



The Alamo City Rivermen Babbler

Issue MMCLXV

20th Anniversary Year

June 2007

The monthly newsletter of the Alamo City Rivermen

Padding the fine line between geek and Bubba.

On the River by Gary Tupa

Next Meeting

June 13, 2007, Hungry Horse
Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near
the intersection with Rhapsody.
6:30 to 9:00.

-o0o-

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Another busy month for the Rivermen. We started out with a great turnout for the Medina River Cleanup. Thanks to all club members who participated and to the Dallas Downriver Club for joining us. With all the rain there was not a lot of trash to pick up. But because of the rain the river was flowing wonderfully, and we had a great paddle. We were once again treated to some awesome barbecue and some great Bluegrass entertainment. The next day we met again and paddled the lower section of the river, also at a great flow.

Club member, George Lackey, then headed up his annual trip to the Buffalo National River in Arkansas. What a place! The Ozark Mountains, the river, the scenery, the company....an outstanding week. Great job, George.

However, the rain gods were a bit too good and we had to cancel the trip to the Devils. The river flooded, and the roads were impassible. But not all was lost. Kathy and Kevin headed up three great one day trips over the Memorial Day Weekend. We started out on Saturday by paddling the Blanco at well over 1,000 CFS. Quite a ride if you like whitewater. On Sunday we headed to the Guadalupe, between Comfort and Centerpoint and experienced another awesome flow, about 2,100 CFS. But the highlight was on Monday, when we traveled to the upper Medina. Again, we were met with water flowing at about 2,000 CFS, with many long, narrow, chutes and awesome wave trains and drops. But the best part of the trip was the run over Chamblee Falls. Kevin and Kirk nailed it, and Kathy and I scored about an eight. (We went over the last drop sideways, but kept the boat up.)

See you at the June meeting.
Gary

Upcoming Events

June 9, 2007	Medina River, Bandera	Karla Held, karlaheld at hotmail dot com
June 13, 2007	Monthly Meeting. Hands-on knot tying. Bring a small rope or some will be available.	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00
June 23, 2007	Monthly paddle, location TBD	Gary Tupa, gltupa at yahoo dot com
July 4, 2007	Mid-week paddling opportunity up for grabs	Looking for a trip leader
July 11, 2007	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00
August 8, 2007	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00
September 1-3, 2007	Labor Day Paddle???	
September 12, 2007	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00
October 10, 2007	Monthly Meeting	Hungry Horse Rest., 12333 West Avenue, near Rhapsody. 6:30 to 9:00



2007 Texas Water Safari Road Trip

Gib Hafernick

The Texas Water Safari is a 261 Mile Ultra Marathon Canoe Race that is billed as the "Worlds Toughest Boat Race." The race covers 90 miles on the San Marcos River, 162 Miles on the Guadalupe River, and 8 miles on San Antonio Bay. It is a LONG, TOUGH, GRUELING, AND DANGEROUS RACE.

Over 100 canoes will enter, with the boats being paddled by a maximum six individuals to a minimum one. Contestants have 100 hours to complete the race. As a rule the race has an attrition rate of about 60 percent. Contestants must carry all equipment and provisions in the boat. No outside assistance is allowed other than water and ice from the team captain, who tracks and signs the boat through at specific check points.

I am planning on following Zoltan Mraz (Alamo City Rivermen) down the river. Zoltan is entered in the Solo Division, and his team captain is Marc McCord. Zolta's goal is to complete the race in 75 hours. You are welcome to join me. We will be living in lawn chairs and living off the land or ice chest, as we move from bridge to bridge, tracking the boats over a three-day period. The most exciting and interesting part is on Saturday though to Gonzales, but you can join or catch up with me at any time on the river.

Here is an approximate location of where I will be in the race over the 75 hour time period:

Saturday - June 9

- 9:00 AM – Aquarina Springs – Start of Race – Mile 0
- 9:10 AM – Rio Vista Dam with the new Rapids – Mile 1.33
- 10:00 AM – Westfield Crossing – Mile 5.83
- 10:30 AM – Cotton Seed Rapid – A good place to see people destroy their boats after months of intense training - Mile 8.99
- 12:00 PM – FM1977 & San Marcos River – Stables Dam – Official Check Point – Mile 16.45
- 3:00 PM – Stairtown at San Marcos River – Mile 33.18
- 4:00 PM – Hwy 90 at San Marcos River – Official Check Point – Mile 40.47
- 6:00 PM – Hwy 80 at San Marcos River – Luling Dam – Mile 46.46
- 8:00 PM – Palmetto State Park at San Marcos River – Official Check Point – Mile 61.21
- 11:00 PM – Sladen Cemetery Bridge – Cool & spooky Place to sit in a lawn chair on an iron bridge built in the early 1900's – Mile 68.83

Sunday – June 10

- 2:00 AM – Hwy 183 at Guadalupe River – A real zoo & soap opera, as this is where a number of boats drop out due to exhaustion or equipment failures – Official Check Point – Mile 86.46
- 9:00 AM – Hwy 183 at Guadalupe River – Hocheim Crossing - Official Check Point – Mile 122.86
- 5:00 PM – Hwy 706 at Guadalupe River – Cheapside Crossing - Official Check Point – Mile 146.86
- 8:00 PM – Hwy 236 at Guadalupe River – Official Check Point – Mile 160.65

Monday – June 11

- 2:00 AM – Thomaston Crossing at Guadalupe River – Mile 177.51
- 5:00 AM – Hwy 447 at Guadalupe River – Mile 186.16
- 6:00 PM – Victoria City Park – A number of paddlers try to sleep here, as they are entering the section known as Hallucination Alley – Mile 199.00

Tuesday – June 12

- 2:00 AM – Dupont Plant – Numerous large alligators and six-foot gar in the area – Official Check Point – Mile 227.95
- 5:00 AM – Salt Water Barrier Dam – Official Check Point – Mile 245.38
- 12:00 PM – Seadrift Flag Pole – Awards Ceremony – right-mile bay crossing – Mile 261.67

The above locations and times are approximate. For late Sunday and Monday & Tuesday, my times could be plus or minus up to 3 hours.

Race Link: www.texaswatersafari.org

Hope to see you there

Gib Hafernack, 210 - 492 - 7517, Home 210 - 355 - 1726, Cell or Gibguy76 at Yahoo dot com

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Texas Coastal Management Program

The Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) is pleased to invite you to participate in a nation-wide process to improve the way the coasts are managed. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Coastal States Organization (CSO) recently embarked on a joint initiative to solicit ideas for improving the Coastal Zone Management Act. To ensure the perspectives of Texas stakeholders are represented, the CMP will host meetings at the following dates and locations.

June 12, 2007 - (5:30 to 8:00 PM) Texas A&M University at Galveston, Classroom Laboratory Building , Room 100, 200 Seawolf Parkway , Galveston , Texas 77554

June 26, 2007 - (5:30 to 8:00 PM) Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi, Carlos R. Truan Natural Resources Center , Room 1003, 6300 Ocean Drive, Corpus Christi , Texas 78412

The meetings are designed to solicit innovative ideas that we will provide to CSO and NOAA to help shape legislation being submitted to Congress later this year. During the meetings, we will present NOAA and CSOs joint initiative, "Envisioning the Future of Coastal Management", followed by facilitated comment sessions. We want to gather your success stories, best management practices, and innovative solutions for how coastal management can be better. Topics will include:

Coastal Issues - What are the most important challenges now and in the future?

Current Policies and Programs - What works? What doesn't?

Solutions - What new, innovative approaches will move coastal management forward? How can we improve the Coastal Zone Management Act? What tools are needed to build strong coastal communities and healthy coasts?

Setting Goals and Measuring Success - How can we ensure that management approaches are effective?

The meetings are open to the general public, so please forward this invitation to anyone you feel may have an interest in coastal management. To allow us to better prepare for the meetings, please notify Ben Rhame at (512) 936-6447 or ben dot rhame at glo dot state dot tx dot us if you plan to attend. If you are unable to attend, you are welcome to submit your comments via the web. Additional information about the Envisioning project and submitting on-line comments can be found at http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/czm/czma_vision.html

We hope that you will be able to join us and look forward to your participation.



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: _____

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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