

www.houstoncanooclub.org Hotline (713)467-8857
August issue 2001 Volume 7

Rescue on the Colorado River

by Fraser Baker

On Memorial Day, about 20 of us paddled the Columbus Loop, a stretch of the Colorado River where the takeout is less than a mile from the put in. It's a nice relaxing flat-water paddle with a few riffles. The Colorado River is broad, so the current is not that fast, but at 1400 CFS, where there are constrictions, the current moves. It's a risk-free paddle, or so I thought. . .

About 4 miles into the trip, a rock island splits the river into a smaller flow on river right while most of the river goes straight down river left. The smaller flow, forced abruptly to river right by the island, is then redirected down river by a tall bluff. A mesquite tree had lodged itself against the bank about 20 feet down stream from a tree with a single large branch that rose out of the water like a "claw" where the flow pressed against the bluff. All the paddlers in our group easily avoided this strainer, as the flow was not aggressive and the stream was wide.

We took a break on the rocky island stretching out to eat munchies, visit, and just relax. Coming toward us was a family of five (two adults and three children) in a 17 foot blue Buffalo canoe, with two tubes

trailing behind: a nice Memorial Day family outing.



Family enjoying a relaxing paddle on Columbus River

As the family approach, it was apparent that they were poorly positioned, since they were hugging river right. The large branch "claw" snagged their trailing tubes and their boat was drawn into the Mesquite tree. They immediately capsized and tension filled the air while we watched the family surface, accompanied with lots of screaming. The two boys floated down stream and were retrieved by the mother. Then the young daughter surfaced under the Mesquite tree and climbed up into it, where the father rescued her. They were wearing PFDs. But the boat and the tubes were pinned by the tree.

Bob Arthur and I were the first on the scene. I nosed the canoe under the claw

and Bob stepped out of the boat to supervise the recovery of the pinned boat. Soon, Wayne G. in a sit on top, Joe Schwartz and another gentleman were on the scene to conduct the recovery. Wayne, a muscular individual but a “newbie”, paddled upstream of the pinned boat and attempted to attach a line to the boat. At this time, I looked around and noticed that half of the rescue party was also at risk. We were on the island taking a break when this event occurred and in the excitement of the moment, half of the rescue party entered the water without their PFDs!



Bob Arthur supervises the rescue

Rudy then positioned himself downstream from the pinned

canoe; quickly rotated it up out of the water and the boat was freed. It was a **Rudy Rivers’ Recovery**



Wayne tries to dislodge canoe.



Now, Wayne, the rescuee, is a victim, needing rescue.

Soon Wayne flipped upstream from the Mesquite tree and surfaced, hanging onto the slippery skin of his kayak without the benefit of a PFD. He and his boat joined the other boat and tubes caught in the strainer.

At this time, Rudy Rivers arrived on the scene, as his group put in a bit later than we. He threw a rope to Wayne and successfully pulled him and his boat off the strainer.

I learned 3 things that afternoon. First, and probably the big lesson, is that there is no such thing as a safe river. Also, the excitement of the moment causes one to be careless. As, we shared some cake with our rescued friends, we learned that the father had been paddling the Colorado since he was a boy. So I guess the third big lesson is that paddling skills are not self-evident, and that training, even in the seemingly intuitive art of paddling, is necessary.

Fatal Mishap on Rio Grande

copied from canoetx listbot

On 28 May, a rafter died on the popular "Pilar" or "Race Course" run on the Rio Grande in northern New Mexico. What follows is a distillation of eye-witness (though after-the-fact) observations supplemented by discussions with the BLM (who manage the river) and the owner of Rio Grande River Tours, a commercial outfitter.

Below about 1500 cfs, this run is rated a III or III+, but at higher levels it is rated a IV-. On 28 May the flow was a brisk 2500 cfs. At this level the entire "Narrows" sequence of rapids, about 1/2 mile long, blends together into an extremely long, energetic flume with large steep waves peppered with semi-sticky hydraulics.

Sometime after 10 AM, a four-person, one-raft private party entered a preliminary rapid called "Eye of the Needle", formed by three large boulders. At 2500 cfs, the water pours over these boulders and forms a hydraulic on the downstream side. There is a raft "highway" either to right or left, and it is most unusual for a raft not to move to one side or the other. Even if it went into the hole, most rafts could punch through with proper momentum.

Apparently the raft went into this hole, capsized, and dumped the four occupants in the hole. The hole is not super-retentive. Two managed to swim to the shore, one to either side of the river. The other two washed downstream. The hole is about 200 meters above the start of the Narrows; that distance is enough for a motivated and competent swimmer to attain the shore. The water is moving very fast but is still laminar; the river there is about 20 meters wide.

A commercial raft picked up the two stranded swimmers and proceeded downstream, through the long Narrows flume, and found the other two people on river left at the large high-water eddy lying below the Narrows. One was rendering rescue breathing to the victim, 57-year-old

Margaret Coyne, who had apparently filled her lungs with water during the long and turbulent swim. The victim was neither conscious nor breathing.

Apparently the victim and her fellow swimmer had swum/floated the entire narrows. The victim was unconscious and was not breathing. Guides from Rio Grande River Tours, all swiftwater-rescue-certified, administered CPR and rescue breathing while EMTs arrived from the highway above.

Despite heroic efforts by both the raft guides and the EMTs, the victim died, the apparent cause being drowning. The [Albuquerque Journal](#) (30 May) reported eyewitness re-ports that the victim's PFD was a light-duty "water skier's" device. In this writer's view, it is possible that this marginal PFD contributed to her difficulties. Nonetheless, this writer points out that anyone venturing onto a spring high-water river rated III or IV, particularly with a long continuous rapid, should realize that swimming a thunderous, long rapid bears little resemblance to more ordinary swimming situations. This is particularly true of raft passengers, who may go for months or multiple seasons without experiencing a full-blown trashing in the rapids, and then is lulled into a false sense of security. However, this writer acknowledges that a 30-pound-buoyancy, Coast Guard class-5 PFD would have certainly helped. The important thing to realize is that no PFD is a panacea.

The water was not particularly cold (perhaps 60F), so this writer questions whether cold-water shock played a role. This writer suspects instead that for rafters, the first swim (of a season, or perhaps a multi-year period) may be a very big transition from what had seemed very secure. (Unlike for folks who work their way up through canoeing and kayaking and frequently swim along the learning curve.)

*"What sets a canoeing expedition apart is that it purifies you more rapidly and inescapably than any other travel....
Paddle a hundred miles in a canoe and you are a child of nature."
Pierre Elliott Trudeau*

Editor's Note: With the recent flooding in Houston, the potential disaster on the Columbus during Memorial Weekend, and the death on the Rio Grande in New Mexico, we are reminded of the need

for good river rescuing skills. One can see many errors in the Columbus river rescue that Fraser Baker describes in his article. What better time to learn good safety and rescue techniques! Jamie Butler is offering just such a course in Dallas. If anyone has the time, this would be a worthwhile course. If you do NOT have the time, let Jamie know you are interested in a similar course down here. He's agreeable after September if there are enough interested people

WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER

Hands on learning through skills practice and simulations by Wilderness Medical Associates 80 hours of intensive hands on training taught in class & outdoors. Thursday Evenings in the REI Clinic Room in Dallas and 4 weekend days. This course will teach you more than a standard EMT class. This Course is normally taught over 9 consecutive days in outdoor recreation areas such as North Carolina & Moab, Utah. Take advantage of the opportunity to take the WFR without traveling & taking time off from work.

The Wilderness First Responder focuses on how to treat injuries with improvised equipment in wilderness locations and inhospitable environmental conditions. Our teaching method is experiential and our courses are tough, with emphasis on practical sessions and videotaped simulations using made up victims.

Course price includes all materials and AHA CPR certification

Thursday Evenings 6 - 10pm/ September 06 through November 18, 2001

Saturday & Sunday October 06 & 07, 2001 - Camping for the weekend - Close to DFW

Saturday & Sunday November 17 & 18, 2001 - Camping for the weekend -Close to DFW

Cost \$575 includes WFR certification, CPR certification, Books & Pocket Mask

Deposit \$125 - balance due first class day.

Contact Jamie Butler 214 - 887 - 1822 Jamie55@airmail.net

My 3rd Annual 4th of July Paddle on Buffalo Bayou by Fraser Baker

Against the odds, we saw a spectacular 4th of July fireworks display. The message from John Bartos, received just hours before our venture on the Buffalo Bayou, said that the Bayou would be closed between the Capital Street and the Stude-mont bridges. After waiting till 6:45 for some company to arrive, Janice Frels and I put in behind the old fire station on Bagby just south of Preston and paddled down stream into downtown. We saw a lot of construction and soon there will be almost a mile long path along the Bayou at water level through the theater district. Allen's landing is also being improved and we will be able to take out there and have dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse. We turned around a bit past San Jacinto Street and had our box supper across from Jones Hall. The evening was very pleasant. We headed toward Eleanor Tinsley Park in twilight.

Our stern light purchased that afternoon and proudly perched on rigging I had worked on that afternoon, would adequately reveal our position, I surmised. As the sound faded we approached the Capital Street bridge, where there was a yellow tape strung across the Bayou. **POLICE LINE - DO NOT CROSS!** Well, I failed to raise the

banner as the stern of the boat crossed beneath and our stern light's glow suddenly illuminated the bottom of the Bayou. We were now illegal, as well as being in forbidden territory!

Pressing on, the concrete yielded to foliage, the traffic noise yielded to music and soon we were across from the sound stage, nestled amongst overhanging branches where we enjoyed a set by the Beach Boys. We dared not go further because around the bend we could see the police boat. When the patrol spotted us we were politely asked to retreat beyond the Sabine bridge. We could still hear the Beach Boys from that position while we waited for the fireworks to start.

There was an easy take out on the west side of the bridge, and we climbed up the bank to watch the fireworks. It felt a little eerie, as there was no one else around ... we were very much alone ... we found the ideal spot! We waited with anticipation of a great show. The emcee announced the beginning and suddenly the ground shook and the sky exploded with light all around us ... we were within a 100 yards of the cannons! We retreated a bit, and set in to watch the most spectacular fire works display I had ever seen. The camera was clicking, smoking debris was falling around us and the sights were stupendous.

We survived, and paddled back in the dark to the put in. Perhaps the crowds were less this year as we got through downtown easily and were back home reliving the event through digital pictures within a half-hour.

The renovation of the Buffalo Bayou should encourage more folks to use this pretty water way that courses through downtown Houston, and



Moonlight Paddle – Spotlight Cruise for July

By Natalie Weist

18 folks in 13 boats paddled out from the boat ramp at Bay Area Park shortly after 6 p.m. on Saturday July 7, 2001. We were an eclectic mix of boaters and boats, with craft ranging from sleek sea kayaks to venerable tandem canoes of plastic, fiberglass, wood strip, and aluminum construction.

I had to admit a slight error in calculation from the start. Seems the near-full-moon that was to have lighted the last part of our paddle would not be rising until 10:14 that evening - 14 minutes after the park was to be locked up. Not much I could do about that, but I was glad I had advised the paddlers to bring flashlights!

The alligators did not disappoint - everyone got to see at least one and even at the back of the paddling pack I saw 3 or 4. One curious baby was really checking us out at our break spot, he actually swam toward us for a closer look. I know the 'gators there are pretty habituated on canoes and kayaks but I'll be that baby

coerce the authorities to allow greater access to the events at Eleanor Tinsley Park from the water. Perhaps our 4th annual 4th of July paddle will be better attended than this year's and will include a dinner at the Spaghetti Warehouse.

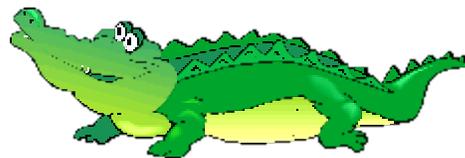
Fraser Baker

June 3- HCC group on the Guadalupe River

during the day and attending the Kerrville Folk Festival at night.

(front) Anne Derby – playing her guitar/paddle, Janice Frels, Fraser Baker, Alex Richter, Karen's mom,

(back row) Donna Grimes, Amber, Jim Barton (holding the wiggling dog Beau) and Karen Barton



had never seen so many colorful boats in one group before.

The bayou was thankfully pretty much mosquito free - at least I wasn't attacked by swarms of them, although I'm pretty sure I lost at least some drops of blood at the put-in and take-out. As it turned dark we were treated to a fair display of lightning bugs flashing to their loved ones.

Our path was upstream to the Exxon bridge, then back almost to the park and then upstream and back on Big Island Slough, a distance of about 6 miles. Big Island Slough is very straight and I knew we would have less of a chance of being turned around and lost there after dark and that was a good choice! All of us were back to Bay Area Park by 9:30. It was plenty warm to be out paddling but got cooler (relatively speaking!) by the end of our paddle.

Next time I vow to look more closely at the astronomical charts and in the event of a moonrise, will use the public boat ramp.

Clear Creek Flood Control Project Update

By John Bartos

Anyone who has paddled on Clear Creek, which makes up some of the boundary between Harris and Galveston and Brazoria Counties, knows that this is one of the few remaining examples of relatively natural bayou conditions left in the region. Unfortunately, lying in the low Texas Gulf Coast and with lots of development in the area, it does tend to flood.



With Tropical Storm Allison, in the Clear Creek watershed there were really two storms, one on June 5 & 6 that dumped 8-12 inches in a 12 hour period and the other on June 8 & 9 that dropped an additional 8 inches on saturated ground. On June 5, 5.9 inches were recorded on Cowart's Creek in one hour. Total rainfall recorded in both storms on Cowart was 25.6 inches. Many homes flooded in this watershed, but most reports were that water heights were greater in the 1994 flood. I don't believe any flood control project can stop flooding from that kind of event.

A flood control project has been on the books for years but it was based on some of the same old technology that concretes and channelizes our streams and really doesn't work. Due to pressure from activists, the Harris County Flood Control District, which is the local sponsor and the Army Corps of Engineers (COE) agreed to do a General Reevaluation Review (GRR) of the project.

The GRR is covering Clear Creek from the Fort Bend County line to and including Clear Lake. The COE has models to assess downstream impacts, cross-sections of the creek, digital drain model. They have surveyed 3300 structures that are in the 100-year flood plain around the creek and 25 year flood plain around Clear Lake. They have geo-technical data on the 1997 sponsor proposed alternative. GIS for the watershed, a hydrology study and population projections are being worked on. Base economics and baseline environmental data are being established.

Timeline:

- 03/2002 Alternatives will be selected
- 10/2002 Draft GRR
- 11/2002 Draft EIS and Public review- note: a new EIS not a supplement to the 1982 EIS
- 04/2003 Final GRR

A lot of this and more information can be found at www.clearcreekproject.com. There is a place to leave your comments.

Basically the whole slate is clean for the GRR, including the possibility of a No Action alternative. Clear Creek has been nominated (along with a number of other Harris County streams) to be a candidate for the Challenge 21 program, a currently unfunded federal program that encourages community based non-structural solutions to flooding. Homeowners' representatives are against this, because they see it resulting in buyouts, which many oppose.

I'll keep you informed about future developments. Your input into the process will be important in protecting a stream that is a nice paddling location and a good natural habitat.

Eleanor Tinsley Park : A History

By Louis Aulbach

Few views of downtown Houston are more spectacular than those from **Buffalo Bayou** in the area located between Taft St. and Sabine St. The bayou winds through this park-like environment that was created in 1926 to link the downtown with the suburban development of River Oaks. Buffalo Bayou Park, as it is called, extends from Shepherd Drive along the south side of the bayou to Sam Houston Park.

Eleanor Tinsley Park, located across from Allen Parkway Village on Allen Parkway, provides paddlers easy access to the bayou and good parking. A paved trail leads down the deep banks to a boat ramp at the bayou. The park was named in honor of Eleanor Tinsley, a City of Houston Council Member At-Large from 1980 to 1990, who championed many proposals to improve the quality of every day life in the City.

A short distance upstream of Tinsley Park, on the crest of a low hill between Allen Parkway and Memorial Drive, is an interesting sculpture by noted English sculptor Henry Moore. Originally intended for Tranquility Park, the work entitled "Large Spindle Piece" was placed at its present site after the sculptor claimed that the Tranquility Park location was inappropriate for his creation.

Large Spindle Piece



Immediately across Memorial Drive is the Police Officers Memorial. Dedicated on Nov 19, 1992, the monument to police officers killed in the line of duty was designed by Texan Jesus Bautista Moroles who was born in Corpus Christi in 1950 and raised in Dallas. Shaped like a cross, the pink granite monument consists of 5 stepped pyramids, each 40 ft square at the base. Each pyramid has grassy levels and stairs in middle of each side. The central pyramid rises 12.5 ft from ground to apex. The names of fallen officers are etched on a granite stone just to the west of the larger memorial.

Police Officers' Memorial



Across the bayou, on the north side, is Glenwood Cemetery. Established as a cemetery park in 1871 on the site of a former brickyard, many of Houston's rich and famous are buried there, including former governor Ross Sterling, former mayor Roy Hofheinz and billionaire Howard Hughes.

Near the Sabine St. bridge, there is a side drainage that enters from the south bank. A small riparian plaza has been built at the base of the Heiner St. storm sewer in which fish, turtles and aquatic fowl are seen frequenting this pleasant oasis. For lack of a more formal name, we have called this place "Turtle Plaza"

Stairs descend from Allen Parkway to the plaza as part of the hiking trail that continues under the bridge to the Civic Center area near Sam Houston Park and City Hall Annex.

On the roadway above, at the corner of Heiner St. and Allen Parkway is the site set aside for the re-interment of approximately 430 burials uncovered during the renovations of Allen Parkway Village in 1998.

Before you turn around to return to your put in at Tinsley Park, take a minute to view the exhibits in the Bayou Art Park that extends along the north side of the bayou on both sides of the Sabine St. bridge. My favorite piece is the alligator



who lurking in the grass near the water's edge about 50 yards upstream of the bridge. If you venture up close, you will see that this alligator is very "tired"

This is only a short section of Buffalo Bayou, but it is full of local history. One could write a book about all that has happened here in the last 200 years -- **and maybe I will!**

**When you are swimming
in the creek
and an eel bites
your cheek,
that's
a moray!**



Dear **HCC Trash Bashers**,

Faithfully, year after year, you lead the Trash Bash volunteers up and down the bayou. Some years we fight flood waters covering the debris; some years we slime across mud flats to get to the trash along the shore. Some years we freeze, others we sweat. Regardless, you're there in force. We celebrated exceptional weather this year and **303 volunteers** collecting **13.5 tons** of trash. Add **15 tires** to that total, too. Thank you all for helping out.

Sincerely,

Terry Duncan
Galveston Bay Foundation

By-Laws Change

The Board of Directors is recommending a by-law change in order to change the dues as contained in Article I of the By-laws.

We propose to increase the **dues to \$25.00** per family membership with no initiation fee. The primary reason for the increase is to try to cover the costs of the newsletter and other operating costs. The membership will vote on this proposal at the September meeting to be effective October 1, 2001.

If the change is to pass, 2/3 of the members present at the September meeting must vote in favor. The change would read as follows:

Dues
Regular Member: Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) as annual dues.

Everything else in Article I would stay the same.

August Meeting!

A little different!

This year the Houston Canoe Club is hosting a joint HCC / BCWC auction to benefit TRPA. The auction will be the pro-gram at the **August** HCC general meeting held Aug. 8th 7pm at the Am Red Cross Bldg on the north feeder of Highway 59 just west of Kirby Dr.

The auction will be a lot of fun but in order for it to be a success we need **YOUR** help. We are looking for a few people to contact local canoe/kayak/etc. retailers and ask for donations to our auction. Maybe you have just recently bought a new boat or some gear or you know someone who owns or works for a local dealer. Please volunteer to ask for a donation, pick it up (gives you an excuse to go there & shop some) and to deliver it to the Auction.

We also need people to come & bring some of their gently used paddle-camping gear for us to auction. One HCC member has already offered us an almost new ladies size 8 shortie wetsuit & there will be lots of other clothing & gear but **YOU** need to bring it. So go ahead & clean out that closet or garage . Remember, one persons trash is another's treasure!!

We also need people to donate THEIR products/services - paddle related or not. For example one TRPA member has donated one of his company's products - a Old Smokey BBQ which retails for \$40. Another firm Redwood Chem Co. is donating \$20 in mosquito/bug spray. We can use other products and even services like a free canoe or kayak lesson, or a free oil change or carpet cleaning or whatever you can donate.

We also need people just to show up and have a good time and make bids on the gear. We are going to try to have the Auction early in the meeting so, come early and bring your checkbook - remember, its for a great cause If you are interested in helping with the auction or if you would like to contact a local dealer or if you have used gear or a product or service to donate please contact **Ken Barnard** on either the HCC or BCWC web address or at ken@controlsolutionsinc.com
THANK – Ken Barnard

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Deidre and Ronald Hardiman

303 Cove Creek Ln
Houston, TX 77042
713-950-0355
dhardiman@houston.rr.com
Heard about us on the web

Chris Stephenson

3102 Birch Park Ln
Houston, TX 77073
281-821-9239
joen@ev1.net
Heard about us by internet and brochure
at Whole Earth Provision

Janice Corkery and James Spinella

20315 New Moon Trail
Crosby, TX 77532
281-324-2007

Joe and Nell Dougherty

7927 S Wellington Ct.
Houston, TX 77055
713-825-9170
jxdoughe@bechtel.com

David and Christine Field

14118 Bourne Dr.
Houston 77077
281-496-1801
dfield@lgc.com

Dave Porter

PO Box 80634
Baton Rouge, LA 70898
225-339-5049
dpkuku@hotmail.com

FOR SALE - HCC BULLETIN BOARD

Two **Coleman tandem canoes** including paddles for \$500 each. Brand new
Call 281-367-0918 or ssanders@flash.net

Dagger Rival White water solo boat. Light weight model with wood gunwales, Pedestal outfitted with thigh straps and air bag enclosures. Very good condition. It has only been paddled by a little old lady from Sugar Land. Price : \$685.00

Bell Wildfire This is a new Bell ABS boat. It is a Blem. BUT it is an inexpensive way to get a new boat to practice Freestyle Paddling or just zip down a river and not be afraid of hitting a rock. Bell boats are designed for regular paddling on lakes and moving water you know. It has a paddling thwart. Price : \$ 450.00 The boats can be seen at Chet and Lillian Tigard's house and also paddled at their back yard on Oyster Creek. Call 281 494-7977 cbtigard@msn.com

Futura II surf ski. Brand new 19ft. by 20" sit-on-top in carbon/kevlar weave, weighs 28lbs, over-stern rudder. Terrific work-out boat - will handle any lake/river conditions. Certainly much faster than a sea kayak but not a true racing hull. What it gives up in speed it gains in stability. Paid nearly \$3000 less than a month ago - asking \$2400. **Wenonah Voyager** 17'6" solo canoe in kevlar. Less than 2 months old. Garaged carefully and on the water just a few times. Stable and high volume. Just not my thing and I'm running out of room. \$1550 new, asking \$1200. David Bartell Montgomery, Texas 936-449-6603 dbart@lcc.net

Aquaterra "Chinook": Classic expedition kayak - shallow-vee hull is stable and maneuverable. Hatches, deck rigging. Yellow polyethylene. Length: 16' Width: 24" Weight: 53lbs. Includes spray skirt and travel cover - \$500
Call: Cindy Bartos 713-957-3809 email: cbartos@ix.netcom.com

HCC Trips

8/8 – General Meeting – Auction of good “stuff” Bring your “used” river goodies and your checkbook. Monies will benefit TRPA. 7PM

8/31-9/3 Padre Island Kayaking for Labor Day, 2001. On Saturday and Sunday, we can paddle, play in the surf. We'll be camping on the beach on Padre Island National Seashore. This is primitive camping but only about 3 minutes from bathrooms with flush toilets and showers. Bring lots of shade - big umbrellas, sun shelters, tarps, Don't forget Hats, Sunscreen, Sunglasses, insect repellent. Marilyn Kircus mkircus@yahoo.com 713-782-0178

9/1-9/3 Labor Day Trip on the Sabine River with the Big Thicket Voyageurs. Great 3 day, 27 mile trip camping on big sandbars on the river. Contact John Bartos for more info 713-957-3809 or jbartos@ix.netcom.com

9/15-16 Hummingbird Festival in Rockport and Paddle on the Mission River, with camping at Goose Island State Park.. Attend the Hummingbird Festival in Rockport on Saturday Sept 15 and to paddle an exploratory paddle on the Mission River on Sunday. Paddling is also available in St Charles Bay accessible from Goose Island. If interested email tcaldwell@backpacker.com or call 281-558-4877. Deadline for group tickets is Aug 8.

9/15 Quickstart Paddling Class - entry level short course for those starting out canoe-ing and kayaking. Course offered through REI. John & Cindy Bartos 713-957-3809 or REI 713-688-3500.

9/22 Greens Bayou, visit this nearby bayou with Bob Arthur 713-895-7278 or boba100@aol.com

Houston Canoe Club
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Donna.grimes@mindspring.com

Rendezvous Chair: Jim Null
713--664-1083
medislide@earthlink.net

Newsletter Deadlines

Submissions to the Newsletter are encouraged. The preferred method is a Word document. Pictures in jpeg or gif. Submit articles, sales items, pictures by general meeting OR by the 18th of the month. Electronic submissions:
Donna.grimes@mindspring.com

Snail Mail:
Donna Grimes
4838 Kingfisher
Houston, TX 77035

Change of Address
Contact HCC Recorder, Marilyn Peery

**Hulsebosch Committee members
For 2000:**

Paula Dittrick - chair
Mary Carter, John Olden, Martha Williams
Lewis Aulbach, Wes Simmons and Marilyn
Peery (composed of 2 governors, 4 elected
members, and permanent member, Martha
Hulsebosch Williams)

Houston Canoe Club General Meeting
July 11, 2001

The meeting was called to order by the Commodore, Fraser Baker. He introduced the officers present, Vice Commodore Lillian Tigard, Recorder Marilyn Peery, Purser Candy Donahue, Newsletter Editor Donna Grimes, Fleet Captain Cheryl Cleary, and Governors Mary Carter and Bill Grimes. There were 47 people present.

The program on Octopuses was presented by Dr. James Wood.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved. Candy reported that there is presently \$23,584 in the club treasury. It was decided to pass the hat to collect money for the Red Cross Flood Relief Fund. The club will contribute whatever is needed to bring the donation to \$500.

Cheryl Cleary gave the fleet captain's report and asked for feedback from trip leaders concerning double mileage for trip leaders. Mary Carter reported on Trash Bash. Tracy Caldwell announced the Hummingbird Festival in Rockport on September 13 and 14.

Jim Null reported on progress of the Rendezvous. Of greatest concern right now is the serious hydrilla problem. He, Fraser and Kevin Casement plan to visit the park again Saturday to assess the problem.

Donna Grimes introduced visitors and new members. She also asked how many members had checked out the email version of the newsletter and encouraged those who had not to do so..

Marilyn Peery asked members to check their listings for the new roster.

There are still four openings for an Instructor Development Workshop taught by Patti Carothers.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Peery

Who Be These people?

HCC officers & members of the club:

Cindy Bartos: Fleet Captain 1991, Rendezvous Clinic Chair 1996, Hulsebosch committee chair.

1. Where were you born and raised? Born in Tulsa OK and raised in Pittsburgh, PA. am Married to John for 25 year
2. Where educated and degree? Edinboro State University in Pennsylvania, BS in Education
3. Present occupation – 5th grade math teacher in Aldine ISD for 25 years
4. Other places lived, how long in Houston. Tulsa, Oklahoma and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 25 years in Houston.
5. How did you become involved with HCC? Talked to HCC members at the HCC booth at the Boat Show in 1987
6. What is your favorite type and place to paddle? Freestyle, sea kayaking, canoeing small creeks or rivers, kayaking on Galveston Bay .
7. Do you have any other hobbies or outside activities? Judge of Precinct 245 Harris County, ACA Freestyle Tandem and Solo Canoe Instructor. Environmental group involvement.
8. Any other comments; Love paddling for the peace of mind and stress relief that it brings.

John Bartos: Commodore 1989, 1990, 2000, Fleet Captain 1991, 1999. Conservation Committee Chair 2001, HCC representative to Texas Rivers Conservation Advisory Board since 1997, HCC Delegate Trustee to GBF 1992-2001.

1. Where were you born and raised? In Allison Park, Pennsylvania but I got to Texas as soon as I could.
2. Are you married Happily married to Cindy for 25 years
3. Where educated and degree? University of Pittsburgh (BA in Political Science and Economics) and South Texas College of Law (J.D. 1981)
4. Present occupation – Attorney with a civil practice in Houston.
5. Other places lived,? Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Lived in Houston since 1976.



Cindy, John, and Sonny Boy



6. How did you become involved with HCC? Met folks at the Boat Show

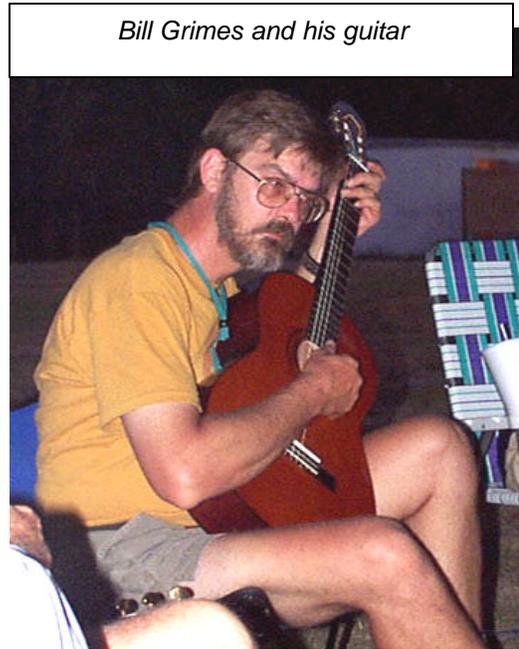
7. What is your favorite type and place to paddle? I enjoy freestyle, river trips, Boundary Waters, Big Bend sea kayaking, saltwater fishing and more. Also enjoy instructing

freestyle canoeing.

9. Do you have any other hobbies or outside activities? Environmental activities (1996 chair of Galveston Bay Foundation, member of Region H Water Planning Group, Clear Creek Citizens Advisory Committee, member Galveston Bay Freshwater Inflows Group, 2000 GBF Bay Citizen of the Year), racquetball, politics, playing with Sonny Boy, blues, etc. **Red River Division Freestyle Chair 1993 – 2000. Freestyle solo and tandem canoe instructor.**
10. Any other comments I think that it is impossible to be a paddler and not be an environmentalist. We are privileged through our sport to see areas that many never get to enjoy. Once you see these natural areas, flowing rivers, bays and estuaries, riparian woodlands, etc how can you not work to ensure that they are protected?

Bill Grimes – HCC Purser 1993-96, Present Governor

1. Where were you born and raised? I was born an army brat in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma (a mile from where Cochise died according to my Mom), but we soon left for Tennessee and Holland. From Holland, we moved to Maryland, Illinois, Okinawa, Texas and I graduated from Munich American High School, Munich, Germany. My family's roots are in western Tennessee and I was raised by a Southern Belle mom and cotton farm boy that traveled the globe.
2. Are you married, have children Yes, I'm married to the newsletter editor. Although I have no children, I'm blessed with 4 lovely granddaughters.
3. Where educated and degree? I attended Southwest Texas State Univ. to stay out of Vietnam and graduated from Parkland College, Champaign, Illinois with an AAS in Civil-Construction. After 12 years of night school I received a BS in Civil & Environmental Engineering from U of H.
4. Present occupation - Senior Engineer, Material Evaluator & Standards Development at Reliant Energy-HL&P since 1976 (25 years, which sometimes frightens me).
5. Other places lived, In lived in San Marcos & Austin during my stay out of Nam years (and fell in love with the Hill Country). I've lived in Houston since 1975.
6. How did you become involved with HCC? I learned how to paddled (while keeping the beer cold) in 1976. But, by the end of the '80 all my friends were content to paddle only twice or three times a year. So, I needed some more friends. I joined the club in 1990 after learning about the club at the boat show.
7. What is your favorite type and place to paddle? Clear whitewaters between mountains and hills and canyons and tall cypress trees and big boulders and friends and ...
8. Do you have any other hobbies or outside activities? I play a little guitar, read (ancient & medieval history, historical novels), play computer games and search for good movies and good music.
9. Any other comments Ever since I was a child, some of my favorite time alone has been spent walking hills and mountains following the rivulets as they converge into streams, fall over rock and cliffs into pools and rivers. Like the capillaries and veins inside us, they nourish and cleanse the land. Paddling these veins bring me closer to the heart of life than any other activity.



Hummingbird Festival in Rockport and Paddle on the Mission River Sep 15 & 16. We will be camping at Goose Island State Park. I plan to attend the Hummingbird Festival in Rockport on Saturday Sept 15 and to paddle an exploratory paddle on the Mission River on Sunday. The Mission River is flat water, but a great place for birding. I have seen the river once but never paddled there. Paddling is also available in St Charles Bay accessible from Goose Island. Group tickets for Festival are available but must be purchased as a group. Original price for the speaker program is \$20 and we can get them for \$5. If we have 10 people. It interested email tcaldwell@backpacker.com or call 281-558-4877. Deadline for group tickets is Aug 8. Camping space is limited.

Houston Canoe Club
P.O. Box 925516
Houston, TX 77292-5516

Non-Profit
Organization

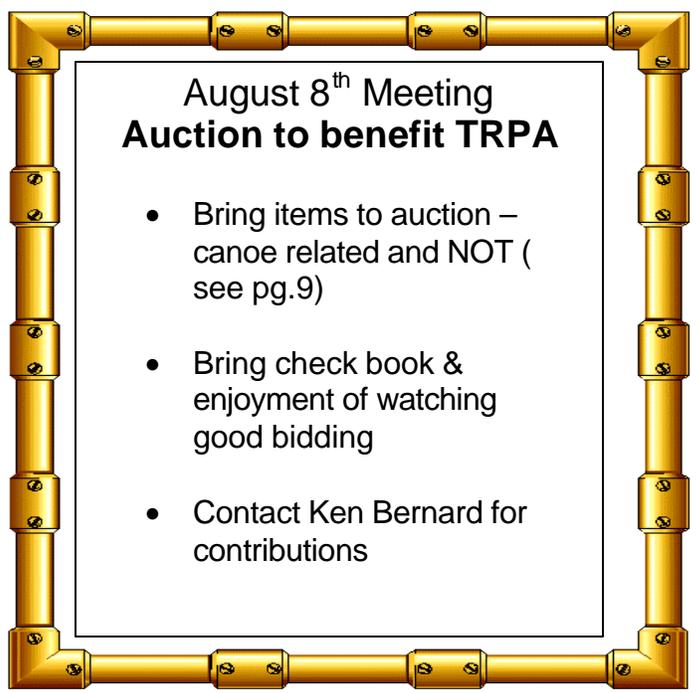
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What's in the newsletter?

- Pg.1-2 – Rescue on Colorado River
- Pg. 3 – Fatal Mishap on Rio Grande
- Pg. 4 -- Wilderness First Response
4th of July Paddle

- Pg. 5 – Guad. Pict. & Moonlight paddle
- Pg. 6 -- Clear Creek Flood Control
- Pg. 7 -- Eleanor Tinsley Park - history
- Pg. 8 – Trash Bash & By-Law change
- Pg. 9 – August meeting
New Members
- Pg.10 – For Sale & HCC Trips
- Pg.11 – Officers & Minutes
- Pg. 12 – Biography – John & Cindy Bartos
- Pg. 13 - Biography – Bill Grimes



**August 8th Meeting
Auction to benefit TRPA**

- Bring items to auction – canoe related and NOT (see pg.9)

- Bring check book & enjoyment of watching good bidding

- Contact Ken Bernard for contributions