



January 2011

www.mcaquaholics.com

Note from the editor- Welcome to this edition of the club newsletter. My goal is to keep you up to date with news, events, activities, trips, etc. which may help you get the most out of your club membership and have some fun!!! Your input is essential to creating a useful newsletter!!! Feel free to contact me (Dave Clark) with any questions, comments, or items of interest! My email address is editor@mcaquaholics.com. Remember, the goal is to have some fun!! Thanks, Dave

Ocklawaha River Cleanup Scheduled

Mark the last Saturday in February and the first Saturday in March on your calendars! Those are the days selected to cleanup parts of the Ocklawaha River. On Saturday February 26th, our goal is to cleanup the river from Ray Wayside County Park (the boat basin) to Gore's Landing. The plan is to shuttle promptly at 9:00 am. Members Don & Wayne have agreed to cook some of their 5 star chicken and a couple of sides for us at the takeout after that portion of the cleanup. The club is paying for the food so there is no cost to anyone participating in the cleanup that day. Trip coordinator for that portion of the cleanup will be Mike Barth, 352.875.6007. As I mentioned in last month's newsletter, it is always important to let the trip coordinator know in advance if you intend to participate. In this particular case, that information will also be used

to help plan the cooking.

On March 5th, Janie Clere will be the trip coordinator when we plan to repeat the process between Gore's Landing and Eureka. She can be reached at either of these numbers: 352.625.1026 or 352.454.5184. There is not a cookout planned for this portion of the cleanup, so be sure to pack your lunch and snacks. Janie plans to shuttle promptly at 9:00 am as well.

Members in the News



Club members Trish Bergdoll and Carol Allen were the subjects in this recent front page photo of the Ocala Star-Banner. They were seen in the early morning fog of steam rising off of the Silver River on possibly (and hopefully) the

coldest day of this winter- Thursday, January 13th. This photo was published in the January 14th, 2011 edition as part of a story regarding the frigid weather in our area. A full screen version of this photo may be seen at the following link or by copying and pasting it to the internet address bar at the top of your browser:

<http://www.ocala.com/article/20110114/ARTICLES/110119837>.

If you look closely, you'll notice Carol has the same "blank expression" in this picture as she does in the graphic on the back of our t-shirts!

In the Splash Zone!

This is the first of what I intend to make a monthly feature of the newsletter. I am calling it the "splash zone" because whoever is featured will have his or her photo and responses to various questions "splashed" all over as soon as the newsletter is posted on the

internet! (Actually, I just couldn't come up with anything any better so if you can, *please* send me your ideas!) Our first willing victim is.... drum roll please....



Nancy Hutchinson

and here are some droplets (get it? You know- the splash zone, water...like I said, if you can come up with something better...let me know!!) of information about her.

Hometown: Oakland Maine

Home Now: Salt Springs

Family: Husband David, 2 children, 3 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren *so far* (although she led me to believe **she** probably won't have any more kids!)

Occupation: retired- now a full time paddler!

Years paddling: since the early 1960's

Years as an Aquaholic: 5

Number of boats you own: eight -four here and four in Maine

Favorite Paddle: Ocklawaha River

Favorite Boat: a red Carolina

Aerolite 14'5 by Perception
Other Hobbies or Interests:
Photography, kayak camping, RV camping, and some biking.

Tips for Trips

An area paddling club recently experienced a serious medical emergency during a trip. Even though several members of the group considered themselves to be friends of the victim, no one really knew her well enough to provide any emergency contact information, relevant medical history, current medications or conditions, or any other background to aid responders.

The Mosquito Lagoon Kayakers have developed a basic form you can copy and paste into your word processor and use. A link to it can be found on the bottom of their club's website homepage at <http://www.mosquitolagoonkayakersofvolusiacounty.com/>.

Let me emphasize that ***the Aquaholics DO NOT have any requirement for you to carry this type of information*** while paddling with the club, although some local groups do. As a matter of standardization, those groups suggest you keep your info either in your PFD pocket or taped inside the front hatch of your boat.

The bottom line is you can be as low tech or high tech

as you want, you can include as much or as little as you want, but it is of no value if you don't have it with you. I sincerely hope you never have the need for this information to be used. If you do, I am convinced having it available for others to use will be to your benefit (*or not* depending on what you decide)!!

Now You Know....

I recently came across this on the internet and thought you might enjoy reading it!



It's late fall and the Indians on a remote reservation in northern Ontario asked their new chief if the coming winter was going to be cold or mild. Since he was a chief in a modern society, he had never been taught the old secrets. When he looked at the sky, he couldn't tell what the winter was going to be like. Nevertheless, to be on the safe side, he told his tribe that the winter was indeed going to be cold and that the members of the village should collect firewood to be prepared.

Being a practical leader, after several days, he got an idea. He got his cell phone, called the National Weather

Service and asked, 'Is the coming winter going to be cold?' 'It looks like this winter is going to be quite cold,' the meteorologist at the weather service said. So, the chief went back to his people and told them to collect even more firewood in order to be prepared.

A week later, he called the National Weather Service again. 'Does it still look like it is going to be a very cold winter?' 'Yes,' the man at National Weather Service again replied, 'it's going to be a very cold winter.' The chief again went back to his people and ordered them to collect every scrap of firewood they could come up with.

Two weeks later, the chief called the National Weather Service again. 'Are you absolutely certain that the winter is going to be very cold?' 'Absolutely,' the man replied. "It's looking more and more like it is going to be one of the coldest winters we've ever seen." "How can you be so sure?" the chief asked.

The weatherman replied, "The Indians are all collecting all the firewood they can find!"

Membership Perks

The graphic seen on this page which is used on the masthead of this newsletter

and on the back of our club t-shirt is available for our members to use should anyone want to personalize something.



It's kept on file at B-J Trophies & Awards, 1735 NE Jacksonville Rd, in Ocala. They carry a substantial number of different items which can be branded with this graphic and further personalized with names or other things. It is available with or without the club's name and web site wrapped around it. This is another of the many perks available to our members.

As a friendly reminder, all memberships expired December 31st 2010. As I said last month, we are asking *everyone* turn in a completed membership form 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 ANY OF 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 forms can be printed from the club's web site (www.mcaquaholics.com).

Raffle Tickets and Kayaks

Raffle tickets for the two kayaks the club plans to give away will be available for members to sell or purchase by the end of the month. To get yours, contact George Finlay at 352.620.2998.

You may notice one of the boats is different from what we said earlier. As it turns out, there were some delivery issues with the 12 ft Carolina we had ordered. At the January meeting this was discussed and those attending voted to replace it with another kayak already in stock at Brassington's. We now have both boats in hand and are still within our original budget!

Remember, this is the only club fund raising event we do. The proceeds from these ticket sales are what will

pay for all of our activities and purchases throughout the coming year. They will fund the purchase of whatever the prize is for next year's raffle and provide the seed money for setting up and organizing the club's annual charity poker run. It is the main source of income for any other purchases the club makes during the year. It is what has funded the purchase of awnings, the club trailer, sound system, the paddle given away at last years picnic, and contributions to other organizations in years past. It also pays for the food on pizza nights, BBQ's at club events, and part of the annual Christmas party. Your help and participation in ticket sales is essential !



Calling all Trip Coordinators (and yes- this means you!!!!)

Our main goal this year is to focus on fun and paddling! To help make that happen, we want to add more trips as well as different trips so that we don't become stale or stagnate. It only makes sense then that we also need more trip coordinators.

Being a trip coordinator

is not difficult. There are some easily managed responsibilities involved, but nothing that should make the trip any less enjoyable for you. If you have already been to a certain area that you would like to paddle again, then you are one of the best resources our club has for that particular trip and a natural choice as trip coordinator!

These are the responsibilities involved:

1. Keep a running list of those have called to say they plan on attending so you know who to contact if things change.
2. Coordinate the shuttle if one is required.
3. Get everyone to sign a trip waiver.
4. Assign a sweep to the paddle from among the participants who can make sure no one is left behind or unassisted if they develop a problem.
5. Make sure that everyone is accounted for (including the sweep!) at the end of the trip.
6. **Enjoy yourself and have fun!**
7. You get to make the final determination if a trip needs to be cancelled for any reason. We ask that you try to contact everyone who notified you they planned to paddle and the club president or webmaster so that information may be posted online as quickly as

possible.



Being a trip coordinator will also earn you the respect and gratitude of other members!! If my description of any of these responsibilities isn't clear or if any of them seem intimidating to you, feel free to call any of the club officers for clarification.

Think of it this way- when you are the trip coordinator, you are the responsible adult in the group of overage kids about to go paddling! Don't talk yourself out of it, it really isn't hard to be a trip coordinator. *Thank you in advance for stepping up!!*

Volunteers Needed for Jakes Event

Volunteers are being sought to help with this year's "Jakes" event at the Ocala Outdoor Adventure Camp. This is an annual event sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation aimed at exposing youth to a variety of outdoor activities including kayaking and canoeing. We are

being asked to assist these children (and some of their accompanying adults) who are usually first time paddlers or, at best, very inexperienced paddlers.

While this is not a club sponsored event, it will be an opportunity for us display our raffle boats and sell tickets.

Last year over 100 kids and their families participated. This year they are expecting an even bigger turn out. We are anticipating a need for 12-15 volunteers, some of who will need to be out on the water. So, you may want to bring along a boat for yourself. The camp intends to use their boats, PFD's, and paddles. Those of you who are willing to bring sit-inside kayaks for these kids to use if the need arises will be very much appreciated. All volunteers will get a free lunch as well!

Upcoming Trips and Events

This list is current at time of publication. Please check the "trips" tab on the club's web site for additional information and any changes.

Jan 29, Chassahowitza River
TC Beverly Bennet,
352.489.7440 *Launch Fee Required!!*

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

Feb 12, Weeki Wachee
TC Wayne Tyo, 352.208.0585
Launch Fee Required!!

Feb 18-21, Team River Runner Benefit, at Camp Kiwanis (Non-Club Event) see our web site for more info



Feb 19, Moonlight Paddle on the 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, 352.454.5184

March 12, Wekiva River

TC: Dan Van Antwerp,
407.902.6251 *Launch Fee Required!!*

March 18-20, Ochlocknee River and Primitive Arts Festival

TC: John Greene,
352.208.8064

April 2, 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, I welcome any input, news, or feedback regarding this newsletter. Shoot an email to editor@mcaquaholics.com.

Until next month, paddle safe and often!!!

