



www.houstoncanoeclub.org

Volume 44

December 2004

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Our 40th year of paddling fun

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Party - December 4, 2004



Come to the party!

See story at left for map and directions.

We need your correct email address!

Please send your current email address to Marilyn Peery now.

Email address: 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

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Governor 3: **Paul Woodcock**

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Change of Address

Submit change of address to Marilyn Peery.

Email address:

mpeery@ev1.net.

Physical address:

Marilyn Peery
4119 Mischire Rd.
Houston, TX 77025

Waterline Submissions

For Sale

Yakima Cross Bars

If anyone has contemplated adding 66" cross-bars to their Yakima rack system, I have a deal for you! Gently used 66" set for \$25 if picked up in Galleria area, \$1 more for each round-trip mile of delivery!

Page S. Williams
4229 W. Alabama St
Houston TX 77027-4901
713-622-8533

Klepper Aerius 2-person collapsible kayak with rudder and sail package
Made in Germany, an engineering marvel. Ash-birch frame, rubber and canvas hull. Blue and Gray. 17 feet long, 80 lbs. Great for someone who lives in an apartment without storage room for a hard craft. Breaks down into three bags, plus one for the sails. Assembles in 15-20 minutes. Air sponsons in side panels make it almost impossible to roll over or sink.

One owner, this classic model is old, but still in great shape. Has been in the Atlantic Ocean in Boothbay Harbor, ME, many rivers and lakes in PA and WI, but no whitewater, so it is gently used.

Current models go for \$2,000 or more. (See the Klepper website at www.klepper.com) Only \$400 for this used one. Contact Ron Scott at 281-931-3780 or email

rscott21@houston.rr.com for more information or to see boat in Northwest Houston.

Submit content to the Newsletter Editor,
Sherri Blifford, by the 18th of the month.

Send electronic submissions to
sherrib57@hotmail.com.

Send snail mail submissions to
Sherri Blifford
8233 Kingsbrook Rd., #134
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December 4th: Pre-party Paddle and Party

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<http://www.houstoncanoecub.org/waterline/2004/12/christmas.htm>

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Morning: Pre-party Paddle

Mary Zaborowski will lead her annual pre-party paddle down Buffalo Bayou that morning, with a new twist: Put in at The Old Spaghetti Warehouse, paddling down to the new Boat Launch, then down almost to the turning basin and then paddle back. It will be an interesting paddle, then a brief lunch. This way we can look over the new boat launch and improvements on the Bayou that Winnifred Riser and Trudi Smith described to us at our last meeting. Meet at the Old Spaghetti Warehouse around 8:30a.m. Saturday Morning - Dec 4th. Put in and take-out at the same place so we won't need a shuttle.

If the water level in the bayou is still too high, these plans may change so be sure to contact Mary Z prior to Saturday. Contact Mary at 713 884 1925 (home) or 832 215 4551 (cell). Or email Mary at coachz66@hotmail.com.

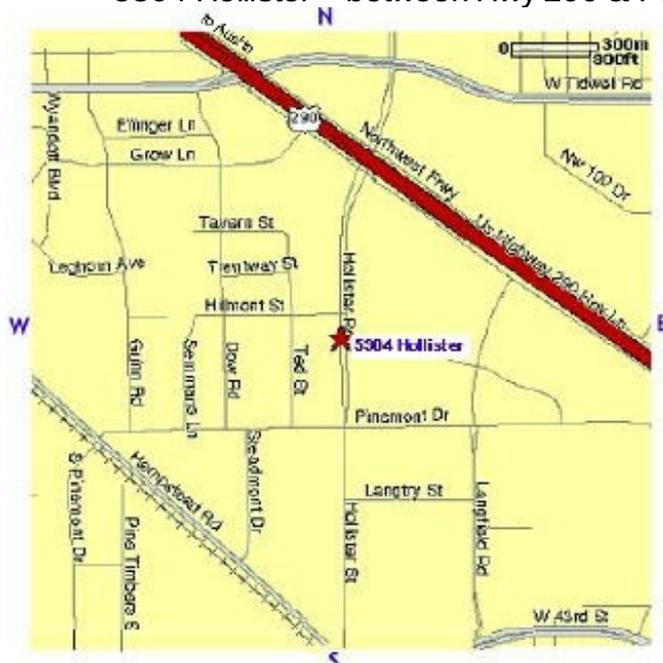
Evening: Party



Our December meeting will be the annual Christmas party on Saturday, December 4th from 6 to 9 PM. The location is the same as the last few years, at

Northwest Fitness and Sports Club

5304 Hollister – between Hwy 290 & Pinemont



Map to Northwest Fitness and Sports Club

Click on image to enlarge.

As part of the decorating theme "A Christmas Campout", we are asking members to

bring something they have found on a canoe trip that can be hung on a tree. Let your imagination run wild. A piece of driftwood or a lost item of jewelry will make it interesting and colorful. If you haven't saved such an item, make something. Pine cones, twigs, dried flowers, and small crafted items are some ideas.

The club is providing a ham and turkey, soft drinks, iced tea, and water. We will also provide plates, etc. Please bring a covered dish and drinks to share. No alcoholic refreshments will be provided by the club but you are welcome to bring whatever you want. Also, if you have digital pictures you want to share, contact Donna Grimes. She will be providing her PowerPoint presentations on past river trips.

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Freeze Trip Extended on Both Ends

by Mary Z

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The month of January will be a very busy, cold paddling time.

Friday January 14 – Prefreeze Paddle

From New Webberville to gravel bar above the bridge at CR969 at Utley, TEexas (16 miles), spending Friday night on the river.

Saturday, January 15 – Freeze Trip

Meet up with the others from all over the state and paddle 8 miles to the famous Dutch Oven Gravel Bar for an evening of beef stew, veggies, baked bread, peach cobbler, cowby coffee and GROG, all for \$6 per person plus a bottle of brandy and red wine to contribute to the GROG.

Paddle out to Bastrop at Fisherman's Park (6 miles).

Total for Pre-Freeze and Freeze trip = 30 miles.

Contact for both the pre-freeze and freeze trip is Mary Z

Home phone: 713-884-1925

Cell phone: 832-215-4551

Coaching office: 713-802-4705

Email: coachz66@hotmail.com

Sunday, January 16 - Post-Freeze Trip

Start Sunday afternoon at Fisherman's Park (Bastrop) and end Wednesday at Prairie Valley Park. Contact for the post-freeze trip is Paul Woodcock.

Home phone: 713-772-4945

Cell phone: 713-594-9969

Email: plwdcck@yahoo.com

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Classes With Bob Foote & Karen Knight

by Ken Anderson

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We may be able to have classes with them in February and March. These are the possible dates:

2/26 and 2/27

3/5 & 3/6

3/12

They have a web site that you can look at for the sort of instruction they offer and their fees:

www.bobfoote.com.

They may have commitments on the February dates so those dates aren't firm. The March dates look good.

If you are interested in a class on any of these dates please e-mail me a response no later than November 22. In your e-mail please let me know what sort of a class you are interested in and your preferred date(s). I'll sort the replies into a schedule.

This isn't an official HCC event and I'm doing this outside of the club. I will be responsible for paying them so I'll be asking anyone who wants to take a class to pay me before I schedule your name into a class (my mom always told me to "get the money up front" and we know moms never lie). Since the fee schedule is based on how many are in a class I won't know what the cost is until I know how many are going to be in any given class. If you later find you need to cancel out of a class you and/or I will have to find a buyer of your interest.

If you have any questions I'll be available at Wednesday's meeting. See you there.

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From the Bow

by Mary Ellen Zaborowski

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On a cold winter day, in front of a good roaring fire in the fireplace, I sit reminiscing about past paddling times on the different rivers in Texas, throughout the United States, and Canada. Oh, how these rivers changed my physical and mental life forever. They challenged me to the limit and yet gave me picturesque beauty beyond written description. While listening to a song that Rita Coolidge sings on her album "Walela", tells how one should approach the spirit of the rivers and the way of life:

Be grateful for the struggle,
Be thankful for the lesson,
And it will set your spirit free.

In my mind I see the rapids of the Rio Grande, San Marcos, Guadalupe, Bloodvein, Grass, Pigeon, Hayes, Jack Fork, Buffalo National, Devil's Rivers and then the gentle moving waters of the Colorado, Sabine, Neches, San Jacinto, Trinity, Swanee, and the Illinois rivers. Also the beautiful lakes, like Lake Charlotte, Houston County, and Ratcliff Lake. Those are just a few that I've paddled in my lifetime.

Being an HCC member for over 10 years, brings me to want to thank all of you who have shared the spirit of the river with me. Some are still paddling with us and others like Wesley Lyles, Bob Schauffer, and Janie McCleod have put on their wings and flown over the deep waters to the other peaceful side. Yet their spirit of paddling the rivers is still with us. Paddling with the Houston Canoe Club has given me so many new paddling friends and helped with networking with other clubs to plan trips and meet new people from all over.

My challenge to the club members for the new 2005 year is to bring one new person to a meeting or paddle and share the Spirit of the River.

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