

# The DDRC Current News

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Volume 26, No. 3

The Official Newsletter of the Dallas Downriver Club

March 1999

## Canadian River Case Overturned

By Matt Curry - Amarillo Globe-News Assistant Regional Editor

An Amarillo appeals court has overturned the district court's ruling in the Canadian River land dispute case pitting landowners against the state of Texas, sending the case back to Collingsworth County, officials said Friday.

Texas Land Commissioner Garry Mauro declared the latest ruling in the lengthy legal tussle a win for the state.

"All we ask is that we be allowed to present our case before a jury," Mauro said in a written statement. "I am convinced that the state and the Permanent School Fund, which helps finance public education, will prevail when our arguments are heard in a fair and impartial forum."

Jody Sheets, an attorney representing the landowners, said efforts will be slated to reinstate 31st state District Judge Kent Sims' initial ruling.

"We disagree with the court of appeals judgment," Sheets said. "We will continue the process either by retrial or appeal to the Texas Supreme Court to re-establish Judge Sims' original judgment."

The case was argued before the 7th Court of Appeals in Amarillo during November.

The state had appealed a 1996 ruling by Sims, who granted land and mineral rights to several landowners along a 35-mile stretch of the Canadian River in Hutchinson and Roberts counties.

The appellate court ruled that the case - which features competing surveys of the river's boundaries - should have been heard by a jury. The court also ruled that the plaintiffs are not entitled to

hundreds of thousands of dollars in expenses, which had been set by a Collingsworth County jury in the case, Mauro said.

The battle dates from a 1989 lawsuit filed by the landowners against the state. The landowners claimed they were entitled to more land in the bed of the Canadian River because the completion of the Sanford Dam in 1965 narrowed the flow of the water.

At stake is about 14,000 acres, according to Mauro, who contends that the riverbeds are determined by gradient boundaries, which are the averages of where the river flows. Mauro says the area in question is public domain, with mineral rights dedicated to the Permanent School Fund.

## Arkansas Boating may be in Jeopardy

by Kelly Eberhard

I know that many of you boat in Texas and I thought you should be aware of an issue that has come to light within the last couple of days. Arkansas boaters are very concerned and if you enjoy boating there you should be too. Also access laws in other states can effect legislation in your own.

So I've posted a synopsis here.

Rep Mike Hathorn (d) Huntsville, a member of the Arkansas House plans to introduce legislation which will redefine navigability on Arkansas rivers and streams. The bill will probably be introduced on Tues or Wednesday. In its current form the bill will seriously and negatively restrict access to many, probably most, whitewater streams. One of our concerns is that one of the ways that Rep Hathorn defines navigability is whether the stream is navigable 6 months a year. Rep Hathorn does not have the final version put together yet but will very soon. I will forward a copy of the bill, when I get my hands on it. Rep Hathorn seems like a very nice guy and says he is willing to work with the Arkansas Canoe Club on this. That does not mean that he will do what we want. He is wanting to fix what he, and the Farm Bureau see as a problem. Some parts of this bill may be excellent for the boating community but I cannot stress enough how concerned I am about this definition of navigability and access. We have to pay attention to this, try to work with Rep Hathorn, but ultimately do what is best for the boating community. Many of the Arkansas boaters I know are very concerned about this issue. The majority of the whitewater streams that we enjoy boating are only available less than 10% of the year! Please pass our concerns along to those who need to know and act on this!

**Easter in Arkansas**  
**April 2 - 4**  
**DDRC White Water Paddling**  
Big Piney Creek, Arkansas  
Class 2 - 3  
Long Pool Campground  
Limited Spaces

### Trip Leaders

Jerry Kier  
972-869-2642  
[jskierdal@aol.com](mailto:jskierdal@aol.com)

Alan Tittle  
972-927-4181  
[a-tittle@ti.com](mailto:a-tittle@ti.com)

# 1999

## DDRC OFFICERS

**President:**

Jack Deatherage 972-222-1407

**Vice President:**

Debbie Meller 972-727-9290

**Secretary:**

Eric Rounsefell 972-370-5844

**Treasurer:**

Chris Cockrell 214-340-3181

**Newsletter Editor:**

Steve Schleter 972-329-5502

**Internet Webmaster:**

Rich Grayson 214-827-0144

**Environmental:**

David Lamb 214-931-3068

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Judy Purze 972-717-5053

Yo Deatherage 972-222-1407

**Safety:**

Mary Beth Kvanli 214-352-5446

**Training:**
**Kayaks**

Debbie Meller 214-727-9290

## President's Column

by Jack Deatherage

Guess I should start this off by saying the views expressed here are my own.

It has been a busy month. Those of you at the last meeting may remember that I was going to Caddo to check on the required permits for camping on Goat Island. Well, we talked again to the people at Caddo lake State Park and

they still new little about the situation, but they did state that we would need a Limited Public Use Permit (LPU) to use Goat Island. The permit cost \$10.00 and is good Sept. 1 thru Aug. 31 each year. We bought the LPU and spent a quite weekend there with no confrontations. A few days later I got a nice little 110 page Public Hunting Lands Map Booklet. It a interesting piece of text, that the average taxpayer would need a lawyer to guide them thru. On page iii under non-consumptive use it states in black and white that no permit of any type is needed for unit #730, which is Caddo Wildlife Management Area. After a few e-mails to the State, and more than a few phone calls, I found that this is in error and you do need a LPU permit to be on Goat Island. To make a very long story short, they now have two designated campsites marked for the public to use. Our Halloween spot is one and another East-Southeast of there, I think. Yes we can still use Goat Island and yes we need a permit.

One LPU per group will suffice for now. If you can not register each boat in the Great State of Texas than you can just register the people in the boats.

Now we have a battle in court going on about the mid-gradient law which gives us all access to the rivers of this state. Seems someone was arrested for trespass at the waters edge on the Canadian River. It's going to a jury trial soon in Amarillo. If the arrest is upheld than things will change for us. Barbed wire across most rivers and streams. Stay tuned for further updates.

Same crap in Arkansas. Some elected politician wants to change their law on river navigability. To be a navigable waterway it would have to have water in it more than six months of the year. Did someone say drought?

Yes your rights to be on the water are threatened! Do not waste a chance to voice your opinion on this subject to your elected officials.

### Get Connected on the Internet

DDRC's website is provided by Inturnet, inc., a local ISP based in Richardson. In addition to providing our club with FREE web space, inturnet also offers access to DDRC members at a 10% discount off the regular monthly rate of \$19.95 per month for unlimited, 24 hours per day access.

To top it off, DDRC receives a 10% bonus for each member signing up, so it's a double win-win for you and the club. If you want your own web pages, inturnet provides 10MB FREE space, enough space to create about 900 pages (more or less)! You will also receive an e-mail address so you can communicate easier.

Call Tod E. Weber at (972)783-0066 for an account and be sure to tell him you are a DDRC member so both you and the club get the bonuses, or contact Rich Grayson.

**Newsletter:** The DDRC newsletter, Current News, is a monthly publication distributed to club members and affiliated paddling organizations nationwide. The deadline for submissions is the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month. Information may be submitted via e-mail, at [schleter@dallas.net](mailto:schleter@dallas.net), or fax/phone to Steve Schleter, at (972) 329-0729. Articles about and of direct interest to DDRC members will receive first priority, paid advertising will be given second priority, and other materials will be included on a space-available basis. Unless otherwise specified, all information about river trips will be added to the DDRC Internet website trip calendar.

**Change of Address:** Please contact Chris Cockrell, Treasurer, if you need to report a change of mailing address. If you fail to get a newsletter, it will be because we do not have a current address or your membership has expired. Chris will be happy to correct wrong addresses, and take your dues if you are in arrears.

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## The Environment Section

by David Lamb

A total of 28 bags of trash were picked up from Bachman Lake, the Elm Fork of the Trinity, White Rock Lake, Village Creek and Lake Arlington by:

**Rich Cronin**  
**Bob Harnack**  
**David Lamb**  
**Rachel Lamb**

## A U S T I N PADDLEFEST '99

is right around the corner. It is April 17-18 at Festival Beach in Austin, Texas. It's main focus is to educate the general public about paddling and what it is that paddlers do. If you have a love for the sport, we really want you to come!! Saturday is the primary day for the following activities however Sunday is the day for some clinics and the whitewater rodeo. Here's a bit of what you can find that weekend. Call (512) 292-8278 or check out the web site <http://www.AUSTINPADDLING.ORG> for more details:

**BOATS GALOR!** Always wanted to try a canoe or kayak? Whitewater or touring? Looking for a new boat? All the major boat manufacturers will be here with boats for you to try. Register to get a wristband for \$3 and try as many boats as you like all day. Kids under 18 can try boats for free!

**WHITEWATER RODEO FUN** for SUNDAY! Watch from shore or join in with lots of other paddlers and try doing some of those moves you see others doing on the river and in videos. Try out some of the hot new rodeo boats in some real whitewater at Longhorn Dam at the end of Town Lake here in Austin. Contact Ben Kvanli at [BK50475@swt.edu](mailto:BK50475@swt.edu)

**CANOE RACES -LONG and SHORT!** Think your club or place of work could paddle to victory or you

want the glory for yourself? Recreational races for beginners, kids and experienced racers are scheduled. Contact Lee Deviney at [txpaddler.aol.com](mailto:txpaddler.aol.com)

**KAYAK/CANOE/SITONTOP POLO!** It is basketball on the water. It is easy to learn! Come watch a demo and find out what it is all about! Then get a group of 5 friends together or just come and hook up with other curious folks and play a game with them. Some boats will be provided! Contact Ezio Ambrosetti at [texio.ibm.net](mailto:texio.ibm.net)

### LEARN HOW TO PADDLE!!

Want to get some instruction on how to paddle that canoe or kayak efficiently? Sign up for the freestyle (John Steib) and beginners classes on canoeing and kayaking. All classes are taught by American Canoe Association instructors and equipment is provided on a first come first serve basis! Contact Carla Jennings at [cjenn@io.com](mailto:cjenn@io.com)

**DUTCH OVEN COOKING TREATS!** Ask how while you nibble on some breakfast, dinner and dessert samples being offered throughout the day.

### SILENT AUCTION GOODIES!

Get some NEW paddling gear to start the year off right. Auction benefits Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve.

### MORE, MORE, LOTS MORE!!

Come and see all the different ways to paddle. Watch a kayak and canoe rolling demonstration. See, hear and participate in demonstrations and talks on many aspects of paddling: Kayaking, Sea Kayaking, Greenland Kayaking, Canoe & Kayak Camping, Canoeing, Freestyle Canoeing, Outfitting you Canoe, Sit on Tops, Rafting, River Rescue, Wilderness First Aid, Junior Olympics and Slalom Racing, Marathon Racing and Texas Water Safari, Where do you paddle in Texas-Check out Texas Whitewater! Conservation, Fly Fishing, Adaptive Paddling, Boat Building

## Group Buy of ICF K-1s and Downriver K-1s

Start saving your change, mowing lawns, throwing papers, babysitting. I am ordering a container of ICF K-1s and ICF Downriver K-1 racing boats in March, 1999.

ICF K-1 \$370 + \$100 shipping  
 Downriver K-1 \$450 + \$100 shipping

ICF K-1s are available in high volume stable, medium volume unstable and high volume very unstable hulls.

ICF K-1s have your choice of pedals or T-bar, over or under stern rudder.

ICF K-1 layup - Polyester/Glass/  
 Nylon

DR K-1 layup - Polyester/Vinylester

Other hulls and layups are available at additional cost

Let me know if you are interested.

David Lamb (972)931-3068  
[dlamb@adventureteam.com](mailto:dlamb@adventureteam.com)

The container costs \$2350 to ship here. I am covering any extra cost in shipping that these prices do not pay. Thanks

### DDRC Annual Membership

**\$20.00/year - Individual or Family**  
**\$200.00 - Lifetime Membership**

Send to:  
**DDRC**

**P.O. Box 820246**  
**Dallas, Texas 75382**

## Scouting the Yampa River

by Jerry Kier

River permit applications have been mailed, and we now await positive responses from various federal agencies. Not being content to wait, six DDRCers traveled to Steamboat Springs, Colorado to check out the condition of the headwaters of the Yampa River, and to verify that there will be sufficient snow pack in the surrounding mountains for an early summer float. Pat and Alan Tittle, Judy "Gearhead" Purze, Barbara Ohlman, Rich Grayson, and yours truly had to spent 3 days skiing under winter conditions to be able to make the following observations:

- The Yampa River flows through Steamboat Springs, Colorado
- Steamboat Springs had better be upstream of the trip put-in
- Snow has been accumulating daily in the mountains
- Locally warm weather may indicate an early snow-melt
- It is difficult to ski in the fog
- We may have to check out other rivers next winter
- It is a blast to ski with DDRC friends

We of the scouting trip request that if anyone else gets a Yampa River permit for this year, please remember the importance of our fact-finding mission and invite us to participate!

### Three Things about the Trinity :

The Dallas City Council has given Garcia and Associates the go ahead to build canoe launch / boat ramps at the Sylvan and South Loop 12 crossings of the Trinity, scheduled for completion by the end of 1999.

Trinity River Clean-up, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Twenty sites along the river in Dallas will get the attention of 2000 plus volunteers, but boaters are needed to accompany the National Guard to a riverside tire dump. The tires will be slung in bundles for removal by Chinook helicopter. Bring your own boat or paddle with a guardsman – trip includes McCommas Bluff and Lock and Dam Number One. To volunteer call Charles Allen, at 214 941-1757.

**Trinity trips** – second Saturdays – Bring your boat for easy paddling, great wildlife, call Charles Allen.

**March 13<sup>th</sup>** – West Fork and Trinity Mainstem, Belt Line Road in Grand Prairie to Sylvan, 13 miles.

**April 13<sup>th</sup>** – Trinity Mainstem, South Loop 12 to Dowdy Ferry, 8.5 miles.

### Kayak & Canoe Roll Clinic Fridays

It's in an indoor heated pool!  
 Dates: Jan 22 through April 9 (closed March 5, 12, 19 for repairs)  
 Where: The Colony Aquatic Center in The Colony, TX.  
 Take Plano Pkwy. to Hwy. 121, then north on Paige Rd. to North Colony Blvd. Go east (right) about 3 blocks, look for Aquatic Center near fire station on north side of road. Mapsco 554-G  
 Cost: \$3 per person per evening  
 Contact Arnie Blatt for more details:  
 W) 972/250-7158;  
 H) 972/416-9194

### 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.

### A Thank You from Ben Kvanli

To the DDRC,

Thank you, each of you, for your continued support both in spirit and in fact. The money that you gave last fall brought two elite used carbon paddles to Texas. When you see the Red River Racing Team kids paddling so fast, just know that they couldn't do it without you.

Thank you,  
 Ben Kvanli

(Editors Note: The Red River Racing Team suffered a set back during the October flood by loosing racing equipment, receiving damage to their van and dampened spirits. But with Ben Kvanli's and Michelle Clement's perseverance, the athletes and their familie's dedication and support from the paddling community, they were able to pull through and move forward into more exciting opportunities. If you would like to know more about the Red River Racing Team visit their website that is linked to the DDRC's website.)

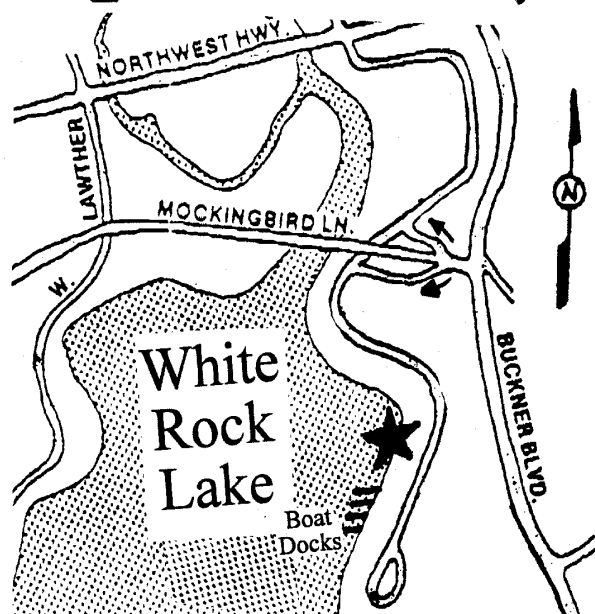
## REI's Fourth Annual...



# Paddlesports Day!

**WHITEROCK LAKE  
BIG THICKET AREA  
Saturday, April 10th  
10am - 4pm**

**Pre-register at REI: \$5.00 / person  
On site registration: \$7.00 / person**



Directions:  
East on Mockingbird from Hwy 75.  
REI event is on east side of lake.

Join us for a fun-filled day on the water! Representatives from Dagger, Perception, Necky, Mad River, Old Town and Ocean Kayak, Walden Paddlers, Extra Sport, Werner, Bending Branches, and Yakima will be on hand with their boats and/or accessories to answer questions. Try out a nimble whitewater kayak or canoe, a sleek touring boat, or anything in between! Clinics will be held throughout the day. Contact REI Customer Service for more information about paid & free clinics. This is the biggest, most exciting Paddling demo in north Texas- *Don't miss it!*

**For more information, call REI at (972) 490-5989.**



# Flatwater Canoe Clinic

## ACA Certified Instructor Charles Smith

**Includes:**

Total:  
6 hours of  
Instruction

**Cost:**

ACA Mem: \$50.00  
Non Mem: \$55.00

**2 hours of classroom Instruction**

Friday, April 9th 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
(This session takes place at

**AND**

**4 hours of On-water drills** (REI Paddle Event at  
Whiterock Lake)


Saturday, April 10th 10:00am - 2:00pm



**Class Description:** Solo and tandem canoe clinic. Includes classroom activity and on-water drills. Class will cover paddling principles, safety, equipment, strokes, drills, and maneuvers. Basic Swimming Skills **REQUIRED**. Please bring a sack lunch.

**About your Instructor:** Charles Smith - American Canoe Association Certified Instructor at flatwater, moving water & whitewater levels. Chairman of Health & Physical Ed. Dept. at TCJC-NE Campus. 31 years of college teaching experience. Taught numerous college & private canoe classes.

**Please Note:** Participants are encouraged to use their own canoes, paddles, and PFDs. However, accommodations will be made for those who do not have their own canoes and/or equipment.

 <b>Quality Outdoor Gear and Clothing Since 1938</b> <b>Circle one</b> ACA member - \$50 Non - member - \$55	<b>REGISTRATION FORM</b> <b>Canoe Clinic 4/9 - 4/10</b>	REI C/S only - Please Validate
	Name: _____ Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____ Daytime Phone: _____ Evenings: _____	
Please return to Customer Service with your payment. Please contact REI Customer Service at (972) 490-5989 for more information.		



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Saturday, March 20, 9:00 am:  
**Free Safety Class**

Free one-day, dry-land Safety class at White Rock Lake. This will cover most of the topics from the complete two-day Safety class that are taught on dry-land. Rescue Philosophy, Rescue Equipment, Throw-bags, and Mechanical Systems are just a few. Please bring a throw-bag, chair to sit in, and lunch. We will meet at 9:00 am at the Bath house on the east side of the lake. Call Mary beth Kvanli for more information at:  
**214-352-5446**

**DDRC Newsletter Ad Rates**

Text Ads (Non-Members)	Per column inch	3.75
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Business Cards (Others)	Per insertion	7.50
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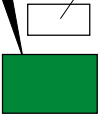
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<b>75</b>	<b>WALNUT HILL</b>		
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**DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB**  
**PO BOX 820246**  
**DALLAS, TEXAS 75382**

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**Club Dues**

Just a reminder that if you have not paid your 1999 dues, that it is time again. After March if you have not paid you will not receive the newsletter!