

The DDRC Current News

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The Official Newsletter of the Dallas Downriver Club

November 1997

First Flip!

by Rich Grayson

It was bound to happen sooner or later. They say there are two kinds of rafters... those who have flipped, and those who are gonna. Last week on the Arkansas River I graduated.

Although I've been canoeing and/or kayaking since a teen, I've only been rowing large rafts for ten years. I figure it's the only way to do Class 4+ at my age. I always wondered when and how it would happen, and always prepared my riders for the big event, should it happen.

Flipping an oar raft is way different than flipping a canoe. The damn things often weigh in excess of 500 pounds even when rigged for a day trip. When rigged for a Grand Canyon trip, you can forget about righting an oar raft yourself. It can take six or more strong boaters to right a fully rigged oar raft once it has been brought to shore.

Of course, prevention is best, but this time the highside call was woefully late. It was our second run of Brown's Canyon at 3,500 cfs in two days. No problems either day until we reached the last named rapid before Hecla takeout, "Last Chance". Of course, I'd run it differently today, but it was a nasty diagonal wave that pushed us over. There are a lot of those on the Arkansas Headwaters runs.

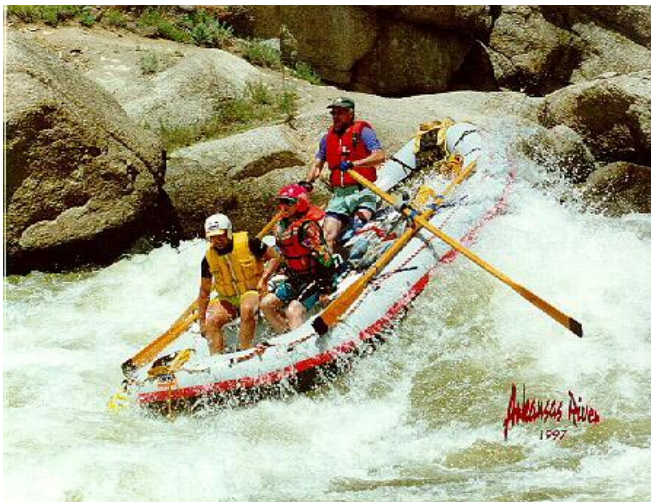
I'd always wondered what I'd do when I finally did flip. Sure, the water was cold but I didn't notice it

much. I pulled myself up to the top of the overturned raft and did a subconscious eye contact assessment of which of the three swimmers needed help first. I pulled up Joel Andre first. Then we pulled up Lee Pegorsch and Dee Timm. "Last Chance" is not a bad place to flip if it has to happen. It's a quarter mile float to the takeout so we just rode out the flip to the end.

Thanks to Joe & Betsy Butler for providing throw rope support and first aid for Dee Timm's cut and bruised leg.

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Love many, trust few.
Always paddle your own canoe.



Current News Online!

by Steve Schleter, newsletter editor

How would you like to receive the newsletter in full color via email?

The DDRC Current News is now available in Adobe PDF format. You can get the monthly newsletter with color images, hypertext links, and even multimedia! And the best thing about the PDF format is that it can be read on any operating system, and if you still need a paper copy you can print it on your own printer.

So, if you are interested, all you have to do is email me at :

schleter@dallas.net

telling me you would rather receive the newsletter online, and I will in turn send you the information you will need to be set up.

Remember, the more digital newsletter sent, the more the club will save on printing and mailing cost! So here is how you can do your part!

The DDRC membership roster is also available to members upon request. We can attach it to an email as a Microsoft Excel or Access file, as a Adobe PDF file, or as ASCII text. You will receive updates upon request. Let us know your preferences.

Save A Tree - Read Digitally



WHAT'S INSIDE

Activity Calendar
Classifieds
Club Information
Safety
Trip Reports



DDRC Calendar of Coming Events



When	What	Where	Contact
Oct. 16	DDRC meeting	Enchilada's Restaurant 6526 E. Northwest Hwy	
Oct. 26-26	Halloween on Goat Island	Caddo Lake	Charles
Nov. 15	White Rock Lake Clean Up	White Rock Lake	Steve
Nov. 20	DDRC meeting	Enchilada's Restaurant	
Nov. 27-30	Thanksgiving on the Rio Grande	Rio Grande River	Ellen



DON'T FORGET TO BRING ALL YOUR GHOSTS AND GOBLINS TO CADDO LAKE FOR HALLOWEEN!




Life Jackets

THEY FLOAT.
YOU DON'T.



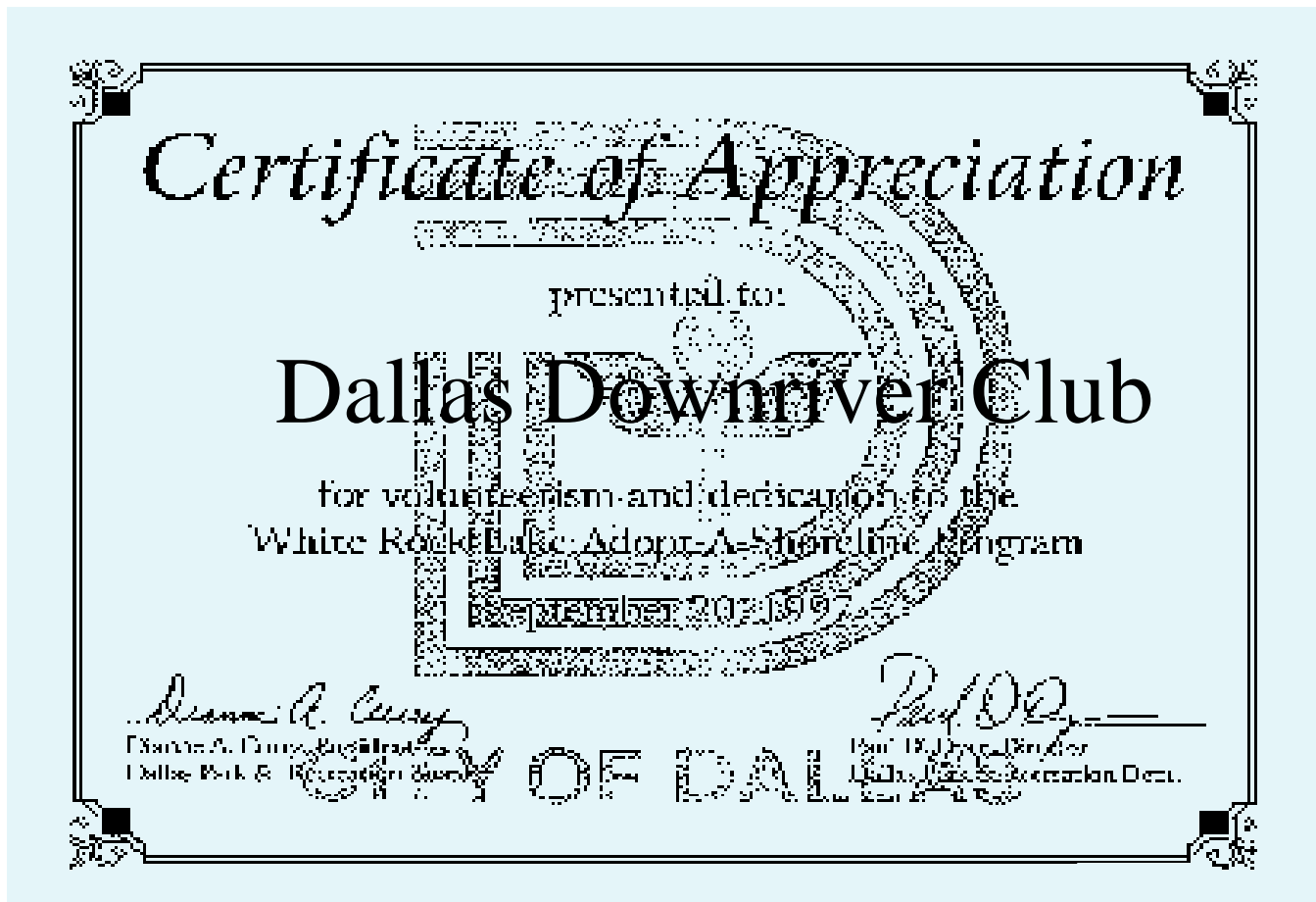
A Public Safety Message from the National Safe Boating Campaign

DDRC TRIP POLICY

Running rivers and all associated activities are inherently dangerous! The Dallas Downriver Club encourages everyone who chooses to participate in this sport to minimize the risks involved by:

- Receiving proper training
- Using proper equipment
- Following commonly accepted safety practices
- Exercising prudent judgement concerning river safety

The DDRC and its officers, trip coordinators, and members do not however, accept responsibility for any mishaps that may occur during trips, classes, races, or other activities listed in the club newsletter. We wish to remind you that your participation in any listed activity is strictly on a 'go-at-your-own-risk' basis.



The DDRC recently received an award from the City of Dallas for our work at White Rock Lake. Because of the efforts of many DDRC volunteers our shoreline clean-up has been successful. Our adopted section is always kept clean. After high winds or water a lot of trash floats in, and it seems like that is the month a large group shows up to help.


For those of you who are not familiar with our commitment to the White Rock Lake clean-up, it is similar to the adopt-a-highway program except we have adopted a section of shoreline to clean on a monthly basis. The Parks dept. has erected a sign at our location acknowledging the DDRC as the official adoption agency. We meet on the second Saturday of every month to pick up trash and generally clean our section. We meet at Barbec's Restaurant on Garland Road about 7:00 A.M. to have coffee and breakfast. We start the clean-

up about 8:15 to 8:30 and work until 11:00 at the latest. Most of our section must be reached by canoe, but there is short section that can be walked.

Come out and help support this DDRC project. We always have a good

time, meeting new friends, paddling a little, and eating a good breakfast. The trash bags and trash gigs are furnished. I recommend wearing old shoes or even boots; gloves are also a good idea.



			635 (LBJ)
		GREENVILLE AVE.	
	MEADOW ROAD		
75		WALNUT HILL LANE	
(CENTRAL)	NORTHWEST	HIGHWAY	ABRAMS ROAD
			

**DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB
NOVEMBER MEETING**
 Thur. 20th, 7:00 PM
 Enchilada's Restaurant
 6526 E. Northwest Hwy.

DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB
PO BOX 820246
DALLAS, TEXAS 75382

PLACE
STAMP
HERE