

# The DDRC Current News

Newsletter of the Dallas Downriver Club—Visit our website at [www.down-river.org](http://www.down-river.org)

November 2003

**FINE PRINT** - The DDRC Current News is published monthly by the Dallas Downriver Club and is provided to its members either by First Class postage or by email. Opinions expressed herein are those of the individual authors and may or may not reflect the opinion of the club or its officers.

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION** of articles, announcements, events, trips, etc. is the 1st Thursday of the month. It is on a come first served basis therefore sooner is better.

**DDRC BOARD MEETINGS** are held every second Tuesday of the month - 6:30 PM @ Enchilada's (directions on back of newsletter). All members are welcome to attend to learn more about club business.

## DDRC Welcomes New Member

Nathan Galbreath

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Membership Renewal

Its that time of year again. All DDRC memberships expire on 12/31/03 (except for those who have paid through 2004 already). We encourage you to renew early to assure continuous delivery of your newsletter. Your dues must also be up to date in order to vote in the upcoming Officer Elections. If you wish to pay by mail, send your \$20 along with any address, email or phone number changes to :

DDRC Membership  
P.O. Box 820246  
Dallas, TX 75382-0246

### Officer Nominations

Nominations for the 2004 club officers will be accepted in November and December for the following positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Newsletter Editor. Nominees must accept or decline their nomination. Those accepting will be added to the slate and members in good standing (dues paid) will vote for these wonderful folks in January.

### Most Miles Paddled

Keep recording your miles paddled. Winners will be recognized in January.

## Upcoming & Ongoing Events & Trips

### November 2003

#### November 22 (Saturday) Monthly Urban Paddle and Potluck Adventure

Join us at the Greenbelt, located off of 380 for a fun 1/2 day of exploring, paddling with friends old and new and eating great food. We'll meet at 10am, paddle for a couple of hours, then have a potluck lunch. Visit the DDRC website for details and directions. If interested contact Pat Chamberlain at [pchamberlain29@hotmail.com](mailto:pchamberlain29@hotmail.com), 972-727-3586, or Phil Lang at [phil\\_lang@sbcglobal.net](mailto:phil_lang@sbcglobal.net) 214-564-9672. **There will be no Urban Paddle scheduled for December.** In January, weather depending, this monthly event will resume on its usually scheduled last Saturday of the month.

#### November 28-30 (Friday-Sunday) Thanksgiving Weekend Campout/Paddle and Feast on the Neches River near Kountze, TX

We will be heading down to Indian Springs Campground near Kountze the Friday after Thanksgiving. We will paddle a section of the Neches on Saturday, and have a pot luck dinner on Saturday night. Bring enough food to feed your group. If you are interested in coming and want to kept abreast of plans, e-mail Bryan Jackson [hollowcreek@paddlinpals.com](mailto:hollowcreek@paddlinpals.com) to sign up or call 972-979-2519.

### December 2003

#### December 18, 2002: DDRC Christmas Meeting/Party

Don Hughes has once again offered the use of his home in Dallas for our Christmas Meeting. Don is cooking up the meat. Bring your favorite side dish, dessert or snack, as well as whatever you want to drink. We will also be having our Christmas prize raffle drawings. Visit the DDRC website for details and directions.

### Newsletter EMAIL Issues

Please keep us posted of any changes in your email address. If you'd like to get the newsletter electronically, or haven't been getting it and you're wondering why, we might not have your correct email. Send the editor your email address at [cathy\\_nelle@hotmail.com](mailto:cathy_nelle@hotmail.com)



### New Trinity Launch Under Way

#### Eye to the Sky

Marilyn Scholl has shared with us that the Leonid Star Showers can be seen the 3rd week in November. Look toward the East after 12 am.

The Texas Parks & Wildlife website events page lists a Star Party Nov. 22 at Lake Bob Sandlin State Park. Check out [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us) (click Events & Stargazing)

As a participant in any DDRC activity, an individual assumes the responsibility of evaluating all inherent risks before participating and assumes any risk of death or injury inherent in the sport. The participant waives claims that may arise against the club, its officers, members, servants, agents and/or trip coordinators, for death or injury to person or property, including claims of vicarious liability and claims arising from civil recklessness or any degree of negligence. Not waived are claims against an individual who causes injury intentionally or with criminal recklessness and claims among driver, owner and passengers of a motor vehicle for injuries.

## Caddoween a Howling Good Time

By Cathy Nelle

Not even rain could dampen the spirits, dead or alive, at this year's Caddoween Halloween Campout! The weekend before Halloween, what appeared to be more than 75 campers and paddlers made the annual pilgrimage to Goat Island at Caddo Lake for a fun-filled weekend of camping, cooking, costumes and candy — LOTS OF CANDY. Kids of all ages had fun carving pumpkins, apple bobbing, trick-or-treating tent to tent and coaxing the candy out of piñatas. Judges had it tough choosing between all the wonderful Dutch oven contest entries, and the rest of us were challenged to make room for everything on our plates and in our stomachs. What a spread! Kudos to all the cooks who slaved over hot coals under wet tarps to make it possible. Enjoying cool costumes and warm conversation around the campfire was a perfect way to end a soggy day. I would like to personally thank Pat & Phil for their hospitality. They came and got me from the launch after dark and hauled lots of my "How-could-I-have-possibly-thought-this-would-fit-in-my-boat" gear in their canoe. Thanks also to Gail for helping me set up my tent in the dark! This was my first Caddoween, but it won't be my last. Don't panic Pat — I have an entire year to practice my kayak packing skills before the next trip!

Speaking of making it all possible, the club greatly appreciates the extraordinary effort of the event organizers, Charles Edwards and Jack Deatherage in planning a very fun and safe weekend. Caddoween just gets better every year.

### Great Job Guys — You Did it Again!!!

#### From Charles...

Thanks to everybody that attended, the volunteers who helped make it happen and especially the kids! Caddoween was a huge success this year due to the tremendous help and support of many volunteers. I would like to thank the following people:

- \* Jack Deatherage — for helping to organize the event
- \* Pat Chamberlain & Phil Lang — for bringing the firewood
- \* Bryan Jackson — for handling the apple bobbing event four years running!
- \* Pat — for serving as head judge
- \* Judges — Kyle, Michelle, May, Chad & Evan
- \* Yolanda — for registration
- \* Sam — for buying some of the piñatas
- \* Chad — for setting up the piñatas
- \* David Nevers — for a greatly improved toilet system and help disassembling the beaver's dam.
- \* And to Anne and Barry, for their cooperation with the launch site.

I look forward to next year!

Charles

#### From the Tyler Contingent...

I just wanted to thank you (on the behalf of my group Tyler Outdoor Adventure Club) for all of the hard work you put into the Caddo Island Halloween campout every year. We really had a blast and wanted to let you know how much we appreciate you guys. If you ever need a helping hand let us know. Thanks again and see you next year.

Marvin Parker

## Caddoween Event Winners

### Dutch Oven Entrée

- 1st Place — Betty Scott  
2nd Place — Phil Lang  
3rd Place — Walter Brown

### Dutch Oven Dessert

- 1st Place — Ray Foley  
2nd Place — Rich Grayson  
3rd Place — Libby Stovall

### Tent Site Decorations

- 1st Place — Randy Stovall  
2nd Place — The Parkers  
3rd Place — Cathy Brown



### Pumpkin Carving—Adults

- 1st Place — Nora Roales  
2nd Place — Desirree Parker  
3rd Place — Cathy Nelle

### Pumpkin Carving — Children

- 1st Place — Desmond  
2nd Place — Xeph  
3rd Place — Sha’Ron

### Adult Costumes

- 1st Place — Libby & Randy Stovall



### Children’s Costumes

Please forgive us, but we were having so much fun enjoying the kids that we forgot to write it down. There was a sumo wrestler and crocodile hunter, and more superheros and princesses than you could shake a piñata stick at! They were all winners in my book!

## OCTOBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

By Sam

Howdy Folks, Oct. General DDRC meeting:

- 5 new people were introduced by Rand.
- Trip announcements: \*Urban paddle to Ft.Worth Nature Center Oct.18.- see Pat C. \*Caddoween - Charles and Jack gave info.- weekend of oct.25. \*Bryan J. discussed Thanksgiving trip options.
- Trip reports: Illinois River - by Bryan J., Free style competition in Houston - by Allen, and Northwest trip - by Betty.
- Pat announced new newsletter editor, Cathy Nelle. She also mentioned we are now taking new officer nominations. (No one spoke up).
- David Harmon talked about volunteers for the adventure scout rendezvous.
- Treasury report and budget recommendations by Bryan Jackson. He also read a shopping list for a canopy,a privacy cabana,and a cordless mike for the club.
- Gail held the raffle.

## Urban Paddle and Potluck Adventurers Enjoy Ft.Worth Nature Center

The October Urban Paddle and Potluck Adventure took us to Tarrant County, where we visited the Ft. Worth Nature Center. The West Fork of the Trinity River passes by the Center on the north side of Lake Worth. Approximately sixteen of us launched about 10 a.m. and paddled upstream to the dam of Eagle Mountain Lake. Ironically we saw less nature than any trip so far, but we did get to experience Bubba's Bait Shop and Johnboat Graveyard. Otherwise the river was surprisingly free of trash and a serene, easy paddle.

After the paddle we got down to the serious part of the outing - lunch. Bill brought the "most talked about" dish of the day with his broccoli/sunflowerseed/raisin/dressing salad. Marian's chocolate cake always scores in the top three. There was a three-way tie for third with Adam's fruit, Phil's fruit and Sam's fruit - all purchased at separate Albertsons. Join us November 22 for another adventure! Check the DDRC Web site for details.

**Texas Rivers Conservation Advisory Board (TRCAB)****Coordinated by Texas Parks & Wildlife Dept.****Aransas Pass, TX****October 17-18, 2003**

By Rich Grayson

I attended my first meeting as board member of the TRCAB in October. It was interesting to hear reports on current river protection and access issues in Texas and to meet some outstanding river advocates. If you have questions or want to get involved in some way, please email me at rgrayson@rivergeek.com.

**Highlights**

- Dianne Wassenich of SMRF briefed us on status of the application for environmental stream flows on the San Marcos. Sadly, the application was rejected in summer 2003, but more lawsuits will follow. Dianne also reported on the San Marcos Bed & Banks permit. A full report on Bed & Banks will appear in an upcoming DDRC newsletter...
- Michael Van Winkle reported on removal of a very large dead cypress tree that obstructed entire channel of Upper Guadalupe River. A local sawmill operator removed the tree in exchange for the wood. All parties were satisfied.
- Gina Donovan-Bush reported on status of quest to obtain Wild & Scenic River designation for a 240 mile section of the Neches River between Lakes Palestine and B.A. Steinghagen. Good news: 33,000 acres of International Paper land along the river has been acquired by the Conservation Fund of Texas. TRCAB is requesting the TPWD Commissioner to contact US Senators and Congressmen to involve the NPS in a study of the Neches for Federal W&S status.
- Melissa Parker (TPWD) reported on success of SB 155, the ban on motorized vehicles in riverbeds. The Canadian and Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red in Panhandle are exempted. The law takes effect January 1, 2004. HB 1577 – prohibiting glass containers in riverbeds, died in the House. Go figure!
- Jeannie Dullnig of Uvalde reported that state ban on hunting in Nueces Basin streambeds has been removed. Now, it is legal to hunt and shoot across and up/down riverbeds in all Texas rivers. So be careful out there, especially during deer season.
- Max Schumake of DeKalb reported on quest to establish canoe trails on a section of the Sulphur River below Hwy. 259.
- Bill Harvey, TPWD biologist, reported on success of Lighthouse Kayak Trails on Aransas Bay. Kayak paddling, fishing, crabbing, birding and hunting have boomed in the last three years. The LKT provides an excellent location for all of these paddling activities at very little cost to the taxpaying public.
- Marcos Paredes, District Ranger Big Bend N.P., reported on various issues concerning the Rio Grande.
  - For a period after 9/11/01, the INS declared to BBNP that crossing, hence, boating the Rio Grande was illegal. BBNP did not get involved and no INS boater arrests have ever been made. The INS stance seems to have softened to reality.
  - Non-native Tamarisk Eradication success has been reported in promising early results of a slash \ herbicide test done in Boquillas Canyon. The first three miles of Mexican side were slashed and treated in the fall of 2002 and are now free of tamarisk, also known as salt cedar. Some ash and willow also appear to be taking hold. In contrast, the Texas side and both sides beyond the three mile mark are obstructed by non-native tamarisk growth.

*(Continued on page 5)*

(Continued from page 4)

Grants to continue this study have been obtained and both banks of Boquillas Canyon will be treated in the fall.

- The TRCAB meeting concluded with a paddle around Lighthouse Kayak Trails and lunch at the historic Aransas Lighthouse, built in 1857. Most of the kayak trail has a depth of less than three or four feet and winds through and around immense black mangroves and seagrasses. This is a beautiful natural resource, I recommend it highly. Thanks to John Van Ness of Austin Outdoor Gear & Guidance for providing kayaks and equipment. RG

**Get Your Christmas Raffle Tickets Now**

We're also accepting donations of new, unused paddle- or camping-related items to include in the raffle. So, check your gear closets and get your raffle tickets at the November and December meetings.

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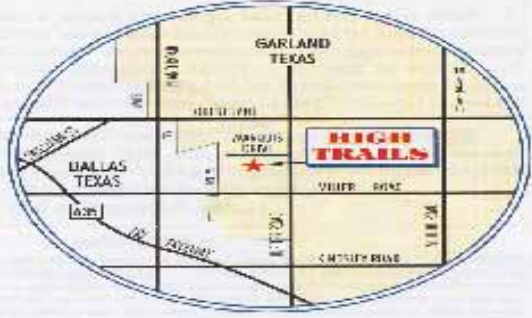

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance \$2,941.11  
 09/30/03 \*

### Receipts

|                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| New Memberships   | \$27.00  |
| October Raffle    | \$100.00 |
| Total Collections | \$127.00 |

### Disbursements

|                                       |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| October Newsletter                    | \$53.58         |
| Halloween at Caddo Lake               | \$130.15        |
| Remaining TRC Expenses                | \$90.78         |
| Postage                               | \$44.50         |
| Bank Service charges (Aug, Sept, Oct) | \$36.00         |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>                 | <b>\$355.01</b> |

|                  |                   |                 |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sub Total</b> | <b>\$3,068.11</b> | <b>\$355.01</b> |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|

Ending Balance \$2,713.10  
 10/31/03

Beginning balance adjusted due to report error in Sept.

## EXCLUSIVE!! DDRC Decals and Patches

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 (get them at the DDRC meetings)



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# Massage



**Marilyn Scholl**

**972-208-3528**  
**214-208-3528 (cell)**

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## DDRC Officers & Committees

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Pat Chamberlain  
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### VICE-PRESIDENT

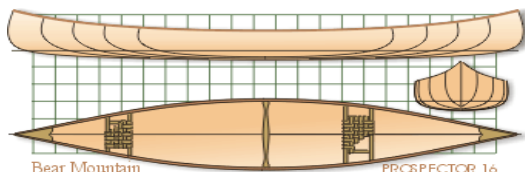
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Bear Mountain

PROSPECTOR 16

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Cathy Nelle  
972-713-6522  
cathy\_nelle@hotmail.com

## DDRC Newsletter Ad Rates

| Type of Ad                   | Per Insertion | Annually |
|------------------------------|---------------|----------|
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### Webmaster:

Jack Deatherage  
972-222-1407  
jfd2@prodigy.net

### Raffle:

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817-370-8202  
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### DDRC TP&W Representative:

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### Kayak Training:

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### David Nevers

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# DALLAS DOWNRIVER CLUB

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Postage

*The Official Newsletter of the Dallas  
Downriver Club*

**DDRC**  
**Nov. 2003 Meeting**  
  
**Thursday 7:00 PM**  
**Nov. 20, 2003**  
**Enchilada's Restaurant**  
**6526 E. Northwest Hwy.**

