



# The Alamo City Rivermen Babbler

Issue MMCCLXII

October 2006

The monthly newsletter of the Alamo City Rivermen

**Padding the fine line between geek and Bubba.**

## Swap Meet Postponed

### Next Meeting

---

October 11, 2006, Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near the intersection with Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.

-o0o-

### Club Officers

President Chris Vogeler  
alamochris at stxglobal dot com  
830-885-5324

Vice President Gib Hafernick  
gibguy at conpuserve dot com

Sec./Treas. Marie Searight  
mariejs at satx dot rr dot com  
830-625-0604

Editor Kenneth Bennight  
bennight at stic dot net  
210-826-7071

Mailings Marie Searight  
mariejs at satx dot rr dot com  
830-625-0604

## 2006 Turkey Trot Goes Islander!

Randy Hohlaus

The Head Turkey is saying that this year has been so rough, and that after dodging Thursday's basting pan he will not be in the mood to have to break down his tent more than once this year. So we agreed to change the format and figure a way to do a layover day on an island. Since Fayette County lifted its burn ban this past week, the Trot will move back to a favored section of river this year. Last year we did Little Webberville Park down to Bastrop, with a recon of the Freeze Trip Island. This year we will move downstream to a little more remote section, between Smithville and La Grange on the Colorado.

We will float from LCRA Plum Park on the Colorado to La Grange, from Friday November 24 through Sunday November 26. The total trip length will be about 19 miles. This stretch has no road or bridge access, so you will have to be entirely self sufficient. We will layover a day for two nights on an island, a great chance to fish, chill out, catch z's, birdwatch, whatever. The island we are shooting for is about 6 miles down from the Park. We will stay there Friday and Saturday nights. My log from our trip in '02 says that this was a good spot. Now, 4 years later, it still should be, but come prepared. There is another island about 1 more mile down where we camped in primo style in '99, but my log also said that it got overgrown. This is a good stretch for novices, and is quite scenic.

(Continued, next page)

## Upcoming Events

October 7-9, 2006	Angelina-Neches Forks— <b>cancelled, because they temporarily drained the swamp</b>	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 15, 2006	Anhalt Festival, <a href="http://www.anhalthall.com">www.anhalthall.com</a> . Paddling, too, depending on water level.	Chris Vogeler, alamoChris at stxglobal dot com
October 20-22, 2006	Matagorda Island Trip	Gib Hafernicks, gibguy at compuserve dot com
November 4, 2006	Goliad Canoe Trail—4th Annual Flotilla	
November 8, 2006	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
November 24-26, 2006	Turkey Trot, Colorado River	Randy Hohlaus, hohlaus at prodigy dot net, 493-7058
December 2006	Christmas Party in lieu of meeting	Chris Vogeler's House
January 10, 2007	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00.
January 2007	Freeze Trip	Gib Hafernicks, gibguy at compuserve dot com



(Turkey Trot, continued)

I will endeavor to get a permit to allow overnight camping for Thursday night for those who want, you will not be able to just drive up and camp at the park. Note that LCRA has a burn ban in the park itself, but you can still use gas stoves, just no campfires. However, as I will be in no great hurry on this weekend, we will plan to meet at the park Friday morning at 10:00 a.m. to start the put-in process, as we do not have too far to go. This will allow you to have Thanksgiving with family and friends and catch the Cowboys game before heading out. I anticipate we will do our own shuttle this time, as the nearest shuttle guys are either in Webberville or Columbus. If you need to, you could rent canoes from the outfitters in Columbus, but probably would have to get them yourself. Warning, at least one boat will be tuned in on the water to the annual Turkey weekend game between Texas A&M and t.u.<sup>1</sup> Take out will be at the Hwy 71 crossing at La Grange, about a 13 mile float on Sunday.

---

<sup>1</sup>**Editor's Note:** Hook 'em Horns!

This format will allow someone to catch up and join us for a single night, but be clear, you will be entirely on your own and responsible for yourself totally until you join the group and will not be on this trip until you do. Also, the trip cost to be assessed everyone will be the same whether you come for one or two nights, it is too difficult to separate out the costs of the food and trip for both. But since you consider that a well known 3 day gourmet raft trip on the Rio now goes for more than 200 smackers a day, you should be able to do Turkey Trots every year until 2026 for the cost of one of theirs. What a deal!

The Saturday meal will be community dutch oven shrimp etouffee, maybe with some of the catch of the day thrown in. Friday night to still be determined. All other meals will be on your own. The 2 hour Morning Coffee Service will begin promptly whenever, followed by the Rivermen Rolling Breakfast for the next 3 hours, breaks for chilling, fishing or napping another 3, lunch 2 hours, another 2 hour fishing and lawn chair surfing break, terminating with Holiday Happy Hour for at least 2 hours and dinner another 3 hours, followed by about 4 hours of campfire tales, lies, and starwatching. You will then be able to catch the remaining 3 hours of sleeptime before we start over. You better start your training now.

How to get to Plum Park. From La Grange, take Highway 71 West for about eight miles and turn right on Prairie Valley Road (County Road 448). Travel approximately two miles to the site entrance. If you want to go, I need to know. Email Randy Hohlaus at hohlaus at prodigy dot net or call 210-493-7058.

-o0o-

### **4th Annual Fall River Flotilla Saturday, November 4, 2006**

Calling all canoe, kayak, and jon boat enthusiasts! On, the Canoe Trail Goliad committee will host its 4th Annual Fall River Flotilla.

Beginning at 9:00 a.m., unload your canoes, kayaks, jon boats, and safety gear in the staging area on the north side of the Highway 59 bridge, west of downtown Goliad on the San Antonio River. Then drive to Goliad State Park where a shuttle service will be ready to return you to your boat and gear.

Next is the fun part! Paddle 6.5 miles of Goliad's scenic riparian corridor to Goliad State Park. Lunch will be awaiting all registered paddlers!

Shuttle service will continue until noon, and lunch will be served throughout the afternoon until the last paddler returns to the Park.

All paddlers must supply their own boat and safety equipment.

To register, e-mail [info@canoetrailgoliad.com](mailto:info@canoetrailgoliad.com) by Wednesday, November 1.

Event and shuttle service are subject to cancellation through 8:00 a.m. on event day due to weather and/or flow conditions. In the event of inclement weather or high flows, contact (361) 645-3405 for event status.

#### **Canoe Trail Goliad Committee**

**Objectives:** Led by citizens of Goliad County, the Canoe Trail Goliad Committee is a public-private partnership organized to

Create a safe, integrated system of access points along the San Antonio River,

Obtain sufficient project funding,

Encourage diverse and broad-based community participation in the project,

Offer opportunities to citizens and visitors through the trail system to learn about cultural, natural, and historic resources,

Cooperate with other local eco-tourism initiatives to contribute to the economic climate of Goliad County, and

Create a sustainable, effective organization to support project design, development, funding, and maintenance.

**Meetings:** The committee meets at the Blue Quail Deli, Noon - 2:00 p.m., on the third Tuesday each month. Citizens, civic groups, Goliad landowners, formal and non-formal educators, student groups, environmentalists—welcome!

### **Canoe Trail Goliad Mission Statement**

Canoe Trail Goliad promotes enjoyment and conservation of the natural, cultural, and historical resources of the San Antonio River in Goliad County by encouraging responsible, quality public access opportunities through citizen-led partnerships.

-o0o-

## **Matagorda Expedition October 20, 21 & 22**

The Date for the Matagorda Expedition has been set for October 20, 21 & 22. The plan is go out on Friday October 20<sup>th</sup> and return on Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup>

### THE PLAN

We meet in Port O'Connor on October 20th at 10:00 AM. We will load up equipment & kayaks on 2 guide boats that will take us to the Island. This will take several trips but I would like to have everyone on the Island by around 1:00 PM. We will return on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> departing the island at Noon with every one off the island by 2:00 PM. This Trip will most likely max out with 12 to 18 people. I am presently compiling a list of who have sent in a RSVP.

Here is a general plan on addressing the community equipment:

### COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT

To minimize duplication on this trip we would have the following community equipment:

## Community Kitchen

The Community Kitchen would be modeled off of what was taken on the Pecos River Expedition. For that trip we had the following:

- 2 - two burner stoves
- 1 - large propane tank & respective connection hoses
- 1 - tree assembly with light
- 2 - rectangular dutch ovens
- 2 - large stainless steel pots (washing dishes)
- 1 - Drum lid (dutch ovens)
- 1 - Kitchen dry box with utensils
- 1 - Large coffee pot
- Charcoal

The above kitchen would have the capability of serving 12 to 15 people. We have two large griddles and one large coffee pot for making coffee plus two stainless steel pots for washing dishes.

## Community Shelters:

We have the capability of setting up a large shaded shelter 20 feet by 30 feet over one of the existing 10 x 10 shelters. This is a large tarp (20 x 30) with respective rope, carabiners and stakes. This takes 4 people to set up plus I need two kayak paddles. This would be an area for storing ice chests out of the sun.

Community 2 wheeler (for carrying equipment around) (optional)

## Community Restroom Restroom Tent & seat

We will set up the large blue tarp over one of the existing shelters and will use the picnic table at the shelter as our cooking area. There are fire rings immediately adjacent to the shelters that we will grill on.

## THE MEAL PLAN

Here is how the cooking would work:

Everyone will bring their own ice chest, which will have their stash of appropriate beverages. For Friday night we would grill on the firebox. Everyone would bring their own meat of their choice to grill on the box. Every one brings their own baked potatoe to be sliced up and cooked in one of the dutch ovens. Every one brings their choice of vegetable (zuchini, squash, mushrooms, carrots, etc) which will be sliced up and cooked in the other dutch oven on one of the stoves. For the first night one half of the group bring a community bread and horderves. On the second night the other half of the group brings their respective community bread and horderves.

On Saturday night we would cook a dish of Hungarian Lecho served on rice. I will purchase the items for this dish and bring them out there. The lecho dish is a mix of red peppers, green peppers and tomatoes that are simmered down with sliced kiobasa sausage. These dishes would be individually cooked on the (2) rectangular

dutch ovens on the two burner stoves. If we catch fish out there we will substitute the fish for the sausage and make a French Gasparou Dish made in a Rou. The sausage would then be grilled.

Everyone brings their own breakfast & lunch

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO HAVE STRAPS TO SECURE YOUR ICE CHEST AND FOOD FROM RACOONS.

Community Shelters:

We have the capability of setting up a large shaded shelter 20 feet by 30 feet over one of the existing 10 x 10 shelters. This is a large tarp (20 x 30) with respective rope, carabiners and stakes. This takes 4 people to set up plus I need (2) kayak paddles. This would be an area for storing ice chest out of the sun.

Everyone brings one citronella candle to set up around the camp perimeter for mosquitos

Community 2 wheeler (for carrying equipment around) (optional)

Restroom Tent & seat

### **The Community Ice Chest Beverage Program**

Chris Vogeler will bring one ice chest packed with nothing but block ice. The intent of this ice chest is to have community ice for beverages in the evening. To facilitate optimum use of the ice chest you should consider bringing appropriate beverages that can be blended in a pitcher and serve in a group setting.

NOTE: THIS MEANS YOU NEED TO BRING YOUR OWN ALCOHOL TO MAKE MARGARITA'S, GIN & TONIC'S, BLOODY MARY'S ETC. and the things that you mix in with those drinks.

The Community Live Bait

I am planning on taking (2) 5 gallons bait buckets with aerators *to carry live bait out to the island. We can use this to fish directly from the area that we are camping at. You are encouraged to bring bait catchers as well.*

### **SOME ITEMS YOU SHOULD BRING**

Everyone brings the following for themselves:

1. Chair
2. Plate & silverware
3. Camping equipment
4. Tent
5. Fishing Equipment
6. Appropriate clothing
7. Citronella lamps (1 per person to set around the camp site)
- 8. Water (there is none on the island)**

## THE MEETING PLACE & PARKING

Meet at Clarks Marina (361-983-4388) in Port O'conner. The location is 7<sup>th</sup> street and the Intracoastal Canal at 10:00 AM in Port Oc. We will leave our cars parked in the Home of the Guide Service that we are we using. His Home is located not far from where we are meeting.

## MY PLAN FOR GETTING THERE

I intend to leave from San Antonio on October 19 Thursday and stay at the Seadrifter Inn (361-632-7366) in Seadrift, Texas. I estimate I will arrive in Seadrift around 9:00 PM. Sea drift is about 20 miles from Port Oconnor.

## THE RSVP'S

Nancy Burns  
Scott Dylan  
Kirk & Pam  
Bill Forshey  
Gib Hafernicks  
Randy Hohlaus  
Mariquita Holliday & Deborah Haire  
Villareal, Virginia  
Vogeler, Chris

## The Basic Items you will be paying:

The Boat Shuttle Ticket (Estimated cost 50 to 70 dollars per person)  
Saturday night dinner (Estimated cost 3 dollars per person)  
Propane, Charcoal & general misc. expenses  
Limited Use Permit ( 12dollars per person but unable to confirm at this time)

Some optional items you may choose to get in on:

The Community Beverage Ice chest  
Live Fishing bait (optional)  
Bike Rental  
Kayak Rental

Note: For bike or Kayak Rental you need to make your own arrangements

## Safety Sign Out Sheet

Since we are on a very large and remote island I would like to have a sign out sheet that everyone uses to indicate when they sign out, where they are going and when they will be returning.

Mountain bikes and kayaks are available for rental through the Guide Service that we are using but you will need to make your own arrangements for that.

## SHOW ME THE MONEY

Every one needs to have cash to pay for the above basic expenses. Please have denominations of twenties, tens, fives and one dollar bills to pay. I would bring about 150 dollars.

## CANCELLATION OF TRIP

In the event of bay condition that indicate the trip is to hazardous the trip will be cancelled on Tuesday, October 17, at 7:00 PM.

That's it for now.

Gib Hafernack

210-822-8901

or

Gibguy at Compuserve dot com





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

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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 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