



The Paddler Tattler

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Trip Leader Rob Taylor looking fierce as he runs Bear Creek Falls on the Cheoah. He coordinated quite the TVCC Flotilla for the March 19th release.

APRIL 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Mar 27	28	29	30	31	Apr 1	2
3	4 Frisbee Golf @ The Sinks	5 Outdoor Chattanooga Roll Practice @ SAU	6	7	8	9 Tallulah (IV+) South Chick (FW)
10 Cheoah (IV+)	11	12 TVCC Board Meeting	13	14	15	16 Coosawattee (FW) Toccoa River
17 Middle Ocoee (III) Toccoa River	18	19	20	21	22	23 Upper Nantahala (III/IV)
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 Soddy Creek (FW)

Sunset in downtown Chattanooga. Enjoy the longer days! (Photo: Judy Norton)

Now that we've launched our new website, you can visit the events pages for all of the information, and to REGISTER and PAY for some events.

<http://tvccpaddler.com/events/>

Events can be sorted by tags (i.e. flatwater, whitewater, safety, meetings, etc.).

Also, all of the events on the calendar with corresponding pages online have links!

April Club Trips

Join TVCC for some springtime river fun!

As always, all trips are water and weather dependent. Contact the trip leader if you are interested in attending.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9TH TALLULAH RIVER (IV+)

Trip Leader: Brandon Beaty, 423.322.7328
Prerequisite rivers required and advanced river skills are necessary for this trip. Please contact the trip leader to discuss if this river is within your skill set.



April 4th—Frisbee Golf

4pm. (C). Looking for a different activity with your TVCC friends? Come meet for frisbee golf at the Sinks (Dupont Park off N. Access Rd. near North River Soccer Complex). Contact Ryan Lycan (cm5@tvccpaddler.com) for more details.

SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH CHEOAH RIVER (IV+)

Trip Leader: Spence Lycan, 423.991.4451

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, APRIL 16-17TH TOCCOA (II/III)

Trip Leader: Carolyn Rand, 423.400.2590
Class II/III will team up with overnights for this one.

SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH MIDDLE OCOEE (III)

Trip Leader: Stacy Stone, 423.443.2175

SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD UPPER NANTAHALA (III/IV)

Trip Leader: John Kern, 423.993.5042



April 23rd—Powell River Kayak & Canoe Regatta

Not a TVCC Event, but shared by one of our members. This is a 12 mile race on a Class I River in Tazewell, TN (50 miles north of Knoxville). For more info, check it out online: <http://www.powellriverblueway.org/home/powell-river-kayak-canoe-regatta/>

Detailed information on Outdoor Chattanooga's Roll Practice can be found on Page 8.

Detailed information on Overnighter Trips can be found on Page 9.

Detailed information on Flatwater Trips can be found on Page 10.

Follow Tennessee Valley Canoe Club on Facebook for the even more event information.



Paddle
School 2016
is Coming
June 3rd-5th
to a River
Near You!

Registration is now open
for superheroes, carnage
fighting sidekicks, and
heroes in training!

For more info and do
sign up, visit us on our
new website:

[http://tvccpaddler.com/
paddle-school/](http://tvccpaddler.com/paddle-school/)

Proposed Bylaw Changes

Membership Terms & Cycle: Vote to be held at Paddle School 2016

The following bylaw changes have been proposed approved by a 2/3 majority of board members, and, per Section VII, are being publicized with at least one month's notice prior to a vote by the membership.

The context for these changes are the limitations of the member management portal on the new website.

TVCC Club Bylaws can be viewed in full on our website: <http://tvccpaddler.com/bylaws/>

Questions should be direction to Brian Swafford, TVCC Secretary (secretary@tvccpaddler.com).

CURRENT BYLAW (SECTION I, ITEM D)

D. The Club membership year shall run from June 1 through May 31. Memberships received after December 31 shall be for the next membership year, but all club membership rights and benefits begin immediately upon receipt of the family-household membership dues.

PROPOSED NEW BYLAW (SECTION I, ITEM D)

D. Club membership will be based on a 12 month cycle which will begin on the date when the club receives payment from each individual or family. Membership rights and benefits begin immediately upon receipt of payment and ends the day after the 12 month period.

CURRENT BYLAW (SECTION II, ITEMS B-F)

B. Annual dues are due between January 1 and June 1.

C. Any member whose dues have not been paid by July 15 shall be dropped from the membership.

D. No cancellation or refund of dues may be made if a member resigns before the close of the membership year.

E. All Board of Director members are nonpaying member of the Club for the year beginning during his/her term.

PROPOSED NEW BYLAW (SECTION II, ITEMS B-F)

B. Dues will be based on a 12 month cycle which will start when the club receives payment from each member or family.

C. If a member does not renew their membership within their 12 month cycle then their membership will expire the day after the 12 month period ends. They will be dropped from membership and all rights and benefits ended. If they renew their membership at a later date than the 12 month cycle will begin based on the new date that the payment is received.

D. No cancellation or refund of dues may be made if a member resigns before the end of their 12 month membership period.

E. All board of director members are eligible as non-paying members during the time that they serve on the board.

F. Lifetime members, as nominated annually by the TVCC board members, are exempt from payment of dues.

Paddling Like a...

Tales of Implosion and Perseverance

by Ashley Teel, TVCC President

The NRS series has put out some great articles focused on the difference in male and female paddling styles. I greatly enjoyed both those articles and when I was asked to write a trip report about a situation that happened on Tellico Ledges a few weeks ago, that person suggested, "You should write it for females because not many would have done what you did."

That got me thinking. I agree us women need to support and encourage each other, but when I think about what happened, I do not think I was paddling like a girl or paddling like a guy, I was just paddling like me.

It was a beautiful low flow Sunday Tellico Ledges day. I had not been on the Ledges since mid-December, and I have a terrible track record with Baby Falls. We got out to scout the falls on river right and I watched almost the whole crew run it before I got back in my boat. Just before I started the lead in, I stopped to visualize my line. To be honest, I still don't know exactly what happened as I came off Baby, because what happened next was a lot to take in quickly. I find myself upside down and knowing I need to roll because I'm river center heading to Diaper Wiper. I roll up, and I was about

where I thought I was. I realize I could fight hard to get in the river left eddy or I could just commit and run Diaper Wiper. I look at Karl and tell him that I'm going for it. As I was entering the rapid, I realize my skirt is not on and I'm half full of water. Quickly my brain starts triggering options and I decided my best chance is to catch the eddy on river left in the middle of the rapid. The only problem with this plan is that I have never tried for that eddy

before. With some skill and a lot of luck, I whip right into the eddy. Karl whips in next to me and after a few unsuccessful tries, we realize the eddy is too dynamic to get my skirt back on. I'm just going to have to run the rest of the rapid without my skirt. I drive as hard as I can out of the eddy. As the curler pushes me up against the rocks, I use my paddle and elbow guards to stay upright and lean hard into the rocks. After having my bow bounce off a rock, I end up in the eddy in the middle of the river and I'm sinking quickly. My boat is underwater. On top

After rolling up and discovering an imploded skirt, Ashley Teel prepares for Plan B: Catching the eddy in Diaper Wiper. (Photos: Ruthie MacLeod)





Karl Whipp looks on as Ashley sets up for Baby Run #2.

of being full of water, I can't paddle the rest of the rapid because my stern is being sucked into a hole created by pour over. Realizing I'm in a losing battle, I step out of my boat in the middle of the river onto the rocks. If this wasn't all exciting enough, I realize I have people from shore and below, plus my crew is scattered due to the excitement.

Now the rescue situation begins. We try the simplest

options first: to get the boat drained by pulling it up on the rocks, but I wasn't strong enough to make it work. Rod is now on the river left shore downstream and throws me a rope. With one hand, I catch the rope, get a carabiner and try a one handed loop to clip to this boat for them to pull it across to shore. As I'm about to clip in I hear, "Don't worry about that..." and Beaty has jumped across the river, climbs on the rocks, dumps my boat, sets it up for a seal launch and then walks across the top left of Diaper Wiper back to his boat up stream. Now my boat is on a rock in the middle of the river, so I climb back in, put on my skirt and seal launch. The rest of the run all I could do is shake my head because this is my third skirt implosion in about 6 months, and I'm just fed up with it. Of course, I've let this incidents get in my head and for the rest of the run down the Ledges, my boat control was not where I wanted it to be.

Typically I would be frustrated about all of it and just call it a day at the end of the first lap, but this time I was determined to prove that I can run Baby Falls. So I load back up with the crew for lap two! I'm feeling good, everything is clicking. This time it's just a short eddy stop above the falls, then I go for it. Finding myself upside down at the bottom of the falls, feeling the water beat down on the hull of my boat. I wait, let it flush me, carp a roll, then hit my second...only to find my skirt imploded AGAIN! Luckily this time, I'm well in the river right eddy and can get out and dump my boat. Frustrated about the skirt, I decided I want to prove to myself that I can catch the river left eddy in Diaper Wiper with a skirt on. Sure enough I run the whole rapid and the rest of the run smoothly.

Before we even left the river, I had started to reflect on what happened on lap one. I could have taken out right at the falls, I could have frozen up in the middle of the rapid, or I could have just swam out of my boat. Instead, I was calm, collected (minus yelling "My skirt imploded...AGAIN!" over and over) and just made the moves. From the time I rolled up and committed to running the rapid, to the quick decision of catching the river left eddy, to realizing I was going to have to make a tough move with a boat full of water and finally stepping out of my boat instead of fighting the river. It wasn't about being the only girl in the crew, it wasn't about being embarrassed, and it was about using the knowledge, skills and gut to not have an ugly swim or have people chasing my gear. Truth is I didn't know I could do all of that. At first I joked about why I handled that situation that way, then I realized that the joke was the truth. It comes with boating with someone that pushed me, made me do things out of my comfort zone, and taught me to look at a new situation and connect it with moves I had done before. So I didn't have to paddle like a girl, like a guy or like someone else, I just had to paddle like me. I encourage everyone, not just the females, to take in everything you learn, pick what you like and works for you and make your own style. Paddle like yourself because we all know it's about having fun out there!

Ashley

President

P.S. I bought a new IR Royale and even got the tunnel cut down so it fits my short torso better!

TVCC Conservation Challenge Update

Have you signed TVCC's Conservation Challenge Pledge?

Visit the Conservation Challenge page on the website for full details, and to sign the pledge.

<http://tvccpaddler.com/about/conservation/>

Or, better yet, have you done conservation activities that you need to report?

Email activities to Pat Carver at patcarver1055@yahoo.com to get your raffle tickets!



Outdoor Chattanooga Roll Practice



Fall/Winter Roll and Kayak Skills practice will take place on select Tuesdays at Southern Adventist University's Hulsey Wellness Center. There are two sessions—7pm and 8pm. Anticipate only being in the water for one session; if it is busy, the pool gets crowded quickly.

- April 5th

Admission to the pool is \$2, and roll class is \$10/person for non-members. Non-members must provide their own gear. Outdoor Chattanooga annual membership are \$75/individual or \$125/family. First session is free for new participants. Boats and gear should be dropped off at the door at the back side of the Hulsey Wellness Center, to the right of the track, next to the heating and air units. Outdoor Chattanooga staff will bring your boat to the pool. Your kayak must be clean in order to bring it into the pool.

Note: Southern Adventist's dress code emphasizes modesty and cleanliness. Please wear modest workout and pool apparel, including one-piece swimsuits.

Hulsey Wellness Center
4870 University Drive
Collegedale, TN 37315

<https://www.southern.edu/wellness/Pages/default.aspx>

For more information, contact Outdoor Chattanooga.
423-643-6888 or info@outdoorchattanooga.com.



Overnighters 2016 Calendar

April 16th-17th—Toccoa River Trip

Class II/III rapids, helmet required. Beautiful clear water. Camping at a perfect site on the river just below the Benton McKaye Trail swinging bridge. Could be extended to 3 days if desired (Saturday to Monday). Contact c.rand37302@gmail.com.

May 14th-15th—Talking Rock

Long stretches of Class I with two Class II and one Class III rapids. Helmet required and experience in paddling whitewater with a load of overnight gear. Contact UweZitzow@comcast.net.

June 3rd-5th—Paddle School

Information will be available on the TVCC website this spring.

June 4th-10th—Upper Buffalo River

Trip Leader Buddy Wise: bwise.legal@yahoo.com.

June 11th-19th—Buffalo River in Arkansas (Week Long)

Class I Clear flowing river. Great for fishing with beautiful rock beaches to camp on across from huge cliffs. Contact Ben Johnson: johnsonbbd3@aol.com.

June 26th—Waterfront Triathlon Volunteering

Volunteer to safety boat for the swimmers.

Contact TaylorWatson@comcast.net.

July—St. Croix 6-Day Trip (WI)

Moving water with Class I & II Rapids. Contact c.rand37302@gmail.com.

July 23rd-24th—Rescue Rodeo & Big Brother/Big Sister Rafting

Practice valuable river rescue skills on the Hiwassee River. See tvccpaddler.com for details. Big Brother/Big Sister raft race volunteers needed on the 24th. Steer a raft for the kids and their sponsors. Contact 1jimled@gmail.com to volunteer. Camp Saturday night at Hiwassee Outfitters.

August 20th-27th—Hiwassee Base Camp

Set up base camp at Gee Creek and paddle nearby rivers throughout the week. Trip Leader Buddy Wise: bwise.legal@yahoo.com.

Aug 27th-28th—Lake Jocassee

Camp on an island and take a tour of the lake with an outfitter who will take our boats to the different points of interest and water falls so we can see the whole lake. The outfitter will also take our gear to the island for us and bring it back so that we don't have to carry our gear in our boats, freeing us up to take whatever boat we want to paddle. There will be a fee for the outfitter's 2 days of work. Contact Richard Warner at rockhunter1953@gmail.com.

Sept 10th—Girl Scout Raft Race

Safety boat volunteers needed and club elections that

night. Contact TaylorWatson@comcast.net.

Sept 17th-18th—Elk River

Class I clear, cold dam fed river with wonderful camp sites. Beautiful shaded river. Contact UweZitzow@comcast.net.

Oct 1st—TN River Rescue

Pick up trash on the South Chickamauga Creek. Contact 1jimled@gmail.com.

Oct 8th—Ocoee Race

Volunteers Needed. Signup form will be online.

Oct 22nd-23rd—Toccoa River

Class II/III rapids. Can be extended to 3 days. Contact c.rand37302@gmail.com.

Oct 30th—Boo Run (Ocoee)

Dress up in costume for the Ocoee River. Rafts welcome.

Nov 5th-6th—Etowah River

Class II, requires a helmet. Camp at Etowah River Campground and go on the water each day. Contact Jamie Wendt. jwendt@epbfi.com.

Nov 19th-20th—TN River Blueway

Class I float down the TN River, stopping at the bird banding station for a demo. Camping at Pot Point. Contact Ben Johnson: johnsonbbd3@aol.com.

December TBD—Club Christmas Party

Date and Location TBD.

Flatwater Paddlers 2016 Calendar

Dec 27th-Jan 1st. Econfina Refuge, Florida. Pat.

Jan 9th. Sandhill Cranes. Hiwassee Refuge. Eric.

March 26th. Lookout Creek to Brown's Ferry. Eric.

April 9th. South Chick. (C). Eric. 10am. We'll meet at the Sterchi Farm Ramp and paddle down to the opening of the Greenway new bridge for about an hour, then return. 4 miles round trip.

April 16th. Coosawattee River, GA. (C), (S). Eric. 2pm. Dan McBee Memorial Paddle. Meet at ramp below Carter's Dam to set up for the 7 mile Class I paddle. BBQ and a band to follow. Option for free camping & hot showers.

April 30th. Soddy Creek. Eric. 10am. Meet at the US 27 ramp and paddle towards the TN River. Lunch at Steve's Landing before returning. 2 hour paddle.

May 14th. Conasauga River, GA. (C), (S). Eric.

May 28th. Sequatchie River. (C), (S). Eric.

June 3rd-5th. Paddle School.

June 11th-19th. Buffalo River, Arkansas. (C), (S). Ben.

June 18th. Demo Day at Harrison Bay. Eric.

June 25th. West Chick, GA. Reed to Dietz. (C), (S). Eric.

June 26th. Waterfront Triathlon Support. Taylor.

July 9th. TN Riverpark BBQ and Sunset Paddle. (S). Eric.

July 23rd. Oostanaula River, GA. (C), (S). Eric.

July 24th. Big Brother/Big Sister Raft Trip Support. Hiwassee River. (C), (S). Jim.

Aug 6th. Sale Creek. Eric.

Aug 7th. Dam Triathlon Support Boaters. Taylor.

Aug 20th. BBQ and sunset paddle to Bat Cave. Eric.

Aug 27th-28th. Lake Jocassee, SC. Overnighter. Richard.

Sept 3rd. West Chick, GA. Dietz to Camp Jordan. (C), (S). Eric.

Sept 10th. Girl Scout Raft Race Support Boaters. Lower Hiwassee. (C), (S). Taylor.

Sept 10th. TVCC Meeting, Elections, Food, and

Camping. OAR. Ashley. (Tentative)

Sept 16th-17th. Elk River Overnighter. (C), (S). Uwe.

Sept 24th. TN River and Nickajack Lock-Through. Eric. (S).

Oct 1st. TN River Rescue Cleanup. Jim.

Oct 8th. TVCC Ocoee Whitewater Race.

Oct 9th. N. Chick and Chickamauga Lock-Through. Eric. (S).

Oct 22nd. Hiwassee. 2RCG to Hwy 11. (S). Eric.

Nov 5th. South Chickamauga Creek. Sterchi Farm. Eric.

Nov 19th-20th. TN River Gorge. Overnighter. (S). Ben.

Dec 10th. Club Christmas Party. TBD. (Tentative)

Dec 27th-Jan 1st. Annual Florida Trip. Crystal River. Ben.

Any questions? Contact Eric Fleming, Flatwater Cruisemaster: 598eric@gmail.com.

All dates and places are subject to change. All paddles are in Tennessee unless otherwise noted. Check your email the night before a trip for any changes. All paddles are rain or shine.

C = Indicates Current, but no more than Class I Rapids.
S = Indicates a one-way trip requiring a Shuttle.

Our Mission

The Tennessee Valley Canoe Club brings together those interested in canoeing, kayaking, and related activities; increases the knowledge, safety, and appreciation of paddle sports for those who are interested; and supports conservation and preservation of recreational waterways.

Membership is open to persons of all ages. Both families and singles are welcome.

The club's activities include:

- Whitewater & flat water kayak and canoe training
- Whitewater & flat water river trips for all skill levels
- Water safety & rescue training
- Extended canoe & camping trips
- Annual & monthly meetings
- Community service

TVCC Yahoo Group

All club members are invited to join the club's online paddling forum. The Yahoo Group is a great place to find out about paddling trips in addition to those posted in the newsletter, post pictures and trip reports of your latest adventures, or just find someone to go paddle with.

The only requirement for the forum is active membership in the club. To join, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/tvcc/> and click on "Join This Group". Please be patient and allow a few days for the page administrator to respond and accept your membership. Email to the group moderator at tvcc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with your name. See you on the river!

Flatwater Email List

The TVCC Flatwater Paddlers use an email contact list to send out information about upcoming events. To be added to this list, please send an email the TVCC Flatwater Cruisemaster at 598eric@gmail.com.

Facebook Page

Check out our official club page on Facebook; Search for Tennessee Valley Canoe Club! Like our page to receive the most up-to-date official club news and photos!

The Paddler Tattler is the monthly publication of the Tennessee Valley Canoe Club.

The Paddler Tattler invites submissions of articles, trip reports, videos, and any other news or information of interest to the paddling community.

Submit an electronic copy no later than the 20th of each month to the newsletter editor by emailing editor@tvccpaddler.com. Submissions may be edited.

Past issues of the Paddler Tattler can be accessed online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/tvccpastnewsletters>.



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