

Hello everyone. September was certainly a busy month with the Trinity River Challenge and the Illinois trip (which was great by the way). Now we get to take a breather, as the schedule for the next three months is a little lighter but no less exciting.

Next up is Caddoween, scheduled for the weekend of October 22-24. Our popular trip to Goat Island on very spooky Caddo Lake is fun for all ages. Candy and games for the kids, tent decorating, pumpkin carving, our dutch oven cook off, and some very clever costumes will make this a weekend to remember. If you have never been out for this one, you really need to see it to believe it. There are pictures from last year on my website www.paddlinpals.com, so check them out and plan on coming. All the information you need is on the DDRC website, but if you have any questions you can call Charles Edwards or me. Both of our numbers are listed on this newsletter (somewhere).

November 5-7, we will be taking a safari of sorts starting with a trip down to Goliad to take a fall canoe tour of the San Antonio River. The folks down there are trying to raise cash to build boat ramps and river access and are sponsoring this tour called Canoe Trail Goliad to build some interest in the area. There will also be some festivities in the town of Goliad that day with live music and food. After the canoe tour, we are heading up to Spring Branch to camp at Weidner's ranch Saturday night. Sunday we will paddle a section of the Upper Guadalupe before heading back to Dallas. Plans are to camp at Goliad State Park on Friday night, but that is not positive yet. I should know for sure by the October meeting. Saturday night's dinner will be a potluck, so expect another culinary masterpiece.

November 26-28 will be our Thanksgiving weekend trip. The destination will be determined, as we get closer depending on water conditions.

I would also like to thank the DDRC volunteers who came out to support the TexasMan Triathlon on October 10. The Dallas Athletes Athletic Club was very grateful for our help and has asked up to help out at the next one. Hope to see you all at the meeting.

Bryan Jackson
DDRC President

Illinois River Trip Report by Gail Shipley (September 24—26)

Good food, good company, good weather, low water. Hmmm. Must be talking about the Illinois River trip! Actually, despite the low water, twenty plus paddlers appeared Friday evening prepared to have fun. We were blessed by having Gloria, Bryan's wife with us and Karen Lowe came from Arkansas Saturday morning to paddle.

After a good hearty breakfast we got on the water. Because the water was so low we put in below Peyton's to ensure finishing up at Sparrow Hawk at a decent hour. We stopped at Elephant Rock where several swam and Bryan got a fish. Saturday evening we enjoyed a full spread along with Bryan's famous Lasagna. After which we introduced the newbies to zilch bags and kicked back.

Sunday we did a short paddle down to Peyton's. As everyone was packing I went up to talk to Archie and thank him for donating to our TRC raffle. He pointed out three bald eagles that were roosting in the cliffs across from his office. They were magnificent to watch in flight and I was mesmerized. A perfect ending to a perfect trip.

Newsletter EMAIL Issues

Please keep us posted of any changes in your email address. If you'd like to get the newsletter electronically, or haven't been getting it and you're wondering why, we might not have your correct email. Send the editor your email address at cathy_nelle@hotmail.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 of a motor vehicle for injuries.

Get out and paddle!

Come to Caddoween

The Dallas DownRiver Club formally invites you and your family or friends to help us haunt Goat Island on Friday Oct. 22nd thru the 24th. Camp will be on the Southwest corner of Goat Island near Pine Needle Lodge. Put-in and take out will be at the Pine Needle Lodge alternate area which is located just past the entrance to Pine Needle Lodge. See the down-river website for directions and a map to Caddo Lake and Goat Island.

Saturday events and contests:

12:00: Start of the pumpkin carving contest, bring uncarved pumpkin, knives, candles, pattern, etc., judging starts after dark. Plan on taking pumpkin home with you as they are not natural to Goat island!

2:00: Pinata for the kids

3:00: Best decorated tent site. All decorations must be removed when you leave

4:30: Dutch oven cook-off, have your entry ready at this time so we can eat it for dinner!

5:00: Pot luck dinner, please bring enough for your group.

- Trick or treating from tent to tent after dinner. Bring treats!
- Bonfire, bring 2 or 3 pieces of firewood per boat.
- Costume contest for kids and adults
- Apple bobbing
- Ghost stories, bring your best!
- Prizes and awards from local paddle sports outfitter stores and the DDRC

Camping is primitive so bring water and appropriate camping gear. Plan on leaving no trace of your stay on the island. Call Charles Edwards at 972/867-6579 if you have any questions.

Texas Man Sprint Triathlon Trip Report October 10, 2004 by Gail Shipley

Sunday morning 6 a.m. found five hardy souls searching for parking at Lake Lewisville. We had volunteered to work safety for the swim part of the Texas Man Sprint Triathlon. Sally and Steve were in kayaks and Bryan, Tom and I (Gail) were in canoes. Life guards were assigned to each canoe. The life guards were also to help carry our boats and gear which came in handy since Steve and I were parked in the north forty. At check in I found Mary Beth. She was entered in the triathlon and was glad to see us. After the safety meeting we paddled to our positions and continued to paddle for the next hour in order to keep our positions. The current kept trying to take us to shore. Talk about paddling and not getting anywhere! There were some life guards on jet skis and one came up and turned by my side and we took on water from the wave over the side. I think it scared my life guard a little to see the canoe rock like it did.

Once the swimmers started we were to keep them going in the correct direction (a few were a little disoriented) and were to encourage swimmers to finish. Every now and then a swimmer would hold on to the boat to get their second wind before continuing. Swimmers had different colored swimming caps on to designate whether they were a beginner or not. After the swim part was over we deposited our life guards and loaded up our boats. For volunteering we each received a volunteer t-shirt and a check for our services. Bryan, Sally and Tom were able to leave but the parking area where Steve and I parked was closed because of the cycling part of the race. We ate egg burritos and watched the runners come in. It was pretty chilly so we opted to sit in the truck until 10:30 when we were able to get our vehicles out and head for home.

After experiencing this race we have come to appreciate more how efficiently our own TRC race is run. What can I say. We were much more organized!

The Trinity River Challenge 2004 was a huge success!

A big thanks to our sponsors, volunteers and 105 racers for a great day of fun and friendly competition!

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Race Winners

See Down-River website for additional competitors and finish times

Grand Champion

-Philippe Blouin [1:33:51]

Junior/Adult Age Group

-Thomas/Kathryn
Mendenhall

Master Age Group (40 to 49)

-Jerry Brown/Richard Steppe

Senior Age Group (50 to 59)

-Phil Capel

Veteran Age Group (60 to 69)

-Joe Harris

Junior Solo Kayak

-Rachel Lamb [2:16:59]

Women's Solo Canoe

-Vada Seals [3:05:09]

Women's Solo Kayak

-Ann M. Reitzer-Smith
[2:21:57]

Women's White Water Kayak

-Judy Meagher [2:46:02]

Women's Tandem Kayak

-Lainie Ereno/Vickie Corbett
[2:40:32]

Women's USCA Unlimited Solo (K1)

-Erin Magee [1:50:38]

Men's Solo Canoe

-Dennis Terwilliger [2:18:15]

Men's Tandem Canoe

-Raul Almazan/Antonio Perez
[2:01:15]

Men's Solo Kayak

-Randy Johnson [1:54:35]

Men's Tandem Kayak

-Morris Brossette/Richard
Finer [2:07:38]

Men's White Water Kayak

-Bobby Snyder [2:15:15]

Men's USCA C1

-Tim Anglin [1:55:50]

Men's USCA C2

-Charles Clark/John Primdal
[2:49:44]

Men's USCA Unlimited Solot (K1)

-Philippe Blouin [1:33:51]

Men's USCA Unlimited Tandem (K2)

-Jerry Brown/Richard
Steppe [1:34:59]

Mixed Tandem Kayak

-Robert Rieth/Chris Gross
[2:04:44]

Aluminum

-Marvin/Luke Parker
[2:13:51]

Trinity River Challenge Proceeds

COLLECTIONS

Race Day Fees	Checks	\$484.00
	Cash	\$959.00
	Prepaid	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
		\$2,443.00
Kayak Raffle		\$427.00
	Pre-sold	\$80.00
		<hr/>
		\$507.00

Merchandise Raffle	\$887.00
Raffle Totals	<u>\$1,394.00</u>

T-shirt Sales	\$100.00
Lunches Sold	\$77.00
Total Proceeds	\$4,014

DISBURSEMENTS

Awards	\$200.91
ACA Fees	\$516.00
Food	\$334.41
Kayak	\$425.00
Raffle	\$35.00
T-shirts	\$644.00
Photos	\$62.12
Total Payouts	<u>\$2,155.32</u>
NET PROFIT	\$1,796.56

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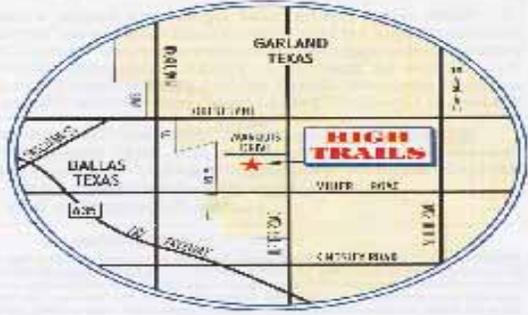
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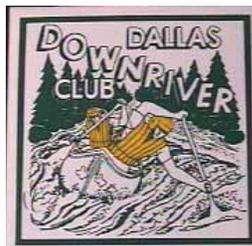
This is a serious product from a company that is able to laugh at themselves. A visit to their website provides an interesting read.

To find out more about OnTheGo, visit the website at <http://www.womenstandtogo.com>. To order send a check or money order for \$12.95 to OnTheGo, 316 21st Avenue, NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33704 or pay by credit card online.

Anyone with questions can contact Farrell & Harper L.C. Marketing Director, Ann Decoursey at ann@womenstandtogo.com.

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Sloshing on the Sabine by Jeff Coker

(Part 3 of 3 — A 10-day journey)

...Day 6 started with a flurry of activity. Camp was down in record time and we were on the river early. The river was now 19 feet above normal, and we were able to clip along at a good pace with very little effort. We were supposed to watch out for a ledge below a bridge that could have given us trouble. However, it was so far under water I didn't even know when we went over it. Andy and I led the way for awhile and found a Canadian goose swimming in the river. This goose was not afraid of people and we were able to paddle very close to him. If Weldon would have been up with us we would have had goose for dinner. By 4 p.m. we were 20 miles closer to the take out and looking for our next camp.

I only thought camp #2 (the hog wallow) was bad. The choice of this camp could not have been worse. Actually, it wasn't really the camp so much as the take out. There was a semicircular wash out on the river right. To unload the boats it was very steep, and the bank was above us by 10 feet. To make matters worse, there was not a lot of room to get all the canoes in at once. Our camp was hollowed out of the cane and high grasses in record time. We were still gorilla camping.

By now I was ready to kill my cousin Andy. He had shot us up into every eddy on every bend of the river for days. It seems that good old Andy didn't understand moving water. I would try to clip the corner of each bend of the river to shorten our distance. I wanted to ride the river's current along the eddy fence to take advantage of the current as much as possible. Andy, thinking he was taking a short cut, would pull the bow of my canoe into the eddy. Of course you know what happened. The bow would stop and try to turn up river. At the same time our stern would be slung down river -- a "spin out." While fun with the right person, this was beginning to piss me off. To make matters worse, Andy thought I was slowing the canoe on purpose when I braced, so he would quit paddling leaving me to fight the eddy by myself.

(Continued on page 8)

More Details on Canoe Trail Goliad:

Sat. 8am - noon - Drop gear under 59 Bridge/San Antonio River overpass. Drive to State Park Headquarters, where they will direct you to the Primitive Landing Sites. Shuttles will run you from there back to 59 Bridge for launch. (State Park staff will be at bridge overpass all morning to see everything's secure until the last person's on the river.)

1st Stop: Historic Ferry Street Landing site (appx. 2-3 hour paddle). You'll be greeted by Canoe Trail Goliad volunteers who will have foot maps for Goliad, and we're encouraging all to walk up to the town square (2 blocks) for lunch at The Blue Quail Deli (famous for delicious jalapeno soup), or the Empressario Restaurant (famous for their pies). Then why not wander into Faye's Texas Naturals (incredible chili petin and other edible delicacies), The Carriage House (ladies clothing & jewelry), Mama's Blueberry Patch (biggest collection of Bert's Bees products, etc.), SoHo Goliad (emporium of everything from ice cream to art, furniture, cool stuff), Christmas Goose (lovely antiques), visit the Chamber of Commerce for information on other cool local stuff to do, maps, etc. All boaters should be in the water by no later than 4pm, headed for final destination: Primitive Landing site at Goliad State Park.

5:30 - 7:30pm - Benefit barbeque dinner, music and storytelling around a bonfire. Plates \$7.00. Beef, chicken, sausage, potato salad, etc., prepared and served by Benny Martinez, a local hero, champion cooker, and storyteller. Proceeds go to Canoe Trail Goliad.

(Continued from page 7)

He will never know how many times I saved our asses from going over with a low brace. I didn't wish to get wet or dump my canoe in that bone-chilling, freeze-your-ass river. Somehow I managed to bite my tongue and keep the peace.

Day 7 - our showers from day 5 had long worn off. I had pushed the limit of 24-hour deodorant way beyond even my olfactory tolerances. We broke camp in record time and somehow managed to load the canoes at the "take out from hell." Andy and I had to push off early to make room for the others. Andy had begun to complain about the trip and wanted to go home. It got worse as we neared the interstate 59 bridge. I didn't really mind if he got out and hitchhiked a ride back to Huntsville; I could do it alone. Oh, yeah I would have felt bad, but this crap was getting old. At one point I thought he was really going to leave. I explained to him that I had the kitchen and was committed on this trip no matter what. That managed to keep him on the trip, and as we passed the 59 bridge, I swear I saw a tear in his eye. He kept mumbling something about a cold beer and a cheeseburger and French fried potatoes. At that point I knew that Andy was a 5 *day* camper which is better than Charles' dog Rusty who is only a 3 *day* camper. So, as the 59 bridge disappeared behind us Andy realized that over 30 miles lay ahead of us, and if he wanted a ride back home he would have to stick it out, stop complaining, sit back and enjoy the ride.

We found a camp on our river right late in the *day*. To get to this camp we had to pull our canoes up a shallow, muddy, almost dry creek. The creek was smaller than our boats, which caused our canoes to list over to one side sharply. To unload our boats we had to make a chain gang and throw our gear from one to another up the steep slope to our camp. Then, we had to hack out a *spot* for our tents and the kitchen in the cane. Gorilla camping sucks sometimes, but it beats the heck out of being busted by some redneck landowner who wouldn't understand the predicament we were in due to the flood. The sand bars were underwater by many feet by now. Dinner was late, but we didn't care; we were high and dry.

Day 9 - we broke camp early and pushed down river. This is our next to the last *day*, and we had a full *day* of paddling ahead of us to put the take-out in striking distance the next *day*. We were a full *day* behind because of the storm and had a lot of river miles to make up between us and the take-out. We found a camp on river left about 3 p.m. This was truly our best camp yet. We had an easy put in / take out, easy to unload our boats, and a large flat area to spread out, no hog wallows this time, with plenty of wood for a fire; Ray was happy - happy. We set up camp and had time to be social before I started dinner. We talked about our trip and reflected on the 95 miles behind us. I think Andy was relieved that only 5 miles lay ahead to the take-out and soon he could get his cold beer, cheeseburger and French fries.

Day 10 –Was a mad dash down river to the take out. Like clockwork, Gayelynn was waiting for Andy and me. Charles, Jack, Ray and Weldon had to wait a while on the van from Dallas to arrive. We had done it, 100 miles on the Sabine at full flood. I was very happy that Andy didn't flip us over in that cold water. We had survived the storm, survived the flood, survived the guy with the gun and I had survived Andy.

The End

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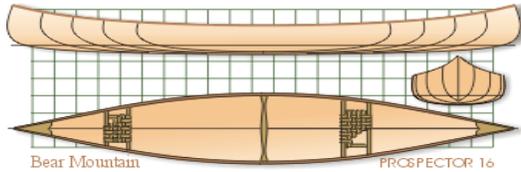
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