

The Alamo City Rivermen Babbler

Issue MMCCCLIX

March 2005

The monthly newsletter of the Alamo City Rivermen

Padding the fine line between geek and Bubba.

Meeting

March 9, 2005, 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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Club Officers

President Kathy Cusick
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830-885-5324

Vice President David Plylar
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Mailings Kevin Longin
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Next

Dues

It's a new year, dues are due again. Please pay pronto. You can pay at the meeting or by mail to Alamo City Rivermen Canoe Club, P.O. Box 171194, San Antonio, Texas 78217

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Pecos Exploration Nears

Dispatch from San Antonio De Bexar - Capt. Randall Hohlaus, ably assisted by Capt. Hafernicks, desirous to carry out the wishes of the Commander-in-Chief to survey and expand the general knowledge of the unknown lands in the Great Western Desert, seek out and record new and wondrous members of the natural world for study by our institutions, make contact with the native peoples for learning their ways, identify signs of rumored past civilizations, and bring the fruits of liberty and the Manifest Destiny and general expansion of the Republic into the unsettled lands, hereby declares the expedition closed to further volunteers, as the outfitting and victualing of the boats has begun, and final assemblies for the assignment of duties and responsibilities have been carried out.

They are all reported to be in high spirits, the 12 handpicked volunteers are well skilled men and women in the waterborne and survival arts, and will make a fine crew to carry the day. The vessels on which they embark are rumored to the best that are available west of the Alleghenies, but time will tell. Orders are now for the expedition to leave on March 12, and return on March 19. Base Camp will be established at Seminole Canyon, and the last civilized meal will be partaken at the Comstock Owl's Nest on the twelfth, the last stage stop available. Great and wondrous natural features await, and miles long stretches are rumored to resemble flutes and may only be passed by walking the boats. We anxiously await the reports of the great rapids and cataracts to be encountered. The last night before return is ominously scheduled for Dead Man's Canyon, but we are optimistic that this will just be a phantasm of a phrase.

It is rumored that Capt. Hafernicks has prepared an outstanding repast to feed a whale or two, but the crew is prepared to live off the land and their wits by dipping a rod or two into the water to supplement the diet. Based on the recent discoveries by the late English Capt. Cook during his voyages of discovery to the unknown islands, the scurvy will be banished by a nightly dietary supplement of limes perched on tins of Fermented Malts and Hops.

(Continued Next Page)

(Pecos, continued)

We have been fortunate to have been provided, by means which cannot be divulged, a Map of the Exploration for your casual perusement. But because of the important nature of this effort, it is possible that some features may have been altered to misdirect alien and foreign powers with possible malicious intent. The way West to the Pecos now beckons, and we wish the hearty crew good health, good return, and Godspeed.

Your Most Obedient and Humble Observer,
Larence J. Pinkerton
Cut and Shoot Picayune

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Upcoming Events

March 5, 2005	San Marcos Clean-up	Kathy Cusick, kmcusick at junodot com
March 6, 2005	Texas River Protection Association, 10:00 AM, Pecan Park Retreat office	David Reichert, reichert at uthscsa dot edu
March 9, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
March 13-19, 2005	Pecos Trip (Pandale to Highway 90 high bridge)	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy.net 493-7058
April 9-10, 2005	Hidalgo Falls Festival, Brazos River near Navasota	gibguy at compuserve dot com
April 13, 2005	Monthly Meeting	Barbeque Station, 1612 N.E. Loop 410, near Harry Wurzbach, 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
April 16, 2005	Earth Day, Woodlawn Lake	gibguy at compuserve dot com
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.
November 5, 2005	Goliad Canoe Trail, San Antonio River, Goliad	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy.net 493-7058



The 20th Annual Great Texas River Clean-Up

On Saturday, March 5, 2005, folks from all over Texas will be participating in the world's longest river clean-up. We will be picking up trash along the entire length of the San Marcos River (approximately 90 miles).

Bank Crews

Everyone is urged to help. If you are unable to participate in the water, we need volunteers to work the banks of the river, especially at parks and highway crossings. Bring some trash bags (we will supply as many as possible) and perhaps a flounder gig to snag some goodies. Scuba divers and snorkelers are also urged to participate.

Recreational Paddlers

We are asking recreational paddlers and canoe clubs to accept the challenge and volunteer for a section of river. If your group or club has not already been assigned a section, be sure to contact Tom Goynes and tell him what stretch you would like. The upper sections of the San Marcos River, particularly just downstream of the City of San Marcos, will require the most attention, and the short mileages set for these sections reflect this. Furthermore, the river becomes less accessible and more hazardous as one goes downstream. For that reason, novice boaters should volunteer for either section 1 or 2 and more experienced boaters for the other sections.

Safari Teams and Canoe Racing Enthusiasts

The lower river, from Luling to Gonzales, has several long sections with few bridge crossings and for that reason, we are asking canoe racers and especially teams that have competed in the Texas Water Safari in the past to volunteer for sections 9 - 11.

Campout and Get-Together

Everyone participating in this event is invited to camp free at either Shady Grove Campground/ Spencer Canoes or at Pecan Park Retreat for the weekend. Starting at 6 p.m. on Saturday evening there will be a free barbecue for participants at Shady Grove/Spencer Canoes. It should be noted that the party will terminate by midnight to allow the rest of the workers some time to sleep.

Sunday Worship Service

On Sunday morning at 8 a.m., there will be a non-denominational Christian worship service at Pecan Park Retreat. Everyone is welcome.

What You Can Do

First of all, mark March 5th on your calendar. Second, look over the river section listing, and choose a stretch that you can help cover. Next, call me at 512-392-6171 (or e-mail me at <mailto:goynes@centurytel.net>), and I will put you in contact with the group leader of that section. Each leader will be able to help arrange shuttles and will be given logistical info regarding trash deposit locations as the clean-up nears.

Meeting Times and Shuttles

A group meeting will be held for everyone working sections 3 through 7 at 9:00 a.m. Saturday morning at Spencer Canoes. Groups working sections 8 - 11 will arrange their shuttles as early as possible Saturday morning and try to put in the river by 9:00 a.m. Persons working sections 1 and 2 will meet at City Park in San Marcos at 10:00 a.m.

Let's Do it

Communities along the river are being urged to help in any way they can. If you can offer any service, such as trash hauling, shuttle driving, trash bags or food donations - anything - please give us a call. Together we can clean-up the whole river and make a strong statement to the public about our love for free flowing streams. Please help us out, Tom Goynes (coordinator) 512-392-6171 Sponsors: Texas Rivers Protection Association; Texas River Recreation Association; Texas Canoe Racing Association; San Marcos River Foundation; Green Guys Recycling; Pecan Park Retreat; Spencer Canoes; TG Canoe Livery

River Section Listings

1. San Marcos City Park to Thompson's Island (2 miles)
2. Thompson's Island to Pecan Park Retreat (3.5 miles)
3. Pecan Park Retreat to Spencer Canoes (6 mi.) Houston Canoe Club
4. Spencer Canoes to Staples - Hwy 1977 (5 miles) Jeff Pines
5. Staples to Fentress - Hwy 20 (9 miles) Austin Paddling Club
6. Fentress to Stairtown (7miles)

7. Stairtown to Luling - Hwy 90 (6.5miles)
8. Luling 90 to Luling City Park (6 mi.) Alamo City Rivermen
9. Luling City Park to Palmetto State Park (14.4 mi.) TCRA
10. Palmetto State Park to Gonzales Hwy 90A (14.8 miles) Canoe Racers
11. Gonzales 90A to Gonzales 183 (10 mi.) Canoe Racers

Annual Meeting

On Sunday, March 6 at 10 a.m. the Texas Rivers Protection Association will hold it's annual general meeting. We will meet at the Pecan Park Retreat office (which is also the home of Tom and Paula Goynes). Everyone is welcome to attend. We hope to adjourn by 1 p.m., at which time there will be a short meeting of the Texas River Recreation Association.

Driving Directions:

To get to Pecan Park Campground: coming from Interstate 35 in San Marcos, get on Highway 80 and head toward Luling for 1.8 miles. Take a right on county road 101. Take an immediate left onto county road 102. Go 1/2 mile on 102 and take a right on Pecan Park road. Keep going straight (past TG Canoe Livery) and the road will end at the Pecan Park Retreat Office.

For more info call Tom Goynes at 512-392-6171 or visit our website at <http://www.pecanparkretreat.com>

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More on the Pecos

Ya-t'heh.

Attached is the trip itinerary map for our campsites. Based on Texas Rivers And Rapids, thanks to Ben Nolen and Bob Narramore. Hope everyone can read it. The first night our goal is Goat Canyon at 18 miles. Note that there are alternate camps if we don't make it, because it is quite a haul. The goal is that by the third night we are at Indian Cave camp, either by our primary or alternate plans. I will have this map at our next meeting on Sunday, if you can make it.

Also, I have attempted to reserve 8 campsites at Seminole Canyon for Saturday night, out of 10 supposedly available. I will not have confirmation until Tuesday at the earliest, due to the federal holiday. There will be \$2 fee to enter the park that you will have to pick up on your own. The campsites will run anywhere from \$9 for tent only to \$13 with electricity, as we will likely have to have a mix of sites. We will average out the campsite costs to everyone. Unfortunately, there are no group campsites, so we will likely be scattered. You will have to double up, at least 2 people to a site. There is only one tent pad per site, but they are pretty large, and could hold possibly two 2-person tents, but if you have a large dome, probably only one would fit. Sometimes, if the weather was good, we slept out on cots without a tent. The park has showers and bathrooms, which will be your last shot at civilization before we leave Sunday morning. We will try and firm up campsite assignments at the meeting. Actual campsites are not assigned until you show up on that day.

The goal is to be there by 4:00pm on Saturday. We should collect at Gib's campsite about 5:00pm to get the food and gear distributed, and check everybody in. We will then go out and eat, if I can confirm that Owl's Nest will be open in Comstock, right now, Emilio's Place is shut down.

Randy

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Yet More on the Pecos Expedition Planning

Gib Hafernack

As of this time there are approximately 12 to 14 going on the Pecos Trip. There is a significant amount of food to purchase, as all meals will be community meals on the trip. Basically we need to establish who is bringing specific equipment and assisting in purchasing food so it is extremely important that you make this meeting.

The Schedule

The plan would be to leave on Saturday and get to Seminole Canyon State Park Saturday night. Some of the food would be redistributed to dry boxes with the intended launch to be on Sunday at Pandale with camping on the river 7 nights and coming out the following Saturday at Pecos High Bridge.

- March 12, Saturday - Travel to assembly point
 - March 13, Sunday - Run shuttles and launch on river
 - March 14, Monday - on river
 - March 15, Tuesday - on river
 - March 16, Wednesday - on river
 - March 17, Thursday - on river
 - March 18, Friday - on river
 - March 19, Saturday - Exit from river
- Food & Logistics

I am assuming we will have about 15 to 20 people for this trip and estimate for dinner preparations, we will need the following:

First Aid Kit, ???

Cooking Equipment

1. Table 1 - Chris
2. Table 2 - Randy
3. Table 3 - Gib
4. Dutch Oven 1, 10 x 18, Chris
5. Dutch Oven 2, 10 x 18, Gib
6. Stand Support for (2) DO 10 x 18, Gib
7. Firebox large with grill, Gib
8. Small fire pan (for 12D or 14D), Gib
9. Dutch Oven 3, (1) deep 12 inch Zoltan
10. Two-burner Stove 1, Chris
11. Two-burner Stove 2, Gib
12. Propane Tank 1, Chris
13. Propane Tank 2, Gib
14. Tree Stand Hose 1, Chris
15. Tree Stand Hose 2, Gib
16. Main Hose Tank to Stove 1, ?????????????(Note these are if we bypass or have failure in tree stand)
17. Main Hose Tank to Stove 2, Gib (Note these are if we bypass or have failure in tree stand)
18. Tree Stand, Chris
19. Tree Stand Light, Chris
20. Fire Stack 1, Chris
21. Fire Stack 2, Gib

Kitchen Equipment

1. Kitchen Dry Box (to include spices & cooking oils), Gib
2. Kitchen Preparation equipment, Gib
3. Coffee Pot 1, Claire
4. Coffee Pot 2, Gib
5. Mix Bowl 1, Gib

- 6. Mix Bowl 2, Gib
- 7. Boil water Pot (may incorporate from dishwashing), Gib
- 8. Dish Cleaning equipment, Gib
- 9. Dish Bucket 1, Gib
- 10. Dish Bucket 2, Gib
- 11. All dish washing accessories, Gib

Misc. Equipment

- 1. Walkie Talkie 1, Chris
- 2. Walkie Talkie 2, Chris
- 3. Walkie Talkie 3, ???
- 4. Medium Size Tarp, Chris
- 5. (2) Poles, Chris
- 6. Rope for rigging, Gib
- 7. Lunch Tarp, Chris
- 8. Shovel, Gib
- 9. Saw, Gib

Restroom Tent or Tarp

Toilet 1 (Pecos) (Ground), Gib

Lighter Fluid, Gib

Toilet Kit (Lime), Gib

(Note: Everybody brings their own toilet paper)

Required Items:

Personal Items:

- 1. Toilet Paper
- 2. Eating utensils
- 3. Plate & cup
- 4. Soap & Towel
- 5. Tooth brush & toothpaste
- 6. Personal Medical Kit
- 7. Tent
- 8. Sleeping Bag
- 9. Personal clothing
- 10. Rain gear
- 11. Cold weather clothing
- 12. Folding Chair or lawn chair

Ice Chest System

Refrigerated foods go in several 54 to 70 quart ice chests. I have a large number of wine bags that I have saved over the years and these would be the main medium for keeping the food cold. All meats would be frozen before hand. The day before departure, each ice chest gets 2 dry ice bags (available at a number of HEB grocery stores). Dry ice costs about \$7 a bag. Then (2) wine bags that are partially filled with water would be placed on top on the dry ice. The wine bag will solidify and by the next morning the wine bags would be about 90 percent frozen. The next day (Saturday morning) two more dry ice bags would be placed in the bottom of each ice chest and then the frozen meats and then fresh vegetables on top of that for transportation to Seminole Canyon. We would need the following ice chests:

- Ice Chest 1 - Dinner, Sunday night
- Ice Chest 2 - Dinner, Monday night
- Ice Chest 3 - Dinner, Sunday night
- Ice Chest 4 - Lunch Sunday & Monday
- Ice Chest 5 - Lunch Monday & Tuesday
- Ice Chest 6 - Breakfast, Monday & Tuesday
- Ice Chest 7 - Breakfast, Tuesday & Wednesday
- Ices Chest 8 - Beverages

Non-refrigerated foods would be placed in action packers. I have (3) available to loan out and maybe a forth one

Refrigerated lunches - Normally we might have a pre-cooked chicken, sausage, assorted meats and cheeses along with fresh fruits or vegetables.

Non-refrigerated lunches - Traditionally we have used two dry bags filled with one bag containing canned or plastic containers. (sardines, lunch meats, cheese spreads, deserts etc.) The other bag contains a variety of crackers. Foods are spread out on a tarp. You choose from whatever is available or split a dish with someone. We will probably end up with 3 to 4 dry bags of non-refrigerated lunches. The lunch system lends itself well for getting people grouped back together to discuss where we need to be for camping.

Since each ice chest is segregated to a meal, it need be opened only once per day. Any extra space in an ice chest can hold beverages. As the ice chest are emptied, non refrigerated beverages can be added back in. Wet towels on the outside of ice chest and on top of the beverages makes them colder. Ice chests must be tied down while paddling so we don't lose contents if you flip. You can drink water from melted ice. Trash and non-burnable goods can be placed back into the empty ice chest.

Note: Everyone Brings 5 gallons of water per person

Meal Plan

Breakfast:

Sunday - Day 1

Breakfast - On road & simple

Monday - Day 2

Breakfast - Coffee, orange juice, bacon and eggs (refrigerated)

Tuesday - Day 3

Breakfast - Coffee, orange juice, sausage and egg tacos (refrigerated)

Wednesday - Day 4

Breakfast - Coffee, orange juice, French toast with syrup, bacon (refrigerated)

Thursday - Day 5

Breakfast

Friday - Day 6

Breakfast

Saturday - Day 7

Breakfast

Lunch - Refrigerated & non-refrigerated

Sunday - Day 1

Evening - Steaks & Potatoes (charcoal) (charcoal), fresh vegetables and French Bread

Monday - Day 2

Evening - Indian Lamb Stew with rice/vegetables (stove 1 & 2) with Sour Dough Bread (charcoal)

Tuesday - Day 3

Evening - Roast with vegetables, potatoes (charcoal) with Sour Dough Bread (charcoal)

Wednesday - Day 4

Evening - King Ranch Chicken or Cheese Enchiladas (charcoal) with Sour Dough Bread (charcoal)

Thursday - Day 5

Evening - Vegetarian Spaghetti (stove 1 & 2) with Italian Bread (charcoal)

Or

Evening - Ham & Lentils (stove 1 & 2) with Sour Dough Bread (charcoal)

Friday - Day 7

Evening - Clam Chowder Stew (stove 1 & 2) with crackers & Peach cobbler (charcoal)

Note: Some meals are to be cooked with charcoal and others with propane. For buying food, individuals will be assigned an ice chest or a lunch bag or beverages. Keep track of expenses. We need 8 people for the ice chests and 2 more for the lunches. I have worked out food quantities on a spread sheet for dinner & breakfast but not for the lunches yet. Note: We need agreement before we get on the river as to how many beverages will be consumed per person per day.

That's it for now.

Gib Hafernack , 210-492-7517, or Gibguy at Compuserve dot com

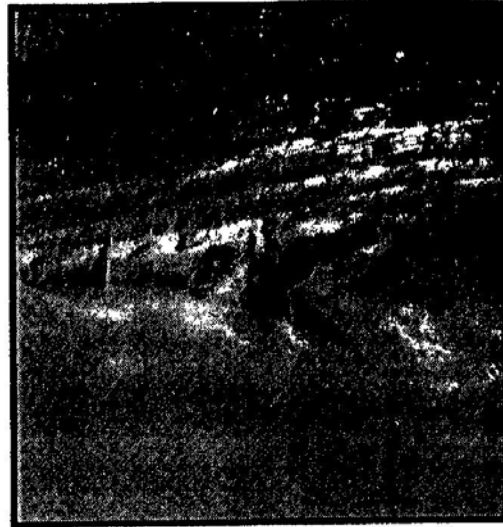
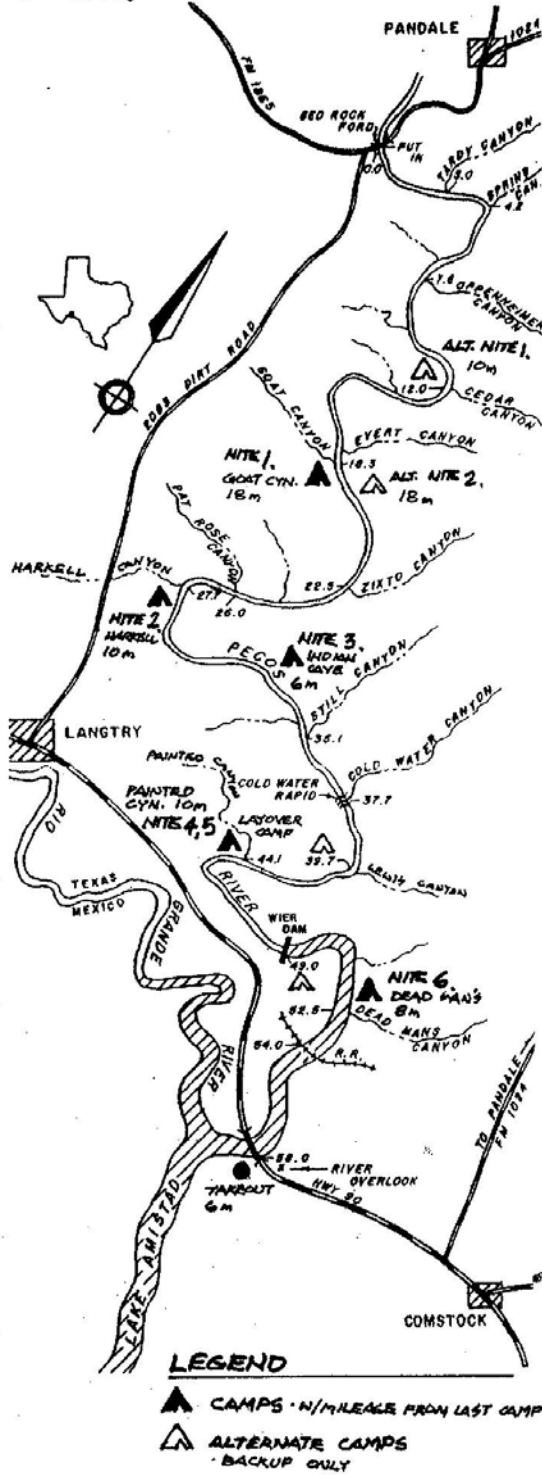
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Kayak for Sale

Dagger Delta Kayak (13 ft long, 56 lbs). If you are interested, give Ann Carr a call at 590-4171 or 916-2725.

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ALAMO CITY RIVERMEN CANOE CLUB
PECOS EXPEDITION
 MAR 13 - MAR 19, 2005



PECOS RIVER PANDALE TO HWY 90 (58.0 MILES)

PHYSICAL LOCATION: Mountain Region, Southwest Texas, Val Verde County, San Antonio 200 miles, Austin 250 miles, Midland-Odessa 150 miles, Houston 400 miles, and Del Rio 10 miles (to take out).

WATER QUALITY: Generally clear and clean flowing over rock and gravel.

WATER FLOW: Low during extremely hot periods, but flow usually adequate for float trips.

PREFERRED SEASONS: Late spring, early summer, and autumn afford the best climate and water flow. If weather permits, the winter months offer more stable water conditions.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES: Sheer rocky cliffs getting progressively higher as the river winds southward. Remote primitive environment. Numerous skill testing rapids, caves, and exciting side canyons for the hiker and photographer.

TRIPLE RRR

Canoe Rental & Shuttle Service

(915) 291-3348

DEE CORK — C & B RANCH
 Camping — Hunting — Fishing
 P.O. Box 172, Langtry, Texas 78871

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Who Hasn't Paid Their Dues?

Yes, folks, yet again we are reduced to publishing the names of those who have not paid. If you believe your name is wrongly on the list, please square it with Marie Searight (830-625-0604 or marie at wireweb.net). If your name is justifiably on the list, please pay up. Please. Send payment to: Alamo City Rivermen Canoe Club, P.O. Box 171194, San Antonio, Texas 78217.

Richard Anaya
Lisa Argo
Ken Bennight¹
David Brinkmann
Gerald Carlson
Tom Carnes
Ann Carr
Russell Cason
Joan Caswell
Mary Cole
Dirk Davidek
Ray Dombrowski
Edgar Duncan

Robert Flinn
Donna Frazier
Bill Frost
Molly Gorkiewicz
Robert Gray
Gib Hafernick
Frank Hawley
Randy Hohlaus
Mariquita Holliday
Verne Huser
Richelle Kreider
Greg LaHue
Rick O'Brien

Jen O'Connor
Bruce Parkes
George Rhys
Richard Riley
Robbie Rodriguez
Bill Rogers
Tom Rust
Robert Scharnhorst
Scott Schoner
Thomas Shea
Tony Silva
Fred Wills

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Texas Highways

Whether reading about a paddling trip or otherwise, have you ever seen a reference to a highway and wondered where it is? If so, or if you do in the future, there is an easy way to find out where the highway is. Merely go to:

<http://www.geocities.com/MotorCity/Downs/6244/txhwys/txhwys.html>

It is a listing of all highways in the state by type and number. Go to the page and save it in your bookmarks. You never know when something like this will come in handy.

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¹Yes, **that** Ken Bennight, your very own editor. But I have an original response: The check's in the mail.

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