

Newsletter of the Dallas Downriver Club-Visit our website at www.down-river.org

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.

Trips and Events

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

5/17-10/25 — Paddle and Roll Sessions-

Every Wed. after 5 p.m. through October at Rockledge Park (no charge). For info. contact Keith keith_ccw@fastmail.fm

10/14—Elm Fork Nature Fest

10/19 — Monthly Meeting

10/21 — Swift Water Rescue Course

10/28-29 — Caddoween

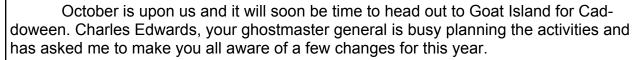
11/3-4 — Upper Mountain Fork Trip

11/18 -26— Lower Canyons-Rio Grande Trip



Calling all Ghosts and Goblins. Its Caddoween time! Details inside.

Caddoween, October 27-29

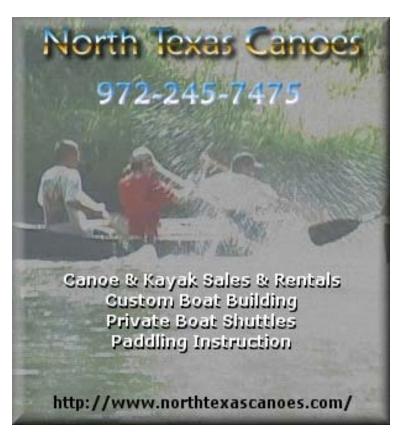




We have received definitive word from TP&W that everyone over the age of 17 is required to have a Texas Limited Use Permit to be on Goat Island as it part of the Caddo Lake Wildlife Management Area. LUP's cost \$12 and are available anywhere Hunting and Fishing Licenses are sold or on-line. State Park Passes no longer cover the Wildlife Management Areas and since I asked, they will probably be looking, so be prepared.

We will once again be using Pine Needle Lodge's alternate parking and put-in which is down the road from the entrance from Pine Needle's main entrance. If you have not been there before, directions can be found on the Caddoween Page on the DDRC website. (Please do not park at Pine Needle Lodge.) All money for use of the launch and for parking will be collected by Charles at his registration table on Goat Island. The lake is even lower than last year, so expect to get a little muddy coming ashore. I have proposed that we try and fashion a canoe/pontoon bridge of sorts as we are finished with our canoes to help the folks with small kids get to shore without mishap. No dogs will be allowed again this year, no exceptions. The burn ban has been lifted out in that area, so bring as much firewood as you can. If you are not able to fit it in your boat, leave it at the launch and we will transport it to the Island.

The schedule of events is posted on the Caddoween page on the website. If you would like to be a judge for the tent decoration or dutch oven cook-off, please let Charles know when you arrive. See you all out there.





Paddling Events — See the online events Calendar for more details

October 19— Monthly Meeting—At the On the Border restaurant on Knox Street. See back page for map location.

October 21-22 - Swift Water Rescue Class - This class for DDRC members will be conducted in San Marcos by Kayak Instruction Inc. on Saturday. The class will give you the basics you need to paddle smarter, more safely and with more confidence in being able to assist yourself and others when something goes wrong. The cost is \$75 and the class will be limited to 12 students. We will camp at Shady Grove Campground (Spencer Canoes) on the San Marcos River. On Sunday, we will paddle where there is water. Contact Bryan Jackson at 972-979-2519, or via e-mail at Hollowcreek@paddlinpals.com for details, or to sign up. Click on the website calendar for more details or directions.

October 27-29—Caddoween, The Annual Halloween Campout on Goat Island at Caddo Lake. Saturday's events will include a pumpkin carving contest, piñata, best decorated tent, dutch oven cookoff, potluck dinner, trick-or-treating, apple bobbing, a bonfire and a costume contest! For more information, check the calendar on the website or call Charles Edwards at 972-867-6579 or Jack Deatherage at 972-222-1407. Map and Directions on p11.

November 16— Monthly Meeting At the On the Border restaurant on Knox Street.

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 County. We will get shuttles from Stillwell Store to drive paddlers, boats and gear to Heath Canyon Ranch at the Gerstacker Bridge (now closed to all traffic) between Texas and La Linda, Mexico, where we will launch on Sunday morning. We will paddle for three days, camping along the river, before stopping for a layover day at San Rocendo Canyon (Mexico) from Tuesday evening until Thursday morning, then paddle for another four days to John's Marina at Dryden Pass, where our vehicles will be waiting. This is a rugged, wilderness expedition trip with requirements for participation. If interested, please contact Marc McCord at canoeman@canoeman.com, or call 214-221-1290 as soon as possible.

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. The plan is to paddle on Saturday, have out Thanksgiving Potluck Feast on Saturday evening, then possible paddle again on Sunday. We will start a menu for the Potluck when we get closer to the actual date, but a Cajun Fried Turkey will be the guest of honor. If the weather is looking like it may be a bit too cold for comfortable camping, K River has heated cabins available. The Kiamichi is very remote and largely undeveloped, so come prepared for peace and quiet. RSVP to Bryan Jackson 972-979-2519

EXCLUSIVE!!

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(get them DDRC meetings)



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





For Sale: Wooden canoe purported to have been built in Winnipeg in the 1920's. It was refinished in 2004, but the finish has dulled in a few places. The boat was originally designed to transport a lot of cargo. It is squirrelly when not loaded. This is not a boat for a beginner. In fact, it might be best used to decorate a business.



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Trip Report — September Urban Paddle at River Legacy Park

A small group of Urban Paddlers met at River Legacy Park in Arlington to check out the stretch of the West Fork of the Trinity that is soon to be served by a new canoe launch. The park is great, well maintained and very quiet considering its proximity to some very busy roads in Arlington. The canoe launch will be built below a footbridge over the river on the south east end of the park. The river could have some potential as a nice place to paddle, but if you are planning to go over and try it out, read this first.

Fortunately our group was small that day and was made up of some pretty hardy paddlers. The group included Jaws, Cathy Hewitt, Rick Stephan, Elisa Coleman and myself. After carrying our boats down to the water, we put in and headed upstream. We encountered quite a bit of swift current about a half mile up and were at times having to get out and portage because either current was too swift to get up (even for Jaws who paddles like a machine) or because the current was forcing us into some nasty strainers. On one of these portages in about knee-deep water Rick stepped on a very nasty piece of rebar that was attached to a 10 lb piece of concrete. It went right through sole of his water shoes and into the meat of his foot. It was embedded so deeply, he was actually able to lift the entire thing out of the water. Needless to say, that was the turn around point. We did our best to clean the wound and headed back to the launch.

You think we don't have good food on Urban Paddles? Rick STAYED FOR LUNCH before going to the emergency room to have his foot sewed up. I guess the meatballs, fajitas and sloppy joes were too good to pass up. Seriously though, Rick had a few stitches, and some antibiotics and is fine.

Whats not fine is this little piece of river. If River Legacy is smart, they will wait and not add any canoe launches until they can add two. A launch upriver from the one currently proposed would make it a lot safer for most paddlers as it would allow paddlers to put in and paddle downstream. The river was very low and the current was swift enough that an inexperienced paddler could get into trouble very easily. The river also needs a MAJOR cleanup before it would be regarded as safe. There were tons of discarded concrete and very nasty looking re-bar all over the place.





I received the following note from Lea Stewart and the Baylor Rehabilitation Staff, but the thanks really go to you! I receive many requests to provide support for programs like this - more than I or my instructors can support. Anyone wanting to help with these type events, please contact me.

Thanks,

Dave Holl

Thank you so much for volunteering your time and talents at our end of summer bash for those in the community with spinal cord injuries. Many of the participants commented on how they enjoyed learning how to kayak for the first time. Your staff came with a smile and willingness to adapt equipment for each individual. Thank you for everything! We look

forward to working with you next year, - Lea Stewart



ADAPTIVE PADDLING EXPERIENCES - GOOD OLE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY, TWICE!

(Part Two)

In the clinics or workshops, a significant amount of time is spent on the Disabilities Act and its requirements and implementation or in many cases, lack of implementation. What is amazing, after learning and observing those with disabilities work around all those things we take for granted, is that I notice now all the areas that are INaccessible. And we, as able bodied people, can not imagine how it is to have to "struggle" everyday, every minute, to do all those things we don't even think about – having enough room to negotiate a toilet, turning a door knob, typing on a computer, performing a hip snap or a J lean, holding a paddle, opening and closing a dry bag, or getting to a boat launch over gravel, rocks, hills, etc. Have you ever had to consider "packing" your leg as you leave for a paddle trip?

We also learned about foam, all kinds of foam; stiff foam, closed cell foam, multicell foam, neoprene, pipe insulation. And of course, our most important tool,

duct tape, as that is the glue that holds everything together. We learned about the physics of a disability and how to adjust or adapt kayak/canoe seats to work with people's ability, such as seat dump (the angle of the seat) as well as lateral stability, and securing feet and legs without causing entrapment.



One student, Greg Booth, an engineer for Abbott Labs, actually helped to design his own seat, collaborating with his two instructors, Bob Eastman

and Devon Saul. Devon, an avid kayaker and Olympic wheelchair rugby player was a special addition to the instructor team.



Part of the program, after the adaptation of the equipment, is to teach the

skills of paddling. Since the equipment has been adapted to the student, the student can now be taught the basics of paddling, with focus on his ability, rather than his limitations.

Here, Greg and Devon learn to paddle a tandem in a pool setting. From this angle, you can see the lateral support the adaptive seat provides Greg.

Not only do the students learn the basics of paddling, they also practice capsizing and re-entering the boat. For most, this is an exhilarating experience, which is also very empowering. Specific skills are taught to assist those with limitations how to re-enter a boat. Following these drills, the paddling skills are re-emphasized on live water, a slow moving river or flat water.

After my first two APW (adaptive paddling workshops), I was convinced that I







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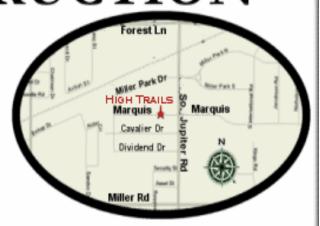
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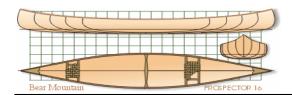
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Urban Paddle continued from P5

It would be very easy to see similar injuries sustained there if the debris is not removed.

I sent an email to Kristi Payne at River Legacy when I returned home that day explaining what had happened and recommending that two launches be built and a clean up be done to make the river in the park safer for everyone. I also offered the DDRC's help coordinating a cleanup. To date I have not received a reply.

Don't get me wrong, the place has plenty of potential and it would probably be fun to paddle at a higher flow rate, provided you were only going downstream. There was evidence of a pretty healthy community of beavers living there (I even brought back a perfectly gnawed piece of tree limb to show off at the next meeting).

Continued on next page

Directions to Goat Island for Caddoween

Take I 20 east to Marshal, TX, exit at US 59 (there is an exit for Caddo Lake before US 59, but it runs you through the middle of Marshall).

Turn left (north) on US 59 and follow to TX 43. Turn right on TX 43.

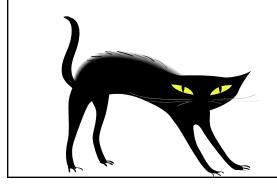
Follow TX 43 to TX 805. Turn Right on 805.

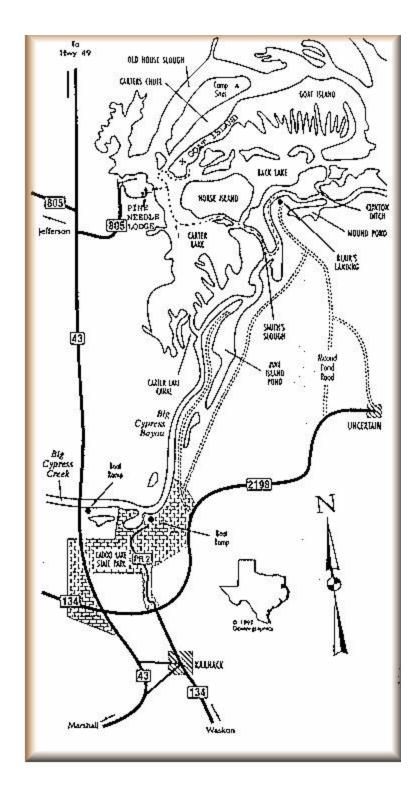
Follow 805 past where the paved road ends. You will pass the entrance to Pine Needle Lodge on your right. Continue until you see the sign directing you to Pine Needle Alternate area.

When you are finished unloading please park as tightly as you can so that everyone is able to park.

From the boat ramp......

Turn right and follow the markers to Goat Island (about 3/4 mile).





With a little TLC, it could be as nice as any stretch of the Trinity around the Metroplex. There will be no Urban Paddle in October as Caddoween falls on that weekend. The next Urban Paddle will be on November 25. The location is still to be determined, but we will change to our winter start time of 10am. Hopefully Pat will be sufficiently recovered from her surgery by then to return to the helm.

Bryan Jackson

DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB

P.O. Box 820246

Postage

The Official Newsletter of the Dallas

Downriver Club

Next DDRC Meeting

Thursday 7:00 PM October 19, 2006

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

DDRC Meetings are the 3rd Thursday of every month.

