

The Alamo City Rivermen Babbler

Issue MMCCCLX

November 2004

The monthly newsletter of the Alamo City Rivermen

Padding the fine line between geek and Bubba.

Next Meeting

November 10, 2004, Barbeque Station,
1612 N.E. Loop 410, near the
intersection with Harry Wurzbach. See
the [linked map](#). 6:30 to 8:30.

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830-885-5324

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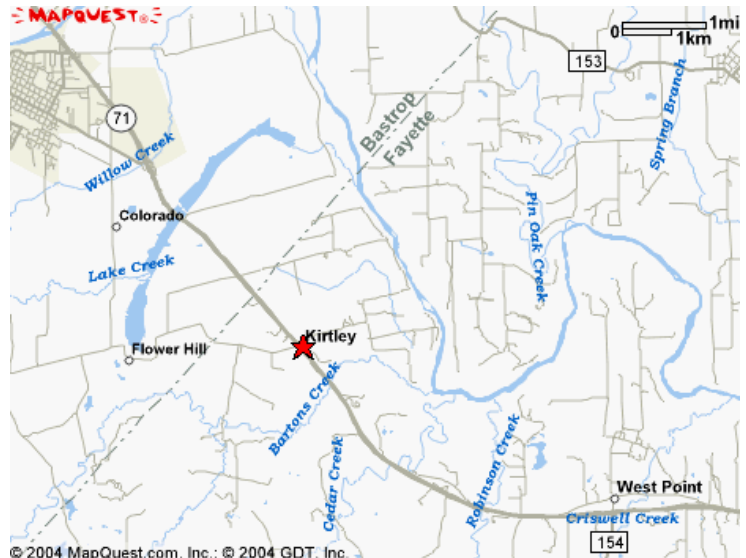
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Rock Hounding on the Colorado

Bob Heinsohn

One cool Saturday in August Carolyn and I put in our solo boats from private property near Kirtley. This was a leisurely paddle of eight miles to the LCRA Plum Park. The water was up, a little murky, and flowing fairly fast. My mother was the “shuttle bunny,” driving my van back to Plum Park.

There were many gravel bars and some islands to explore for finds. One bend in the river had about four acres of gravel—Eureka! No Indian artifacts were found, but we had a large variety of odd shaped rocks, plus fossilized shells to haul downstream, probably about 100 pounds worth. Just as we exited at the take-out, we were caught in a shower.



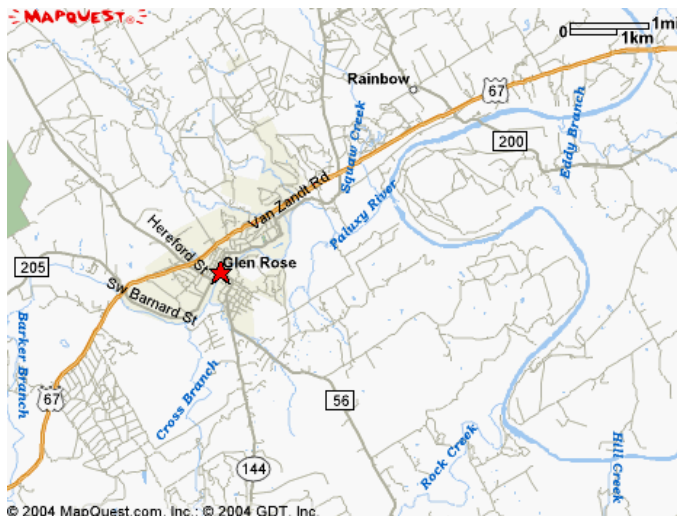
We look forward to an overnight trip that will give us more time to explore the huge gravel bar. Actually we will need more space for all the rocks we'd really like to haul back. Maybe we can tow a jonboat.

(Editor's Note: This article should have appeared in October's newsletter, but I overlooked it. Apologies.)

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Upcoming Events

November 6, 2004	Goliad Canoe Trail	Randy Hohlaus, 210-493-7058 or hohlaus at prodigy.net
November 10, 2004	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
November 26-28, 2004	Turkey Trot, Colorado River	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy.net 493-7058
December 2004	Christmas Party	?????
January 12, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
January 29-30, 2005	Freeze Trip	Gib Hafernicks, 210-492-7517 or Gibguy at Compuserve.com
February 9, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
March 9, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
March 2005	Pecos Trip	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy.net 493-7058
April 13, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
May 11, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
June 8, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.



April Brazos River Cleanup

Bob Heinsohn

This clean-up on the Brazos at Glen Rose was a hands-on (down right dirty) tire removal experience. My van, canoe, and I needed a "Get out of Dodge" (La Grange) trip. After arriving in town, I drove to see the state park, Tres Rios Retreat Campground, and walked the square in town. I put in my canoe at the Brazos River bridge where there was a rough surface road to walk or drive and paddled upstream on the calm water.

The next morning, I met others for the cleanup from Dallas, Laredo, etc. The lower section group has a real treat with countless tires of various sizes to pull out of the water. Later we had our share and left many right where they were for next year.

The campsite I had was on a high bank near the junction of two other streams. Across the water, there was a large gravel bar of many acres. No significant finds could be had.

I was the only ACR member who attended. Everyone should “experience” this cleanup at least once in his lifetime.

(Editor’s Note: Like the other article from Bob Heinsohn, this too should have appeared in October’s newsletter. Apologies again. I am always looking for content, so it is doubly bad when I overlook what I have. I will try to do better. On the other hand, but for Bob Heinsohn’s articles, there wouldn’t be much to this month’s newsletter.)

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Goliad Canoe Trail

Randy Hohlaus

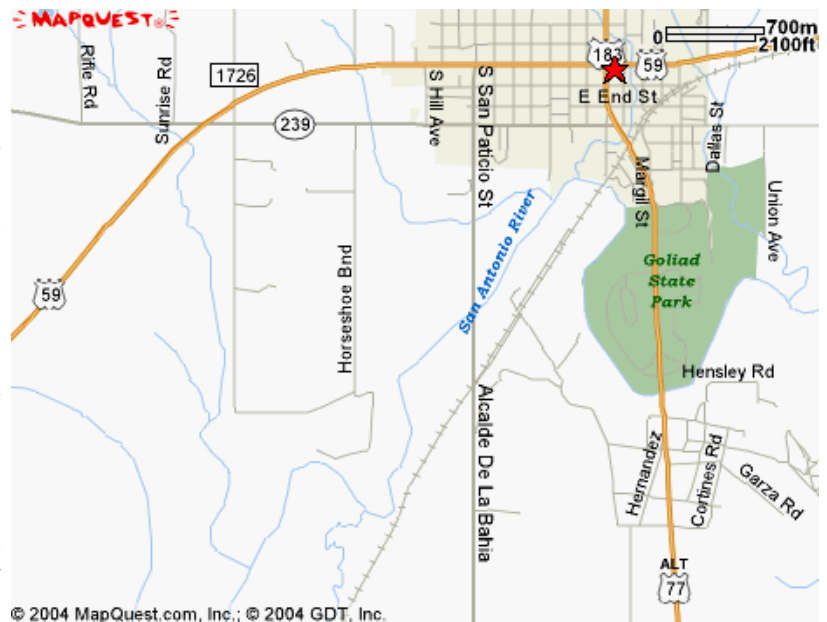
We weren’t down to our usual standards, and now ACR has made such a good impression that we have been invited back to Goliad for another float. This year, the Goliad River Trail Committee is billing it as the GOLIAD CANOE TOUR. It will be a more freeform event this year, more a series of events for the participants than us providing a guided tour. See attached announcement.

Our plan will be to meet at 10:00am at the Hwy. 59 crossing on Saturday Nov. 6. We will drop our boats, and the drivers will drive cars back to the State Park and leave them there. The Park Superintendent, Leah Huth, will provide driver shuttles back to the put-in. We will float down and stop at Ferry Street to walk into the town square a short distance away, to have lunch at the local cafe. This year SARA won’t be providing lunch. They really are encouraging us to do this to help show the economic benefit river tourism can bring, so bring some lunch money with you. I think that this is a good thing. Total trip, 6 1/2 miles.

As before, they are looking for volunteers to take other local people on the float. If you can bring a tandem and provide an empty seat, please let me know so I can build a list and let them know. It would be most appreciated. If you do so, make sure that guests are wearing life jackets. However, there is no problem if you want to go without taking someone, too, but it would be a nice gesture.

As before, you can make this a day trip, but we will be reserving campsites for overnight. The Goliad committee will be hosting a BBQ dinner in the park for participants, with a fee to help raise money for their efforts to support a canoe trail. There will be a bonfire and storytelling afterward. Should make for a great trip.

In the morning, we will not plan on cooking (up to you), but will walk on the fine Goliad hike/bike trail into town for breakfast. All fees are on your own.



So, I need your confirmations to settle boating and camping reservations, and please let me know:

1. If you are going.
2. If you want to take a guest from the local area in your boat, and
3. If you want to camp

Thanks. Randy Hohlaus 210/349-1163, hohlaus@prodigy.net

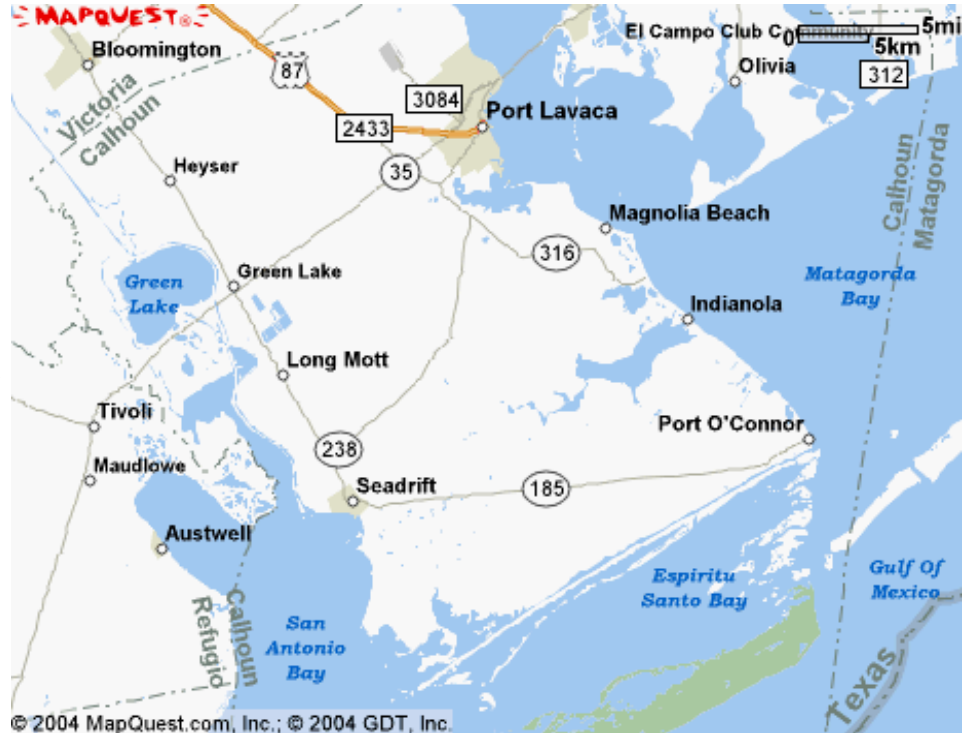
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Calhoun County Paddling Map

Page Williams, Houston Canoe Club

There is now a paddling map for 3 sites on the western edge of Matagorda Bay: Powderhorn, LaSalle Loop, and Magnolia Beach/Old Town Lake. This map is a large waterproof map similar to the TPWD maps, with GPS points and mileage, and supplemented with some bird ID photos and history synopses. It was authored by former Calhoun County Sea Grant agent, John McConnell, with help from Texas Cooperative Extension, and is available by phoning Sea Grant publications at 979-845-3854. Be sure to tell them how much you appreciate their attention to paddlers!!!

(Editor's Note: The map to the right is not the paddling map. It's just a Mapquest map I snagged online to show where Calhoun County is.)



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Gib's Suggestions for the Pecos Trip

1. Your canoe needs to be able to carry at a minimum a 48 quart ice chest (actually 54 preferred) for community food & beverages.
2. In the even of a wash on the Pecos, we do the Lower Canyons of the Rio Grande.

Gib Hafernick



When we paddle down the stream,
We hope that things are as they seem.
If we don't see that faint line ahead,
We'll ride the falls and end up dead.

(Editor's Note: If doggerel isn't the place for exaggeration, what is?)



Alamo City Rivermen

P.O. Box 171194 • San Antonio • Texas • 78217

ACA Paddle America
7432 Alban Station Blvd.
Suite B 232
Springfield, Virginia 22150

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a member of the Alamo City Rivermen Canoe and Kayak Club and would like to take advantage of the club discount to become a member of ACA Paddle America. I enclose a check for an individual/family membership in the amount of \$20.00 (single) or \$25.00 (family).

Please use this name for your membership role: _____

Please send mail to the following address: _____

Happy Paddling. Thank you.

Member, Alamo City Rivermen Canoe and Kayak Club

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Alamo City Rivermen Mileage Log Sheet

Date: _____ River: _____ Put in: _____ Take Out: _____

Estimated Miles: _____ Comments: _____

Date: _____ River: _____ Put in: _____ Take Out: _____

Estimated Miles: _____ Comments: _____

Date: _____ River: _____ Put in: _____ Take Out: _____

Estimated Miles: _____ Comments: _____

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Date: _____ River: _____ Put in: _____ Take Out: _____

Estimated Miles: _____ Comments: _____

Date: _____ River: _____ Put in: _____ Take Out: _____

Estimated Miles: _____ Comments: _____

Alamo City Rivermen Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Home Telephone: _____

Business Telephone: _____

The Alamo City Rivermen try to keep their activities safe, but risk is inherent in water sports. We cannot and do not guarantee safety. The Alamo City Rivermen disclaim liability for accidental injury or death in any sponsored event. As a condition of membership and participation in club sponsored events, I release, acquit, and forever discharge the Alamo City Rivermen and its officers, agents, and members from all liability arising out of or relating to a sponsored event, even if negligence of the club or its officers, agents, or members is a cause, and even if I die or am injured This release includes not only actual paddle trips but also all other club events and driving or riding to and from club events.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Membership dues are the same for an individual or a family. As a member of the Alamo City Rivermen, you are automatically entitled to our monthly newsletter, NOC Outfitter store discounts, a \$10 discounted membership in the American Canoe Association through the Paddle America Program, and subscription to our email list. Details on these benefits are available in our newsletter.

I prefer to receive the newsletter: (Please circle the one you choose)

Dues if newsletter sent by email \$15.00

Dues if newsletter sent USPS \$20.00

(Note: Newsletter copying and mailing has been our biggest expense; using email frees up money for other activities, including our website.)

Mail this completed form, together with a check, to:

Alamo City Rivermen Canoe Club
P.O. Box 171194
San Antonio, Texas 78217