

# The DDRC Current News

Newsletter of the Dallas Downriver Club—Visit our website at [www.down-river.org](http://www.down-river.org) November 2006

**FINE PRINT** - The DDRC Current News is published monthly by the Dallas Downriver Club and is provided to its members either by First Class postage or by email. Opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and may or may not reflect the opinion of the club or its officers.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION** of articles, announcements, events, trips, etc. is the 1st Thursday of the month. It is on a come first served basis therefore sooner is better.

**DDRC BOARD MEETINGS** are held every **second Thursday** of the month - **7:00 PM @ On the Border** (directions on back of newsletter). All members are welcome to attend to learn more about club business.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Meeting location changed** — Our regular meeting spot (Enchilada's Restaurant on Northwest Highway) has closed. The monthly DDRC meetings will be held at the On the Border on Knox St. just west of 75, (see address & map on last page).

**Newsletter content needed**— Hey gang...Please share your adventures, recipes, photos, classifieds, wants & needs (!) with us for our reading enjoyment. Email content to newsletter editor Carolee Doty at [la\\_sirena\\_84@yahoo.com](mailto:la_sirena_84@yahoo.com).

## Trips and Events

See Page 2 & 3, plus online calendar for event details.

- 11/18 -26— Lower Canyons-Rio Grande Trip
- 11/24 -26— Thanksgiving Kiamichi Trip/Feast
- 12/21 — DDRC Christmas Party
- 12/26 — Upper Sabine Trip

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Dutch Oven entries ready for hungry ghouls and goblins to savor at Caddoween.

## Paddling Events — See the online events Calendar for more details

**November 16— Monthly Meeting** at On the Border, Knox Henderson and 75

**November 18-26- Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande Trip**—A group of paddlers from DDRC, Alamo City Rivermen and Adventure Club San Antonio will be going to the Rio Grande for a 9-day wilderness expedition river trip over the Thanksgiving week. The trip will depart for Big Bend on Saturday, November 18, arriving late Saturday evening to camp overnight in Brewster

**November 24-26—Thanksgiving Kiamichi River Trip/Feast**— Some of us will drive to Antlers on Friday to set up camp at K River Campground. We'll all meet there at 10 am Saturday and shuttle up or down river, depending on flow for our paddle on Saturday. We will have our Thanksgiving Potluck on Saturday night featuring a Cajun Fried Turkey, so plan on a side, bread or dessert to go with it. The Kiamichi is very remote and largely undeveloped, so come prepared for peace and quiet. RSVP to Bryan Jackson at [Hollowcreek@paddlinpals.com](mailto:Hollowcreek@paddlinpals.com) or call 972-979-2519.

**December 21 - Christmas Party** — We have reserved the Big Thicket Lodge at White Rock Lake for our annual party. It's located across from the sailing club. DDRC will provide Cajun turkey, ham, soda, cups, plates and ice. So bring a scrumptious side dish to share. Look for more details in the December issue.

**Additional paddle trips are now being planned for December and January. Watch your email!**

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## SWIFTWATER RESCUE WORKSHOP

I was never a super student. I was always easily distracted, so a class had to be really interesting to me or I was out like a light. This is still true today as I find myself leaning on my chin in training classes and meetings. One class that did manage to keep my attention was our recent Swiftwater Rescue Workshop down in San Marcos and not just because of all the swimming. Phil Meyer, our instructor, made it quite a fun and interesting day.

We got started at 8 am and after the requisite “get to know ya” talk and an outline of what we were to cover that day, we headed out back of the Power Olympic Center for some “throw bag 101”. Pitch and catch with the ropes then reload or loop the line and repeat until we were actually getting pretty accurate. Then a short walk over to Rio Vista where we took turns drowning our way down the first two drops in the whitewater park before the rescuers tossed us a line. When we had that mastered, Phil started sending two and three people at a time. Ropes were flying everywhere and with few exceptions everyone was saved. By noon, everyone was getting pretty worn out and hungry, so it was back over to the POC where Michelle had lunch ready.

After lunch it was more fun on land as Phil walked us through some rope rescues, mostly focusing on different ways to stabilize and break free a foot entrapment or a pinned paddler. His realistic and frank approach to each situation was simple and effective. Hopefully I will never be in the position of having to break someone’s leg to save them from drowning, but thinking in those terms makes you think about what you are doing a lot differently. Later it was back to the water to practice our dry land techniques in current. All went well, although one of our volunteer “victims” was just about skewered by a runaway kayak. Next up was practice swimming the current to retrieve victims. Phil had the victims make it tough on the rescuers by flailing about or just being dead weight. All along the way Phil would pass along a trick or technique and off we would go to practice. It made for quite a busy afternoon culminating in our “final”, which had us working as a team to save each of five very uncooperative victims from an assortment of situations. By the end of the day we were all exhausted, but I think we all felt pretty good about what we had accomplished.

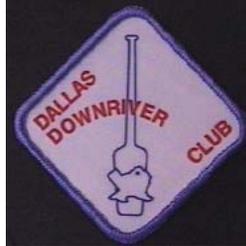
Tired and hungry on a DDRC outing calls for a trip to the grocery store. Fried Chicken was on the menu and we had invited the entire class down to our camp at Shady Grove for dinner. We fried up four chickens, some potatoes, zucchini and even a couple of bloomin’ onions (they still need a little fine tuning). Everyone brought a little something to go with it and we proceeded to have a fine campfire feast. People started dozing off around ten, so we called it day.

Sunday morning we decide to go down to the Comal River and check it out. We put in at Landa Park and noticed that Ben Kvanli was teaching a kayak class upriver from the put in at the bottom of Landa Falls. The falls is about a ten or so feet wide section of the river that passes past an old power plant through a narrow man-made channel and then drops about fifteen feet down to the river proper. We asked Ben if he would run the drop so we could get a video of it. He agreed, so John K. helped him get his kayak up to the top while Marc and I stationed ourselves on either side of the drop with our rescue gear (just in case...). A few minutes later Ben shot out over the top of the falls clearing the veil by a few feet and stuck a perfectly flat landing. It was a pretty incredible thing to watch. We will show the footage at the November meeting.

The best part about being on the Comal in October is NO TOOBERS! We had the river and the toob shoots all to ourselves. We had a blast on the short run through New Braunfels and our take-out on the Guadalupe. We definitely need to go back before spring.

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As a participant in any DDRC activity, an individual assumes the responsibility of evaluating all inherent risks before participating and assumes any risk of death or injury inherent in the sport. The participant waives claims that may arise against the club, its officers, members, servants, agents and/or trip coordinators, for death or injury to person or property, including claims of vicarious liability and claims arising from civil recklessness or any degree of negligence. Not waived are claims against an individual who causes injury intentionally or with criminal recklessness and claims among driver, owner and passengers of a motor vehicle for injuries.

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Just like last year, **indoor heated pool**, time to work on your roll and paddling strokes.

New for this year, bring your paddle, skirt and PFD and demo the entire line of Jackson kayaks. This event is appropriate for all skill levels, beginners to experts.

**Where:** The Colony Aquatic Park Pool 5580 North Colony Blvd.

**When:** Friday nights, **October 27, 2006 through April 20, 2007 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm**

Costs – \$5.00 Pool rental, Free Jackson Kayak use, \$5.00 PFD – skirt – paddle rental

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## Dutch Oven Chicken Pot Pie

This is a quick and tasty dinner that can be made in either a shallow 10" or 12" Dutch oven or a 10" or 12" cast iron skillet w/lid. The closer the coals are to the top the faster it will brown, so I prefer the skillet.

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg pre-prepared pie dough (2 12" round pieces)
- 2 12.5oz cans chunk chicken (drained)
- 1 10.5oz can cream of chicken soup
- 1 12 oz can mixed vegetables (drained)
- 6 oz of milk or water

If the pie dough has been in your ice chest, remove it about 25 minutes prior to starting this recipe.

In a bowl combine the chicken, soup and the vegetables. Mix well adding just enough of the milk or water to make the mixture "soupy" but not "runny".

Grease your dutch oven or fry pan. Unroll the pie dough and line the bottom and up the side of the dutch oven or skillet making about a 2" deep piecrust. Pour the Chicken, soup and veggie mixture into the piecrust. Cover the pie with the other piece of pie dough by cutting it into strips about 1" wide and laying them in a lattice pattern on top of the chicken mixture. Crimp the sides of the crust over the top lattice.

Cook with about 8 to 10 coals on the bottom and about 12 on top for about 45 minutes or until the filling starts to bubble. Once the filling is bubbling, let it go for another 10 minutes, then remove all coals from the bottom and pile them on top. Cook the top until golden brown.

## STOCK UP AND SHIP OUT!

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The Charles Mayfield family's winning entry in the Caddoween tent-decorating contest

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## CADDOWEEN 2006

Caddoween was the weekend after swiftwater rescue class and I had planned to head out Thursday afternoon so that I could get an early start on my setup chores so that I could enjoy some peace and quiet on Friday.

We arrived out at the put in and were able to get our gear over to Goat Island before dark. The lake was lower than last year, but in a way it almost made getting on and off the island easier as what was soupy deep mud last year had apparently been dry the majority of the summer making for much more solid footing. A few ropes strung between trees just offshore and trees on the island allowed you to pull your boat in or out fairly easily. Charles Edwards, Allen and Betty Scott, David and Nora Nevers and Randy Stovall were already on the island and set up when we arrived. We got our camp set up just in time for some huge thunderstorms to roll in. The storms hung around until the wee hours of the morning and when they left the warm weather went with them. Nighttime lows were in the forties all weekend, making the campfires very cozy.

Friday saw more people begin to arrive and our little city on Goat Island began to grow. Although the crowd was smaller than it had been in years previous, there were still over fifty people in attendance. Several people reported seeing alligators out in the lake. I would guess that they are usually around, but the low lake levels give them less places to hide.

On Saturday there were tents to decorate, pumpkins to carve, piñatas to bust and culinary works of art to be made. There were close to thirty entries in the dutch oven cook off and each one was more delicious than the last. The best part is that cooks and judges eat first, so I was right at the front of the line and got to sample everything and everything included lasagna, sauerkraut, chicken marsalla, baked ham, chili and all sorts of other good main dishes and desserts. The pumpkins and tents were cleverly designed and executed as well. Congrats to Pat, Yolanda and the rest of the judges, it has to be a tough job. Apple bobbing was a hoot as always. I think the adult competition probably needs to wait until after the kiddies go to bed next time as it was sneaking up on an R rating. We topped off the evening with a moonlight paddle. We only went about a mile or so owing to both the low water and the chilly temps, but it was great.

My thanks again to Charles Edwards, who makes Caddoween happen each year and seems to have a great time doing it. Big thanks also go out to David Nevers, who along with myself does one of the least desirable jobs on the trip, outhouse duty. Most of all thanks to everyone who comes out there every year, and goes home leaving the place cleaner than we found it.

After these two weekends in a row I need a rest. See ya at the next meeting,

Bryan Jackson  
President





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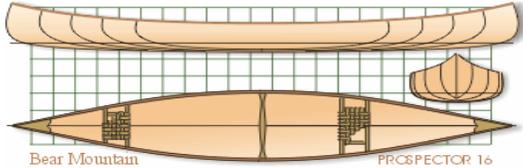
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## DDRC Newsletter Ad Rates

Type of Ad	Per Insertion	Annually
Business Cards (member)	5.00	50.00
Business Cards (non-members)	7.50	75.00
1/4 Page display	20.00	200.00
1/3 Page display	30.00	300.00
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To advertise, contact Bryan Jackson at 972-564-2318 bryan.jackson@paddlinpals.com. We can take most any format. All ads are payable by check to: DDRC, ATTN: Newsletter Ad. P.O. Box 820246, Dallas, TX. 75382

**Attention all DDRC Members:**

During the year, various local groups, paddling clubs and the TRPA will be hosting cleanups on rivers around the state.

1) Any DDRC member that participates in any two TRPA river cleanups will receive a FREE DDRC T- SHIRT *and* 25 miles credit towards the 2006 most miles paddled award (for each cleanup). 2 cleanups = 50 miles, the more you clean the more you earn.

2) Any DDRC member that participates in any two TRPA river cleanups and one of either Watermelon Cleanups in preparation for TRC XI, races for free in TRC XI.

What a deal, what a concept ! Clean rivers, be a friend to the environment, get free stuff! Cleanups will be posted in the newsletter, on the website and email reminders.

~Bryan Jackson, DDRC President

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*The Official Newsletter of the Dallas  
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**Next DDRC Meeting**  
**Thursday 7:00 PM**  
**November 16, 2006**

**On the Border**  
**3130 Knox St.**  
**Dallas, TX 75205**  
**972-528-5900**

**DDRC Meetings are the 3rd  
Thursday of every month.**

**This will be the site of our  
meetings until further notice.**

