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[www.houstoncanoeclub.org](http://www.houstoncanoeclub.org)

HotLine 713.467.8857

Volume 39

**June 2004**

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Our 40th year of paddling fun

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**Program - June 9, 2004**

Annual Swap Meet

Get some great gear at bargain prices!

Come join us at 7 PM at Red Cross Bldg on 59 near Kirby.

**Renew your membership now!**

We need your help. Please renew your membership

for a year of great events that we are planning for this, our 40th year anniversary celebration.

Renewal form at left in the contents list.

**We need your correct email address!**

Please send your current email address to Marilyn Peery now.

Email address: [mpeery@ev1.net](mailto:mpeery@ev1.net).

The Waterline is the monthly newsletter of the Houston Canoe Club, Inc. The Waterline is made possible by your dues and critically depends on member contributions. Please submit items (please do not embed photos in MS Word documents) to the Editor at the following address.

[sherrib57@hotmail.com](mailto:sherrib57@hotmail.com)

## Houston Canoe Club Officers and General Meeting Minutes

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### Officers for 2004

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713.877.1504

[jcohtjr@aol.com](mailto:jcohtjr@aol.com)

Vice Commodore: **Mary Zaborowski**

713.884.1925

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713.864.0205

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Newsletter Editor: **Sherri Blifford**

713.722.9685

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Governor 1: **Ron Nunnally**

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Governor 2: **Ken Anderson**

281-856-9388

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Governor 3: **Paul Woodcock**

713.722.4945

[plwdcck@yahoo.com](mailto:plwdcck@yahoo.com)

### Change of Address

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Submit change of address to Marilyn Peery.

Email address:

[mpeery@ev1.net](mailto:mpeery@ev1.net).

Physical address:

Marilyn Peery

4119 Mischire Rd.

Houston, TX 77025

### Waterline Submissions

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### General Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2004

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These minutes have not been approved. Any changes or amendments will be posted in next month's issue of the Waterline.

John Ohrt, Commodore, welcomed members and visitors and introduced the officers.

Fraser Baker asked for reports on trips made and discussed the upcoming trips.

Paul Woodcock made a motion that the club donate \$100 to the Boy Scouts for use in the canoeing program at Camp Strake, in memory of former member Bob Scheffler. The motion was seconded and approved. The hat was passed for additional donations.

Sandy Truxillo gave a slide presentation on the trips he leads on the Devil's River.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Olden, Recorder

Submit content to the Newsletter Editor,  
Sherri Blifford, by the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month.

Send electronic submissions to  
[sherrib57@hotmail.com](mailto:sherrib57@hotmail.com).

Send snail mail submissions to  
Sherri Blifford  
8233 Kingsbrook Rd., #134  
Houston, TX 77024

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## Biggest Memorial Day Buddy Paddle Ever

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Click on image to enlarge.

Memorial Day Buddy Paddle

Photo by Sherri Blifford

Our Memorial Day trip on the Columbus Loop was probably the biggest one yet, with 62 folks in some in 48 boats. On a slightly overcast, warm day we put in about 10 am at the Columbus Loop of the Colorado River. The river was a little higher than usual, giving some of us a bit of a workout, especially the mud when we disembarked. We were about evenly split between experienced paddlers (aka, old members) and "newbies" (more recent members) so there was some levity when only a senior paddler or two took impromptu "swims" but they insisted that was intentional to cool off from the heat.



Click on image to enlarge.

No, we aren't looking for something

... just stretching our legs

Photo by Sherri Blifford

After paddling about 2 miles to an island, we stopped to stretch our legs and visit. We moved onto Cummins creek, where we collected our group together again, rested in the shade, and then moved on to our picnic. Everyone set up their picnic on a shaded sandbar, and enjoyed a Memorial Day cake and watermelon, followed by a dip in the river. We reached the takeout about 2 pm, with everyone in good spirits.

The outing was organized by Fraser Baker and Janice Frels who did a great job leading the long string of canoes and kayaks. Cheryl Cleary worked hard as the sweep, even doing some towing.



Click on image to enlarge.

Cameras clicked in all directions

Here's Vicki shooting while Jerry offers ideas.

Photo by Sherri Blifford

Fraser's pictures are posted at [www.fraserbaker.ws/albums/content.html](http://www.fraserbaker.ws/albums/content.html).

If you want to share some photos, please let us know.

We asked folks to send comments for the newsletter and this was the first one received:

"On behalf of many of the newbies, we had a great time. Thanks to Don d'Entremont for making a genuine effort to train me. The price for this training (towing him down some of the river) seemed fair at the time (not so sure today). This was my first club sponsored event, and the turnout was impressive."

Ed Stokes



Click on image to enlarge.

Even the smallest "newbie" had fun

Photo by Sherri Blifford

From John Bartos:

"Was that the best attended HCC trip ever? Sure was fun. Good cake & H2Omelon. Thanks."

From Don d'Entremont:

"Nice sand & gravel riverbed to crouch on for getting all wet and cooled down."

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## Houston College on the Banks of Buffalo Bayou

by Louis F. Aulbach

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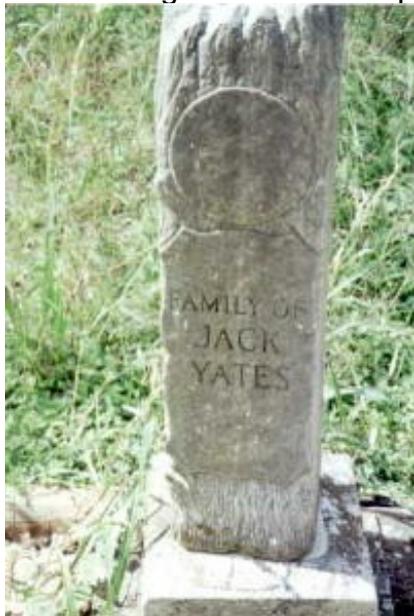
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The years following the War Between the States were difficult times in Houston. The social changes brought about by the emancipation of the slaves presented challenges to the citizens of Houston for which no one was prepared. Few institutions or organizations of social welfare existed to adequately care for the large numbers of former slaves who migrated into the city in the late 1860's.

Fortunately, there were a few strong leaders who emerged from among the African-American community. One of these was John Henry (Jack) Yates. The 30-year-old Jack Yates helped to organize the Antioch Baptist Church, and he became its first pastor in 1868.

As the first generation of freed men and women adjusted to their new way of life, it became apparent to many of them that education was the key to success. In 1885, Jack Yates and other leading blacks established the Houston Baptist Academy. The school opened in rented facilities in the Third Ward, in a residence called the Cooper Place which was located at the corner of Bell Avenue and San Jacinto Street, a block south of the current South Texas College of Law.

Within a decade, the success of the school prompted Reverend Yates to reorganize the Houston Baptist Academy as the Houston College, and, in 1894, he relocated the institution to a wooded, three acre tract of land beyond the western limits of Houston on the San Felipe Road. In spite of the name, the Houston College offered only courses in primary, secondary and industrial education. Yet, the school offered a special opportunity to the black children of the community who sought an alternative to the Colored High School of the public school system.



Jack Yates Marker

Click on image to enlarge.

Even after the death of Jack Yates in 1897, the Houston College operated for another generation before its closure in 1921. Located in the modern 3200 block of West Dallas Avenue, the Houston College was on the north side of West Dallas Avenue between Dunlavy Street and Terrell Street. The buildings of the institution included a domestic science building, a laundry, a boys dormitory and a girls dormitory. An additional dormitory was located on the south side of West Dallas Avenue.

The spirit of educational opportunity that characterized the Houston College persisted even after the school closed. In 1927, the Houston Colored Junior College was established. In 1934, it was renamed the Houston College for Negroes, and by 1947, the institution had become the Texas State University of Negroes. Finally, in 1951, true to the legacy of Jack Yates, the college became Texas Southern University.

Today, as you paddle along Buffalo Bayou past the Shepherd Drive bridge, nothing of the former Houston College is visible. The tract of land, which is designated as the Houston Baptist Academy Addition, is occupied by the Allen House Apartments on the south side of Allen Parkway. A small sliver of the original tract on the north side of Allen Parkway is the Adath Yeshurun Cemetery which was acquired by the Congregation Adath Yeshurun in 1895.

Jack Yates is buried, along with members of his family, in the College Memorial Park Cemetery which is located in the 3500 block of West Dallas Avenue, immediately west of the Houston College site for which it was named.

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Medina Cleanup

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The river clean up is back on, hope to see all of you there.

I have Section 5 this year and you are welcome to join us or any of the other groups going to the clean up.

If you are interested in cleaning/paddling section 5, contact me at

[jackborns@yahoo.com](mailto:jackborns@yahoo.com)

or 281-485-2905 and let me know.

See you on the river.

Jack Borns

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Odds and Ends  
by Sherri Blifford  
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#### Swap Meet Next Wednesday

Our next meeting is the annual swap meet. This is a good time to clean out that gear you no longer need or use so someone else can give it a new workout.

#### Newsletter to be printed and mailed again

We've decided to compromise between the old printed newsletter and the "new" online newsletter, mailing one every few months. Watch your mail at the end of June for the first small printed version. We hope this will help you plan to join our activities and stay in touch.

#### Memorial Park Conservation Master Plan

The Memorial Park Conservancy and Houston Parks have completed the final Conservation Master Plan for Memorial Park. The plan is posted at <http://www.hpbinc.org>. They have worked for a long time listening to the concerns of the user groups to achieve this consensus document.

If you would like to comment on the plan, send email to Deborah Rule at [deborah@hpbinc.org](mailto:deborah@hpbinc.org).

#### River Rumble

If anybody is interested in the Great River Rumble this year, let me know and we'll get up Texas contingent.

It's a hard paddle, but very well done. Gear is shuttled to the next camp each day. Meals are a combination of restaurant and boy scout/ladies auxiliary cook outs (the ladies do a better job]. A lot of times, we camp in city parks. It's a very social group.

For detailed info, look at <http://www.riverrumble.org> This year, it's a 1 week, 155 mile jaunt down the Missouri River from Brunswick to Washington MO starting 31 July.

Mike Fox

email: [midefox@satx.rr.com](mailto:midefox@satx.rr.com)

San Antonio, Texas

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Want to learn the latest techniques in SwiftWater Rescue for paddlers? Come and join Jim Simmons and Tom Jenkins, both ACA SwiftWater Rescue Instructors, as they are offering two ACA 2-Day SwiftWater Rescue courses.

The first is for "experienced Women paddlers" on July 31 - August 1, and the second, open to all, is on August 14-15. Both courses will be on the Lower Mountain Fork River, near Broken Bow, Ok.

Each class will be limited to about 10 participants, so the student/teacher ratio will be great!

DESCRIPTION--The 2-day workshop is intended for intermediate and up whitewater paddlers in kayak, canoe, raft, or other inflatable, who are capable of performing river maneuvers in class II whitewater and beyond.

The course consists of classroom sessions, land-based drills and hands-on practice in various river skills. Participants should be in good health and physical condition, with good swimming ability because extended periods of practice time are spent in the water. Each paddler should be comfortable being in and swimming in the river current. Each workshop emphasizes strategies and proven rescue techniques for minimizing risks encountered in whitewater boating. Some of the main topics include:

1. Practice swimming drills and self-rescue, wading, throw rope management, boat based and other assists,
  2. Rescue scene organization,
  3. Techniques for entrapment and pins,
  4. Drills with the specialized rescue PFD, and
  5. Introduction to the basics of knots, anchors, haul systems and other techniques.
- Highlight of the workshop will be the rescue simulations and "putting it all together" in team scenarios.

A participant's signed agreement to the ACA Waiver/Release of Liability will be a condition of enrollment in the workshop.

Cost: \$125.00 per applicant (plus \$6.00 if not an ACA member) Camping, lodging and meals are not included.

For further details or to apply for either workshop, contact Tom Jenkins by calling 903.639.1409 or sending an email to:

[paddling@att.net](mailto:paddling@att.net)

Complete course description and equipment requirements will be sent upon request for an application.

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The following is from the SMRF Newsletter:

Report on the game warden/law enforcement agencies which met with riverside landowners last week: There was a good number of people in attendance, around 40, and Tom Goynes set up a great meeting site by the river pavilion, with bonfire and hot chocolate and coffee. He has Pecan Park Retreat, a beautiful campground that is used by churches and youth groups these days. The law enforcement agencies represented were Caldwell and Guadalupe County Sheriff's, TABC, DPS, and the game wardens. Martindale Police Chief could not be there due to illness, so their Mayor came. Ronnie Duesterheft, Caldwell County Commissioner, also attended. Since most of the complaints involve Caldwell County, Sheriff Daniel Law is taking a leading role, and he is very happy to have the help of DPS, TABC, game wardens, Martindale and the County Sheriff across the river. His deputies have become very outnumbered and need the help.

The law enforcement agencies will meet once more to plan their strategies, and then there will be a serious and coordinated effort when it warms up, to identify and remove from the river underaged drinkers and those who are causing public disturbances, noise problems, brawls and drug possession. There may be up to ten or twelve cars and "paddy wagons" gathering at any given time, unannounced, to carry out these operations. This effort is not to disturb or discourage people who are recreating in the rivers, as we all want to encourage safe recreation. This effort is only aimed at those who are breaking the law and causing public health and safety problems, endangering themselves or affecting other people on the river trying to enjoy a peaceful day, and affecting riverside landowners, too.

That said, it must be noted that these law enforcement officers cannot selectively enforce the laws, so please if you know anyone who canoes or kayaks, or fishes, or tubes, remind them that there are laws about underaged drinking, disturbing the public, and littering. Also fishing licenses are required, and life jackets are required on all boats. It might be best to carry i.d. with you, pinned or zipped inside a pocket with your car key. The law officers can still look you up if you do not have i.d. with you, on their computers which will be set up for that purpose in their cars. But it just makes it quicker and easier to move on if you have your i.d., if you get stopped with a crowd. Anyway, if anything ever happened to you on the river, you would want i.d. on you, say if you were hurt or unconscious.

Also re other rules that you should follow on the river: If you need to portage around a dam or rapid, which is allowed by state law, stay close to the bank and do not picnic or camp on private property, or leave trash there. Road crossings on the SM River are a good place to stop, but still do not leave trash there and do not block the road. Follow parking restriction signs at Westerfield Crossing and do not park anywhere near the river. Keep in mind that these officers are just trying to keep the river safe for everyone, and get the problems under control before someone dies trying to drink too much while recreating on the water, especially at night, which is particularly dangerous and becoming very common in that area. So thank them for being there if you see them! If there are problems between now and the crack-down, call the Caldwell County Sheriff, or the Sheriff in your county if Caldwell cannot handle that event.

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For Sale/Wanted

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Swap Meet in June

Come to the June meeting with camping/paddling items to swap for our annual swap meet.

Lost Spray Skirt

I apparently left my Mountain Surf C-1 spray skirt at the previously named Rhone Rd. now Homilius Rd. take out on the upper Guad below Center Point. It would be on river left, up-stream side of the bridge. It may be hanging on a tree or in the grass near the road.

Thank You,

Cliff Peery

email: [peery2@ev1.net](mailto:peery2@ev1.net)

Two Kayaks for sale

Necky Alsek (14'6") rotomolded plastic, aqua green color, in excellent condition, has a rudder and rear hatch. \$800 or best offer.

Perception Captiva (17') rotomolded plastic, royal blue color, in excellent condition, has a rudder and front and rear hatches.

\$800 or best offer.

Both kayaks are in great condition and are about two years old. They have only been used in freshwater lakes until moving to Houston last fall. We have been busy and haven't used them very much (4-5 trips a year). We will be moving across the country in June and can't afford to take them with us.

We live in Houston and store the kayaks at Clear Lake. If you would like more information, please e-mail me at [naomic@wsu.edu](mailto:naomic@wsu.edu). br>

Thule Racks

Thule Racks. I have Kayak Loop and Bike holder. Bought new in 1995. best offer. Email: [ewindus@ev1.net](mailto:ewindus@ev1.net)

New Members

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Mike and Ida Robson

[robson1@slb.com](mailto:robson1@slb.com)

Jessi MacDonald

[mac2ski@earthlink.net](mailto:mac2ski@earthlink.net)

# Not Found

The requested URL `/waterline/2004/06/hcc_renewal.pdf` was not found on this server.

Additionally, a 404 Not Found error was encountered while trying to use an ErrorDocument to handle the request.

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*Apache/2.2.15 (CentOS) mod\_ssl/2.2.15 0.9.8l DAV/2 mod\_auth\_passthrough/2.1  
FrontPage/5.0.2.2635 Server at www.houstoncanoecub.org Port 80*

# Not Found

The requested URL /hcc\_trips.pl was not found on this server.

Additionally, a 404 Not Found error was encountered while trying to use an ErrorDocument to handle the request.

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*Apache/2.2.15 (CentOS) mod\_ssl/2.2.15 0.9.8l DAV/2 mod\_auth\_passthrough/2.1  
FrontPage/5.0.2.2635 Server at www.houstoncanoecub.org Port 80*