



December 2010

Note from the editor- Welcome to the first edition of what will hopefully be a new, improved club newsletter. It is my intent to have a new edition emailed to all of our current members and business sponsors within a week or so of each regularly scheduled club meeting. My goal is to keep you up to date with club news, events, activities, etc. to help you get the most out of the club and have some fun!!! It will also be published on our web site. Feel free to contact me (Dave Clark) with any questions, comments, or items of interest you would like to see included in future issues. My email address is editor@mcaquaholics.com. I need your input!!! Remember the goal is to have some fun!! Thanks, Dave

2011 club officers

The December meeting is the time for officer elections each year and this year was no exception.

Let me first say **WELL DONE AND THANKYOU TO ALL WHO HELD OFFICES IN 2010**. Your dedication, hard work, and ideas are what makes the club function. We (all of the club's members) owe each of you our sincere thanks and a pat on the back because without you, there would be no club. Again, Thank you each and every one!

Some of our 2010 officers preferred to opt out of running for another year in their respective offices for various reasons. The net result was that all of our 2011 officers stood unopposed for the positions they have been elected to.

Here are the results of the elections at the December meeting. As of January 1st 2011, our officials will be:



Mike Barth

President- **Mike Barth**
 Vice President- **Janie Clere**
 Membership- **Linda Hall**
 Secretary- **George Finlay**
 Treasurer- **John Greene**
 Poker Run- **Wayne Tyo**
 Web Master- **Mark Clere**
 Newsletter- **Dave Clark**

See what happens when you don't come to the meetings!!

2011 Membership Dues

As in years past, December 31st is the day all club memberships expire. We are planning to make this year the most fun ever and in order

to make sure we are keeping everyone in the loop about planned paddles, parties, meetings, cleanups and other activities, we need to have current contact information on all of our members. As a way to help us achieve this, we ask that **everyone** turn in a completed membership application with their 2011 dues. This is the most painless way we could think of to tune up our database. By the way, whatever information you give us, stays with us. **WE WILL NOT SELL OR GIVE AWAY YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES, PHONE NUMBERS, OR ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE!** It will be strictly for club use only. Our annual dues remain the same: \$10 for a single membership, \$15 for a family membership. Membership applications can be printed from the club's web site (www.mcaquaholics.com) or contact one of the club officers. Thank you in advance for helping us get off to a

running start!

Club makes donation to local non-profit

Club member and 2010 treasurer Debra Mellinger came before the club at the November meeting with a presentation about a local nonprofit organization called Feed the Need Garden. This organization's purpose is to teach those in need how to be self-sufficient and self-reliant through gardening, farming, cooking and preserving what they have grown. Their program helps families at risk have nutritious meals to eat.

These gardens not only grow fresh vegetables for those in need, but they double as horticulture therapy for the elderly and those in our community with mental or physical disabilities.

At the December meeting, members voted to donate \$500 to this organization. You can find out more about them at their website

www.feedtheneedgarden.com/.

I believe this is a worthy endeavor and encourage you to support them individually as well through your personal donations or volunteering.

Double the boats and double the fun!!

As most of you know, every year about this time the club purchases a kayak from an area vendor to be used as the prize in our annual club fund raiser. What you may not know is that this process usually starts at the meeting in September or October of the year before the Poker Run at which the winner is drawn. After reviewing club finances and projected expenses in the foreseeable future, a specific dollar amount is voted on for purchasing a kayak and selected accessories. Club representatives then canvas area vendors to ascertain who can best meet our needs within our approved budget. This year, Brasington's Adventure Outfitters in Gainesville (www.brasingtons.com) gave us such a great deal that we were actually able to buy TWO boats and stay within our pre-determined budget! While there finalizing the details on this fantastic deal, it also came to our attention that Brasington's still offers Aquaholics a 10% discount on paddling gear provided they have a current membership card (one more reason to renew your membership!). Check them out! Here are photos and links to

the manufacturer's web site of the boats the club was able to buy for this year's drawing.



Hurricane Open Bay 120
www.hurricaneaquasports.com/kayaks/openbay120.html

Please be aware that the colors are not accurate on either boat.



Perception Carolina
www.perceptionkayaks.com/product/index/products/touring/carolina/carolina_12/

Now every ticket you sell will have two chances to win!

CTAE to offer Photography class

As an amateur photographer myself, I have noticed many of you carrying cameras on paddles and at different events to capture images of the wildlife and the beauty of nature (not to mention the antics of some of our paddlers who shall remain presid... whoops I mean nameless). I recently found out the Community Technical & Adult Education Center (www.MarionCareerTraining.com)

is offering an evening photography class beginning Thursday, January 20th at 7:00pm. It will meet every Thursday until March 10th. It is being taught by local professional photographer Frank Flynn. This is primarily an entry level class in which you will learn and use the various features and capabilities of your camera as well as learning several aspects of photography in general including composition. I took this course myself several years ago and enjoyed it so much I plan to take it again this time! And the cost is only \$34! You can call CTAE if you have further questions at (352) 671-7200.

Tips for Trips

If you look on the website, just above the “trips” tab, there is a “trip guidelines and request” tab. Please take the time to look it over every now and then. It has a lot of good information on it for you.

Each of our club sanctioned events have a trip coordinator assigned. Trip coordinators are assigned for many reasons but each and every one of those reasons benefit you! ***So please, please, please use them and cooperate with them.*** Start by letting them know as far in advance as

possible if you plan to attend any given trip. Why? So they have an accurate feel for who and how many intend to participate. This information is important because it helps them plan shuttles if they are required and gives them an opportunity to contact you at the last minute if something changes. Like, for instance, cancelling a trip due to weather concerns... or a lack of water on given trip...or flooding of a given area... or a personal situation involving the trip coordinator at the last minute when no replacement coordinator is available...or an apparent lack of interest in a given trip.

Sound far fetched?

Actually each and every one of those scenarios has happened at least once and some several times over the past few years. I would hate to see you drive all the way to someplace like Caladesi or the Peace River (or any other place for that matter) only to find that you are the only one there or that the group left with out you because they had everyone there that had called. . \

We have some trips already on the calendar and we plan to add many more including several new or not recently done paddles in the very near future. If you would

like to be a trip coordinator, please contact the club president. If for some reason you don't feel qualified to be a trip coordinator (which really isn't very difficult!) but a have a particular trip in mind you would like to see the club do, let the president know. Even if we haven't done it before, we'll check it out and see if we can't safely make it work for us. Remember, the goal is to have fun and new trips are always an adventure!!

Upcoming Trips and Events

Here is the list of all currently scheduled events. Check the web site “trips” tab for more details.

December 22, Wednesday,
Crystal River
TC: Don Papp 352.422.1017

Feb 5, JAKES EVENT (not a club sponsored event)
TC: Mark Clere,
352.625.1026, 352.454.5350c

Feb 19, Moonlight Paddle
Rainbow River
TC: Mike Barth, 352.875.6007

Feb 26, Ocklawaha Clean-up
Ray Wayside to Gore's
Landing
TC: Mike Barth, 352.875.6007

March 5 Ocklawaha Clean-up
Gore's Landing to Eureka
TC: Janie Clere, 352.625.1026,
352.454.5350

March 18-20, Ochlockonee
River and Primitive Arts
Festival
TC: John Greene,
352.208.8064

March 19, Hillsborough River
TC: Trish Bergdoll,
352.369.1354, 352.615.1164 c

May 14, Ocklawaha Cleanup
for Poker Run
TC: Wayne Tyo, 352.465.4263,
352.208.0585 c

May 21, Annual Paddlers
Poker Run
Poker Run Coordinator: Wayne
Tyo, 352.465.4263

And of course our club
meetings the 3rd Wednesday of
every month at the sheriff's
substation on US441 between
Ocala and Belleview.

Well, that's it for this
month!! Once again, if you
have any feedback regarding
this newsletter, or have
anything you would like
included in here, please let me
know. Until next month,
paddle safe and often!!!