



# The Alamo City Rivermen Babbler

Issue MMCLX

August 2006

The monthly newsletter of the Alamo City Rivermen

## Padding the fine line between geek and Bubba.

### Labor Day at Junction

September 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006

#### Next Meeting

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August 9, 2006, Hungry Horse  
Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near  
the intersection with Rhapsody.  
6:30 to 9:00.

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By Gib Hafernick

The Alamo City Rivermen have reserved the Patio at Morgan Shady Park in Junction on the Llano River for Labor Day weekend. The price of "The Patio" is about \$60 dollars a day plus the day use fee, which I think is \$3 a day a person..

The campground is in Junction. We will use it as a base from which to take paddle trips and other activities. For that reason, each person has a lot of flexibility. Here is my plan for that weekend:

#### *September 1– Friday*

I am planning on going up Friday evening with the intention of setting up camp at "The Patio." I expect to arrive sometime between 8:00 and 10:00 PM. I will eat dinner along the road someplace.

#### *September 2 – Saturday*

I will do some running in the morning and then have breakfast. We each are on our own for breakfast and lunch, but breakfast often tends to turn into a community meal. I will canoe from the State Park to Morgan's Shady Park, a distance of about 6 miles. In the evening, I will grill on "The Patio". We have the option of going to Historic London Dance Hall for some dancing.

#### *September 3 – Sunday*

I will take a bike ride in the morning and take it easy for the rest of the day. Groups can form to paddle whatever nearby segments they wish.

(Continued, next page)

## Upcoming Events

August 9, 2006	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
September 2-4, 2006	Labor Day Trip, Junction, Morgan's Shady Park	Gib Hafernack, gibguy at compuserve dot com
September 13, 2006	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
????	Amistad Reservoir	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy dot net, 493-7058
October 7-9, 2006	Angelina-Neches Forks (deep East Texas swamp paddling, near Jasper & Woodville)	Ken Bennight, bennight at stic dot net
October 11, 2006	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
October 20-22, 2006 (Tentative)	Matagorda Island Trip	Gib Hafernack, gibguy at compuserve dot com
November 8, 2006	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
November 23-26, 2006	Turkey Trot, Colorado River	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy dot net, 493-7058
December 2006	Christmas Party in lieu of meeting	??????
January 10, 2007	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
January 2007	Freeze Trip	Gib Hafernack, gibguy at compuserve dot com



(Junction, continued)

Breakfast and lunch repeat themselves. I will go into town to buy the groceries for the one community meal that we will have. That meal will be calabacita with rice and bread. I would like to use several (at least two) burner stoves and rectangular dutch ovens for cooking the calabacita and the standard dutch ovens for the rice. If you have charcoal or either stoves or rectangular dutch ovens, please consider bringing it. I expect a large crowd

The cost of this meal is based on the following carefully constructed algorithm:

(Total Grocery Cost)/total number of people eating it

September 4 – Monday

Breakfast and lunch repeat themselves. I will do some running in the morning and then have breakfast and gradually taking my time packing up returning to San Antonio in the afternoon.

#### SOME INFORMATION PLUS SOME OTHER STUFF

Morgan's Shady Park the phone number for the campground is 325-446-2580, day or 325-446-2071, night. The location "The Patio" is situated on river left about 1 mile upstream of the bridge leading into Junction.

The website for the campground with directions is: <http://www.MorganShadyPark.Com>

There are showers and restroom and we have a nice grassy area for tent camping plus there are several other sites in our immediate vicinity.

There are various options for canoeing. The segments vary from 14 miles to 3 miles. Last year we had several different groups going on different sections of rivers. You can even just hang out at the campsite and do nothing at all.

The cost of this trip is based on the following carefully constructed algorithm:

(Total cost of "The Patio" for days rented)/total number of people plus \$3 dollars per day per person. When arriving at the campground check in with the office and let them know you are with the Alamo City Rivermen. Lavern Harden is the owner and she is expecting us. We will collect all money at the campsite on and then turn it over to her. She actually likes our group as we are pretty well behaved plus we pay her for our group. So be nice and polite when visiting with her.

The Address for the Camp is as follow:

600 South 6th Street / Junction, Texas 76849

Directions:

1. From San Antonio take I-10 west to Junction, approximately 110 mile.
2. Exit IH-10 at the 456 marker.
3. Turn on to Hwy 377 / 83 to come to Junction. This becomes Main Street in Junction.
4. Follow Main Street to the Kimble County Courthouse.
5. Turn right on Sixth Street. (There is no marker to tell you that this is Sixth Street until you go one block. And as Laverne points out, "Well, you wanted to come to a small town!")
5. Stay on Sixth Street until you enter the park on the banks of the South Llano River.

Hope to see you there

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

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## **An Altogether Different Sort of Float Trip**

Associated Press

NEW BRAUNFELS - In the midst of attempts to crack down on raunchy and rowdy behavior during traditional summertime tubing river trips through this city, a San Antonio topless club is planning a tubing excursion featuring strippers. Trey Maddox, a manager at Palace Men's Club, said Sunday's excursion - during which men can pay \$25 to join the strippers - isn't meant to fly in the face of the city's new rules. "We're not hookers, dope dealers or Mafia thugs," he said, noting that the strippers will be appropriately dressed. "We're just coming to have a good time."

**Note: This issue has been the topic of considerable discussion on the municipal lawyer email listserv. Some merely speculated on what "appropriately dressed" means as applied to a stripper, while others speculated on ways to stop the float trip. My guess is that there is a lot of political pressure to stop the trip. Perhaps based on my bias against interfering with free use of rivers, I hope New Braunfels merely waits to see if any laws are broken.**

**If the trip does happen, you can bet there will be ample police presence. One wag noted that plenty of policemen would volunteer for the assignment and agree to waive overtime pay. My wife asked me if I were planning to go. I wisely said "no."**

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## **The Single Blade Power Stroke**

By Doug Wipper

[http://gorp.away.com/gorp/activity/paddling/skills/canoe\\_single\\_blade.htm](http://gorp.away.com/gorp/activity/paddling/skills/canoe_single_blade.htm)

### *The Catch*

To begin your stroke, rotate your torso so you project your paddling-side shoulder forward. At the same time plant your blade in the water all the way up to the throat of the paddle. The inside edge of the blade should touch the side of the canoe and the shaft should be absolutely vertical. The placement of the catch (or start) of your stroke is determined by where your blade can be inserted into the water with the shaft plumb and your paddling-side shoulder rotated as far forward as possible.

### *The Forward Thrust*

Much of the thrust of the power stroke is achieved not by pulling with your arms but by rotating your torso while holding the shaft vertical with the inside edge of the blade touching the boat's side. Each thrust of your stroke is achieved by projecting your paddling-side shoulder forward by twisting your torso and then rotating your torso back until your paddle comes to your hip. Using your torso muscles is much more powerful than just using your arms. As a result, you'll experience less fatigue and develop more forward thrust with each stroke. The length of your power stroke will vary depending on your physique. Generally, power strokes should be about 25 inches long with the thrust ending at your hip.

## Stroke Recovery

The thrust ends at your hip. Paddle recovery begins by once again rotating your torso to project your paddling-side shoulder forward. This action also enables the paddle to be swung forward over the river surface and then inserted in the water to begin the next stroke.

## Results

Two things will happen if you execute your power stroke properly. First, your canoe will travel in a straight line because of the vertical and plumb paddle position. This means less correction at the end of each stroke, lessening drag and conserving forward momentum. All the action of your paddle blade is directed sternward, meaning all of the energy from the thrust translates to forward momentum. Secondly, you'll experience less fatigue because you'll be involving the whole upper torso. And this means that at the end of the day you'll still be have enough energy to load your boat for the drive home.

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## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ River: \_\_\_\_\_ Put in: \_\_\_\_\_ Take Out: \_\_\_\_\_

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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 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