

# The DDRC Current News

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

May 2003

**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 Tuesday of the month - **6:30 PM** @ Enchilada's (directions on back of newsletter). All members are welcome to attend to learn more about club business.

## DDRC Welcomes New Members

Dale Clifton, Michael Miller  
&  
Juan Ortega!

## APRIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Howdy, The April meeting was mostly about upcoming trips. Lots of networking and announcements. The only business really was the asking for volunteers for the race. The 50-50 raffle in May was mentioned along with the Christmas raffle. The voting passed in favor of the three groups to receive donations and donating to the TRPA in Wayne Robinson's name. On-going trips include Pat's urban adventures and Bonnie's moonlight paddle's. The big canoe trips in May are Illinois river on 17 & 18 and Memorial weekend on the Sabine. Hope to see you on the river. Sam Sloan

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**DDRC MAY MEETING** White Rock Lake, Cultural Bath House Center, 7:00 pm; Bring your boats and picnic. There will be a 50 50 raffle.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE** We will start selling tickets for the Christmas Raffle each month in addition to the regular monthly raffle tickets.

## Upcoming Events & Trips

**Thursday, May 15 - DownRiver Club meeting at White Rock Lake, Bath House Cultural Center, 521 Lawther Dr. 7:00 pm; Bring your chairs, boats and a picnic dinner.**

### **Sunday May 11, Trinity River Clean-up, Mckinnish Park, Carrollton:**

The River is in need of some TLC, so come on out and help. Sun and Ski, Hummer and Red Bull are some of the folks that have donated money, resources or equipment to help out. Contact [travis@adventureteam.com](mailto:travis@adventureteam.com)

### **May 16-18 2003 Illinois River near Tahlequah OK:**

Mark this weekend down on your calendar. The Illinois is one of the most scenic rivers around and this is one of the best times of the year to paddle it. We will be camping at Peyton's Place Friday and Saturday nights and paddling a full day Saturday and a shorter run on Sunday before packing up. For more information, contact Bonnie Haskins 972-254-9672 or Bryan Jackson 214-704-5058 or email Bryan. [Jackson@paddlinpals.com](mailto:Jackson@paddlinpals.com) or go to [WWW.paddlinpals.com](http://WWW.paddlinpals.com)

### **Saturday, June 14: Brazos River Moonlight Paddle:**

Brazos River below Whitney Dam. Meet at park below the dam between 4:30 and 5:00pm to start shuttle. Contact Bonnie Haskins, 972/254-9672 or Bryan Jackson 972/564-2318 [Bryan.jackson@paddlinpals.com](mailto:Bryan.jackson@paddlinpals.com)

**Newsletter EMAIL Problems**

If your email address comes back with a mail failure notice, you will be deleted from the recipient list for an electronic copy of the DDRC Current News until we get a request to be added back with a current email address. For reference we get back about 10-15 invalid email addresses each month, so it is a bit of a pain to keep everything up to date.

So if you'd like to get the newsletter electronically, or haven't been getting it and you're wondering why, it's most likely because we don't have your correct email. Send the editor your updated email address at:

Wanda.dietel@classicnet.net

**FOR SALE**

16.5 ft. Wenonah Kevlar ultra light Prism Solo Touring Canoe  
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**2003 NATIONAL  
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WWW.SafeBoatingCampaign.com

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

**Kiamichi River Trip Report**

By Bryan Jackson

Ya just gotta love it when a plan comes together! The April 11-13 trip to the Kiamichi was great weekend from just about any perspective. The weather was great with sunshine and highs in the upper 70's and comfortable evenings in the high 40's and low 50's. The river was a little low, running at about 350 cfs on Saturday, but we still had just enough to keep from hitting bottom most of the time. We had the K River campground basically all to ourselves and were for the most part mosquito free! Who could ask for anything more?

Folks started arriving and setting up camp Friday afternoon. By Friday evening, we had 18 eager paddlers ready to go for the next morning. We all sat around the campfire getting caught up on what everyone had been doing during the winter and swapping stories. Tom Garrett, the owner of K River stopped by to introduce himself as most of us, myself included had never met him. Tom, told us all about the river and gave us some ideas about how far we should paddle the next day. Even though K River has only been open to the public for about a year, Tom has owned the property for 16 years, so he is very familiar with the river and the area in general.

Saturday morning after deciding on a 14 mile trip for the day, we ran our shuttle and got on the river by about 11:30. Due to the low flow, we did have some long stretches of flat water to cover, but these stretches were broken up by some fun little rapids and swift spots to keep everyone awake and on their toes. Everything along the river was really starting to green up for spring. Trees and wildflowers were starting to bloom really adding to the beauty of this stretch of river. We had lunch on a rocky beach about 6 miles down from where we started, and then continued on down the last 8 miles of the float.

The last 8 or so miles on this run is probably the most fun regardless of flow level. After you paddle around Lost Mountain, which is pretty much a flat but scenic paddle you come upon the first of three fairly large rapids. The first starts as the river narrows and turns to the right and then makes a slight left and then right again while making a substantial drop. As there are no obstacles and only a few large rocks to steer around even at low flow conditions, this rapid is just plain fun. I sat at the bottom in an eddy behind a rock and took everyone's picture as they came by. By the time you read this they should be posted on my website [www.paddlinpals.com](http://www.paddlinpals.com). Since the river level was dropping, you could see fish trying to get up the rapid, jumping out of the water. The pool at the bottom of the rapid was full of fish too.

A mile or two down from the first rapid, you come to a rock dam that Tom thinks was originally built as a low water crossing. Depending on the flow you can usually paddle right over it and into the short rapid below it. This was not one of those days. Due to the low flow, there were only a few spots where water was actually flowing enough to get over and they were to the far left of the dam, well out of the main flow. In order to get through, you had to go between two rocks that were barely wide enough and then make a hard right to stay in enough flow to keep moving. To make it more fun, it was almost impossible to

Continued on pg. 5 Report

## White Rock Lake Cleanups

Every Second Saturday

While the DDRC doesn't officially conduct White Rock Lake cleanups anymore, that's no reason to not help with ongoing cleanup events. Every second Saturday morning you can show up at Sunset Bay or under the Mockingbird bridge and help with either of the two cleanups that two great organizations are carrying on. Meet new and old friends. Get on the water! Help cleanup your own backyard! Mariner Sails manages the cleanup that begins under the Mockingbird bridge.

See

[http://www.mariner-sails.com/kayaking\\_events.htm](http://www.mariner-sails.com/kayaking_events.htm) for more details.

"For the Love of the Lake" manages the cleanup usually at Sunset Bay/Dixon Branch. See <http://www.whiterocklake.org/flotilla/index.htm> for more details.

Both of the links above are on the home page of the Dallas DownRiver Club at <http://www.down-river.org/>

### T.R.P.A. Donation Letter

Dear Mr. Goynes,

The Dallas Down River Club has voted to include the T.R.P. A. as part of our yearly donations. The membership provides the organization's name and facts about it and the membership votes to include or not and the amount of the donation.

This year our membership has requested that we make our donation in the name of our member and friend Wayne Robinson who passed away at the end of 2002. He will be sorely missed by those who's lives he touched over the years. A check for \$1500.00 is enclosed.

The Dallas Down River Club is a social, non-profit, water/river based association that over the past 20 years promoted many water related causes.

We wish you well in your endeavors.

Yours truly,

Dallas Down River Club

### City of Plano Parks & Recreation Department Email of Appreciation

On behalf of the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department, I would like to express our gratitude to you and the Dallas Downriver Club for your participation at the 5th annual It's A Natural.

After a shaky start, it turned out to be a beautiful day and it appeared everyone had a good time, enjoyed the activities, and learned a lot by visiting the information booths. Once again, let me say thank you for your time and for helping the City of Plano Parks & Recreation Department provide a fun and enlightening day to our residents. We are confident our citizens become more aware of their environment each year. I hope to see you at the 6<sup>th</sup> annual It's A Natural in 2004.

Sincerely yours,

Karen Williams  
Event Coordinator  
City of Plano Parks & Recreation  
972-941-7250  
[karenw@plano.gov](mailto:karenw@plano.gov)



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## On Going Events, Classes & Instruction

**Beginner Kayak Orientation or Re-Orientation:** May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>; San Marcos River June 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> (follow up or re-schedule); Destination TBA September 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>; San Marcos River or other TBA Basic safety, self rescue, strokes; perhaps some surfing. Alan Tittle 214-649-5055 Alan.T@sbcglobal.net  
www.circuitriderelectronics.com

**Every Wednesday:** DDRC Roll, Paddle, and Rescue sessions from 5:00 pm to dark at Lake Grapevine, Rockledge Park. The Park is located at the northwest side of the dam (off the other side of the road from the spillway). For more information call Keith Smith (940) 566-4869 or email The DDRC Wednesday evening roll, paddle, and rescue practice starts this Wednesday, after work (about 5- 5:30pm) at Rockledge park, Lake Grapevine, and will continue every Wednesday evening, same place same time....call Keith Smith for info (940) 566-4869 or email keith\_ccw@hotmail.com

**Monthly Urban Paddle and Potluck Adventure:** Looking for a place to paddle? Looking for other people to paddle with? Looking for something to do on a Saturday morning? Then this event is for you! Come explore paddling venues around the D/FW area with us on the last Saturday of each month. We'll meet at the designated place at 9 a.m., paddle for a couple hours, then have a potluck lunch. What to bring: you and your friends, boats, paddles, pfd's, potluck offering to feed your group plus a few more. If interested contact Pat Chamberlain at pchamberlain29@hotmail.com (972) 727-3586, or Phil Lang at phil\_lang@sbcglobal.net (214) 564-9628.

### **Know Your Weather Signs from Texas Parks & Wildlife**

[www.tpwd.state.tx.us/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/)

Checking the weather before you leave for a day of boating is important but it will not prevent weather problems. At many times of the year and in different areas of the country, the weather can change rapidly, and even professionals have trouble predicting these changes.

Weather changes generally come from the west. While underway, you should continue to check the weather. If you have a marine radio you can get weather reports on 162.55 MHz or 162.40 MHz, or from local Coast Guard radio stations. If you have a portable radio, tune to a station that gives frequent weather updates.

Flat clouds (or stratus -- little vertical development) are normally associated with stable air. Puffy clouds (or cumulus - considerable vertical development) indicate unstable air. The greater the vertical development of the cloud, the greater the instability. Thunderstorm clouds have the greatest vertical development and the associated weather is quite violent.

If you are caught in foul weather:

- Head for nearest shore that is safe to approach.
- Head bow into waves at about a 40 degree angle.
- Secure loose items. Have emergency gear ready.
- Keep bilges free of water.
- Sit on bottom of boat near center line.

### **MOST MILES PADDLED IN 2003**

**Here's a Chance For Some  
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Counting NOW!**

### **TRINITY RIVER CHALLENGE**

**Volunteers Needed Right Now  
for the September 2003 Race!**

Contact Al Currie Hm 214-827-9319, Wk 972-918-6310, [BIG\\_AL@WORLDLOGON.COM](mailto:BIG_AL@WORLDLOGON.COM)

continued from pg. 2

## Report

see this gap unless you were right on top of it. After I got through, I beached my boat and walked back up and directed everyone who wanted to give it a try through the gap and helped them around the corner. Some of the folks in Kevlar boats wisely decide to portage around this one.

The third is similar to the first, except that it has no really large rocks. Depending on flow this one can go for a few hundred yards with small waves after you go through the initial narrow rapid section. This one all but disappears once the flow goes over about 2500 cfs. Tom calls this one the “gun barrel” because it’s long and narrow.

Next stop was the takeout at K River. Everyone was pretty beat by the time we got back. We had been out there for 6 hours. Maybe a bit too much for some as it was their first paddle of the year, especially since there was not much flow on the flat spots. One by one every one headed for the showers or started getting their dinners together. Before long fires were going, stuff was cooking and every one was back at the campfire.

Dinner was an absolute feast. We had a huge green and veggie salad with all the trimmings, fruit salad, baked potatoes, pork loin roast stuffed with a piece of venison tenderloin, brownies, and a cherry/berry cobbler. I am probably forgetting something here but trust me it was all-good and leftovers were not to be found. This was definitely one of the best potluck dinners in quite a while. Everyone who contributed did a great job. Predictably after all that paddling and all that food, folks didn’t stay awake too long.

Sunday morning saw a few head home early, but a few of us decided to work out the kinks by doing a small stretch. Tom and his grandson Charlie decide to come along as well. Tom showed us another put in that had us paddling the last 7 or so miles from the day before. The river had dropped noticeably overnight, but we still had enough water as long as we were careful. We were back at K River and packing up in a little over two hours.

The Kiamichi offers a great place to paddle that is close to Dallas. If you are planning to try it out (and I wholeheartedly recommend that you do), you may want to keep a few things in mind. Since it is only about 160 miles away, you can do day trips fairly easily. Pay attention to the gauge when planning how far to paddle. If the river were running less than 1500cfs, I would not under normal circumstances try to do much more than 8 to 10 miles. As the river rises above 2000cfs, the flow improves and longer runs will be more fun. The rapids all get better up to about 2500 then some of them start to disappear. Tom says that the river can be run up over 6000cfs. Having done it at 4000, he is probably right, but anything over 4000 would really be pushing it. At that level, finding a place to get off the river if you were to dump your boat or even take a rest is pretty tough, all the gravel bars are deep underwater and the banks are steep and kind of hard to get up. The best all around level is probably somewhere between 1500 and 2000. If you want to do an extended trip, Tom will drop you off as far up river as you would like to go. You can go as far as 100 miles if he puts you in at Whitesboro, Ok.

Another factor to consider is that there are about 3 houses on the river and none of them are occupied full time, so you are alone out there. Make sure someone knows where you are going and when you are expected back. A map of the river showing the access points is available from at [www.paddlinpals.com](http://www.paddlinpals.com) .

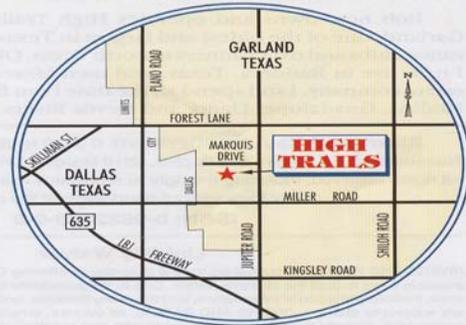
For more information about the Kiamichi and K River Campground check out the [www.Kriver.com](http://www.Kriver.com) website or call the campground at 580-298-2442.



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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance 03/28/03	\$3,228.60	
Receipts		
New Memberships	\$50.00	
Renewals	\$112.00	
ACA Dues Collected	\$15.00	
Raffle Income	\$74.00	
Total Collections	\$251.00	
Disbursements		
April Newsletter	\$78.44	
Flyers and Newsletters printed for promo	\$79.69	
To Don Hughes for Christmas'02 expenses	\$286.00	
Addition error on last months report	\$26.00	
Total Expenses	\$470.13	
Sub Total	\$3,479.60	\$470.13
Ending Balance 4/25/03	\$3,009.47	

## EXCLUSIVE!! DDRC Decals and Patches

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## DDRC Officers & Committees

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Pat Chamberlain  
927-727-3586  
Pchamberlain29@hotmail.com

### VICE-PRESIDENT

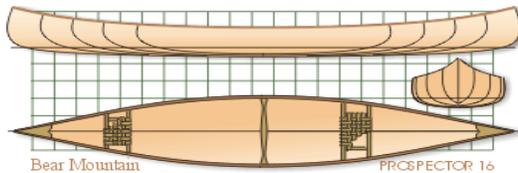
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Bear Mountain

PROSPECTOR 16

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Wanda Dietel  
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wanda.dietel@classicnet.net

## 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
1/2 Page display	35.00	350.00
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To advertise, contact Wanda Dietel at 972-564-1545  
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### Environmental:

Ken Lock  
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klockps@swbell.net

### Librarian:

Jeff Schmidt  
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Jeffpc@mindspring.com

### Programs/Events:

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harmon  
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214-331-6000

David Nevers  
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### Canoe Training:

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padlstandg@aol.com

### Kayak Training:

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Alan Tittle  
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### TRC Raffle:

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### Racing:

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# DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB

P.O. Box 820246  
Dallas, Texas 75382

Postage

*The Official Newsletter of the Dallas  
Downriver Club*

Contact Marvin Dietel to change your personal information on the roster.

Access this newsletter in **COLOR** via the email  
Contact Wanda Dietel with your email address.

**DDRC**  
**May 2003 Meeting**

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**Thursday 7:00 PM**  
**May 15**

MAY MEETING White Rock  
Lake, Cultural Bath House  
521 E. Lawther Dr.

