have completed a formal training clinic and would like some on-the-river time with instructors practicing what you learned in the clinic and expanding your skill level.

To Volunteer To Lead Trips: Call the Cruisemaster, Jim Griffin, at 770.498.3695. As usual, we need trip coordinators for all types of trips, from flat water to class 5 white water. 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). Your cooperation in protecting this National Wild and Scenic River is appreciated.

Roll Practice: Monday nights from 7:00-9:00 p.m. thru March at the Warren Memorial Boys & Girls Club pool near Grant Park. Contact Revel Freeman at 404.261.8572

GCA Library Items Available

The GCA Library has many videotapes and books available to any GCA member. All you have to do is call GCA Librarian Rachel Gates at 404.296.2280 to find out what is available. The cost is $3.00 per tape or book for postage and handling.

Any / all donations or loans to the library are welcome. (Please, no bootleg video copies.) Send them to:

Rachel Gates
PO Box 1485
Pine Lake, GA 30072

The following items are currently available:

Videos:

A Second Helping - A Review of Kayak Basics
Canoes by Whitesell
Cold, Wet & Alive
Faultline (Will Reeves)
First Descents (North Fork Payette)
Grace Under Pressure (learning the kayak roll)
Heads Up, River Rescue
Introduction to Canoeing
Kayak 101 (mastering the basics)
Kayak Handling - The Basic Strokes
Only Nolan (Canoe Technique)
Path of the Paddle: Quietwater
Path of the Paddle: Whitewater
Performance Sea Kayaking (the basics & beyond)
Plunge!
Prijon Wildplay Wildwasser Sport
Solo Playboating!
Take the Wild Ride
Tallulah Gorge (Rob Maxwell)
The C-1 Challenge
The Kayaker's Edge
The Open Canoe Roll (Bob Foote)
Ultimate Canoe (Niagara Gorge & Other Rivers - Whitesell)
Waterwalker (Bill Mason)
We Come to Play (Orosi)
Whitesell
Whitewater Groove

Books:

A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Florida
A Canoeing and Kayaking Guide to the Streams of Ohio, Vols I and II
ACA Canoeing & Kayaking Instructors Guide
A Hiking Guide to the Trails of Florida
Alabama Canoe Rides
AMC White Water Handbook
American Red DCross Canoeing & Kayaking
A Paddler's Guide to the Obed/Emory Watershed
Arkansas information (assorted)
Basic River Canoeing
Boundary Waters I&II
Brown's Guide to Georgia
Buyer's Guide 1993 (Canoe Magazine)
Buyer's Guide 1994 (Paddler Magazine)
Buyer's Guide 1996 (Paddler Magazine)
California Whitewater - A Guide to the Rivers
Canoe Racing (Marathon & Down River)
Canoeing Wild Rivers
Carolina Whitewater (Western Carolina)
Cruise of the Blue Flujin
Cumberland River Basic Canoe Trail Guide
Endangered Rivers & the Conservation Movement
Florida information (assorted)
Idaho Whitewater
Indiana Canoeing Guide
Kentucky Wild Rivers
Missouri Ozark Waterways
Northern Georgia Canoe Guide
Ohio County Maps & Recreational Guide
Paddle America (Guide to trips & outfitters)
Paddle to the Amazon - The World's Longest Canoe Trip
Path of the Paddle
People Protecting Rivers
Pole, paddle & Portage
River Rescue
River Safety Anthology
River's End (Stories)
Sea Kayaking Canada's West Coast
Song of the Paddle
Southeastern Whitewater
Tennessee Canoe Guide
The Georgia Conservancy Guide to the North Georgia Mouintains
The Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande
They Shoot Canoes, Don't they?
White Water Tales of Terror
White Water Trips (British Columbia & Washington)
Wildwater (Sierra Club Guide)
Wildwater West Virginia
Youghiogheny

Announcements

GCA Email List

The member response to the GCA email list has been great. We have at this printing over 285 subscribers. Thanks to Mike Kaplan and our friends at Kaplan Communications (an Internet Access Provider) for providing software and server space for the GCA email list.

Here's how the list works:

By sending an email to "gacanoe@kapcom.com" you automatically reach all subscribers to the list with the message. Anyone can use the address — it's just another email address — and all subscribers will get the email. The list is an "open list", i.e., anyone can subscribe to it mechanically by sending an email to "majordomo@kapcom.com" and on the first line of the body of the message type:

subscribe gacanoe

You will receive a verification that you are subscribed and a welcome message with instructions on how to unsubscribe and various other commands available through the service. Be sure to save this information for future reference.

All GCA announcements and forwarded email from other sources concerning new river access issues, late breaking news items of interest to the paddling community, etc., will be sent out via the GCA email list at gacanoe@kapcom.com. If you want to receive any of this information, please subscribe to the list using the above instructions. Also, don't be shy about using the list to send out or to request information about paddling related topics, rivers you're interested in, etc.

By the way, should you change or lose your email ID, please take a minute to "unsubscribe" your old ID and/or to "subscribe" your new one.

GCA Web Page

Check it out at http://www.georgiacanoe.org. We are adding information and links of value to paddlers with each update. Send your ideas for updates to Allen Sinquefield at allen.sinquefield@corp.bellsouth.net

Need an Internet Service Provider?

If you plan to sign up with an internet service provider for the first time, or if you plan to change providers, and are considering MindSpring as your choice, you can do your paddling club a big favor. When you call to sign up, tell the MindSpring sales rep you were referred by Georgia Canoeing Association and we will receive a $20.00 credit toward our monthly ISP subscription cost. You will need to give them the GCA email ID — gacanoe@mindspring.com — for us to receive the proper credit. Thanks for your help!

Weekday Paddlers

There has been good response to the request to develop a list of paddlers available to paddle during the week. We now have 70+ entries on the list, including members who are retired persons, those with variable or non-standard work schedules, those availble to paddle weekdays when school is out (students and teachers), and even those who have a lot of vacation time to burn and want to take vacation days for paddling. The list includes members who paddle smooth water as well as all classes of white water

If you would like to be included in the list, please call Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318 and leave your name, phone number, days of the week you are available to paddle, and class of water (flat, I thru V) that you are interested in paddling. You will then receive an up-to-date copy of the list. The list will be re-published quarterly (January, April, July, October). Updates are available by request through the GCA phone line. If you received your copy of the list more than 3 months ago, you should request an updated copy (the January update is out). There have been considerable changes to the list. To receive an up-to-date copy, call the GCA phone line at 770.421.9729 and leave your name and address with a request for the updated list.

Upcoming Events of Interest

March 4-5 — Mulberry Fork Canoe & Kayak Races — Garden City, AL, Registrar to be announced.
March 25 — Locust Fork White Water Classic Races — Cleveland, AL, Tim Rogers, 205.274.0006.
March 24-26 — La Lousiane Free Style Symposium — Mandeville, LA, John Steib, 225.654.5224.
March 31, April 1-2, 14-16 — ACA Kayak Instructor Certification Clinic — Wesser, NC, Bruce Williams 404.231.5642.
March 31, April 1-2 — NOC Spring Splash — NOC, Bryson City, NC, 828.488.2175.
April 6-9 — Olympic Team Trials — Ocoee White Water Center, TN, www.acecanoekayak.org.
April 7-9 — Tennessee Plateau 2000 — Wartburg, TN, 423.909.2622, info@tennesseepaddle.com.
April 14-16 — East Coast Canoe & Kayak Symposium — Charleston, SC, Charleston County Park & Recreation Commission, 843.795.4FUN, www.ccprc.com.
April 22 — Canadian Olympic Trials — Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.
April 29-30 — Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championship Races — Nantahala River, NC, David Martin, Registrar, 404.351.8208.
May 5-7 — GCA Spring Extravaganza — Diamond Lure Campground, Ellijay, Denise Colquitt, 770.854.6636.
May 13 — Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race — Lake Marion, SC, Roman Marks 843.766.3274, email canoefan@aol.com.
May 19-21 — Ocoee Rodeo, Upper Ocoee, Ocoee White Water Center, TN, Jayne Abbott (828.645.5299, email jhabbott@aol.com).
July 22-23 — Georgia State Games — LCKC, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.
August 8-12 — USCKT Sprint National Championships, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.
September 1-3 — Marathon World Championships — Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.
September 22-24 — Lanier Paddlefest — LCKC, Lake Lanier, Gainesville, GA, Connie Hagler, ConHagler@aol.com.

Winter Roll Practice

Joint GCA / AWC winter roll practice is back! It will be held on Monday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 beginning the first Monday in January, and running through the last Monday in March. Our host is the Warren Memorial Boys' and Girls' Club on Berne Street near Grant Park. Once again, the ACA carries our insurance for this event, and non-ACA members will be required to sign up for an ACA event membership at an additional cost of $5.00 for the entire event (January thru March). This is in addition to the $5.00 per session paid to defray pool rental expense. ACA members, have your ACA number available or pay for an event membership.

Revel Freeman is our Roll Practice Coordinator. If you have questions about roll practice, or would like to volunteer to help, either with instruction or keeping track of money and waivers, call Revel at 404.261.8572. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

TO GET TO THE WARREN CLUB POOL: Go east on I-20 from downtown and exit at the Boulevard / Grant Park / Cyclorama exit. Go right about 1/2 mile to Berne Street on the left (at a traffic light). Turn left and go about another 1/2 mile and you'll see a large brick building on the left at the corner of Berne and Marion Streets. Turn left. You are at the Warren Club building. The pool entrance is in the rear. Enter through the gate at the far end of the building to unload boats. Parking is available beside the building and in the lot across Marion Street.

BE SURE YOUR BOAT IS CLEAN. A hose is available at the door to rinse out river mud, old birds' nests or cobwebs.

Electronic Eddy Line Email Failures

Not getting your electronic version of *The Eddy Line*? The following email IDs had mail failure notices for the February *Electronic Eddy Line* mailing. Send any corrections or changes to Ed Schultz, 3060 Pharr Court North #315, Atlanta, GA 30305, or call Ed at 404.266.3734.

mjgrhga@bellsouth.net
bmoore@magbee.com
spstnmtn@cyberhighway.net
bartkeit@mindspring.com
cathgall@mindspring.com
dave@the-intranet.com

Members at Large Added to GCA Board

At its regular bi-monthly meeting on February 3, the GCA Board of Directors approved a recommendation from the Nominating Committee and elected six Members at Large to the GCA Board. The six new Board members are: Julia Franks, Richard Greene, Parks Higgins, Kathy King, Lindsay Meeks and Mary Ann Pruitt. These new Board members will serve a one-year term, through February, 2001.

The GCA Board is composed of the GCA Executive Committee (the four officers and five functional committee chairpersons), chairpersons of Advisory Committees, past presidents who maintain membership in the GCA, and the selected Members at Large.

At the meeting, the GCA Board also approved a request from American Whitewater to provide a mailing list of GCA members to American Whitewater for use in sending out mailings on river access issues, including Tallulah releases and Chattooga access.

The GCA Board meets on the first Thursday of even-numbered months at the Atlanta Botanical Garden near Piedmont Park. Meetings begin at 7:00 PM. All GCA members are welcome at Board meetings.

Trip Coordinator Clinic at Spring Extravaganza

A one-evening Trip Coordinator Clinic will be held Friday evening, May 5, 7:00-9:00 PM, at the GCA Spring Extravaganza. This will be a free clinic, and no advance registration is required.

If you have never coordinated a trip, this will be a great opportunity to learn the basics of being an effective trip coordinator. If you have coordinated trips before, this is an excellent opportunity to brush up on your skills.

Come up to the Extravaganza Friday afternoon, set up your tent early, and then sit in on this informative session to learn what you need to know to be a GCA trip coordinator.

Improve Your Technical Paddling Skills!

Plan to attend La Louisiane Free Style Symposium, March 24,25, & 26, 2000, in Mandeville, LA. Most folks call it La Lou, and it's one of the best technical canoe paddling clinics anywhere. Features include nationally known instructors from across the U. S., private site with lake, registration Friday night, 2 clinics on Saturday, one Sunday morning, a regional Free Style competition, great Cajun cuisine on site, Fais-do-do, on site lodging. Costs generally run about $170 per person (includes clinics, meals, and lodging).

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Call Allen Hedden 770.426.4318

For more information, contact :
John Steib
25125 Bickham Rd.
Jackson, LA 70748
Ph. 225.654.5224
E-mail : j-ssteib@worldnet.att.net

Four Holes Swamp/Edisto River (South Carolina) March 18-19

This outing will actually consist of two one-day trips. Saturday will be approximately 12.6 miles on the Edisto River, taking out at Givhans Ferry State Park. Sunday will be a four hour trip through part of Four Holes Swamp. This part of the swamp is a sanctuary in the Francis Beidler Forest and consists of 3600 acres managed by the National Audubon Society.

Sunday's trip is limited to six canoes and will be led by a naturalist from the Forest. Cost is $50.00 per person. The sanctuary contains the largest remaining virgin forest of bald cypress and tupelo gum plus a large population of song birds, reptiles, and large birds such as barred owls, wood ducks, herons and ibis. If enough people sign up for the Four Holes Swamp trip, one group can go Saturday morning, one Sunday morning.

Camping is available at Givhans Ferry State Park and motels are available nearby for about $25.00 per night. Call Bill Edwards for more details, 706.321.9063 or e-mail at mavistoo@aol.com.

The Ocoee Rodeo Needs Your Help!

by Karen V'Soske

Volunteers are needed to help stage another successful Ocoee White Water Rodeo. This year's rodeo, May 19-21, has been designated a US Team Trials event so the action/competition will be intense. It takes nearly 160 volunteers working in a variety of positions to make the rodeo a success — we need you! Jobs available include:

Timers
Scribes
Judges
Safety Boaters
Announcers
People on shore with throw ropes
People to help with the party:
- check IDs at the beer stop
- set up/tear down
- silent auction
- sell tickets

And many more.

As a rodeo volunteer, I can tell you it's fun, gives you the chance to see some of your old boating buddies and meet new ones, and it helps raise money for river conservation. Hey, what more can you ask: great people, great rodeo action, a great party, AND a great cause. To top it off, all volunteers putting in at least 4 hours get a T-shirt, free entrance to the party, and the chance to win great stuff in the volunteer-only raffle.

If you can help, please contact Karen V'Soske at Kvsoske@aol.com or call 419.877.9215. Let me know what day(s) you can work, how many hours, and if you have a job preference. I'm working with Jayne Abbot, AWA, and her stellar corps of seasoned volunteers to help with this event. Jayne sends along her thanks to all those willing to help.

Please pass this along and bring your friends to the rodeo to help.

Tennessee Plateau 2000

A New American Whitewater Festival For the Obed Wild & Scenic River April 7-9, 2000, near Wartburg, Tennessee. Visit the web site: www.tennesseepaddle.com

Come to Tennessee's Plateau in the spring and enjoy 44 miles of the Obed Wild and Scenic River system with some of the best white water and scenery in the Southeast US. The Chota Canoe Club, East Tennessee Whitewater Club and the University of Tennessee Canoe & Hiking Club invite you to come to the TP2K events. We're partnering with Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Plan-

ning, the National Parks Conservation Association and the community for a benefit for the Obed Wild and Scenic River.

We've already heard from many paddlers & clubs in the Southeast that they plan to attend. Make sure you "save the dates" now for this exciting outdoors adventure. The Festival on April 8 will be a great time to get deals and have fun!

More information About TP2K: Watch the web site for up-to-date information. You'll be able receive news about the TP2K event. To volunteer, recommend potential sponsors or for information not available at the web site, email to info@tennesseepaddle.com or call 423.909.2622.

Canoe & Kayak Orienteering Race

May 13, 2000, Lake Marion, South Carolina

Sponsor: Bosch Outdoor Club sponsors 5th canoe/kayak orienteering race.

When & Where: May 13, 2000, Lake Marion, South Carolina. Start - 1.30 PM. Exact place of the start will be announced on May 6.

Race Description: There will be 15 to 20 control points (CP) set up at the lake in the water and on the land. The lake is shallow with a lot of islands and swampy areas.

Each team will have 2 hours to find as many CP's as possible. Each CP will have a different ID code and point value. Point value depends on difficulty and distance from the start. To prove that you have found the CP, you will have to rewrite the ID code on your map.

New: Some of the CP will be submerged under the water (about 6" to 12" deep).

Team can finish the race before the 2 hour expiration, but will not be given any advantage, except in case of the tie-breaker. However, for each minute being late to finish, there will be a five point penalty.

Each team will receive the map 2 minutes before the start to study it, plan the route and transfer locations of CP from the master map on to their map.

Start will be staggered — every 2 to 3 minutes per team.

Judging: Team who collects the most points (after penalty, if applied) - WINS!! Prize to be announced.

Award Ceremony: Approximately 5 PM at the landing. Some free food, fruits and drinks will be available to participants after the race. Minimum 3 boats in the class to receive an award.

Equipment: Every team is expected to have its own paddling equipment, including approved PFD. Wearing PFD during the race is MANDATORY. Failing to do so at any time during the race will lead to IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION.

Bosch Outdoor Club has 8 open double canoes for rent — $20 per boat for participants who do not have their own boats. You will have to request it in application form.

Fees and Registration: $20 for a single boat and $35 for a double if you register before April 29. After April 29th and race day registration (from 10 am to noon) - $25 for single and $45 for double.

Event is sanctioned and approved by American Canoe Association (ACA). To participate you need proof of ACA membership or pay $5 one time membership.

Lodging: There are several campgrounds near by. You can also share hospitality of our club members, you have to list this wish on your registration form. You will receive this information in an acceptance package after you register. If all this is not acceptable, you can always go to hotels and motels in the area.

Additional Information: Call Roman Marks 843.766.3274 evenings, 843.760.7465 days, email roman.marks@us.pcm.com, canoefan@aol.com, or write 1141 Southgate Drive, Charleston, SC 29407.

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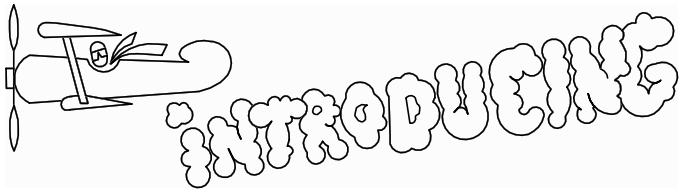


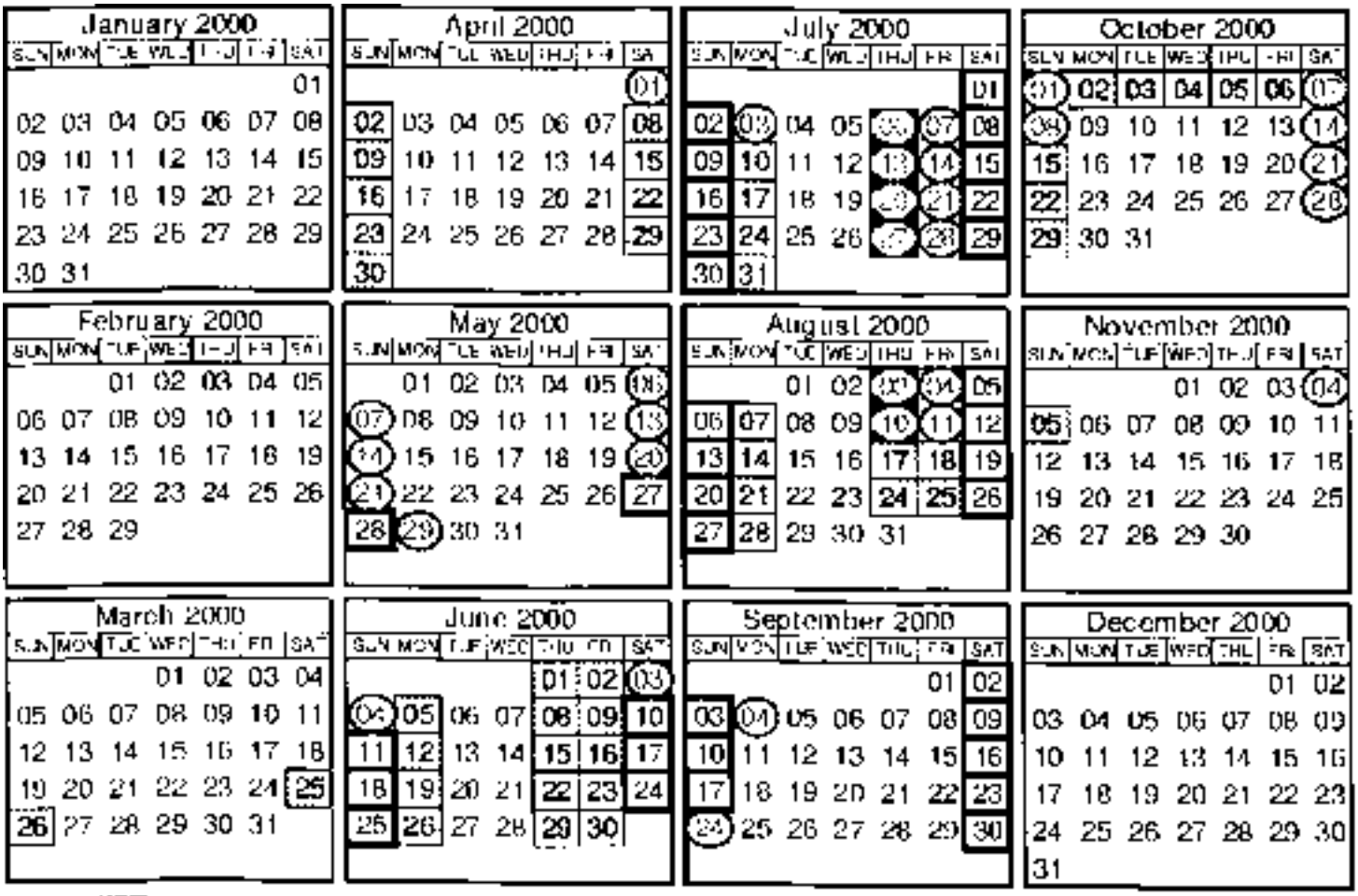
Welcome New Members

The GCA would like to welcome the following new (and nearly new) members. New members are the life blood and the future of the club. Thank you for joining us!!

November 1999

Mary Chapman	Athens GA
Nick & Charisse Fournaris	Kennesaw GA

Ocoee # 2 Recreational Release Schedule for 2000



Six hour day - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Seven hour day - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Eight hour day - 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Ten hour day - 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Suzanne Huckaby	Kennesaw GA
Michael W. & Eileen Johnson	Alpharetta GA
David & Vicki Kirkley	Lawrenceville GA
E. Banks Lanier	Powder Springs GA
Julie Line	Atlanta GA
Dave Logan & Elaine Cooke	Roswell GA
Eugene MacIntyre	Atlanta GA
Kevin T. Miller	Mauldin SC
Bradford & Charles Mix	Muscadine AL
Gerry Smith	Marietta GA
December 1999	
Keith Bordeaux	Pine Lake GA
Peggy Bresser	Lawenceville GA
David & Liz Castaldini	Gainesville GA
Craik Davis	Birmingham AL
Ed Edge	LaGrange GA
Joanne Friedrich & Walt Massey	Decatur GA
Chris Hill & Jill Scott	Buford GA
Gwen Sue Hyer	Decatur GA
Corey & Joanne Lambie	Acworth GA
James Ozaki	Atlanta GA
Tom & Holly Payne	Stockbridge GA
Russell Roy & Wanda Fuller	Atlanta GA
Melanie Spamer	Kennesaw GA
Volkmar Wochatz	Decatur GA
January 2000	
Sam Ahn	Atlanta GA
Greg Burchell	Powder Springs GA

Bruce Conover	Alpharetta GA	Leighton O'Connor	Alpharetta GA
Brett Divido	Senoia GA	Laura J. Rivers	Turtletown TN
Bruce Eure	Cumming GA	Torrey Sullivan	Gainesville GA
Jim Fortune - Rock Creek Outfitter	Chattanooga TN	Jim & Chip Tygart	Marietta GA
Denny Jenkins	Clarkesville GA	Eric Yount	Newton NC
Mike Millen & Doris Vidan	Atlanta GA	Lawson Yow	Marietta GA

River Hazards Recently Discovered

Chattooga Section 3-1/2 & 4 Hazards

A few of us paddled Section 4 this weekend and encountered a few hazards along the way:

1) There is a log in the middle part of Woodall Shoals Rapid. It is a small log, and at 1.5' (bridge) the tip of it was sticking maybe 1" above water. If you run the sneak on river right, you typically then move into an eddy in the middle of the river and run a small drop headed into an eddy towards river left. The log is below this eddy, so if you missed the eddy or flipped, it could be an issue. An alternative is to run river right from the eddy in the middle, and then ferry across to river left... you will ferry above the log, but it's a pretty simple move. I think if you get out on the big rock where you scout Woodall, you will be able to spot it if it is still there.

2) There is a tree in Stekoa Creek Rapid above the raft trap. I think this poses minimal strainer hazard since it is easily seen far in advance, and the water usually isn't extremely swift there, but it does muck with my preferred entrance to the raft trap a bit.

3) The last few weeks there have been various reports of ropes in Middle Crack, as well as a boat under the rock between Right and Middle Cracks that nobody seems to know where it went. Some people have cut some ropes out of Middle Crack this week, but who knows if they got them all or where the boat is. A lot of people are running Middle, and I haven't heard of anything bad yet, but we all walked it.

- From Billy Gray, CCC Email List.

Cartecay River

So far Terry Newlon has paddled and run into trouble at the "S" Turn. I got down and got this one cut out. Next problem is the Surfing Wave. A group of trees on river right bank at narrowest part has most of passage blocked on right. Stay far left if floating. My saw got pinched and had to leave bar and chain there but will cut more when able to get out. The cut trees will end up in the Whirlpool on right. Next area is major group of trees just above Stegall Mill. As of now you can barely go far left. After Falls narrow channel out is partly blocked with small treetop and small limbs in channel. Far left exit to bridge is blocked by a tree so make sharp right to go to bridge. Call for updates 706.635.2524 MOE. We will cut more as weather improves.

- From Jay Srymanske, MOE.

The ice storm has rendered the Cartecay impassable at a point about .5 miles down river from the covered bridge. There are 3 large trees completely across the river, one right after the other, making portage difficult and likely dangerous. The tops will need to be cut out and a big flood swing the trunks alongside the bank. There is another that I can see about 50 yards below this area, so have no idea about the rest of the river upstream or further down.

- From Dick Hurd.

Latest update on the river is all major tree falls from Lower Cartecay Bridge to Blackberry Mtn. have been dealt with. Before the details I wish to THANK!!!!!!!! everyone that has help the last few days in one of the most dangerous !!!! things that can be done. In freezing cold weather Terry Newlon, Mark Micalles, Bob Bennett, William Buckner, Billy Bell, Robby Pinson, Mark Niesler, Diane Smith and myself have cleared a path. There are a few places to watch. Below the rock garden there was a big tree all the way across. It is in a big slow pool and passage is on the left. It is a bit of a snag from brush now but passable. Next major fall was at the Surfing Wave below the "S" Turn. Five trees pulled away from the bank at the narrowest part of the river. All were cut but ended

ANNOUNCEMENT
ACA Kayak Instructor Development/Certification Workshop (flat water through white water)
March 31, April 1 -2 and April 14-16
Wesser, North Carolina
Instructor trainers:
Bruce Williams & Jimmy Holcomb
For further information, call:
Bruce Williams 404-231-5625 or 404-231-0042

up in the whirl pool on the right. Passage is possible but recovery time for roll is minimal. As of now the thing we need most is a major flush. Please call for any more info. - *From Jay Srymanske, MOE.*

All Right and All Wrong

by Charlie Pirtle

Most everyone knows that there is a right way and a wrong way to do just about everything. This example has to do with paddling the Ocoee. It took a long time for me to get on the Ocoee. Almost three years. From the first time in a Coleman 156 below Buford Dam, in September, 1996, to the Etowah & Chestatee, progressing up to the Cartecay & Upper Hooch, then on to the Tellico and Chattooga Sections III & IV.

The equipment steadily improved as the need and my skills grew. The borrowed 156 gave way immediately to a Mohawk Challenger, though a flat water boat, equipped with air bags & saddle. It was replaced with an XL-11 at the fall sale at NOC in 1997.

Through all of this, I was assisted by my good neighbor and friend, Warren Piper, and too many others to name, but many were GCA members. The GCA, which IS it's members, led me on a journey of increasing difficulty, which pressed me to grow without going in over my head (pun intended).

The numerous workshops and clinics are a Godsend for anyone with any desire to run white water. The trip coordinators are to be praised for their service to the paddling community, leading trips, giving tips, and teaching by example. Going with people who know a particular river, the undercuts, the keeper holes, the lines, etc., adds a level of safety and borrowed confidence to a first time trip. (Although I still feel a high anxiety on a first time, it soon gives way to an adrenaline rush.)

Back to the Ocoee. I felt ready for the Ocoee by the end of 1998, but then it was winter, and I was certain to swim. Then as the spring of 1999 approached, work interfered with my paddling schedule. You see, I wanted to do this just right, so I wanted to go after a couple of weekends back to back on the Upper Hooch & Nantahala so I would be in top form. Work would not allow that to happen, and by August, I could see my chance slipping away again.

Then I saw it, and I knew it was right. In *The Eddy Line* there was a trip listed for the Ocoee in August, led by Allen Hedden. I had met Allen superficially a few times, but his reputation is well known to anyone who has spent any time at all on the river. The trip was on a Thursday. The weather was beautiful. I opted to put in at the second put-in below Grumpy.

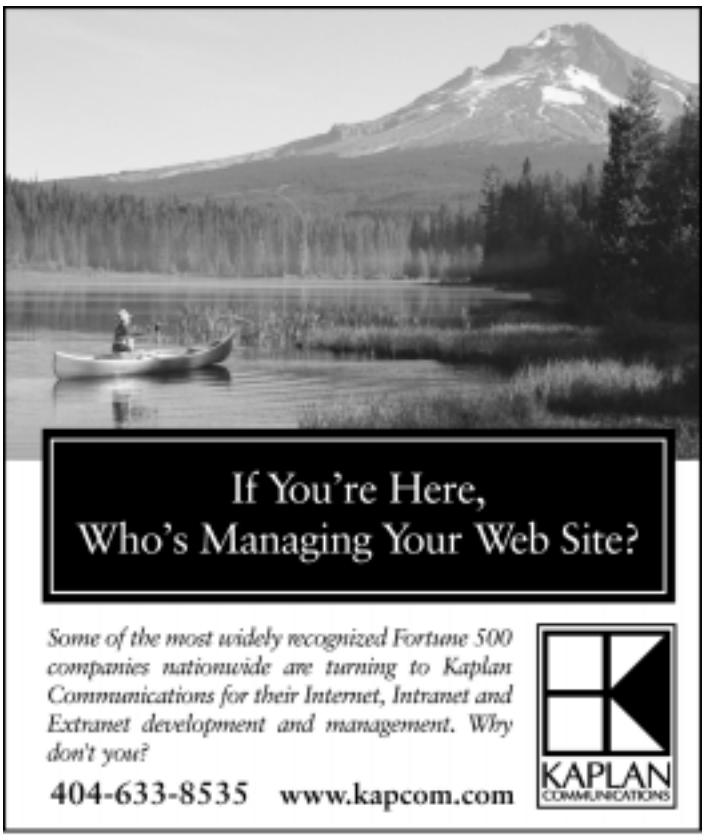
After that I stayed on Allen's wake like white on rice, following him from eddy to eddy. As I gained confidence, I even played a bit. Although the day was a memorable one I am a poor writer and can't do it justice in print. Besides, that is not the point I am trying to make. The trip was done right, and will stay in my memory for a long time. Thanks again, Allen.

Now, for how to do it all wrong.

Having had such a great time my first time on the Ocoee, I could not wait to get back. I saw another trip in *The Eddy Line* for an Ocoee trip on Labor Day. I did not know until Sunday that work would allow me to go. I didn't sign up for the trip. No problem. I would just go to the put-in and find them.

As I drove up, I realized that I didn't feel so good. Physically, I felt fine, but emotionally, pressures at work and personal problems were dragging on me. No problem. I could shake it off. Nothing a strong adrenaline rush wouldn't take care of.

When I got to the put-in, I received a wake up call. Labor Day weekend! It looked as if the whole city of Atlanta had come to the river! After about an hour of fruitless searching for the GCA trippers, I asked three kayakers, who looked vaguely familiar, (a trick played by



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INSTRUCTION

✦ Canoe Celebration • March 26 - 30, 2000
Open boats only! Sorry kayakers, but this week is reserved for canoeists only. We're offering a clinic for every level of canoeist. Taught by our veteran canoe instructors, these clinics will provide maximum fun while helping you redefine your skill level. Joining our veterans will be Eli Helbert, 1999 Open Canoe World Rodeo Champion.

✦ Steep Creek Technique
March 17 - 19 • April 21 - 23
When running steep stuff, you need the right skills. NOC's high-performance clinics, led by some of the best creek boating specialists, will help you get them!

✦ Adv Playboating • April 7 - 9, 2000
After this intense weekend spent perfecting your cartwheels, blunts, and the latest rodeo moves, you'll be the object of envy: your friends open-jawed with awe.

✦ NOC Friends & Family Program: We're offering a 20% discount to groups of 8 or more booking an entire instruction clinic. Call Noreen at ext.317 for info.

Email: programs@noc.com
www.noc.com/custom.htm

my mind that wanted so badly to see a familiar face) who, after telling me no, they were not with the GCA, (in fact they were from Texas, and had never even heard of the Ocoee, and were just passing through) that I could come along with them. They were leaving right then. From the dam put-in. O.K. Let's do it.

There was a line to put-in that was back up to the parking lot. The rafts were wall to wall. The Ocoee was the same as always, except that Grumpy didn't look all that bad from were I was. I was never to find out.

Peeling out of the put-in pool, I traveled about twenty feet before I flipped (the reason is still unclear, other than the above factors). Then as I surfaced, gasping for air, I was run over by a raft. Not just hit mind you, under the front and out the back. I thought when I finally emerged I would see the take-out. Anyway, before I got halfway to the second put-in where I had started my all right trip, I was out of the river, sans paddle, with a dime sized chunk of flesh hanging from my left thumb, blood all over me and the boat.

At first I couldn't find to source of the blood due to the shock, I didn't feel it, and was relieved to find that it was not as bad as the amount of blood led me to fear. Not being familiar with my paddling partners, I could not pick them out of the masses. I guess they could not find me either, because I never saw them again.

Trip summary:

Felt bad. Went anyway. Drove 2-1/2 hours. Got on unfamiliar class 3-4 river with strangers. 30 seconds on river. 2 minutes in river (including 10 LONG seconds under raft). 2-1/2 hour drive home (with stop for medical supplies).

Several side notes to this story:

First, a very kind lady from Dade County, Georgia, named Lois, called me a few days later having found my paddle. She returned it to me by UPS and I greatly appreciate it.

Second, another kind lady, whose name I don't know, supplied me with Neosporin and a bandaid at the take-out above the second put-in. Thank you.

Third, I read not long ago an article in *The Eddy Line* by a paddler who had been run over by a raft. He seemed to think that rafts are as maneuverable as canoes and kayaks or that they have brakes. As much as I curse rafts, I try to remember that we all have a right to be on the rivers, and that rafts don't run us over because it's fun

(although you can bet it is), but because they are very hard to exert any control over.

We are always responsible for everything that happens to us in this life. If a raft runs over me, then it was because I let it. If I had not swam, the raft could not have gotten me. If I swam due to equipment failure, then I failed to check and maintain my equipment.

See you on the river!

Instruction / Training

From the Training Chair

Paddling Gymkhana

The GCA will host the First Annual Paddling Gymkhana on April 15. This will be a day of games and paddling drills that we will hold on one of the Atlanta area lakes. It will be a wonderful opportunity to get the cobwebs out of your boat and tune up your paddling skills for the upcoming paddling season (including the soon-to-follow Spring Extravaganza and the Southeasterns).

All types of paddle craft are welcome. We hope to have a little something for everyone, from the rank beginner to the well-experienced racer-head. The focus will be on drills and games that not only hone your paddling and rescue skills, but will be a lot of FUN!!! Ever played water polo? What about tandem canoe jousting? Or a fifty yard race towing a swimmer or a boat? We'll probably do a bit of reviewing of basic maneuvers and some stroke work, run some courses set up with buoys, etc.

There will be a $10.00 per person registration fee to cover expenses. For more information, please call Gina at 404.257.3060. See you there!

Novice Open Canoe Slalom Gate Mini-Clinic

If anyone is interested in picking up a few pointers on negotiating slalom gates in an open canoe before the upcoming Southeasterns, we are scheduling an open canoe slalom gate mini-clinic for April 19 & 20 from 6 PM 'til dark at the Powers Island practice gates. We'll go over some basic principles and strategies for negotiating gates, and do some practice runs with instructors providing coaching and feedback. If we can get a decked boat instructor lined up, we will even cover kayaks and C-1s.

This clinic will be very informal. No registration is required and no fees will be charged. You can come out for either the first evening only, or for both evenings (We even scheduled it for evenings so it won't interfere with your weekend paddling). All you need to do is show up with your boat and your gear. And, no, you don't need to have a race boat to come to the clinic. Recreational / Cruising boats are very welcome. If you want to try out a race boat, there will be a couple of them there.

For questions or info, call Allen Hedden at 770.426.4318. Remember, slalom racing is arguably the best white water paddling skill builder you can undertake. Hope to see you there!

The Southeasterns Are Coming!

The GCA's biggest annual event, the Southeastern Slalom & Wild Water Championship Races, are scheduled for April 29-30, 2000, at the Nantahala River in Bryson City, North Carolina. The race is conducted with the help and support of the Nantahala Outdoor Center and the Nantahala Racing Club.

We need lots and lots of volunteers to help with various aspects of the races. Sign up sheets are included in this issue of *The Eddy Line*. Please respond quickly to ensure your choice of volunteer assignments. The Southeasterns weekend is the single biggest social event the GCA has each year. Come out and be part of the fun!

Racing is arguably the best skill building activity a paddler can undertake. In order to encourage new racers to participate in the novice / cruising classes, the race will feature slalom championship classes for both decked and open boats on Saturday, and novice / cruising classes (with less challenging gates) for both decked and open boats on Sunday.

There will be the usual wild water race, as well as a short "Fun Run" down river novice race ending above the falls, day and time to be announced. We are also considering a "Puppy Slalom" race using only the gates below the falls.

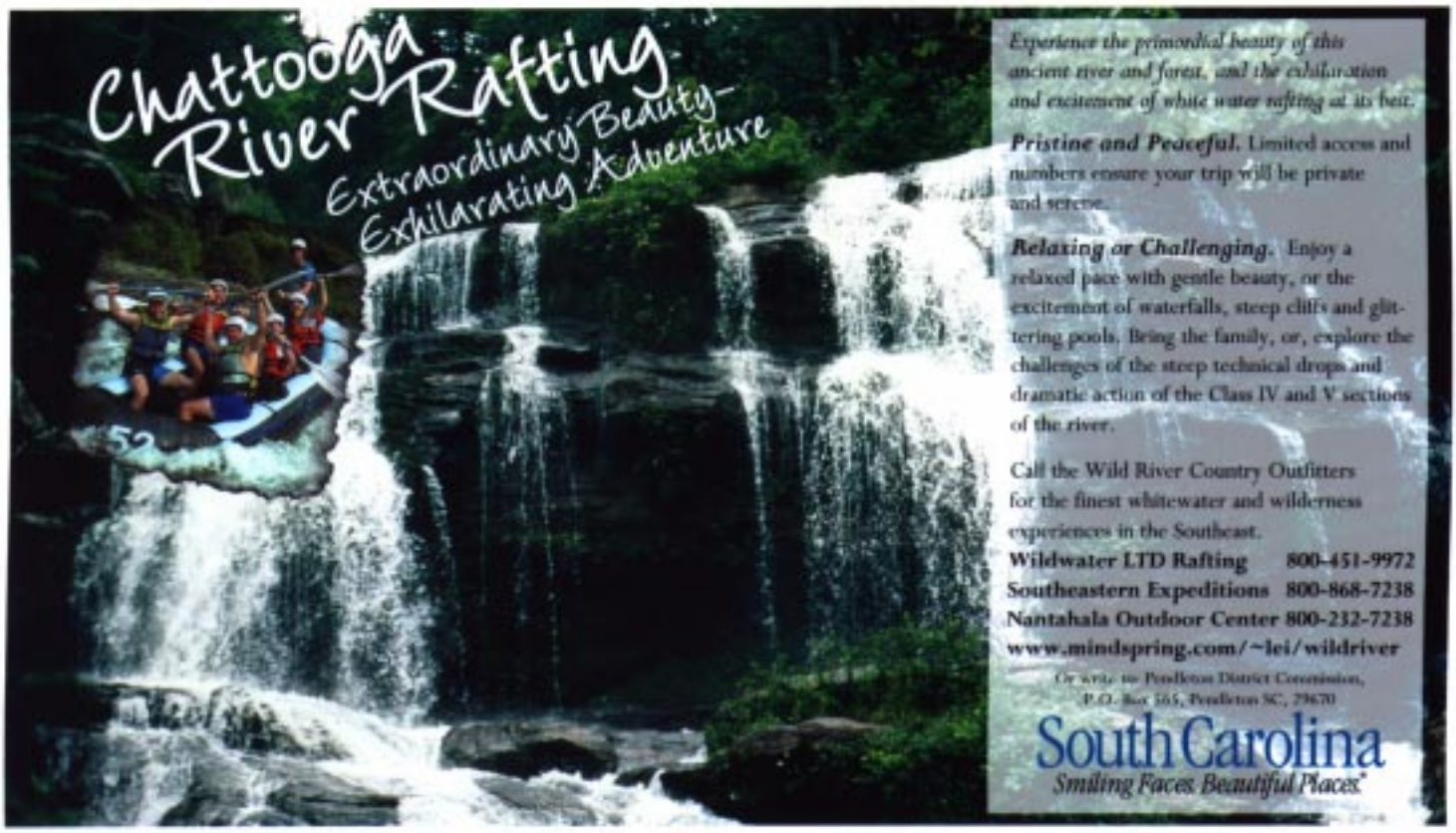
To receive a race registration packet (if you haven't raced at the Southeasterns in the past), contact registrar David Martin at 404.351.8208.

See you at the races!!

Race, Spectate or Volunteer

by Gabriella Schlidt

I just returned from the Locust Fork Invitational Races in Alabama over the weekend, where I had an absolute blast. It was my first race in several months, coming back from an injury that kept me out of my boat for a while. I was quickly reminded of just how much fun it is and how much I had missed it.



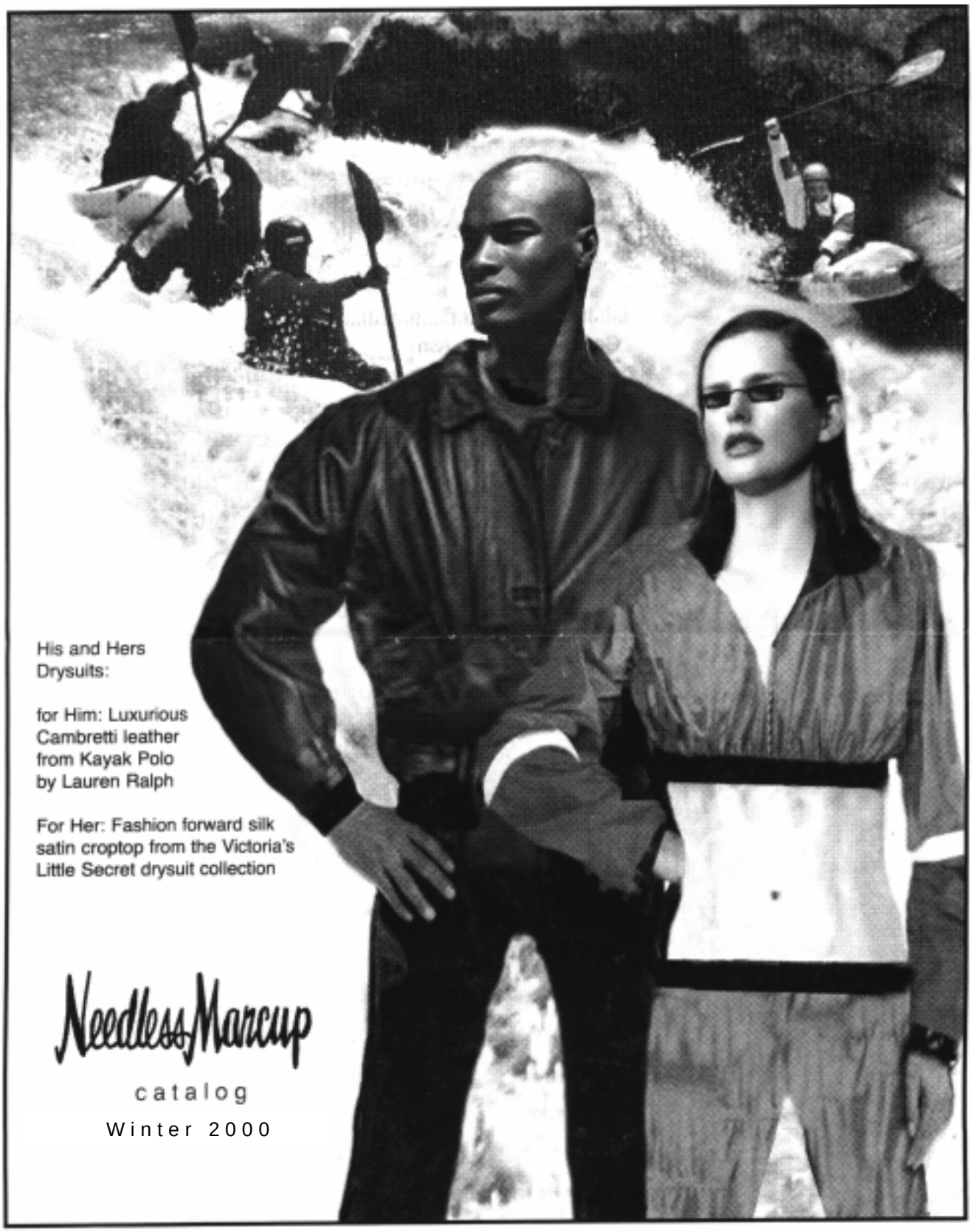
While wanting to share my enthusiasm for racing and talking to people about the sport, I have come to realize that many people have false preconceived ideas racing. "You need an expensive, fancy race boat to participate." "You have to be a really good boater to enter a race." "Racing requires a lot of practice and long, frequent work-outs." Blah, blah, blah....

You don't need a race boat to race. Almost all races have novice, cruising or recreational classes where you can enter your plastic kayak or ABS open boat. No, you don't need to be a racer head, a "hair boater" or possess extraordinary strength and stamina. To participate in the Southeasterns, you only need to be just skilled and comfortable enough to run Nantahala Falls. And for those of you who don't qualify in that regard, there's the Down River Fun Run and possibly a Puppy Slalom Race which will take place below the Falls.

It's not about making all the gates, or finishing in a remarkably short time, or being the top competitor. It's about having fun and gradually improving your paddling skills while enjoying the wonderful camaraderie that takes place among the "competitors". How do you think those really good racers you see out there became good? Every one of them was once a beginner. Every one of them had a (probably not very good) first race. And, I promise you, you'll get nothing but positive reinforcement and encouragement from the more experienced racers out there.

So, would you consider racing? Sign up for the Cruising Class at the Southeasterns in whatever type of boat you paddle — canoe, kayak or C-1. The racers are even very grateful if you come as spectators and cheer us on. This is one of the major events that GCA hosts each year. A lot of time and volunteer work goes into making is a success. So come out and race. Or come out and spectate. Or come out and volunteer. Either way, you'll profit from the experience.

Side-surfing "Papa Bear"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from Kayak Polo
by Lauren Ralph
For Her: Fashion forward silk
satin croptop from the Victoria's
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Winter 2000

River Access

Forest Fee Program Fails Bookkeeping 101

The Forest Service's fee demonstration program just failed Bookkeeping 101. The congressionally mandated pay-to-play program that began in 1997 imposes a fee on hikers, bikers, back-country skiers and other non-commercial users of public forest lands.

This week US Attorney Betty Richardson told the Forest Service her office would not prosecute people ticketed for not paying the fee because prosecutions cost "too much." She charged that the Forest Service had shifted the cost of prosecutions to her office without her agreement. Such prosecutions — similar to enforcement of parking tickets — have never been part of her budget.

A deputy US attorney in Richardson's office called the fees "unfair" because the Forest Service did not create a system that can ensure every user pays. The US attorneys drove home points raised early on in public hearings. Apparently, no one listened.

When the one and only hearing on the controversial forest fees was held in Ketchum in 1998, one of the first questions asked was, "How much will fee collection and enforcement cost?" A surprised public listened as a Forest Service spokesman said the Forest Service had done no cost projections on collection, enforcement or prosecution.

Members of the public speculated that the fees collected would not be enough to cover the costs of the program, let alone fund forest improvements. They urged forest officials and US Senator Larry Craig, who was at the hearing through the magic of a speakerphone, to do the simple arithmetic.

They didn't.

Forest Service personnel who would never think of going on a long wilderness trip without a map, went ahead and undertook the congressionally mandated fee pilot program without charting a path. The Forest Service left Richardson to shoulder her new work load alone, while it merrily spent its newly found "free money" on trail maintenance and new outhouses.

Now, forest officials are scurrying to "solve the problem" by meeting with Richardson. Richardson should quickly calculate what it will cost her office to prosecute non-payers. She should give the Forest Service a bill, along with an estimate for future services.

It's a good bet the bill, along with the cost of toll booths and fee stations that might make the system fair, will exceed the $260,000 in fees collected since 1997 when the program began.

With bill in hand, the Forest Service should declare the fee program a failure, go back to Congress, and get its funding from the proper place — from federal tax revenues.

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Response to the Latest *Eddy Line* Article on River Access

by Jay Srymanske, M.O.E.

One issue was the Cartecay River. There is and always has been public access on Highway 52. The Lower Cartecay access has been an issue of ownership. As in other cases, ownership is the factor of what can be done and what not. As to the take-out at the DNR Management Area, great strides have been made in the last few years. Last year was the first time that the take-out was open year round after being closed during hunting season (best time to paddle). One thing at issue also was the climb out at the DNR take-out. As of now plans are underway for Roy Srymanske to help organize and get volunteers to build a step take-out for his Eagle Scout project there. Railroad ties, riprap, fencing, and some other materials to be provided. A back hoe is a maybe and an operator also iffy. As of now it is scheduled for the second weekend in June. If a back hoe can be secured or operators available, it will help the cause. Any help would also be a major plus.

After 15 years involvement in river access and usage, I wish to thank those who find our services and events at Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions and River Right Outfitters fun, safe, and worth it. There is always more going on than just unloading, putting on and paddling.

Letters

The following letter was received from DNR Commissioner Lonice Barrett in response to the letter published last month from Dan MacIntyre to Mr. Barrett's office. GCA members are encouraged to write Commissioner Barrett and Governor Barnes and let them know of their support for this program to provide boat launch areas and access improvements where access problems exist on Georgia's rivers.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

205 Butler St. S.E. , East Floyd Tower. Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Lonice C. Barrett, Commissioner
(404) 656-3500

January 31, 2000

Mr Dan MacIntyre
One Midtown Plaza, Suite 1100
1360 Peachtree Street. N.E.
Atlanta. Georgia 30309-3214

Dear Dan

Please forgive this lengthy delay in responding to your letter to me. but I do want you to know that I appreciated your providing me the information on where you all would like to see more launch ramps and other access improvements.

I am sharing this information with our Wildlife Resources Division staff as well as with our Real Estate Unit who is involved in our efforts to support both Governor Barnes Chattahoochee River Campaign as well as the new Green Space Program he has proposed.

This is some good insight, and we will use this information as a point of reference as we continue efforts to purchase land throughout the State.

Warmest Regards,

Lonice

Lonice Barrett

Nantahala River Leaders Choice

by Tony Colquitt

2/5/00. The Nantahala River on February 5th! Are you crazy? The best you can hope for is a blistering 32 degrees. The Sun will hide its face from you and the owners of the NOC will find you at the bottom of the falls frozen to your boat like a sick looking Popsicle.

But this was all false. Three, including myself, enjoyed the wonders of snow and ice. Our brave group consisted of Halle Henderson, OC-1, Patrick Gourley, K-1 and me, Tony Colquitt, K-1.

The mountain side, clear of leaves, showed the white grip of snow, and the rocks looked like a matrix of ice. We started our trip above Patton's and looked forward to what the day would bring. And we received more than I expected.

The air was cold, as was the river, but it was sunny with very little wind to chill the bones. We found the river mostly empty, since only a few others braved the weather. It was great that Patrick Gourley was willing to lead, as I found it hard at times to keep my mind on the river and not on the scenery that abounded. We made our trip with no problems and Halle had a great first run on the falls with her Ocoee (OC-1).

To close this, I would like to thank both Patrick and Halle for allowing me to have such a memorable trip.

West Chickamauga Creek

by Dan Roper

December 6, 1998. One of the pleasures and responsibilities of leading GCA trips is the preparation of the report for *The Eddy Line*. For me, this task usually entails promptly sitting down with pen and paper, the trip roster, photographs, and a map and getting it done before the laws of nature (gravity, entropy and age being most applicable) disperse these items and dim my memory. Unfortunately, several home renovation projects hindered preparation of the report of my December of 1998 trip on West Chickamauga Creek. The trip materials eventually became hopelessly scattered so that I might stumble across the photographs at one point and the roster at another, but never both at the same time.

Finally, dismayed by the realization that I would not even be able to submit the report in the same millennium as that in which the trip occurred, I embarked upon extensive archaeological work in my house and eventually located the artifacts necessary to compile this report.

This trip began at historic and newly renovated Lee & Gordon's Mills just south of Chickamauga battlefield. Frank Pierce, the owner, graciously gave us permission to use this facility (and tour the mill itself) even though he had a black-tie dinner on the grounds that evening. Later that evening, while running the post-trip shuttle, several of us disheveled, canoeing-attire clad paddlers mingled with this crowd while retrieving our gear. They seemed surprised to learn that the creek is navigable and were very interested in hearing about our trip. Mr. Pierce and Lee & Gordon's Mills, by the way, are featured in an article in the Winter, 1999, issue of North Georgia Journal magazine.

Sheila Small and her bow-mounted Christmas tree negotiated the dead falls and shoals of West Chickamauga without incident.

The West Chickamauga Creek put-in at Lee & Gordon's Mills.

Front to rear: Tom Burns, Connie Venuso, Pat Powers (what sort of craft is that?) and Marion Webb on West Chickamauga.

With admirers looking on, Butch Horn gracefully paddles the placid waters of West Chickamauga.

We floated an 11-mile stretch of the creek to Reed's Bridge. This portion of the creek flows north and forms much of the eastern boundary of Chickamauga Battlefield Park. It has no rapids to speak of, but an epidemic number of dead falls. At higher water levels the strong current would make this section hazardous, but this trip occurred during "the fall that never ended" and the water level was low. Consequently, the dead falls were nothing more than an exhausting series of obstacles that plagued us throughout the day.

By the end of the afternoon, I'm sure that most of my companions were thoroughly worn out and vowing never to repeat this particular trip, but all none-the-less maintained their good humor and insisted that they had enjoyed the outing.

Log jams were not our only obstacle. About three-quarters of the way downstream we found several members of a herd of cattle blocking our way. I'm not sure which group — us or the cows — were more surprised, but the bovines allowed us to thread our way through their midst unmolested.

Elizabeth Carter negotiates the biggest drop on the West Chickamauga.

A mile further downstream the creek borders a golf course. We saw many golf balls on the creek bottom and embedded about head high in the steep, muddy creek bank. None of us liked the thought of being hit head-on and I, for one, bent as low as I could and paddled hard until we had passed safely by.

If my records are accurate and my memory serves me, those who accompanied me were Dr. Pat McGivaren (he and I in an OC-2), Sheila Small (who had decorated the bow seat of her canoe with a Christmas tree), Elizabeth Carter, Butch Horn, Marion Webb, Connie Venuso, Tom Burns, Charlie McCoy (all in OC-1s) and Pat Powers (in some sort of decked craft).

Dr. Pat McGivaren (a veterinarian, appropriately enough) contemplates the business end of a bovine.

Silver River — Silver Springs, Florida

by Morris Friedman

The Silver River is located in the Ocala National Forest about 7 miles east of Ocala, Florida. You can launch from the boat ramp off State Road 40 at the park on the southwest side of Delks Bluff Bridge. This is the river that flows from the famous Silver Springs, which provides 550 million gallons a day of 99.8 percent pure artesian spring water. Silver Springs has a long history.

Timucuan Indians inhabited the area around the springs as early as the 1500's. They called the springs Ocali. The Spaniards, led by Hernando De Soto, invaded looking for treasures, and were ultimately repelled by the Timucuans. Other Indian tribes, especially the Seminoles, occupied this land until moved by the Federal Government to western reservations in 1835.

As early as 1835, barges traveled up the Silver River carrying cotton, lumber and other goods. Today thousands of tourists come to Silver Springs Park to ride on glass bottom boats to view the underwater magic of the crystal clear waters. The springs are the site of the original "Tarzan" movies and descendants of the monkeys used in the films still inhabit the area.

You enter a straight channel from the boat launch which takes you to the entrance of Silver Springs State Park. Turning right takes you 4 miles upstream to the springs. Turning left and a 1/4 mile float takes you to the Ocklawaha, of which the Silver River is it's major tributary. Paddling against a 7 m.p.h. current requires many rest stops and about 3-1/2 hours to reach the springs area. Sadly, paddling into the main springs area is prohibited by the concessionaires, however, the water, flora and fauna make the trip well worth it. *[I've done this trip several times, but not in the past couple of years. I've always been able to paddle into the main springs area — just not allowed to land. Unless something drastic has changed, Florida has some pretty good river access laws that allow a right of passage, just not the right to land on private property. - Editor.]*

Our paddlers were immediately impressed with the clarity of the water, which allows you to view the bottom continuously as you paddle. Anhingas, sunning themselves along with great snowy egrets, were perched on the branches of trees along the banks. Great blue herons and white ibis fished among the hyacinths, while large turtles showed little interest as we paddled by. Cypress and palm trees were in abundance. Bromeliads, "air plants", grew on the bark of moss laden trees. The protected Atlantic sturgeon, a large, snout nose, ridged-back fish, surfaced for floating insects.

The return trip is a leisurely float with small correcting strokes. A mature hardwood forest provides a haven for an abundance of wildlife. Start early in the morning to avoid motorized boat traffic which is allowed on this section. This is easily one of the most beautiful paddles in Florida.

Snow Jam 2000 on the Nantahala

by Charlie Pirtle

Imagine, if you will, the Nantahala running strong with no raft traffic. Then imagine that your group of three amounts to about a third of all the boats on the river. All day. Imagine having Surfing Wave or the Falls all to yourself for as long as you wanted! Sound like the fever dream of an aquaholic stuck inside for the winter?

The date was January 22, 2000. The trip had been planned for over two weeks. There were layers of polypropylene, capiline, neoprene and wool. A little snow was not going to keep the three OC-1s off the river this day.

Cameron Pach, in a Mad River Outrage, his brother, Neal Pach, in a Mohawk Rogue, and Charlie Pirtle in an XL-11, put in at the DNR with all intent of making a fast, dry and safe run. Well, two out of three ain't bad.

I never heard the exact temperature, but it was cold enough that I gave up the fingerless wool gloves at the put in for a pair with fingers. But, being a positive person, I soon forgot about the cold and got excited about the adventure that lay ahead. Then I noticed that there were no rafts on the river!

Then the cold hit me again. Not actually the cold, but the fear of the icy water and the acute awareness of the importance of staying out of it.

Other than an exceptionally strong adrenaline rush, brought on by the aforementioned realizations, Patton's Run was uneventful. A light, dry snow was falling, covering paddlers and air bags with a coat of fluff that actually made me feel warmer. This quickly went away when the first waves came over the bow. The fluff instantly turned to slush, which then turned to a glaze. It also put enough water in the boat to set off another interesting experience.

Searing pain from water that would be solid if not for the friction of it's down hill motion. Mere bailing or pumping would not do. We eddied often to dump the boats and to get warm blood to our feet and toes. We soon learned to find a drier line than usual (AKA chicken route) sometimes. As we raced by the unoccupied Surfing Wave, the memory of summertime swims while trying to get a

ride on it brought a fresh chill up my spine.

The Rocky Waters Campground was conspicuously deserted. Too cold for camping!

The river claimed it's first victim at Whirlpool. For the first time in a couple of thousand years, man has witnessed someone walking on water. However, water walking, dumping, and vigorous paddling for the next twenty minutes was not enough to overcome the chilly grip of the water, and Cameron wisely heeded the early but fast approaching signs of hypothermia and got off of the river to hitch a ride to his vehicle.

Here I must pause to say many thanks to the to the River Angel (an NOC staffer) for stopping and rendering aid by tying Cameron's OC-1 on top of her van and delivering him to warmth and safety.

By this time the cold was beginning to wear on the two of us that remained. The snow had turned wet, clumpy, and thick. The XL-11, normally a very nimble boat, felt as if it were made of lead. The snow clung to my glasses and frost formed on the inside from my labored breath.

The next swim occurred just above the take-out above the falls. Neil's OC-1 Mohawk went over in the shoals for unknown reasons, but the results were obvious. The shoals there are wide, shallow and fast. No eddies. This resulted in an extended swim, for the best part of a minute. At this point, Neil was only three hundred yards from the take-out and car. (Did I mention that the parking was great?)

I desired more than ever to stay dry, but the river was a bizarre, twisted, surrealistic vision of itself. As I sailed past Truck Stop, it occurred to me that I usually stop there to bail and set up my line for the Falls. Today I would do neither. As the boat repeatedly thwarted my efforts to stop lurching to the right, I hit a rock, spun around and went through the Falls backwards on a high brace, with my face in the glaze on the air bag.

Someone was yelling out loud, JUST STAY UP-RIGHT! JUST STAY UPRIGHT! As I caught an eddy, I realized that it had been me. I looked up to see Neal make a safe, clean run of the falls, then jumped out to dump. I made it! Then I slipped on the icy rocks and went in to were it hurts.

At the take-out, there was six to eight inches of snow on the ground. We left the boats at rivers edge and raced for dry clothes. There was no waiting at the dressing rooms. Upon returning, we found ice in the bottom of Neal's canoe, and the paddles were hidden under a blanket of snow.

At last, in the warmth and safety of our vehicles, we headed home. Safety? Did I mention the snow? The snow that was such a novelty on the ground, in the air and on the boats, was also covering the roads. We were lucky to get in right behind a snow plow all the way to the put-in and my truck. Cameron and Neil had planned to camp nearby that night. Indeed, Neal had camped the night before and the camp site was set up.

They invited me to stay to avoid the treacherous drive home, but soon realized that it was only going to get worse. Now was the time to go or we might be here for several days. Totally unaware of the magnitude of the storm, I am thinking, "O.K., Fine. We can ease on down out of the mountains and by the time we get back to Georgia, the roads should be clear." Little did I know, the ice & snow extended all the way to home in Tucker, 170 miles away.

Slipping, sliding, crawling. Cringing as four wheel drives, piloted by fools with no idea of the product of 4 x 0 try to pass us and the snow plows. Sometimes successfully, sometimes not. Stopping often to break the ice off of the windshield wipers or to call home to report on our status.

A great time was had by all, and as Neal put it while still on the river, "This is great, I wouldn't miss it for the world!"

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January 1, 2000, Cartecay River Chili Run

by Jay Srymanske

What started out as a warm but possibly drizzly day cleared to a wonderful spring-like day for paddlers of the 14th Annual Cartecay River Chili Run. Paddlers from throughout Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, and one fella from Chicago gathered at Mountaintown Outdoor Expeditions and River Right Outfitters for fun, food, and fellowship.

With drought conditions still maintaining a firm grip on North Georgia, the river level was low but still passable. As folks launched a variety of crafts (canoes, even a beautiful stripper, kayaks, sit on tops, and inflatables) one could see water level and Y2K were not worth worrying about. Having a good time was on top of everyone's agenda. As in the past, everyone put in with groups of friends and enjoyed their trip with the celebrated Beringer New Year's toast with cheer and memories of past trips.

Every year more folks that live on the river are coming out to enjoy the fun and watch the party floaters. Once again Bob and Marilyn served hot cider at their cabin in Canoe House to warm everyone.

While paddlers were enjoying the river, the chili part of the day was under way. Twenty-four entries were submitted for the Chili Cook-off and a variety of covered dishes and desserts rounded out a great table for all to enjoy. As in the past, it was tough for our judges to decide who made the best chili, but our board of tasters prevailed.

This year's winner for best chili was "Bear Ball Chili" entered by River's Edge residents Edward and Kathy Renzi and Bettye Denson. The best hot chili was made by John Woodruff, who was also representing Dagger boats. John brought a number of new demo boats for everyone to check out and catch the latest and hottest models and designs.

This year a most unique category was added due to the unusual variety of chili entered. Marty Pope took honors with a shrimp and fish entry. Prizes were awarded to the top cooks.

Thanks to everyone who came to enjoy the day and John Woodruff of Dagger and Northwest River Supplies for all they did to help sponsor the event. Plan now for the 15th Cartecay River Chili Run and Cook-off where there is no finer place than MOE and no better way to start the New Year with the dip of a paddle and the dip of a spoon!

A special thanks to Tom Burke of Kinetic Pictures for once again filming this years event. For those who saw last year's video, you know it was filled with lots of people doing what they enjoy. For info contact Tom at KineticPictures@mindspring.com.

Wishing everyone the best paddling in 2000!

2000 Chili Cook Off winners with "Bear Ball" Chili — left to right: Jay Srymanske, Edward Renzi, Bettye Denson, Kathy Renzi.

Jay & Roy Srymanske on the river.

The Annual Beringer New Year's toast.

Travel Directions & Tips

Canoeing in La Huasteca Potosina, Mexico

by William C. Reeves (The Hawk)

We have suffered a dearth of water in the Southeast this year. So, to begin the millennium, Will, Tommy Price, Brian Postalwaite, and I decided to try the white water in Mexico. We made a good choice! Don't let the thought of driving to Mexico daunt you. La Huasteca Potosina region of San Luis Potosi has at least seven good white water runs within 40 miles of Ciudad Valles, which is within two days drive of Atlanta.

Thus, traveling to Valles and doing local rivers requires less time than equivalent trips to New Mexico, Colorado, or Utah. More important, you can't boat Western US white water between November and March, while temperatures in Mexico during these months range from 60^0 at night to 85^0 during the day and water is $70\text{-}80^0$. Finally, paddling in Mexico is cheap, we spent about $300 each for an 8-day trip.

Well then why not do it? For starters (even though they won't admit it) too many people have no experience with foreign travel and are intimidated with the concept of driving through Mexico. Second, few good sources exist describing white water runs in Mexico. To obviate these excuses I have written two articles. This one chronicles directions and travel tips to get to the AO in Mexico. The second provides details on rivers in La Huasteca Potosina.

The actual tropic of cancer with Brian Postalwait sitting on it, Will Reeves and Tommy Price to the side. This is the actual tropic of cancer. I think the thin line that circles the globe (you can see it on maps) is stored spooled up inside the sphere.

Travel directions are simple. It's about 17 hours from Atlanta to Brownsville, Texas, all of it on 70 mph interstates. Take I-85 from Atlanta to Montgomery, I-65 to Mobile, then I-10 through Baton Rouge to Houston. In Houston take US 59 (soon to be I-69) south to Brownsville. If you get started late in the morning, Corpus Christi is a nice first-night stop (about 2 hours out of Brownsville).

In Mexico, just take the interstate to Ciudad Valles. Well, it's not quite that simple. Start off on Highway 101 and drive about 5 hours from Matamoros to Ciudad Victoria. There is no need to go into Victoria, unless you're spending the night. At the outskirts you will see signs indicating Highway 85 to Monterrey / San Luis Potosi, take it towards San Luis Potosi and stay on Highway 85 for about 300 Kliks (3-hours) all the way to Valles.

The first large intermediate town is Mante, and signs just past Victoria will indicate 85 Tampico/Mante. Before reaching Mante, you will cross the Tropic of Cancer and Highway 81 will diverge left to Tampico. Stay on 85 towards Mante. At about Km 159 you will pass through the small town of Felipe Angeles, your first chance to buy fresh tropical fruit. If you've never had fresh bananas, buy a hand (they are good for diarrhea). Try some sugar cane or mangos too.

About two hours after leaving Victoria you will pass around Mante and its large sugar cane processing plant. About a mile past Mante you will encounter a T-intersection (left goes to Tampico), stay right on 85 to Valles. In another hour or so you'll be in Valles.

There are several hotels, but I recommend the Quinta Mar. A room for four costs 432 pesos and they accept plastic. Rooms are US quality, some employees speak English, enclosed guarded parking is available, and there's a restaurant. To get to the Quinta Mar, just after entering Valles and passing under the railroad bridge, turn right on Highway 70 at the Pemex station (towards San Luis Potosi). Quinta Mar is several blocks down and on the left ("you can't miss it").

Well the directions appear straightforward enough, but there's more to it than just jumping in your car and driving for two days. Remember these two points (you will be tested on them later). 1) You don't just go into Mexico, 2) You don't just leave Mexico. Plan on spending 2 to 4 intense hours in Brownsville / Matamoros preparing and crossing the border.

First off, you'll need automobile insurance, since most US policies do not provide coverage in Mexico. Apparently AAA handles Mexican insurance. So, if you're a member check into it. I have always used Sanborn's. It's one of the oldest and most reputable companies, and if you contact them in advance they will prepare a detailed set

of directions and maps specific to your trip. They will also provide information and advice as to current procedures for crossing the border. Address: Sanborn's, PO Box 310 McAllen, TX 78505-0310. Phone: 800.222.0158. Web site: sanbornsinsurance.com. To get to the Sanborn's office in Brownsville, take the Boca Chica exit, go left about two blocks. It's across the street from Wieners and Pep Boys.

Why sweat insurance? After all it's just Mexico! In Mexico, when an automobile accident happens (especially if anyone is hurt) everyone involved goes to jail. Insurance gets you out of jail.

One other little tidbit concerning your car. You must have current registration and title on your person and the registered owner must accompany the car or Mexican authorities will not let you enter. How do I know this? Tommy's van was in his wife's maiden name and she was in Atlanta. Bad gris gris.

There is, of course, a way around even the most unsolvable problems in Latin America. Sanborn's recommended we call Mario at the M.C. Agency, 265 E 12th Street (by the Brownsville Greyhound station). Indeed Sanborn's called him for us. Mario is a Customs Broker / Expediter and for $160.00 cash he filled out and processed the appropriate paper work and got us through.

No documentation whatsoever is required for your boats. But to be safe, don't bring more than one each.

Two other things before launching over the International Bridge. Get your last fill-up with US gas (it's no longer any cheaper in Mexico) and get Mexican money (you'll need it as soon as you begin to deal with Mexican border officials). There are numerous gas stations and Casas de Cambio on the main street leading to the border.

Now then you're ready to cross. Passports are not required, but it never hurts to have one on you. A driver's license is really all you need, and even if you have a passport, border officials will insist on seeing your driver's license anyway. Also, the registered owner of the car will need to have a major credit card (in his/her name) to post bond on the car (i.e., to prevent you from selling it in Mexico).

Cross the International Bridge (pay toll on US side). In Mexico take an immediate right into the fenced parking lot behind the customs building. Ignore the people who will more than likely be gesturing for you to stay on the main road. Park alongside one of the tables and go into the building.

You are now in Mexico. Do you, or does anyone with you, speak Spanish? It's not absolutely vital, but it helps a lot. You first need to obtain a tourist card and have your car papers checked. Enter the building, turn left and go through the glass doors to a desk off to the right. Hopefully, there will not be a line.

Even in the best of circumstances, be prepared for a slow laborious process orchestrated by a career Mexican government bureaucrat. He will charge 160 pesos to issue a Tourist Card. Interestingly, in spite of the fact that he must collect this amount from everyone he sees 8 hours a day, 6 days a week, he will be unable to provide change. Indeed, he will appear astounded to even be asked.

Once papers are issued, proceed to your right to a counter staffed by approximately 6 uniformed officials who will review and discuss your paperwork, then stamp your tourist card and passport. Then, go back through the door to the adjoining office and queue up at the windows immediately to the right where you will obtain a permit for your car. This can take between 5 and 60 minutes.

At this point the registered owner provides a credit card (remember it must be in his/her name), which serves to guarantee bond that the car will be returned to the US and not sold in Mexico. In addition, $1.00 (American) will be collected for some reason that was not well articulated to us. Finally, with all papers in hand, return to your car and present them to a uniformed official who affixes a silver decal to the windshield and checks your car for contraband (a 20 peso tip will greatly expedite the search).

Then you're on your way. Well, not really. Remember, you don't just drive into Mexico. Keep those documents handy because about 20 Kliks out of Matamoros lurks another checkpoint to catch undocumented aliens. Here you must stop, provide all paperwork for review by a team of 6 to 10 uniformed officials, and potentially submit to a complete search of your vehicle. We had all four boats on Brian's car and had to transfer two to Tommy's. Why? Not because it's illegal to have four boats on one vehicle but because, according to the inspector, a

This is one of the few pictures I have of Will swimming. It was taken at the base of Luminosa falls on the Salto River.

car cannot have more boats on its roof than the number of passengers inside. Even Cheech and Chong could not parody this group of officials (it's more difficult to write fiction than non-fiction because fiction must be believable).

Well, now you're finally on your way, but keep those papers handy because you will encounter at least three additional military checkpoints before reaching Valles. When you come to a military checkpoint, STOP! Pay attention to hand signals, smile, be courteous. The Mexican authorities are extremely serious about drugs and weapons. Don't bring any! Don't even have loose ammunition rolling around in your car.

Other than these official hassles, driving logistics in Mexico are straightforward, albeit somewhat different than Georgia. There is only one gasoline dealer, Pemex, stations are not as numerous as in the US, they are not self-serve, and they don't take plastic money. If you see a Pemex station and are uncertain if sufficient gas remains in your tank, then stop and fill-up. Pemex gasoline is unleaded, and we used 87 octane Magna (lleno con el verde).

Speed and distance are in kilometers (Kliks or Km); 100 KMH means 60 MPH, 80 KMH (on secondary roads) means 50 MPH, 60 KMH (in towns) means 35 MPH. Obey the speed limits because traffic cops (Federales) run speed traps. Roads are incredibly well signed, which makes up for poor maps.

Finally, the Tourist Bureau maintains a fleet of green trucks, Green Angels, that patrol major highways just to help stranded tourists. The drivers speak English, carry extra gas, fix tires, provide mechanical service, and will tow if necessary. Service is free (except parts and gas).

We saw four of them each time we drove between Victoria and Matamoros. What about actually driving in Mexico? It ain't like Georgia. One guidebook describes it as more freeform. Mejor dicho, en Mexico se maneja con los huevos palante.

The main interstate between Matamoros and Victoria (Highway 101) has the equivalent of three lanes. Stay to the right except to pass. Everything else you'll drive on is two lanes. Although quite well maintained, Mexican highways have no shoulders. This is important, so I'll repeat it. Mexican highways have no shoulders (or guard rails or medians) and they often drop off 5' or so. Incredibly large trucks use all of the roads. By huge I mean 34 wheel double-trailer rigs.

Horses, burros, cattle, pigs and goats graze alongside the road, and are often tethered. If you're not used to it, try to avoid much night driving (i.e., if you're a typical Atlanta snow driver, don't drive at night in Mexico).

All that having been said, during our week in Mexico, we saw no wrecks and had no close calls (contrast that to a day in Atlanta). The roads are well maintained, and as I noted, incredibly well signed. Almost every Km is marked, all major junctions note the highway and the subsequent major towns.

Virtually every dangerous situation is also signed (often multiple times). Of course the signs are in Spanish. Some important ones to know include:

Curva Peligrosa a ___ Mt. — Dangerous Curve __ Meters. Disminuya su Velocidad — Slow Down, Mantengase Alerta Camino Sinuoso — Stay Alert Winding Road, No Rebase — Don't Pass, Puente Angosto — Narrow Bridge (i.e., one way), Cruce de Peatones — Pedestrian Crossing, Cruce de Ferrocarril — Rail Road Crossing (they have no semaphores). Bring along a Spanish dictionary so whoever rides shotgun can translate on the fly.

With driving down pat, eating and sleeping pose no major problems in the larger towns. Of course menus are in Spanish, so you may not have a clue what you're ordering. If you are late getting across the border, there are good hotels in both Victoria and Mante (we spent the night in Victoria).

I'd avoid spending the night in Matamoros. It is a squalid, depressing border town, which lacks the pristine charm of say T.J. Every town has stalls selling cerveza, fruit, bread, carne asada, etc. and the larger towns have quite good restaurants. Food and lodging are incredibly cheap. Once you get outside the border towns, Mexico is charming. The countryside is almost tropical and the people are genuinely friendly and helpful.

No discussion of travel to Mexico would be complete without mention of health, especially when written by an epidemiologist with expertise in tropical medicine. Aside from diarrhea (which you're going to get) there are no particular risks in northern Mexico.

You should make certain that your normal vaccinations are up to date (DPT, measles/mumps/rubella, and polio) and it wouldn't hurt to get immunizations against hepatitis A, typhoid, meningitis, and pneumonia. Dengue fever is now established in Mexico and has reached Brownsville on occasion, and cases of malaria occur sporadically. Check the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention web page (www.cdc.gov/travel) for the most current health related information.

Finally, if you do get sick within a couple months following a trip to Mexico (or any semitropical area), make certain to tell your physician where you traveled.

One last comment. Any extended paddling trip to

A telephoto shot of Brian Postalwaite running Luminosa. Combined with the picture of Will, they illustrate that the rivers are "interesting" and should challenge most people who choose to run them.

Mexico (by extended I mean more than one day) requires somewhat more planning than say a trip to the Obed because there are no outfitter stores, sporting goods stores or anything even vaguely resembling them in rural Mexico. If you break your paddle or lose your spray skirt, you will not be able to buy a new one. Bring extras and bring repair kits. Don't forget, even in the semitropics, water gets cold, especially down in canyons. We all wore light polypro under dry tops and paddling pants.

Also consider your abilities and those of your group. The rivers I will describe in the continuation article next month were interesting and challenging enough, yet well within our abilities. The equivalent of Hairy Bear and Overflow can also be found in the area, but we didn't seriously consider them. Search and rescue is not quite as formal in the Santa Maria drainage as it is for the Chattooga, nor is it nearly as much fun having your face sewed back together or a broken ankle set in Valles as in Bryson City.

Ah ha! Thought you were done didn't you? At the beginning I told you to remember two things that you'd be tested on. Do you remember the second one? You don't just leave Mexico. Actually, other than a two-hour traffic jam going through Matamoros and over a bridge into the US, you just sit in line and drive with no hassles (except for the beggars and vendors).

When you reach the US border the official will ask you why you didn't turn the silver decal back in to Mexican customs officials and will remind you that unless you do so, your credit card will be charged tariffs appropriate to selling the car it's still affixed to. The fact that there were no signs or obvious place to accomplish this on the one-way road leading out is irrelevant.

If you can't figure out how to do it (we couldn't) you will have to go back in to Mexico and take care of these formalities at the same place you entered the country. Then you will have to cut across six lanes of traffic, make a U-turn, and sit in line another 20-30 minutes to get back in to the US.

CLASSIFIED ADS

TO PLACE AN AD - Want ads of a non-business nature are free to dues-paid GCA members. Business-related ads are $5.00 for up to 50 words, $10.00 for larger. Send your type-written ad to: Allen Hedden, 2923 Piedmont Dr., Marietta, Ga. 30066, or email to gacanoe@mindspring.com. PLEASE, NO PHONED-IN OR HAND-WRITTEN ADS. All ads will be run for two issues unless otherwise requested.

FOR SALE - Boats & equipment. Coleman camper pop-up - $3200 (used 10 times-w/queen, reg. and youth beds). Canoe trailer $1200 (never used/just to show). C-1, Dagger Cascade $775 (like new/with skirt/air bags). Kayak, Perception Corsica $825 (with skirt/airbags/ paddle-204cm). Canoe, Mohawk Probe 12 $850 (air bags/team edge out-fitted/ floatation bag-bra for storing extras). Stohlquist dry suit (XL) $375 (never used). Stohlquist dry top (XL) $195 (used 2 times - made for anyone, but especially for kayakers). Kokatat Gortex dry suit (S) $475 (used 2 times). Kokatat dry top (M) $150 (used 6 or 8 times). Kayak paddle travel bag $60 (never used-padded). Canoe paddle travel bag $45 (never used-padded). All equipment and apparell in excellent shape with unisex sizing. Thanks for your patience in reading this. Call 912.471.6925. Email: jmurphey@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Camper, Coleman Cedar XL Pop Up. Rarley used, excellent condition, always stored indoors. Comes with screen porch that has never been used, awning, stove, dinette and extra storage $3000. Charles Bruce 770.974 .2481.

FOR SALE - Canoe & equipment. Mad River ABS Explorer. Very good condition. Garage kept. Includes center float bag and removable cane back seats - $750. Like new Eureka 12' x 12' family tent - $350. Hardly used Merrill Wilderness boots, size 9, - $75. Like new bike panniers - $50. Kelty backpack - $40. Kokatat dry top, size large - $50. Perception saddle - $25. Slinglite backpacking chair - $15. Call Dave @ 770.499.9973.

FOR SALE - Canoe, 15' Royalex hull, private label, excellent condition, 2 years old, black, $500 OBO. 678.463.6336 or email gwhjr@mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Rival, 1998, purple, brand new, never paddled, with Dagger air bags. $925. Bryan 770.886 .2705.

FOR SALE - Canoe, Dagger Rival white water canoe fully outfitted and only paddled one season. Comes with new float bags, pump for bags, two new wet suits, PFD, Werner paddle + spare, Stohlquist splash top, 50 ft. throw rope, bilge pump and small dry bag. All for $1,000 or $800 for canoe only. 706.867 .9869.

FOR SALE - Dry suit, Kokatat size medium, 2 years old. $100. Call Dickie @ 770.987.8423.

FOR SALE OR TRADE - Kayak, Perception Pirouette S Proline, purple, includes spray skirt, $300 or best offer. Willing to trade for Perception Torrent in similar condition. Call Lois 770.592 .6421 or email loish@freewwweb.com (note the 3 w's).

FOR SALE - Kayak, Noah Stratoquatic AQ11. Great choice for beginner or intermediate paddler. Very comfortable - especially for a larger paddler. Very stable. $400. Will include large black Protec helmet and medium life jacket. Call Jan @ 770.631.3050 or e-mail @ storbeck@mindspring .com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Savage kayak by Fury, with skirt. $350.00 or best offer or trade for a bigger kayak. 770.938.5892.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Dagger RPM MAX (w/w kayak for larger paddlers), good condition with stern floatation bags included. Werner rodeo paddle (carbon fiber blades) 203cm almost new. Total package $850. Call Eugene MacIntyre at 770.435.8887 or e-mail: emacintyre@ mindspring.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception ARC (purple/green). Excellent condition never paddled on the river. $525. Kayak, Pyranah Mountain 300 (turquoise). In good condition with rear air bags. $375. Perception Horizon Line graphite kayak paddle. Like new. $200. Silver Creek kayak paddle recently refinished by Sliver Creek, not been in water. 202cm 70 feather. $325. Call Allen 404.842 .7746 work 770.985.6793 home.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Pyrahna Acrobat 270 - $275. Also have medium Patagonia dry top (like new condition) - $45 and Werner paddle - $75. Call Knox: 770.475 .3022 or email playboatn@aol.com.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Pyranha H2. 2 months old. Great creek boat. $650. Call Dickie @ 770.987.8423.

FOR SALE - Kayak, Perception 3D, 2 years old. $500.00. Call Jim @ 770.587 .1172.

FOR RENT - Cabin, two bedroom one bath. Sleeps up to 6. Air conditioned, fire place, gas grill. Located on Turtletown Creek, in Turtletown, TN., Close to Ocoee, Toccoa and Tellico. Thirty acres of land to hike and 1/4 mile of creek to paddle in. Relax on covered porch or open deck looking down at the creek. $85 per night, $400 week. Proof of membership in the GCA will get you a $10 per night discount or $50 for a week stay. Call Laura Rivers 423.496.1851.

HELP WANTED - Summer employment. Eagle Ranch is looking for raft guides and a trip leader for the Ocoee River. Must have knowledge of the river and at least three years experience. Also need basic first-aid, and first-responder. Will train right candidate. Call: Hank Baudet or David Scott @ 800.288.3245.

HELP WANTED - Summer Job: Kayak instruction assistant for Boy Scout Camp near the Chattooga. Must be 21 and have valid driver's license. Need to be a competent intermediate paddler, but ACA certification is not necessary. Call Jim Ledvinka at 706.353.3027.

HELP WANTED - Yes, the GCA needs your help. We need volunteers to serve on committees, label and mail newsletters, etc. Call 770.421.9729 and leave a message.

"Know who you're paddling with, even when you're alone."
- Joq Martin

WILDWOOD OUTFITTERS
BOATER'S BASH
APRIL 8, 2000

WILDWOOD OUTFITTERS DEMO DAY & SPRING SALE

12:00 PM-5:00PM

CHATTAHOOCHEE OUTPOST-DUNCAN BRIDGE

FREE DEMOS FROM TOP MANUFACTURERS:

DAGGER
PERCEPTION
OLD TOWN
MAD RIVER
LOTUS DESIGNS

FREE CLIMBING WALL

FREE LUNCH

FREE DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS

ALL NEW AND USED BOATS, ACCESSORIES, GEAR AND APPAREL
10%-50% OFF

CANOE, RAFT, AND KAYAK RENTALS AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE DAY

CHATTAHOOCHEE CHALLENGE
22 MILE CANOE & KAYAK RACE

The race will originate from the parking lot of Habersham's Nacoochee Winery across from the Nora Mill on Hwy 75 just south of Downtown Helen, Georgia. Competitors will race on the Chattahoochee River from the Nora Mill down to the Wildwood Outpost on Duncan Bridge Road (GA Hwy 384). The race course consists of class I and I water.

PRE-RACE MEETING

Competitors must meet at the Winery at 10:00 a.m. on race day for a pre-race meeting. Race will begin at 10:30 a.m.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

CLASSES: Cruising and Championship, Men and Women

Solo Open Canoe (OC-1)	Tandem Open Canoe (OC-2)
Solo Kayak (K-1)	Tandem Kayak (K-2)
Solo Decked Canoe (C-1)	Tandem Decked Canoe (C-2)

MUST HAVE 3 LIKE BOATS TO FORM A CLASS.

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST WEAR AN APPROVED PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE (PFD) DURING THE ENTIRE RACE. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN IMMEDIATE DISQUALIFICATION. THERE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS RULE

PRIZES

Trophies for 1st Place in each class and division. Free race t-shirt for all finishers.

REGISTRATION

PRE-REGISTRATION: **$15.00** per paddler. Registrations must be received by April 1 to be guaranteed a t-shirt on race day.

RACE DAY/LATE REGISTRATION: **$20.00** per paddler. T-shirt will be mailed after race.

ALL REGISTRATION FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

For information:

Phone: 706-878-1700 or 706-865-4451 Fax: 706-878-1949 E-mail: paddling@wildwoodoutfitters.net Web: www.wildwoodoutfitters.com

MAIL REGISTRATION TO:

WILDWOOD OUTFITTERS CHATTAHOOCHEE CHALLENGE, P.O. BOX 999, HELEN, GA 30545

CLASS (circle): Cruising Championship Division (circle): Men Women

BOAT TYPE (circle): OC-1 OC-2 K-1 K-2 C-1 C-2

COLOR OF BOAT: _____ T-SHIRT SIZE (circle): Large Extra Large Amount Paid (circle): $15 $20

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ GENDER: ___ AGE: _____

ADDRESS _____

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____ GENDER: ___ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

LIABILITY WAIVER. By signing below, I hereby certify that I will abide by the rules of the race, that I am an able swimmer, and that I relieve the sponsoring organizations and its members and all cooperating landowners from all liability for injury or damage to property. I/we participate at my/our own risk.

SIGNATURE 1: _____ DATE _____ SIGNATURE 2: _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT FOR PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18: _____

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION INSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

CANOEING & KAYAKING INSTRUCTION

PADDLING CLINIC INFORMATION

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

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BEGINNING WHITE WATER:
For people who have never had a boat on moving water. Three-hour evening classroom session with videos and lectures covering equipment, safety, river features and paddling techniques for tandem and solo boaters. Full day Saturday flat water session emphasizing strokes, wet exits. Full day Sunday session on a class II river practicing ferries, eddy turns, peel-outs, running rapids, self rescue and assisted rescue. You must attend both the dry and flat water sessions to participate in the white water river portions of the course.

BEGINNING YOUTH WHITE WATER:
Same course as above, but designed for youths ages 16 and under.

TRAINED BEGINNER WHITE WATER:
Participants should have had recent beginner level instruction or 5 days of white water experience. Polish-up beginner skills, plus bracing and rolling (kayaks).

INTERMEDIATE WHITE WATER:
Intermediate clinic participants should be comfortable paddling class II-III white water such as the Nantahala, and wish to master the roll in rapids, and learn how to play confidently in Nantahala-type waves and holes. Intermediate kayakers should have a 100% flat water roll and a 50% reliable combat roll in class II rapids. Saturday morning lake session working on strokes and rolls (kayaks) and an afternoon session on the Nantahala working on turns, surfing, eddy hopping, etc. Full day Sunday trip on a class II-III river.

ENROLLMENT GUIDELINES

GCA MEMBERSHIP:
All participants must be current GCA members. To join the GCA, call the GCA at 770.421.9729 or go to the GCA web page www.georgiacanoe.org for a membership application. Dues are $25 per year.

REGISTRATION:
Call the coordinator of the clinic you want to take for more information. You will NOT be registered, however, until the coordinator receives a check for $50.00 per person payable to GCA. Call early, clinics fill quickly.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:
If you wish to cancel or switch to another date, please notify the Clinic Coordinator as soon as possible. If you cancel at least 10 days before the first class session your fees will be refunded. After that, refunds will be made only if a replacement is found. Clinics will be conducted rain or shine. No-shows and those not completing the full course are ineligible for refunds.

AGE:
If you are under 18, all liability releases must be signed by a parent or guardian, who must also provide suitable power-of-attorney for medical care. Except for youth clinics, pre-teens will not be enrolled unless they have had suitable paddling experience in the Training Director's judgment.

SWIMMING ABILITY:
You must be able to swim and should not panic with your head under water. Beginning kayak clinic participants will spend a lot of time upside down inside their kayaks on the lake. All students will practice swimming & self-rescue skills in rapids.

PHYSICAL CONDITION:
White water paddling is a physically and mentally challenging activity that requires fitness, flexibility, and a positive attitude in stressful situations. Kayaking is a high-risk activity for individuals with a history of shoulder dislocations. Applicants should discuss potential physical limitations with the Coordinator before signing up.

EQUIPMENT:
You must furnish all of your own equipment. You will receive a detailed list of required and recommended equipment well in advance of the clinic.

INSTRUCTIONS & REGISTRATION FORM ON REVERSE SIDE

GCA CANOE AND KAYAK INSTRUCTION

SPRING AND SUMMER 2000

PADDLE GYMKHANA -- FUN & GAMES ON LOCAL LAKE
SATURDAY, APRIL 15
$10 FEE PER PARTICIPANT
GINA JOHNSON 404.257.3160
SITE TO BE DETERMINED

CANOEING

BEGINNER WHITE WATER
JUNE 6 (EVENING), 10-11
STEVE CRAMER 706.208.8382

TRAINED BEGINNER WHITE WATER
JUNE 3-4
PAT HAGAN 770.393.1420

INTERMEDIATE WHITE WATER
MAY 20-21
OREON MANN 404.522.3469

SAFETY AND RESCUE

SWIFT WATER RESCUE
MAY OR JUNE
DAVID MARTIN 404.351.8208

FALL SAFETY COURSE
LATE SEPTEMBER / EARLY OCTOBER
GINA JOHNSON 404.257.3160

KAYAKING

BEGINNER WHITE WATER
JUNE 15 (EVENING), 17 -18
REVEL FREEMAN 404.261.8572

TRAINED BEGINNER WHITE WATER
JUNE 3-4
TBA

INTERMEDIATE WHITE WATER
MAY 6-7 REVEL FREEMAN 404.261.8572
JUNE 23-24 PATTY CAMPBELL 828.526.9018

SEA KAYAKING

MAY 20-21
STEVE CRAMER 706.208.8382
THIS COURSE WILL HAVE A SEPARATE FEE

DUCKY DAY

FOR SIT-ON-TOPS AND INFLATABLE KAYAKS
JULY 15 $10.00 PER PERSON
GINA JOHNSON 404.257.3160

Registration: to register for one of these clinics you must be a member of the Georgia Canoeing Association. To join the GCA or for an application call 404.421.9729. Dues are $25. To register for a clinic, call the coordinator of the clinic for more information. You will NOT be registered until the coordinator receives this completed form and a check for $50.00 per person. Call early because the clinics fill quickly.

CLINIC _____

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ AGE _____ SEX _____

ALLERGIES OR PRESCRIPTION MEDICINES _____

_____

DISABILITIES OR PHYSICAL PROBLEMS _____

_____

GCA SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA

May 5, 6 & 7
Diamond Lure Campground
Ellijay, Georgia
(9 miles from Ellijay)

EXCLUSIVELY RESERVED FOR GCA MEMBERS
HOT SHOWERS, CLUB HOUSE
FISHING AND BOATING LAKE
MOUNTAIN BIKING AT M.O.E.

CAMPING
$6.00/site (2 persons)/night
$2.00/night for each additional person

PLEASE, ALL DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH!!

FRIDAY EVENING FREE TRIP COORDINATING MINI-CLINIC

SATURDAY NIGHT CATERED DINNER, BINGO AND BONFIRE
PRIZES FOR BINGO!!
Best Bar-B-Que in North Georgia
Pork, ribs and all the fixings
Price $10.00 (Children 12 & under $6.00)

Homemade sausage & buiscuits available Sat. & Sun. morning - $1.00 each

Register early — late fee applies after April 28

BOATING SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Rivers (water level permitting):
Ocoee, Nantahala, Cartecey, Toccoa, Amicalola,
Chestatee, Etowah and Upper Chattahoochee

Mohawk Factory Rep is bringing boats for a Demo Weekend — flat water & white water

For further information, contact:
Denice Colquitt 770.854.6636

GCA SPRING EXTRAVAGANZA
Registration Form

TO REGISTER — Fill out registration form belowand mail QUICKLY (notice late fee below) with your check made out to "GCA" to:

Denice Colquitt
3794 Glenloch Road
Franklin, GA 30217
For questions, call 770.854.6636

Name_____Phone_____

Address_____

Camping:
Number of tents @ $6.00 (Incl. 2 people) Fri _____ Sat _____
Extra people @ $2.00 ea. (Over 2 people) Fri _____ Sat _____ Total $_____

Saturday dinner: Number of meals @ $10.00 _____ @ $6.00 _____ Total $_____

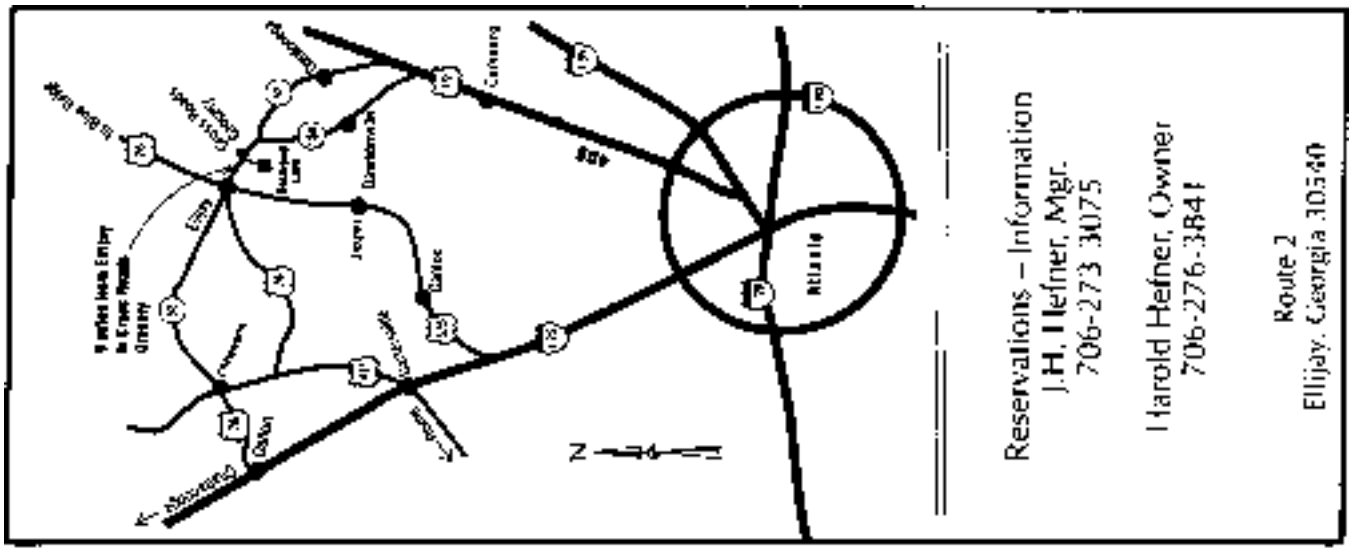
Sausage & biscuits @ $1.00 ea. Sat _____ Sun _____ Total $_____

$5.00 LATE FEE IF POST MARKED AFTER APRIL 28 ..... $_____
(Per registration form)
Make check payable to GCA for total of: Total $_____

Willing to lead a trip Saturday or Sunday on:

Cartecay_____ Etowah_____ Upper Amicalola_____ Chestatee_____

Lower Amicalola_____ Upper Hooch_____ Other_____



GCA 2000

GEORGIA CANOEING ASSOCIATION'S 32nd. S.E. US
SLALOM & WILDWATER CHAMPIONSHIPS
NANTAHALA RIVER, WESSER, NC - APRIL 29-30, 2000

We need your help for this premier event.

This is your opportunity to be part of the Georgia Canoeing Association's largest event of the year. Indicate your preference (s) and mail to Virginia Balbona today.

Every serious volunteer will be awarded a free race T-shirt.

Gate Judging____
If you like power then this position is for you! (Training will be available before the race).

Timing____
Can you operate a stop watch? Check here if you do.

Course Setup____
Ever been close to a construction site? Just follow Jason Schnurr's orders on Thurday afternoon of April 15, and Friday April 16.

Safety____
You can do this if you know how to throw a rope.

Fund Raising____
Only if you expect lots of raffle prizes.

First Aid____
Doctors, nurses, EMTs check here.

P.A. + Communications____
Can you talk? Check this one.

Site Construction____
If you have ever moved or pitched a tent, this one is for you.

Course Takedown____
This is an important job. If you want to be important check here.

Scoring____
4+4=? If you guessed 8 then you qualify for this important job.

Hospitality____
If you like munchies and buffets check here.

Booth Management & Sales___
If you dream of big bucks and free T-shirts check here.

River Traffic____
Here is your chance to make them rafters do what you want.

Name: _____ Phone am: ____-____-_____

Street: _____ Phone pm: ____-____-_____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Mail this completed form **to**: Virginia M. Balbona, 2268 Ashleywood Drive, Tucker, GA 30084

click. purchase. paddle.

www.gowiththeflowsports.com

770.992.3200

site designed by AGENCY180

GO WITH THE FLOW Action Paddlesports

TAPS The Trade Association of Paddlesports