

# Rendezvous 2001 Has Moved Location

*by Jim Null*

We have all enjoyed wonderful times at past rendezvous' at Huntsville State Park: the huge trees, the cooler, drier air, the camping, the visiting with others in the paddling world, the serenity of the camping areas, all combined to provide a vacation-like break from life in Houston.

This year, however, we were forced to find a new location because of the seriousness of the hydrilla in Lake Raven. There is simply no

The lake condition is critical to us in everything we do: clinics, trying out vendor boats, the freestyle competition, the cardboard boat race, first-ever paddlers, etc. We have visited the park twice this spring and early summer to check on the progress of containing this weed. The park is aware of the seriousness of the situation and they have done all in their power to remedy the problem.



*Kevin holds one small handful of the hydrilla in the clinics area in Lake Raven*



*Hydrilla in the freestyle section at Lake Raven*

quick, easy, or inexpensive answer to ridding a lake of hydrilla. The park has used a mechanical harvester and chemicals and will soon be introducing a limited number of grass carp. The harvester is extremely expensive and can't operate in water less than 4-5 feet in depth.

At the Rendezvous committee meeting, we unanimously agreed that we could not count on Lake Raven being usable by Rendezvous time in October.

We have visited numerous other possible sites, looking for a place close to Houston, with enough water for clinics, availability, etc.

Only one offered all that we needed. Thanks to Lillian Tigard, we have succeeded in gaining permission to use the Fluor Corporation office complex in Sugar Land. It is situated near the intersection of Highway 6 and US 59 and surrounded by water on three sides. We guarantee you will be pleasantly surprised at the abundance of birds and wild life on this site.

We on the Committee are enthusiastic about the location for many reasons: its proximity for our members (in the Houston metropolitan area - only 20 miles from downtown Houston), the desirable location for vendors and exhibitors, the layout of the water, the cooperation of everyone involved with the site, AND, perhaps most important of all, the opportunity to introduce the water sports we all enjoy to countless new people who will drop-in.

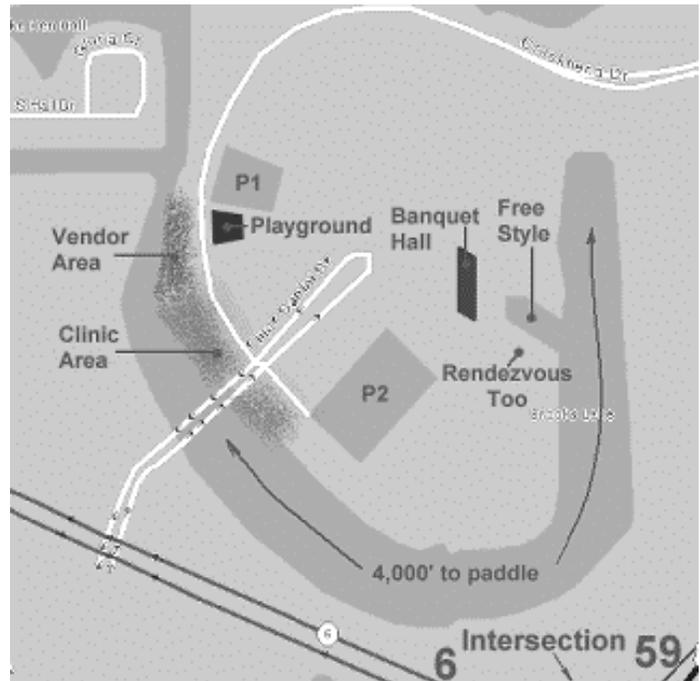
Fluor Corporation has a large building usable for Rendezvous Too, for many workshops, for the evening banquet, for easy access to a beautiful spot for the free style exhibition, and then for **a party** dubbed, "The Gathering of the Clan," that Saturday evening.

Yes, there are disadvantages, the loss of on-site camping probably being the most important. For most attendees, the Rendezvous will become a day use activity. The Rendezvous will have a different "feel" this year, and all of us will miss the natural beauty and forest-like attractiveness of Sam Houston State Park.

Getting Fluor's was just finalized in mid - August and we are hurrying to print the new, revised schedule, refund money to those that paid for camping spots, and contact vendors and instructors of the change. The registration forms are being reworked and should be out in the first week in September.

There will be some kinks that need work and we're going to need LOTS of help from HCC members. First, we need a **PUBLICITY CHAIR**, a person to help us get the word out about the new locale and help promote this event in the metropolitan area. We will also

need LOTS of volunteers again this year. Please contact Donna Grimes or Jim Null if you can help.



*Location of RDZ 2001 in Sugar Land on Clour Corporation complex off 59 and Hw 6*

## **Rendezvous 2001 Committee**

Head Chair – Jim Null  
(713) 664-1083  
medislid@earthlink.net

Sites Chair – Fraser Baker  
(713) 796-0946  
fraser@pobox.com

Clinics Chair – Marilyn Peery  
(713) 669-9193  
kit.santome@pdq.net

Exhibits Chair – Misty Jones  
(832) 252-7777  
mjones7@houston.rr.com

**Publicity Chair**

**THIS COULD BE YOU!!**

Have an **extra bedroom** to house an instructor during RDZ?  
Contact Marilyn Peery, if you do.

# KIDS RULE ON THE SAN MARCOS KIDS' PADDLE

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, 50 people showed up for the second kids' paddle on the San Marcos. Interesting, to me – the trip coordinator and newsletter editor – was the high number of adults who came sans kids. Yes, I needed help and they helped, but my personal opinion was.....they enjoyed being kids. We had 19 kids and 31 adults. A number of first timers were on this trip and **FOUR** different sets sent me trip reports. Vicariously enjoy our day through their stories....and next year, be a kid yourself and join us!

## **#1 Lasting Memories –**

*report from Julia Soper*

This was our first paddle with the HCC, and we had a great time! We've known Donna Grimes for years and Bill since they've been married, and they've always encouraged us to join them on these adventures, so we finally did. For our daughters, Lauren and Val, 13 year-old twins, this was a first time on "white water".

Here are some particularly vivid memories: Marilyn and Cliff, part of the much-maligned older generation, forging on ahead with skill and grace, making sure everything was safe for us "greenhorns"

Bill sending kids and adults alike down the rapids, bodysurfing



*Adults ready to grab kids (and big ones too) as they body surf through the rapids*

Bob (my husband) and I tipping over, in slow motion, after we had successfully completed our first rapids

Clambering up slippery roots with a friendly shove on the posterior to launch ourselves, yodeling into space on the rope swing Margo Tarrant, 4 year old, red headed granddaughter of Bill and Donna's, having absolutely no fear of the current

The expressions on the adults' faces when they hit the rocks while body surfing at at "S" Turn

Seeing fish, frogs, turtles, tadpoles, water bugs, various birds, and learning to distinguish poison ivy (I didn't learn the lesson well-enough)

Watching with parental fear and trepidation as Val, our reckless one, headed into the jaws of Cottonseed Rapid without a second glance

Hearing afterwards how Lauren, our cautious

one, wanted to walk the rapids, but prompted by Chet Tigard successfully ran them without a hitch

The view as we turned the corner into Cottonseed and saw people sprouting like frogs on every rock and lining the bank like cheerleaders at a football game—WHAT A GREAT FEELING!

Coming round the bend to see Bill rescuing Val after she tipped and went

under her boat--she was a bit shaken but stubbornly would not give up  
Sitting in the cold water with John Speer after he injured his knee "nursing" him; I didn't do much, but at least I kept him company

The first thing our daughters asked us when we got home was, "Can we do this again next year?" followed closely by, "Can I have a boat of my own?"



*Setting up the rope swing for the kids*

Thank you, Houston Canoe Club, we had a great time!

**Julia, Bob, Lauren, and Valerie Soper in Edinburg, about 300 miles away.**

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## #2 Outdoor Adventures

*By Lola Scarborough*

On July 28th our family – John, Dash, and Nia Speer and Lola Scarborough – went for our first adventure with the Houston Canoe Club on the San Marcos River. The event was the Kid's Paddle.

When we got there (a bit late, due to an accident on the freeway) Donna had things in full swing. She had the teams divided up and ready for action, and was giving out the last of the instructions. There were canoes and kids and activity and anticipation everywhere. The area was buzzing with excitement!

We were members of Team C, and Lillian Tigard was our fearless leader. Her second-in-command was Chet. Some of the members on our team were Neil & Sara Harrison, Elisabeth & Mark Kulaski, as well as many other lovely people

As each of the members of our team came into the water from the put-in, Lillian and Chet worked with the children and adults alike to come up with a team motto before we ever left the put-in. After a few ideas came and went, the agreement was that we were the "Cool ... Crazy ... Cats!"

The trip along the San Marcos was slow and lazy, with many stops, the children's needs being the focus. We'd paddle a while, then put in where the kids could swim and play and interact. Lillian, Chet, Neil and John all worked with the children, teaching them to swim in the current. My daughter Nia became a champion current swimmer with just a few lessons! These adults were nurturing teachers, sharing their store of knowledge about the life and the beauty of the river with the children.

Although peace and tranquility and fun were the main theme of the paddle, there was also the grand accomplishment of running the

rapids to feed the adventurous parts of our souls. The really BIG one was the

## **Cottonseed.**

Ah, Cottonseed! While almost everyone was excited by the prospect of the rapids, there were some who were intimidated by the idea. My son, Dash, was one of children that was very afraid of running the Cottonseed. Amid a downpour of crocodile tears, he kept repeating “I don’t want to go”. Lillian came to his rescue. She asked Dash if he wanted to ride with her, and assured him that she never tipped over! Lillian made room for him in her canoe, and off they went with Dash reassured and confident in Lillian’s abilities. Thanks to Lillian, Dash made it through the Cottonseed with a great sense of accomplishment and pride. He had mastered the rapids.

We finished the trip in about 5 hours, and we were all tired and happy. It had been a lovely day, full of fun and new lessons. However, our family still had one more adventure ahead of us.

As my husband and Bill Grimes walked our canoe up the bank, my husband slipped and fell and badly dislocated his knee. He could not walk unaided, and certainly could not get the canoe back to the camp.

When other members of the HCC saw what happened, we had help coming in from all quarters. Julia Soper ministered to John and his knee; a couple of the men loaded up our canoe and transported it back; and someone else loaded up our whole family and drove us to the camp. After we got there, people continued to come to our aid. Jim Barton and Bill Grimes put our canoe on our van and very expertly tied it on. Other folks kept coming up and checking on us, making sure we were okay. We were impressed with the

kindness and spirit of helping that was extended to us by the members of the HCC.

WHAT A TRIP! And even more, what an **incredible group of HCC people!** Thank you all for everything you did. As my husband said, you all “helped our children grow a year in a day.”

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## **#3 Kid’s Paddle**

*By Patsy Gomez*

The Kid’s Paddle put on by the Houston Canoe Club was just that : a paddle down the San Marcos River, **ONLY** about kids and **ALL** about fun.

We started out the morning by meeting under the pavilion at Pecan Park Campground sometime around nine. Donna and Bill Grimes divided us into three groups. I remember Donna saying there was 37 boats and 50 paddlers all together. Each group was assigned two group leaders and some groups even had grandmas assigned to them for those all important hugs and special nurturing that only grandmas can give.

My kids and I were assigned to Group C led by Chet and Lillian Tigard. Those of you that know Chet and Lillian know that this is when the FUN started. Lillian made sure we all knew each other. First, we met Dash, Nia and their parents John Speers and wife Lola Scarborough. Elizabeth brought her dad Mark in a canoe also. Sarah invited her dad Neil and they each had a kayak. My son Devin was in his kayak and my other son Destin let me paddle with him in our Topo Duo kayak. We got lucky with two grandmas, Martha Williams and Nancy Burns, both in solo canoes.

Before we even got in the water, Lillian revealed the coolest secret. She said this in a whisper, “Group C stands for ‘Cool Crazy Cats’.”



And from that moment on our group was a team. Once on the water Chet said he had one rule, “Nobody Drowns”. Lillian told us that we would have to agree as a group on everything and if we disagreed there was only one way to settle the disagreement... With a FIGHT. (I must admit that at this point I started to worry about Lillian’s judgement. Why would she encourage kids to fight?) The kids knew exactly what she was talking about and when she asked what kind of a fight we should have. They yelled, “ A WATER FIGHT”. I started laughing and realized I was going to have to lighten up if I was going to live up to the ‘Cool Crazy Cat’ name. My kids may be too embarrassed to bring me along again.

With Lillian at the lead and Chet as sweep we began our paddle down the river. We did not go far. The first stop was at the rope swing at Pecan Park. Lillian, Devin and Sara showed us how to swim the rapid - our feet in front of us and our toes sticking out of the water. They grabbed the ropes and hung on or dear life. That looked like sooo much fun that the rest

of us ‘kids’ had to try it. Pretty soon some of the “real kids” were climbing the bank and swinging into the river. We could have stayed here all day, we were having so much fun.

Before we got to ‘Old Mill Rapid’ Lillian said the Cool Crazy Cats had to have a cheer. Elizabeth and Mark immediately responded with, “Everywhere we go people want to know who we are. So we tell them: WE ARE THE COOL CRAZY CATS”. We incorporated arm movements and added a grand finale: a hiss and a meow.

We stopped for lunch after ‘Old Mill Rapid’. As you can imagine we kids were well-versed on swimming rapids with our feet up letting our bottoms bounce off the rocks. (Smaller bottoms fared better than bigger bottoms.) Lillian decided it was time we learned how to body ferry. Sara, Elizabeth and Devin jumped right in and gave it a whirl. They body ferried and body ferried and body ferried, back and forth from the bank to the island. The rest of us kids that weren’t quite so sure about this body ferry received special assistance from Lillian, Neil and Chet. Pretty soon everyone was doing the body ferry like a pro! Once again the Cool Crazy Cats were in their element. We were having FUN!!!!

Everyone was a winner! Lillian said to Devin, “You know, you’re a special kinda’ guy?” And Devin said, “Yes, I know I am.” Lillian may have been surprised by his answer, but I wasn’t. She made us all feel special that day. She could have asked anyone of us Cool Crazy Cats that question and we would have responded with that same Cool Crazy Cat confidence.

And confidence was what we needed for 'Cotton Seed Rapid' coming up. Sure we were all Cool but I could feel a wee bit of tension building up as we scouted 'Cotton Seed'. Chet positioned himself in the eddy upstream of the rapid to point us in the right direction. After scouting the rapid Devin admitted he was nervous. This was the first time he had paddled a river in his own kayak with a skirt on. I immediately offered the option to portage. He immediately rejected this option and said, "Let's go Mom. Let's do it."

So like a Mama duck with her baby duck following her we paddled and caught "Chet's eddy. Chet pointed us in the right direction and we paddled safely through the infamous 'Cotton Seed Rapid' like we were pros. We eddied out on river left and played in the rapids while we waited for the rest of the "KIDS" to come through 'Cotton Seed'.

My husband and I had been planning for this very trip for nine years (since Devin was born). Never in our wildest dreams could we have planned it this well. How fun it is to paddle with you guys.

Thank you for teaching me how to paddle with my kids. We hope you don't mind, but we are inviting ourselves to the next "KIDS PADDLE" when I hope to be one year younger (in attitude – like Lillian, Chet, Donna and Bill) and we can all be cooler and crazier cats than we were this year!



*Cotton Seed, lined with successful paddlers*

#### **#4 - From a Kid's POV: Elizabeth Kubacki** – age 9 - The Woodlands, Tx.

When we went to the kids canoe day it was great. First we got in our canoes or kayaks and paddled down the river. Then we got to go on the rope swing- you climbed up a tree and swung from a rope and landed in the river. We also could go down a rapid to get the rope. After that we went paddling for a while. Then we went down an even bumpier rapid. Finally, we stopped and ate lunch. Then we paddled to S turn. We went down Cottonseed..... now that was awesome! After that we went back to the camp site. I and my dad set up the tent. We then all had BBQ for dinner. After dinner I played for a little. And then we that it was time for bed. The next morning we all left for home. I had a slide show of the river. After made a lot of friends on the river - hello Sarah! My Dad tells me that I am now a real river rat!

Thank you Donna and Lillian and Mr. Chet for a wonderful time. It was a lot of fun, and I hope I can go next year!!!

Happy paddling everyone!!!

# Joint Canoe Club and Sierra Club Paddle Down Sims Bayou

*By Natalie Wiest*

On Saturday , July 14th, twenty-four of us canoed or kayaked lower Sims Bayou from Reveille Park to Milby Park. Our parade included fourteen canoes or kayaks and one rubber ducky masquerading as a boat. The major contrast of the trip was between the main channel of Sims Bayou, which was widened for flood control purposes and two of the original meanders of Sims Bayou. The main channel is wide and open and sunny with grassy vegetation and scattered new plantings of trees at the top of bank and the upper slopes of the bayou. The two old meanders offer welcoming shade on a hot day due to the arching vegetation.

The first meander on the trip is on the north side of the bayou just downstream of I-45 and across from the Glenbrook Valley Golf course. The Sims Bayou Urban Nature Center (SBUNC) located at 3997 River Drive backs up to this oxbow. As you paddle through the meander, you will circle round the part of the Glenbrook Valley Golf Course on the north bank of Sims Bayou. On your left will be the SBUNC, Charlton Park, and private homes hidden by vegetation. Emerging from the first meander into the main channel again, you paddle briefly upstream to the south side of Sims



*Paddling on Sims Bayou in Houston*

Bayou and there enter the second meander of the trip. It winds under Old Galveston Road and the adjacent railroad tracks and passes behind the Cesar Chavez High School. At about the midpoint of the meander, you will see Berry Creek as it merges with Sims Bayou. During heavy rainfall, Berry Creek actually crashes into Sims, as you can see from the landowner's attempt to riprap his property with sunken vehicles in order to slow erosion. Beyond Berry Creek on your right will be a wooded area owned by Texas Petrochemicals which can offer good bird sighting. Returning to the main channel again, you will be heading to Hwy. 225. Shortly before Hwy. 225 on the north bank will be Milby Park, which is an ideal takeout point. Everybody enjoyed the trip, but there were a couple of bad signs: The channel leading into the Nature Center is badly silted up and the concrete cellular matting has buckled near the shoreline in a number of places. We had been told that work would start on de-silting the entrance to the oxbow months ago, which is imperative if boat access to the meander is to be maintained.

Many of the people who live outside the local neighborhoods were surprised at how quickly it felt as though we had left the city once we entered the oxbow. The sounds of the traffic from I-45 and Park Place were the only clues we were still in Houston. We could see that a basic canoe launch had been installed at Charlton Park. We could see that another canoe launch was needed at Milby Park. A trip like this takes a leisurely three hours plus time for lunch. This trip would be especially suitable for people who would like a short trip with very little driving and for introducing children to canoeing.

## Twin Sisters of Harrisburg A History report of Buffalo Bayou

By *Louis F. Aulbach*

At the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836, Mexican officer Col. Delgado, an aide to Santa Anna, described the confusion that beset the Mexican army during the attack, and credited that confusion to the devastating effects produced by the grape shot from the two cannons of the Texian army.

These two cannons, named the Twin Sisters, were gifts from the City of Cincinnati and they were delivered to Sam Houston only weeks prior to the decisive battle. They were the only artillery of the army of Texas.

After the defeat of Santa Anna, the cannons fell into disuse and were considered obsolete by the time they were turned over to the US Army in 1845 as part of the Treaty of Annexation. Yet, these two 6-pound cannons were refurbished in 1861 and used by the Texas regiments in the Civil War.

In 1865, Henry N. Graves, his black servant and four other Confederate soldiers returning home from the war disembarked at the train depot in Harrisburg one evening in August, 1865, and saw the Twin Sisters at the depot. The cannons were about to be shipped out with the Union troops.

In order to prevent the Twin Sisters from falling into Yankee hands, the former soldiers snatched the cannons in the dark of night. They stripped the barrels from the carriages and burned the woodwork. The cannons were then rolled to

the bank of Buffalo Bayou and buried in 3 to 4 foot deep graves.

Dr. Graves returned in 1888 to locate and retrieve the Twin Sisters. Unfortunately, Harrisburg of 1865 was not at all like Harrisburg of the 1880's. The wooded area near the bayou with the trees that had been marked for identification had been replaced by subsequent development. Other landmarks had changed as well, and for the next 20 years, Dr. Graves tried unsuccessfully to locate the buried Twin Sisters. As far as we know, despite repeated attempts, even as recently as the 1980's, the Twin Sisters have never been found. They are lost to history and they rest somewhere in the long forgotten port and railroad terminus of the town of Harrisburg.

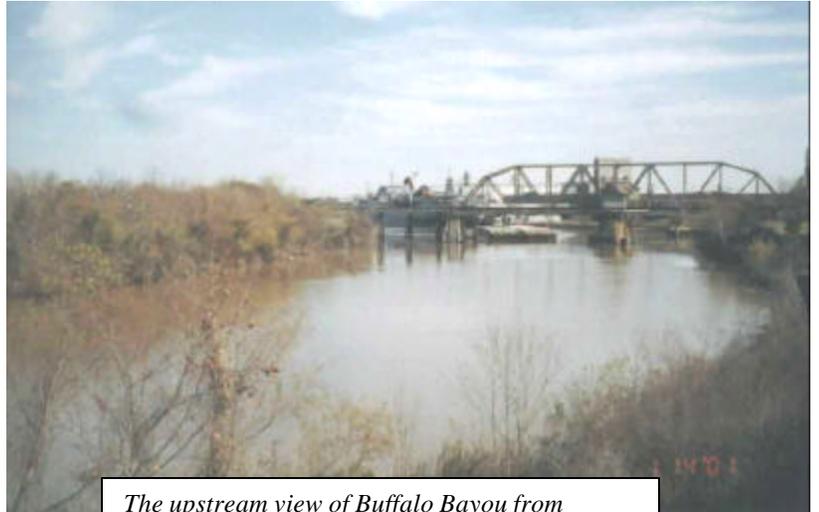
The City of Houston annexed Harrisburg, located on the south bank of Buffalo Bayou at its junction with Brays Bayou, in 1926. The town that served as the major port of entry for goods and colonists for Stephen F. Austin's colony during the 1820's and 1830's lost out to Houston as the primary rail and shipping center of Texas after the devastating hurricane of 1870 flooded its docks and rail yards, while those in Houston were high and dry.



*Glendale Cemetery overlooking Buffalo Bayou with the Sidney Sherman Bridge of Loop 610 in the background.*

Today, the Turning Basin of the Port of Houston has transcended the town of Harrisburg. Glendale Cemetery, the resting place of the Harris family, Texas veteran General Sidney Sherman and others who were prominent citizens of Harrisburg, overlooks Buffalo Bayou near Brady's Island and the former wharves of the port of Harrisburg.

Just upstream of the Turning Basin is Hidalgo Park where access to Buffalo Bayou is a rough descent through trash and brush along a bunkheaded street. A canoe trip to this part of the bayou is a challenging expedition into the forgotten history of the beginnings of Houston and the settlement of Texas.



*The upstream view of Buffalo Bayou from Hidalgo Park*

### **New Listbot email address**

Welcome to Our New members

#### **Michael & Marlene Kloack**

12510 Dolgo Dr,  
Cypress TX 77429  
LuckyMTK@aol.com  
(832) 237-0589  
(heard about HCC from Fred & Maria Hurd)

#### **Jim Waller IV**

1906 Crestwood,  
Victoria, TX 77901 (361) 575-4158  
(heard about HCC from attending Rendezvous last year)

#### **Anthony Doric**

1507 W. 21<sup>st</sup> St.  
Houston, TX 77008  
(713) 862-1001  
Brutisd@aol.com (heard about HCC from attending a Leisure Learning Class)

### **Thank You!**

I want to thank HCC for joining with the Bayou City Whitewater Club and hosting this year's Auction supporting the Texas Rivers Protection Assn. The results were great as we raised about \$2200. This money is greatly needed. There are threats of "Flood Control Projects" hurting our local Houston waterways and there are serious water use issues relating to Caddo Lake and the Upper Guadalupe River and this money will help address these issue.

#### **THANKS to those:**

who visited local Dealers to solicit donations.  
who donated your own gear or other items to the Auction.  
who donated trips or lessons.  
local Dealers for your support and yes, we HCC members will help support you instead of buying "on line" or "mail order"

And most of all THANK YOU all of you who came to the August Meeting and opened your hearts and wallets.

It was all for a great cause! Without you it wouldn't have happened at all. Thanks again and hope to do it again next year!

Ken Bernard

FOR SALE  
HCC BULLETIN BOARD

**CURTIS VAGABOND** solo traveling canoe for smaller persons. Like new condition, fiberglass, 14'8" Blue hull. \$400.00. Call Linda Arredondo 817-924-3989 [lrarre@aol.com](mailto:lrarre@aol.com)

**LOON WORKS MISTRAL:** Hatteras off-white, cherry decks & outwales, spruce gunwales. Perfect condition, a beautiful boat. Half ribs, sculpted cherry seat. \$2800. Call Linda Arredondo 817-924-3989 [lrarre@aol.com](mailto:lrarre@aol.com)

For Sale red **DAGGER IMPULSE** whitewater open canoe - a real good beginners boat. Garage kept, wood gunwales, foam saddle, air bags, thigh straps, knee pads, & foot blocks. I'm firm on \$550.00. I'm also selling an **OCEAN KAYKAK RAPIDO** It's lime green & it's a real surf machine. Perfect for Galveston waves. I'm firm at \$300.00. Ken Barnard @ 713 666-5666 or [Ken@controlsolutionsinc.com](mailto:Ken@controlsolutionsinc.com)

**DAGGER SOJOURN** solos canoe for sale – Wooden gunnels - \$700 or best offer. Contact Bryan Sherwood at (713) 681-4674 or [bryan1204@yahoo.com](mailto:bryan1204@yahoo.com)

**TANDEM FIBERGLASS KAYAK** – good for flat water and for fishing. Includes splash skirt, 2 paddles that convert from kayak paddles to single blade. 2 air bags and 1 waterproof bag. \$400 or best offer. Contact Bob or Julia Soper at (956) 381-0690 or [rasjas@swbell.net](mailto:rasjas@swbell.net)

Like-new Kevlar **DAGGER TYBEE SEA KAYAK** – 14'10" \$2,000 ( \$3,000 in stores) and Kevlar **MERIDIAN SEA KAYAK** - 16' – for \$2,000 contact Chet Tigard at (281) 494-7977 or [Tigards2@hal-pc.org](mailto:Tigards2@hal-pc.org)

**AQUATERRA CHINOOK** expedition kayak. Hatches, deck rigging. 16'. Includes spray skirt and travel cover \$500 Call Cindy Bartos (713) 957-3809 [cbartos@ix.netcom.com](mailto:cbartos@ix.netcom.com)

## HCC TRIPS

**8/31-9/3 Padre Island Kayaking for Labor Day, 2001..** We'll be camping on the beach on Padre Island National Seashore.

(<http://www.tamug.tamu.edu/paddler/Padre.htm>) Bring your own food and libations.

Marilyn Kircus [mkircus@yahoo.com](mailto: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, white sandbars on the river. This is a self supported trip, which means that you must carry all gear, food and water. Contact John Bartos for more info 713-957-3809 or [jbartos@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jbartos@ix.netcom.com)

**9/ 12 – Wednesday** – HCC meeting – Speaker Bryan Adams from US Fish & Wildlife Services. His talk will be on 'Refuges in the Texas Mid-Coast Areas and Paddling Opportunies “

**9/15-16 Hummingbird Festival in Rockport and Paddle on the Mission River.** camping at Goose Island State Park. Attend the Hummingbird Festival in Rockport on Saturday Sept 15 and paddle an exploratory paddle on the Mission River on Sunday. Paddling is also available in St Charles Bay accessible from Goose Island. contact Tracy Caldwell at email [tcaldwell@backpacker.com](mailto:tcaldwell@backpacker.com) or call 281-558-4877.

**9/15 Quickstart Paddling**- entry level short course for those starting out canoeing 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. This is a joint trip with the Houston Sierra Club 713-895-7278 or [boba100@aol.com](mailto:boba100@aol.com)

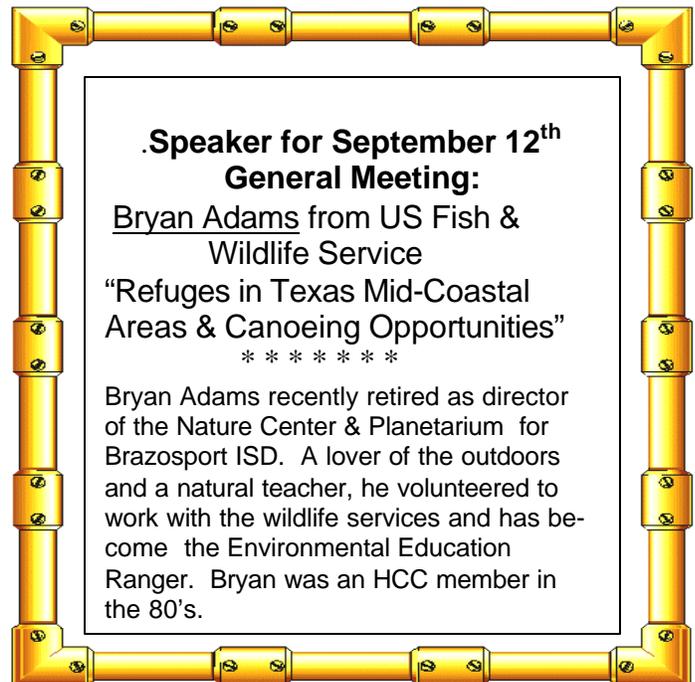
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*Check out the electronic format of this newsletter – available to current members only – On trips page: At [www.houstoncanooclub.org](http://www.houstoncanooclub.org)*

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**.Speaker for September 12<sup>th</sup>  
General Meeting:**  
**Bryan Adams from US Fish &  
Wildlife Service**  
"Refuges in Texas Mid-Coastal  
Areas & Canoeing Opportunities"  
\* \* \* \* \*  
Bryan Adams recently retired as director of the Nature Center & Planetarium for Brazosport ISD. A lover of the outdoors and a natural teacher, he volunteered to work with the wildlife services and has become the Environmental Education Ranger. Bryan was an HCC member in the 80's.