

The DDRC Current News

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

March 2001



Special points of interest:

- The Deadline for next month's newsletter is March 31st. Contact Susan Harkins at 972-470-0195 or via email at: shark@ethos.net. Please send articles, upcoming trips, boating tips and information.
- DDRC board meetings are held every second Thursday. All members are welcome to attend to learn more about club business. Contact club President Alan Tittle at 972-727-3586 or ATatDDRC@aol.com for time and location.



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President's Column

Alan Tittle—DDRC President

By the time you get this I will have scouted the Yampa feedwater snowmelt from the slopes of Steamboat Springs. I expect to be able to predict great flow for the spring and early summer, and would be glad to assist any permit holders on their float trips to the Yampa.

We have a good trip list going, and I would like to continue that trend. So please keep planning new trips. Many people don't get on trips unless the trips get announced. Let's all set a goal of four new trip announcements per meeting. That gives almost anyone a

good shot at a monthly trip. A request was made at the last meeting to recruit a trip leader to do the Brazos below Possum Kingdom. Any volunteers? Along those same lines, would anyone like to volunteer to do a program on trip planning and leadership?

Let's talk programs. Mark Collins has already volunteered to give a program on building wood strip canoes; this will be announced in an upcoming newsletter so the word gets out in advance. A few other program ideas are basics of wilderness medicine, emergency wilderness medicine, orienteering (map and

Continued on Page 4

Note of Appreciation

Debbie Meller

There are members in the club that remain dedicated and professional, and who consistently contribute to the club year after year after year. They take time out of their schedules to give to the club and the sport.

This is a clear demonstration of their passion for paddling because, believe me folks, there is no greater reason for this consistent giving. As a long time member of the club and as the Membership Chairperson last year and this year, I

would like to thank these members for their dedicated contributions.

Unfortunately, there are a few too many to name them all here, but they know who they are. They are the same members who always show up to the events as volunteers, they are the same members who support our newsletter with occasional articles and schedules, they are the same members who lead our yearly trips, they are the same members who continue to organize our events, and they are the same people who always offer to manage the club and its chairs.

Some people 'expect' a club, especially one of this size, to provide these trips, events, and services for their membership. That membership charge in no way could pay these people for their time and trouble. We only have gratefulness, support, and appreciation for them, so I hoped to communicate with this letter my gratefulness, support, and appreciation.



TRIPS, TRIPS and MORE TRIPS!!!!

Dates: March 24,25 Brazos River near Glen Rose.

Camping at Dinosaur Valley State Park and spending the weekend paddling the Brazos is the perfect remedy for that bad case of cabin fever. For more info contact Jerry Johnson (817) 267 5375 email: jjohnsn@airmail.net, or Bryan Jackson (214) 704 6173 email: Hollowcreek@sprintmail.com

Easter weekend, Fri. April 13—15 Big Piney and/or Mulberry River in Arkansas.

For experienced class III paddlers. The Big Piney is a remote paddle, mostly class II with technical class III segments. 10-14 miles daily with several stops for playboating. Shuttle daily from base camp, shuttle service to be arranged on Big Piney.

More details later. Contact Alan Tittle 972-727-3586 or email at ATatDDRC@aol.com



Next Meeting:
Thursday, March 15, 2001.
Enchilada's Restaurant, 6526 E.
Northwest Hwy

See you there!

Easter Trip Number 2 (or one depending on how you view it), Fri April 13—15 Goat Island Caddo Lake

Come enjoy springtime at Caddo lake! Charles Edwards 972-560-5946 and Jack Deatherage 972-222-1407 or jfd2@airmail.net will host the campout on Goat Island. Parking at Pine Needle Lodge put-in is \$2 per day. Camping is primitive, so bring everything you need. Call Jack or Charles for more information.

Illinois River Trip—May 19 and 20

Come to the Illinois River in Oklahoma for a great paddling weekend. This river is a fairly good one for beginners and there will be car camping. For more information contact Bonnie Haskins at 972-254-9672 or Jerry Johnson at 817-267-5375

Annual Sabine River Trip Memorial Day—More info to come! Contact Sam Sloan 214-826-6159
svsloan@earthlink.net



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Isabella Iverson
RMT, ND(c)

214-341-1132

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iverson@nstar.net

*Moonlight Paddles on the Brazos River start in June! Mark you calendars now.
(The Saturday closest to the full moon June, July and August.)*



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We're shredding our way to the 21st century!

Whitewater Adventures captured in new CD

Whitewater Adventures is a spectacular interactive CD-ROM about canoe and kayak adventures featuring rivers all over the world.

The CD follows some skilled canoeists and explorers on their breathtaking journeys to many rivers in 20 different countries. The CD-ROM contains:

- 140 river runs in 20 different countries in 5 continents (Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Corsica, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Reunion, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, Venezuela)
- interactive maps with direct access to river reports
- 40 minutes of digital video movies
- more than 600 photographs that can be copied and printed on demand
- 50 Internet links to the best canoe sites
- suggestions and equipments
- powerful search database
- glossary
- help

It is great multimedia title for paddlers and fans of adventurous travels. For more information, please go to <http://www.dreamslab.it>

The CD-ROM is \$20 and can be purchased on their website. The address for the company is:

Massimo Frontoni
Dreams Lab
Via Nuova Italia 14/1
16033 Lavagna (GE)
ITALY
tel: +39 0185 397018
fax: +39 0185 397370
e-mail: info@dreamslab.it
internet: <http://www.dreamslab.it>



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compass reading), river access issues, and boat maintenance. The first few of these are available in classes from various sources such as REI, the Red Cross or ACA to name a few. But brief monthly programs at our meetings could be of interest to members. If there is subject matter in which you are interested, please consider volunteering to coordinate a program.

If you have not maintained your boat recently, check to make

sure you don't have a screw loose, to be sure your boat will stand up the rigors of transport and safely prevent you from losing your marbles down-river. But don't worry once you have lost them; let Eric and Marilyn know and they will eventually find them.

Come out to the March 15 meeting for more river goodies. The raffle made a good haul last month so we will keep the good stuff coming as long as we have your support.

Suivant La Vie Pagailler, Allons a La Louisiane !!!!!


Alright, for those few non-Cajun speaking folks out there, a translation of the above title is, "Follow the paddling life, come to La Louisiane". If you haven't received and sent in your registration form yet, ya better get crackin pilgrim, because La Louisiane FreeStyle Symposium will take place March 23, 24, & 25, 2001 at Fountainebleau State Park in Mandeville, La. There's still time, but hurry !

What is La Lou, as it's affectionately known by most ? First of all is a canoe paddling clinic. Free-Style Canoe, sometimes misunderstood, is a very empirical approach to paddling canoes. It closely examines the basic principles of hull mechanics, paddle mechanics, and bio-mechanics in an orderly way to produce the most efficient methods of paddling canoes. The range of instruction includes a level for never-ever FreeStylers or even never-ever paddlers all the way up to competition level where advanced paddlers learn to combine radical turning maneuvers with music to produce a dance on the water. The instructors are among the best nationally. You'd be hard pressed to find better canoe instruction anywhere. Registration is Fri. night with the traditional Crawfish pie supper. Saturday includes two 3 hour classes and Sunday there's a morning session. Most folks leave after lunch Sun. It's also a social gathering. Saturday night there's a campfire and fais-do-do (social hour and music jam). Bring an instrument, if you play.

La Lou has become meeting place for people interested in the art and science of canoeing. Lots of information and discussion can be shared about this

topic. Not surprising, many long term friendships are forged there. We meet old friends and make new ones every year. La Lou is a gourmet and gourmand's treat. Typical Louisiana hospitality includes lots of good Cajun cooking and this is no exception. We're authentic Cajuns and meals include real Cajun food such as Gumbo, Jambalaya, and Alligator Sauce Piquante. Please Note : It is a myth that Cajun cuisine is pepper hot. The site for La Lou is a private Group Camp with bunkhouse style dorms, hot showers, a dining hall, and private pond. Camping is available at the State Park campgrounds and motels are reasonably close. It's like summer camp for adults ! An exciting, entertaining regional competition is held Saturday evening right before supper. This is the "dance to music" aspect of FreeStyle canoe and features a Mens' Solo, Womens' Solo and Tandem Classes. It's entertaining to watch and includes great paddlers from across the U.S.

Sometimes visitors to La Lou take the opportunity to look around while here so this year we're including information packages about the area. This is also useful to spouses or friends not participating in the canoe clinics. Best of all the basic package is around \$ 160. All you bring is your canoe. The water is always soft and the air warm at La Lou. Come on down, Cher.

For details contact :John Steib ph. 225-645-5224
e-m : j-ssteib@worldnet.att.net 

March Schedule of Events

- **Every Friday Night**—Eskimo Roll Classes for Kayaks and Canoes, Beginning Jan 27 through April 13th @ 7 PM in The Colony. Contact Arnie Blatt: H) 972.416.9194
- **Every Saturday Night**—**Kayak Polo** At 7:30 in The Colony, through April 28th. Contact David Lamb: thelambs@flash.net
- **Mar 24-25 Sat and Sun**—*Camping at Dinosaur Valley State Park.* For more info contact Jerry Johnson 817.267.5375 email: jjohnsn@airmail.net or Bryan Jackson at 214.704.6173 email Hollowcreek@sprintmail.com

April Schedule of Events

- **Every Friday Night**—Last Month! Eskimo Roll Classes for Kayaks and Canoes, Beginning Jan 27 - April 13th @ 7 PM in The Colony. Contact Arnie Blatt: W) 972.250.7158 / H) 972.416.9194
- **Every Saturday Night**—Last Month! Kayak Polo At 7:30 in The Colony, through April 28th. Contact David Lamb: thelambs@flash.net
- **April 13-15, Big Piney and/or Mulberry River** in Arkansas. For Class III paddlers, Contact Alan Tittle 972-727-3586 or email at ATatDDRC@aol.com
- **April 13—15, Caddo Lake** Easter Trip, on Goat Island. Primitive Camping Contact Charles Edwards at 972-560-5946 or Jack Deatherage at 972-222-1407 for more info

April 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 Roll Classes	7 Kayak Polo
8	9	10	11	12	13 Roll Classes Arkansas Trip Caddo Lake	14 Kayak Polo Arkansas Trip Caddo Lake
15 Arkansas Trip Caddo Lake	16	17	18	19	20	21 Kayak Polo
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Kayak Polo
29	30					

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.

Swiftwater Rescue Class

March 31, April 7-8: Swiftwater Rescue Class

If you paddle class II whitewater or higher it's time for a formal class on swiftwater rescue. If it's been years since you've had any formal training or practice, then this is an opportunity to get a refresher in the latest of basic swiftwater rescue. Everybody learns life saving skills and has a lot of fun.

The targeted locations are Slum-

ber Falls rapid on the Guadalupe River near New Braunfels or, if water levels remain low, sections of the Comal and San Marcos Rivers, or the Mountain Fork in OK (if necessary). Class II paddling skills and good swimming experience are expected. The cost is \$75.

Half-Day Land Practice Session: White Rock Lake, 9 am - 3:30 pm, March 31. Bring lunch, snacks, water, 9' of rope for knot

sessions, throw bag.

Two-Day ACA Swiftwater Rescue Class: New Braunfels, April 7-8.

Some river gear and materials are required for the class.

Please contact Mary Beth Kvanli (214)352-5446, mbkvanli@aol.com; or Jeff Peters (817)300-8965, texas.c1@itexas.net; or Ken Lock (214)823-5263, klockps@swbell.net to sign up



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1/4 Page display	20.00	200.00
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1/2 Page display	35.00	350.00
Full Page display	50.00	500.00

To advertise, contact Susan Harkins at 972-470-0195 to discuss artwork format. Are ads are payable by check to DDRC, ATTN: Newsletter Ad. P.O. Box 820246, Dallas, TX. 75382

DDRC Classified Notices RAFT FOR SALE:

16' NRS Super Scout SB Raft with 4 main tubes, inflatable floor 21" tube diameter with repair kit. Painted light blue with rubberized paint
\$500.00

Contact Mark Long (817) 485-4443 longengineers@juno.com

Found

Mohawk Plastic Black Paddle
Contact Hans Weichsel: 817-451-6374 answering svc
214-424-4913 fax and home number

REI 2001 Spring Paddlesports Day

REI will be holding the 2001 Spring Paddlesports Day on April 14th from 10—4 in the Big Thicket on the East side of White Rock Lake.

Join them for a fun-filled day on the water! Representatives from Dagger, Perception, and Mad River will be available to answer questions. Try out a nimble whitewater kayak or canoe, a sleek touring boat, or anything in between! Knowledgeable REI staff members will be providing assistance (including safety boats) throughout the day.

Pre-register at REI: \$5/ REI members, \$10/ Non-members. On-site registration is \$10 for all.

If you have questions, please contact REI Customer Service (972) 490-5989.



Directions: East on Mockingbird from Hwy 75, REI event is on the East side of White Rock Lake in the Big Thicket.
Email Susan Harkins: shark@ethos.net for a map or a flyer.

DDRC Officers & Committees

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		635 (LBJ)	
	MEADOW ROAD	GREENVILLE	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB March MEETING <hr/> Thur. 15th, 7:00 PM Enchilada's Restaurant 6526 E. Northwest Hwy. </div>
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DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB

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We're on the web
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Contact Marvin Dietel to change your personal information on the roster, or Susan Harkins receive this newsletter via email AND IN COLOR!

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