

PADDLE RUSSIA **Desire is worth more than slavery (Old Russian proverb).** *(or desire is more effective than demand)*

About fifteen years ago in the middle of nowhere (the Siberian uninhabited wilderness) during one of the white water rafting expeditions, my friends and I encountered *Buriats*, (aborigines). Critically looking at our heavily loaded (three-week supply) boats, natives asked how much they paid us to participate in the expedition. They were puzzled to learn that all expenses were paid out of our own pockets and this was a customary way for us to spend vacations.

That night sitting around the campfire, we asked each other and ourselves: Why? Why - instead of pampering ourselves on warm, relaxing beach resorts, we took part in this cold, hard-work survivor adventure. That night, we came up with reason:

- To get back to our roots. We are children of nature so we feel the need to relate to our source;
- To experience an adrenaline pumping challenge;
- To have the "feeling of the elbow" (Russian idiom "feeling of the elbow" means feeling of fellowship, feeling of mutual help. During the expedition (as in case of a primitive tribe) the strength, safety and well-being depends on the unity of the group. Connections established during life-threatening conditions are very special, similar to family ties.

Of course, this style of vacation isn't for everybody. Sleeping in the tent, packing/unpacking travel and personal gear every day, cooking meals on the campfire and swimming in the cold river instead of taking warm shower can't be everyone's cup of tea. However, if tried and enjoyed, that person is infected with an adventure-travel-virus. The virus might be dormant for a while, but once experienced a sharp urge for the adventure and the "feeling of the elbow" remains indefinitely.

As a native of Russia I enjoy showing people around my fascinating motherland. For the last three years I've conducted sightseeing tours for small groups to Russia (Moscow, Uglich, St. Petersburg, and more). All this time I was thinking about water expedition tours (Is the virus to blame?). But because I strongly believe that visits of Red Square and Hermitage are the **musts** for the first time visitors to Russia, I came up with a combined trip of one week being an expedition, Class II white water trip and one week being a sightseeing program in Moscow and St. Petersburg.

For the white water portion of expedition, I picked Karelia, a region in northwest of Russia, called "blue eyed" for the abundance of lakes and rivers: 18% of Karelia's territory is covered with lakes, 50% with woods. Karelia lies between Finland and the White Sea. The convenient location of the region (overnight train from Moscow or St. Petersburg), the scenery and moderate complexity of the Karelian rivers together with comfortable summer temperature of 65-75F make the region perfect for water travelers.

Karelia is hill country with an abundance of rocks and boulders left behind by glacier. The Karelian rivers are



Collecting mushrooms along Russian Rivers

peppered with rapids (some of them up to Class IV), but filled with quiet stretches frequently interrupted with fast rapids, although usually the rapids are not very long and are followed by quiet water. This makes the Karelian rivers a safe place to improve one's paddling skills. For the trip I've chosen the Shuya River, the third biggest river of Karelia. No experience is necessary for the route, only good physical health.

Our trip through the Karelian outback, down the rapid-strewn river and among virginal forests ends in Petrozavodsk, the capital of Karelia, where my guests will return to civilization. However, the week of paddling in Karelia will linger long after the trip is over as vivid flashes of the landscape, the oneness with nature, and the "feeling of the elbow" return.

Here is a tentative itinerary for the first week:

Group Size: 6 – 10

Tentative dates July 27 – August 11 (I call myself a pathological optimist, so I picked other dates for the trip, June 29 - July 14, in case there will be enough people for two groups)

Day 01- Houston/Moscow. Depart on your International flight bound to Moscow

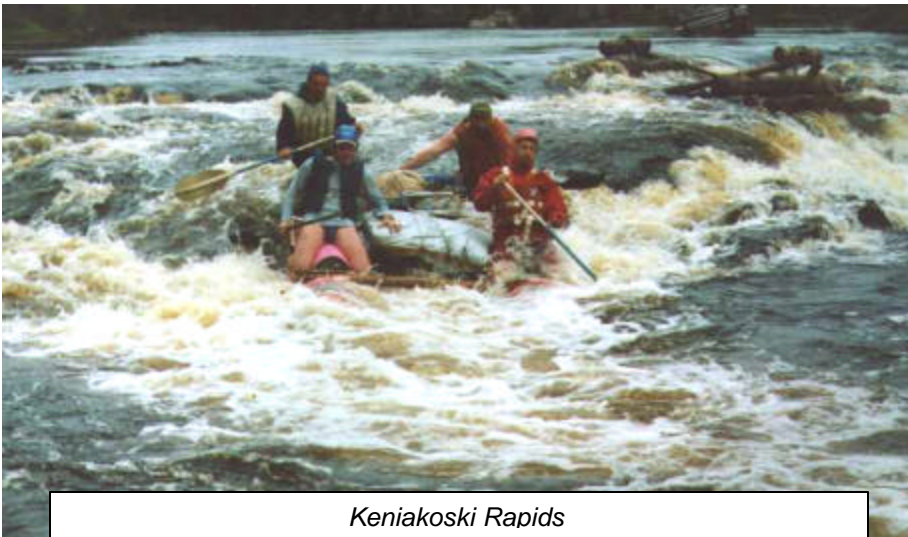
Day 02- Arrive Moscow. Homestays with Russians. Light dinner.

Day 03 - Full day sightseeing tour of Moscow.

Day 04 - Use public transportation to various the points of our interest. Walking tour of Kremlin. Armory Chamber. After lunch stroll at the Arbat street leaving Moscow for Karelia by night train.

Day 05 - In the morning, arrival to Petrozavodsk, capital of Karelia.

A bus will take the group from Petrozavodsk railway station first to the lodge (20 miles from Petrozavodsk) where breakfast will be served. Participants can leave their non-river related belongings at the lodge, put on water outfits, load traveling gears and head by bus to the upper reaches of the Shuya River. From there the group will cover 65 mile down the picturesque Shuya in six days. All this time we'll sleep in tents and cook meals on campfire. We'll use catarafts and inflatable kayaks for the expedition. They are very forgiving and good cargo boats. Technically, the river is Class II white water (with some rapids up Class III). Complexity of the route increases gradually giving participants time to hone their skills and learn to work together. Despite the fact that it is quite close to Petrozavodsk, the traveler finds himself among wild and austere surroundings, in forests abounding in mushrooms and berries and on the river with good fishing.



Keniakoski Rapids

With every twist and turn of the Shuya River, stunning vistas come into view, and unexpected adventures await travelers who are sure to enjoy them.

The next week will consist of visiting the Kizhi Island, St Petersburg, Peterhof, Hermitage, Price is \$2750. All meals (but one dinner in St. Petersburg), lodging (double room), sightseeing (museum fees included), land transportation, airfare to/from Russia, visa arrangements. Money might be needed for souvenirs, and ballet, opera, folk show or

circus tickets if the group decide to go. All white water and camping equipment for expedition will be provided: tents, boats, PFD-life vests.

If some of you are ready to go to Russia, please contact Natasha / Natalia Sorokina-Canada at 713 936-441-4220 or e-mail nata00@netzero.net (see Natalia's bio on page 8)

W e l c o m e N e w m e m b e r s !

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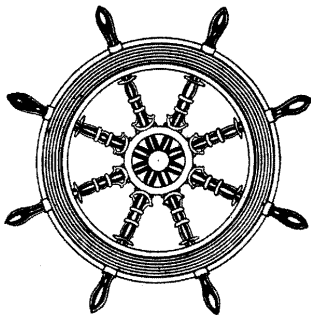
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From The Helm: by Jim Null, Vice Commodore

The primary responsibility of the Vice Commodore is to plan programs for the monthly meetings. This includes topics, speakers and equipment.

This is not an easy task for a group as diverse as the Houston Canoe Club. Those who attend monthly meetings include trippers, racers, flat-water and whitewater canoers, kayakers of every variety, fishermen, and probably a few others. Skill levels vary from the first-timers to those bored with anything less than kayaking the Ocoee or canoeing the Grand Canyon.

There are two approaches to finding program topics which will apply to the majority of attendees: Select topics which will appeal to one group one month, another group the next month, etc., or select topics which cut across interest lines and include everyone (or at least many people) in their scope. My preference is for the second approach. Every watersports enthusiast, for example, needs to hear Patti Carothers' talk on minor infections which can become major and potentially life-threatening. The same is true of Dr. Stuart Shapiro's talk on skin cancer. None of us is immune, and at least three members scheduled examinations of suspicious lesions after his presentation.

Have you heard speakers who would fit into this philosophy? Or, have you heard presentations on topics that you feel should be covered in our monthly meetings? Your feedback is more than welcome—it is vital. Forward your thoughts to me via phone (713-664-1083) or email me at medislide@earthlink.net. As the man said, thank you for your support.

Houston Canoe Club

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Newsletter Deadlines

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Change of Address

Contact HCC Recorder, Marilyn Peery

**Monthly Meetings: Second
Wednesday of every month at the
American Red Cross Building
at 7 PM**

**Address: 2700 Southwest
Freeway – Hwy 59 S @ Kirby**

Houston Canoe Club General Meeting

February 13, 2002

The meeting was called to order by Commodore Fraser Baker. Officers present included Vice Commodore Jim Null, Recorder Marilyn Peery, Purser Kevin Casement, Newsletter Editor Donna Grimes and Governors Mark Andrus, Bill Grimes and Candy Donahue. There were 49 people present.

The program, "When Minor Injuries Turn Serious", was presented by Patti Carothers.

Fraser presented the ACA President's Award to Bob Arthur which included a letter of commendation from Charlie Wilson.

Fraser read a letter from Sheldon Lake State Park thanking us for our donation of \$1000. He has written a letter of thanks to REI for the grant that made this donation possible.

Jim Null moved that we give \$500 to the Houston Chapter of the American Red Cross in appreciation for letting us use their facilities. A hat will be passed for individual donations. The motion was approved.

Donna made a motion that HCC spend up to \$1200 for 145 T-shirts at \$15 each or pre-ordered tonight for \$13 each. She showed designs for the proposed shirts. The motion carried.

Fraser announced that the River Bottom Festival will be held at Lake Houston State Park on March 9th. They are expecting between 500 and 1500 people. Volunteers are needed for 2 hour intervals and will receive free admission and lunch. A sheet was passed for volunteers to sign up.

Cheryl Cleary presented the Fleet Captain' Awards. She reported that last year HCC paddled 4692 ¼ miles. Paul woodcock paddled the most miles with 536. Mary Zaborowski let the most trips with 7. Fraser Baker participated in the most trips with 7. The best attended trip was led by Bill and Donna Grimes with over 50 participants. Cheryl created a new category for this year, the most optimistic trip. It was the San Marcos Cleanup let on a rainy day by Ann Derby. Fraser Baker gave the trip report. In addition to club trips, he announced the following cleanups: San Marcos River on March 2 coordinated by Ann Derby, and the Armand Bayou on March 23 coordinated by Mary Carter.

Kevin announced that at the end of December there was \$20,945 in the treasury. Currently we have \$25,502. The refund for Rendezvous campsite reservations was received. \$361 dollars was collected in donations for the Red Cross bringing our total donation to \$861.

The meeting was adjourned. Marilyn Peery Recorder

DICK DOWLING'S IRISH GUARDS -HOUSTON'S CIVIL WAR HEROS

By Linda Gorski and Louis F. Aulbach

Although not a single Civil War battle was fought in the city Houston, the story might have been totally different had it not been for a couple of steamboats shipping cotton down Buffalo Bayou and a group of Irishmen under the command of a Houston barkeep named Dick Dowling.

The Civil War began in Texas in early 1861 when the Constitution of the Confederacy was ratified by Texas and the first two Houston units, the Bayou Guards and the Here We Are Guards, started drilling daily. By the end of April 500 Houstonians were enlisted in various Confederate units and by August 14 there were nine companies from Harris County in the Confederate Army stationed at several garrisons in Texas and other parts of the Confederacy.

Still, by the end of 1861, traffic on Buffalo Bayou, an all-important route for shipping goods to and from the coast, was affected due to a Federal blockade at Galveston. Merchants began warning inland planters not to ship cotton to Houston in the event Galveston fell, Houston might be next and every bale of cotton would be burned. Houstonians became creative as supplies coming up the Bayou dwindled. Dried okra was substituted for coffee, castor oil was used for lamps, and wrapping paper was used for stationary. By December, newspapers were even being printed on brown wrapping paper.

Houstonians made preparations for the inevitable invasion. Many buildings along Buffalo Bayou in Houston were adapted for Civil War use. John Kennedy leased his two-story brick building on Travis Street, just north of Congress Ave., to the Confederacy for an ordnance depot. In May the unfinished courthouse in Houston was converted into a cartridge factory. Alexander McGowan's Foundry on Preston Avenue was working on Confederate government contracts. Other public buildings were rented out as hospitals for patients who had been evacuated from Galveston. Old houses and warehouses were torn down to provide firewood for the City of Houston as the war went on.

On Christmas Day, 1862, an unusual sight was taking place on Buffalo Bayou at the foot of Main Street. The Steamboats *Neptune* and *Bayou City*

were taking on cotton. However, as the decks were being lined with large bales of cotton, the prows were being fitted with barbed bowsprits to ram the enemy. The boats appeared to be regular Galveston-bound freighters shipping cotton, but artillerymen and sharpshooters hid behind the bales ... and right behind the freighters were the packets *Lucy Gwinn* and *John F. Carr* loaded with infantrymen. Houston was going on the offensive!

The Civil War battle between the "cottonclads" *Neptune* and *Bayou City* and the U.S. gunboat *Harriet Lane* took place on New Year's Eve 1862 in Galveston Bay. On January 2, 1863, news reached Houston that the *Neptune* had been sunk but the *Bayou City* had rammed and captured the *Harriet Lane*. The federal flagship *The Westfield* also ran aground during the battle. Several hundred prisoners from the two ships were in Confederate hands.

The tri-weekly Telegraph reported on January 2 that the Civil War battle would go down in history as one of the most brilliant of the war considering "that the enemy was in terrible gunboats and were



U of H downtown campus in the former M & M Building which is built on the site of the Allen Warehouse

challenged by a couple of bayou boats fitted up for the occasion!"

After the battle, the victorious *Bayou City* returned up Buffalo Bayou to Houston flying a bat of cotton above the *Harriet Lane's* ensign at her masthead and was greeted at Main Street by a flotilla of "cottonclad" bayou boats. About 350 Federal prisoners were marched down Main Street and interred in a warehouse located on the site of today's downtown campus of the University of Houston on the north side of the Bayou.

The safety of the city was further insured on September 8, 1863 when Houston's Davis Guards, made up mostly of Irish-Texans, engaged the enemy at Sabine Pass. Dick Dowling, owner of the Bank of Bacchus saloon at Main St. and Congress Ave., and his 47 Irishmen manned the six guns that repulsed an attack of four Federal gunboats and the landing of 4,000 northern troops. The result was the capture of the *Sachem*, the *Clifton* and many federal prisoners. The heroism of the men in Dick Dowling's company was praised and those high in the Confederate command said that if the

battle of Sabine Pass had been lost to the Federals, Texas would undoubtedly have been taken and Houston could not have escaped capture.

After Sabine Pass, the Federals made no major attacks on the coast. Thanks in large measure to the efforts of the "cottonclads" on Buffalo Bayou and the heroism of Houston soldiers like Dick Dowling and his men, Houston was never invaded during the Civil War or seriously threatened. On the contrary, the city became the most important highway for overland trade with the Rio Grande.

A statue honoring Dick Dowling stands in Hermann Park, a fitting tribute to Houston's most famous Irishman and a true Civil War hero. He died during a yellow fever epidemic shortly after the Civil War ended and was buried in St. Vincent's cemetery. Tuam Street is named in honor of his birthplace in Ireland.

Greens Bayou Clean-up

On January 12, 2002, a Greens Bayou clean-up was organized by Nick Somarakis, President of the College Democrats of U of H, as a group volunteer community effort. Planned for the last weekend before the beginning of the spring semester, he presented his idea to the Houston Canoe Club and to his fellow students at U of H.

HCC backed the project with enthusiasm at the January monthly meeting, volunteering extra boats and equipment and people to help. Many thanks to HCC members Randall

Nord, who coordinated the trip, Paul Woodcock and Mary Z for the canoes and equipment, including a port-a-potty, and the rest of the HCC members who came to help.

Although the participation number was small, a lot of trash was picked up.

These college students are to be commended in their efforts, and they had an experience they will remember. In their enthusiasm, plans were being made for future volunteer project. They also saw first-hand the needs of our waterways and will become better environmental monitors for all of us.

A proud Grandma, Mimi Vossler (grandmother to Nick Somarakis)



HCC and U of H students clean Greens Bayou

Lake Charlotte on 02/02/02

By Cindy Bartos

The forecast called for a high in the low 50's, partly cloudy and drizzle. That may be good weather for Ground Hog's Day, but it was enough to keep about half of the approximately 30 people from joining the scheduled paddle in the Lake Charlotte area. The other half were rewarded with a beautiful blue sky, pleasant temperatures and a light wind. A lesson learned in making decisions based on the weather prediction.

The plan was to meet at Cedar Hill Park, paddle across Lake Charlotte to the cut over to Mud Lake, cross Mud and take the channel to Miller Lake. We could tell Charlotte was low as soon as we drove to the put –in, but we didn't realize how low until we all got in our boats (a mix of solo & tandem canoes and sea kayaks) and started to paddle. We soon discovered that "sweeps" would be the stroke of the day since any deep, vertical paddle placement only resulted in stirring up the mud. The USGS water gage (http://tx.waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis/uv/?site_no=08067118) had a reading for Lake Charlotte of 6.8 ft., so the first stop was to paddle to the gage and have a look for ourselves. Sure enough, the last marking on the gage was 6.8 ft., but about 10 inches below that was the water. Something to keep in mind for future trips



The cut from Trinity River to Lake Charlotte

We crossed Mud Lake to the opening in the trees that leads to the twisting channel over to Miller Lake. Seeking out the deepest water we formed a single line of boats while the yellow-rumped warblers flitted about the trees lining the channel. Unfortunately about ¼ mile from Lake Miller we had to alter our plans – we ran out of water. So with graceful (and some not so graceful) moves we all did an about-face and headed back the way we came.

We decided to paddle to the shell midden on Sand Point in Lake Charlotte for lunch. Just as we finished eating the predicted clouds formed overhead. However, the slight breeze stopped and we had a mirror smooth lake in which to paddle back to the take out. It was another great day of winter paddling in Texas.



Checking out the gage.....rather low, huh?

The cut over to Mud Lake was a little narrower than usual, but there was enough water to paddle successfully despite going against a current that was rapidly leaving Mud Lake and flowing into

Lake Charlotte. For a lake with such a misleading name, Mud Lake has to be one of the prettiest lakes in Texas. The smallest of the 3 lakes, the moss covered cypress trees seem to form a natural amphitheater alive with the sights and sounds of osprey, white pelicans and an occasional fish ripple on the water.

Who Be These People?

Natalia Sorokina-Canada

HCC Member originally from Russia

1. Where were you born and raised?

Vologda, northern Russian city with population of 300,000. Vologda is situated about 400 ml east of St. Petersburg and about 300 miles northeast of Moscow.

2. Are you married, have children

Married for 7 years to David Canada, a home builder and designer in Conroe, TX. No children

3. Where educated and degree?

Moscow Institute of Electronic Technique, 5 year engineering program.

4. Previous occupations? how long?

After college for nine years I worked full time as a microchip engineer in Minsk, capital of Belarus (former Soviet republic, now independent state). After graduating from Travel Industry Course in Minsk, I combined my main engineering job with part time job as a tour director and guide.

5. Present occupation –

This is my fourth winter with H&R Block as tax preparer. Since 1999 I've had my small business as well: in summer I organize tours and accompany small groups of my guests to Russia.

6. Other places lived, how long in Houston.

Vologda, Moscow, Minsk. 7 years in Conroe, TX

7. How did you become involved with HCC?

All my vacations in Russia I spent in white water expeditions (folding kayaks or rafts). So after I settled in Conroe I started to look for the paddling folks. Several years ago David and I joined the HCC New Year Medina trip that we both enjoyed. Finally last year I became a member of HCC.

8. What is your favorite type and place to paddle?

My favorite type - expedition style trips, my favorite place – where I have never been before...



9. Do you have any other hobbies or outside activities?

I like to visit art museums and exhibits, I like to go to theaters and concerts, I like singing around campfire, and I like to dance (though I didn't dance for ages...).

My last passion is tennis. I'm not good in it ☹️, but I enjoy it anyway 😊.

And... did I mention that I like to travel? 😊

10. Any other comments

I'm one big international confusion: Russian who lives in US with last name Canada.



HCC Up & Coming Trips:

3/2/02 Sheldon Lake - Should be a good time to see birds. Mary Z. plans on paddling Carpenter's Bayou then conduct a bird count on Sheldon Lake. The fun doesn't stop there! Plan on meeting at the Educational facility for an old fashion wiener roast and exchange interesting paddling stories. For details contact Mary Z. at (H) 713-884-1925, (C) 832-215-4551, coachz66@hotmail.com or maryzabo@yahoo.com

3/2/02 San Marcos Cleanup - Help clean this popular river around the San Marcos area. Traditionally, HCC has always helps with this. There will be a section for moving water enthusiast and another for flat water friends. Contact Ann Derby for details at maderb@aol.com (preferred) or 281-491-3973.

3/9-17/02 Pecos River - Spring break is here! At least for some. Paddle this well known west Texas River with Mary Z. and friends. Contact her at (H) 713-884-1925, (C) 832-215-4551, coachz66@hotmail.com or maryzabo@yahoo.com

3/9/02 River Bottom Festival - The San Jacinto Conservation Coalition presents the River Bottom Festival at Lake Houston State Park. Visit their website at <http://www.sanjacinto.cc> for more information on this all-day environmental expo.

3/13/02 HCC Monthly Meeting –Speaker: TPW Speaker Wednesday- Red Cross Bldg. 2700 SW Frwy just west of Kirby. Everyone welcome.

3/23/02 Annual Armand Bayou Cleanup- associated with Trash Bash- This has been an event that the HCC has been involved in for many years. Help keep our urban wilderness paddling area looking sharp. To pre-register call 281-486-9500 or club members should contact Mary Carter at marcar1@pdq.net for more details.

3/23/02 Event - Buffalo Bayou:A Confluence of History, Nature and Dreams - Presented by Houston Seminar and co-sponsored by Buffalo Bayou Partnership. Check <http://www.houstonseminar.org/Spring2002/buffalo.html> for information and <http://www.houstonseminar.org/registration.html> for registration and FEE information. Note: they are also having a lecture Monday night. Check links for details.

4/6-7/02 Annual Women's Trip - Paddle Village Creek and stay at the cabin in Village Creek State Park. Contact Anne at 713-864-0205 or aolden@ix.netcom.com. Please include full name and phone number in email correspondence.

4/5-7/02 La Louisianne Freestyle Canoeing Symposium - Mandeville Louisiana. One of the premier places for beginners to experts to improve their canoeing skills. John Steib 225-654-5224

4/12-15/02 Devil's River - Camp at Devil's River State Park on Friday and paddle the Devil's River on Saturday from the park to Turkey Bluff. There is the possibility of paddling the S. Llano River on Sunday if there is group interest. Mary Z. has all the details so contact her at (H) 713-884-1925, (C) 832-215-4551, coachz66@hotmail.com or maryzabo@yahoo.com

Roll Sessions *Come and practice kayak and canoe rolls, braces and wet exits. Roll sessions are held at 7 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at the Westside YMCA pool in Houston located on the Katy Freeway (I-10) at 1006 Voss Road. On the 4th Monday, an instructor is available to teach. For insurance purposes, the YMCA requires all participants to wear a helmet. Fees are \$5 for members of the Bayou City Whitewater Club and Houston Canoe Club and \$7 for non-ACA members.*

Support Houston Forest Conservation!

Canoe Challenge and River Bottom Fest 2002

Join the night-time thrills in an adventurous 16-mile **canoe race** on Sunday, March 10. Challenge racers leave from Lake Houston State Park at 4am, and tackle both the east and west fork of the San Jacinto River before finishing in Kingwood. The event helps raise awareness of the unique and beautiful San Jacinto River. Sponsorship funds benefit the San Jacinto Conservation Coalition, a nonprofit making inroads on smart growth and habitat conservation in the region. For race rules and registration forms visit www.sanjacinto.cc/challenge.htm or contact Mike Stinson at 281-358-8830 or stinsonmike@hotmail.com

If canoe racing isn't your forte, please come on **Saturday March 9 to the 2nd annual River Bottom Festival at Lake Houston State Park.** The River Bottom Festival is an all-day Environmental Expo for kids and adults. Many interactive activities are planned, including kid-fish trips to Peach Creek, live birds of prey, booths, hands-on exhibits, canoe rentals, food and more.

Last year, the event generated 10% of the park's revenue and attendance. The park is seriously in jeopardy of being sold to developers because of low visitation. The Grand Parkway is slated to cut the park in half, and the larger half may be sold...

The Festival's theme this year is "Forests for Clean Water." Recent studies by the U.S. Geological Survey and by Kingwood College students strongly indicate water is far healthier where forest remains in the watershed. As forest is replaced with urban development, water quality declines significantly.

A recent U. S. Geological Survey (USGS) study by J. Bruce Moring indicated a strong correlation between biodiversity of aquatic invertebrates and forest cover -- as forest declined, biodiversity Taking care of our water is crucial because the San Jacinto runs into Lake Houston, which provides drinking water for Houstonians. The water on its forested eastern flank (Luce Bayou, East Fork of the San Jacinto) contains some of the cleanest water in

the entire Houston metroplex. Water quality in other streams west of the lake is significantly lower.

As forest continues to disappear with urban development, the water in our region is sure to decline. And at the same time Houston officials are decrying our lack of park space, we may lose one of Houston's crown jewels -- Lake Houston State Park! Many people don't even know about the park, but it contains beautiful and ecologically valuable bottomland hardwood forests, cypress swamps, and pine-hardwood forests. **Please show your support by attending the Festival.** Businesses interested in sponsoring the event can contact Wendee Holtcamp at wendee@greendzn.com or 281-798-8417.

HCC WILL HAVE A BOOTH AT THE SATURDAY FESTIVAL; COME AND HELP

FOR SALE

Canoe, 17' Arcadia. Old Town listed the boat as an all-around recreational use craft. I am not so sure on the whitewater side of things, but it does the San Marcos and Quad fine. To me, it is the type of boat you would have sitting at your cottage to muck about with. It is in fair condition with new end plates installed. \$200 Contact John Windus 281-242 1229 or john.windus@navmarser.com

Kayak. Yes, an old town kayak. It is lightweight fiberglass (wt. under 30 lbs). The design comes from an Olympic salmon boat of the early 70's. By today's standards, I would set along side the Arcadia to mess about on flat water. The length (about 13 ft) is long enough to give it fairly good tracking and hull speed. \$200 Contact John Windus 281-242 1229 or john.windus@navmarser.com

C-2 salmon boat I would like to sell. This is the boat Mark and Carolyn used to race with at Slumber Falls on the Quad a couple, three years back. It is a very specialize craft. \$800 Contact John Windus 281-242 1229 or john.windus@navmarser.com

Dagger Impulse whitewater open canoe. Very forgiving beginners' boat. Fully outfitted with pedistal, air bags, toe blocks, knee pads, thigh straps, and Bob Foote paddle. \$500.00 firm. Ken Barnard (713) 666-5666. ken@controlsolutioninc.com

18' Wenonah Jensen Ultralight – Kevlar skincoat. Safari ready with seat and knee pads, 2-1 gal. Water bottles with foam blocks installed. Excellent condition \$1400 Contact Jack Krohn 713-667 1440 captjack@ev1.net

Bayou Toro and Crawfish Pie

Let's all Go CAJUN!!!!

Danny Rowzee over at Toro Bayou (Tack-a-Paw Outfitters) is having his annual paddle, crawfish boil and drink fest on **March 16-17**, a Sat/Sun. Free camping, hot showers, free boats for folks that don't have any.....the only charge is \$5 to \$7 for the crawfish feed on Sat. nite.

Might paddle the Sabine, Toro Bayou (small rapids) or Kisatchie Bayou on Sat and/or Sun. Come on over on Friday nite if you can. Should be through about 1 PM on Sun.

Bob Arthur will lead the HCC group. Contact him at 713- 895 7278 or BobA100@aol.com or contact Danny at 337/286-9337 (outpost) or 337/238-0821 (Leesville office) or toll free at 1-800-256-9337.

Become a Better Paddler Classes offered by ACA HCC Instructors

Patti Carothers at SouthWest PaddleSports is offering the following classes in the Houston-Galveston-San Marcos/New Braunfels areas:

- * **Quickstart Kayak** Mar. 2, Apr. 7, May 4, May 19
- * **Quickstart for women only**
Anahuac Wildlife Refuge Mar. 9,
Marble Falls Mar. 8-9-10,
Palacios May 24-25-26.
- * **Kids Quickstart** 1:30-4:30PM, Mar. 2, Apr. 7, May 4 & 19
- * **Spring Break Watersports Day Camp** ages 8-14 Mar. 11-15
- * **Basic River Kayak** Mar. 3, April 21, June 9
- * **Whitewater Kayak** Mar 23-24, April 13-14, May 25-26
- * **Surf Clinic** Sat. Mar. 16, Apr. 20, May 11, 12
- * **Pool Roll Sessions at The Woodlands YMCA** Friday Mar. 15, Sat. Mar. 16
- * **Basic Coastal Kayak** Jan. 27, Apr. 27
- * **Sailing lessons** March 9, April 14, May 11
- * Canoe training on request

Contact us: email info@paddlesports.com
<http://www.paddlesports.com>
281-292-5600 FAX 281-298-6403
281-36 PADDLE (367-2335) metro
800-WE PADDLE (937-2335)

Sue Eda and Pat Isley's Classes

ACA Introduction to Basic River canoeing class for the HCC on Saturday, May 11. use your own boats, or use some of ours. We can teach solo or tandem.

We will be teaching several **beginning canoe classes** as well. They are Red Cross Fundamentals of Canoeing classes and last an entire weekend. Students will be taught both solo and tandem skills as well as safety and rescue. The class dates are: April 20-21 or May 4-5 . call or email Sue for details. (713) 465-8711 or sseda@mail.esc4.com

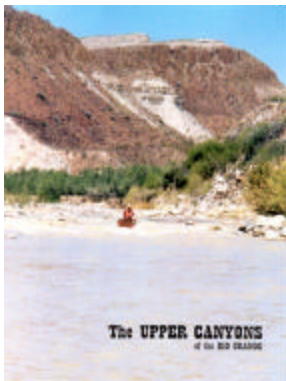
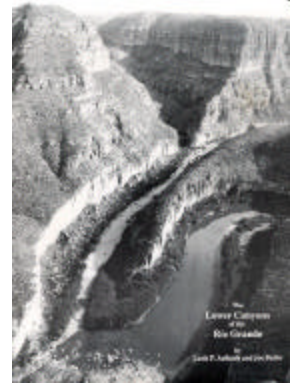


GUIDES TO THE WILD RIVERS OF WEST TEXAS

By LOUIS F. AULBACH

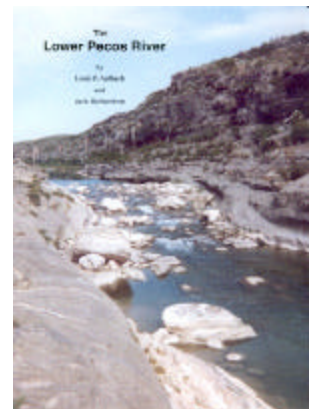
Louis Aulbach's river guides include comprehensive discussions of what to take on a wilderness river trip, what to see and what to do, plus mile-by-mile topographic maps and notes indicating campsites, rapids, canyons, fresh water sources and other natural features. Each book also gives an overview of the history, geology and archeology of the area. Also included in each book is shuttle and permit information plus handy expedition checklists and planning guides.

Already in its third edition, the **Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande** is the authoritative guide to paddling the Lower Canyons, an 83-mile section of the Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River in Texas. This book takes the paddler through big canyon country providing one of the most exciting and challenging wilderness adventures in the Southwest. By Louis Aulbach and Joe Butler.
\$19.95



The Upper Canyons of the Rio Grande guides paddlers 74 river miles from the Rio Grande's first navigable point in Texas near Presidio, through the challenging Hoo-Doos and the riffles and rapids of Colorado Canyon, past the resort town of Lajitas, through the spectacular scenery of Rock Slide Rapid of Santa Elena Canyon to the take out at Terlingua Creek. By Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski.
\$24.95

The Lower Pecos River takes the paddler through 60 miles of the most remarkable scenery in Texas, from the put-in at Pandale Crossing to the take out at Lake Amistad. Famous for its numerous prehistoric rock art sites, the Pecos also offers some of the best fishing in West Texas. By Louis Aulbach and Jack Richardson. \$19.95



More River Guides Coming Soon

The Great Unknown of the Rio Grande – Guide to an 80 mile section of the river from Terlingua Creek through Mariscal, San Vicente, Hot Springs, and Boquillas Canyons to the take out at Heath Canyon near La Linda. By Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski

Buffalo Bayou: An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings – A hiking, biking and paddling guide to Buffalo Bayou from its origin in Fort Bend County to the Sidney Sherman Bridge (I-610 East). By Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski

Louis Aulbach's river guides are available at Houston area outdoor equipment retailers including Southwest Paddlesports, REI and Whole Earth Provisions, through several outfitters and bookstores in the Big Bend and at State and National Park headquarters in Comstock, Presidio and the Big Bend area. For a complete list of where to find Aulbach's river guides, check his website at www.hal-pc.org/~lfa/. or e-mail him at lfa@hal-pc.org or call 713-683-8379

RENEWAL

RENEWAL

RENEWAL

RENEWAL

RENEWAL



Houston Canoe Club Membership Renewal



First Name _____ Last Name _____

Spouse's name _____ Address _____

City/St./Zip _____

Email (*write clearly*) _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Work Phone (_____) _____

Liability Waiver

The Houston Canoe Club always strives to make boating experiences as enjoyable as possible. However, some elements of risk including personal injury or death and property damage always exist in canoeing, kayaking, and water activities. I do hereby recognize this risk and agree to hold the Houston Canoe Club, its organizers, leaders, coordinators, officers and instructors from liability for any personal loss or injury which I may incur, and I do hereby WAIVE any remedy I may have in law or equity. This Liability Waiver is in effect while in transit to and from any Houston Canoe Club event and while participating in any Houston Canoe Club outing.

Signature _____ Date _____

HCC Annual Family Membership Fees: \$25.00

(Effective Jan1 – Dec. 31)

Make Checks payable to Houston Canoe Club

THIS FORM FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL ONLY.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS CAN BE FOUND AT: WWW.HOUSTONCANOECLUB.ORG

Membership to the Houston Canoe Club offers you several advantages :

- A member of the oldest canoe club in Texas (established in 1964)
- Host of the largest on-water boat show in the country, The Southwestern Canoe Rendezvous
- Monthly newsletter with articles on local trip written by club members, safety advice, used boats, and upcoming trips
- Trips led by qualified trip coordinators to both local areas and distant locales
- HCC web page, access to instruction, and help with anything paddle related

Monthly Meetings: **Second Wednesday of every month at the American Red Cross Building at 7 PM**

Address: 2700 Southwest Freeway
(Hwy 59 S @ Kirby)

Hot Line: (713) 467-8857 – to leave a message or find out about upcoming trips
Webpage: www.houstoncanoeclub.org

Return to:

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

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Check out the electronic format of this newsletter – available to current members only – At www.houstoncanoecub.org

What’s in the newsletter?

- Pg.1 – Paddle Russia!
- Pg.3 – Welcome New Members
 From the Helm – Jim Null
- Pg. 4 – Officers and Minutes
- Pg. 5 – Houston Civil War Heroes
- Pg. 6 – Greens Bayou Clean Up
- Pg. 7 – Lake Charlotte
- Pg. 8 – Biography –Natalia Canada
- Pg. 9 – HCC Trips
- Pg. 10 –River Bottoms Festival
 ACA Classes
- Pg. 12 –Lois Aulbach River Books
- Pg. 13 –Renewal Application

**IT IS TIME TO RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP TO HCC FOR 2002**

March 13th Speaker:

The Natural Resource Scientist from Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Topic: “ Water Basin and Project Logistics for Data Collection in Texas Coastal Areas”

Speaker is the designer, developer and Webmaster for the TPW’s Texas River Guide. Involved in the Texas River Conservation Advisory Board.