

TEXAS CANOE RACING ASSOCIATION

APRIL 2007

PROMOTERS AND ORGANIZERS OF THE SPORT SINCE 1971

Paddlers

What a crazy late winter! First off, January, lots of rain. February? Ha! Dry dry dry. March! Whoo hoo!

The 2007 racing season is officially in session. Please give your thanks and support to all the paddling organizations, race directors, and volunteers. The behind the scenes work that must happen in order for a race to appear smoothly organized is more than a lot of folks really understand.

Included in this issue is the call for nominations to the TCRA Hall of Fame. Please nominate person(s) of your choice that have made significant contributions to river conservation or to paddling sport disciplines in the beautiful state of Texas.

If you have not renewed your TCRA membership for 2007, please do so. An option is to

renew/join on-line from the TCRA website txcanoeracing.org. Your \$15 annual dues help promote paddling events

and activities around the state of Texas. In addition, the race discounts available and a 'get in free card' to the annual TCRA banquet more than cover the cost of membership.

As with any organization, change is necessary from time to time in order to promote growth and avoid stagnation. I hope you find the posting of the newsletter on-line easy and convenient.

Best Regards,
Cindy Meurer
2007 TCRA President



<http://www.txcanoeracing.org>



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Club T-Shirts

The TCRA board is calling for nominations to identify individuals to be considered for induction into the Texas Canoe Racing Hall of Fame this fall.

Nominations for the **The Texas Canoe Racing Hall of Fame** should be sent to Cindy Meurer or Pete Binion by June 30th for consideration in 2007.



WHO will it be?

The individual making the nomination will be responsible for providing documentation in support of their candidate to the TCRA board prior to the July board of directors meeting. In addition, the person making the nomination or their designee is invited to the July TCRA meeting to present information supporting their nomination.

The top four candidates identified by a majority vote will be considered for selection. The Hall of Fame selection process limits the number of inductees to two individuals in a calendar year.

Please participate

It was a dark and stormy night.... but

thankfully the storms finally passed through about 15 minutes before the 5:00 AM start and the race conditions were perfect. Peach Creek rose over two feet during the night making for some exciting action at several log jams, the lake was calm and a beautiful sunrise greeted the first racers to the finish.

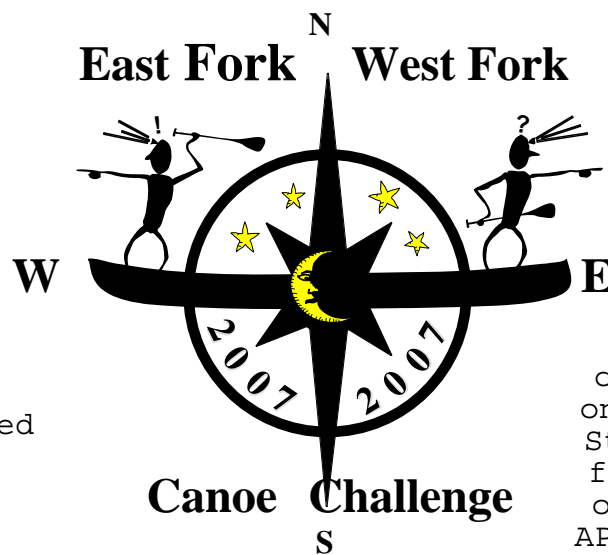
This year we ran an Adventure Class, which had to acquire nine checkpoints, several of which required strategic decisions on fastest route to be made, and the standard Marathon Class, which was a normal fastest to finish race. Both classes were required to complete a mid-race portage of approximately 0.2 miles in distance.

Even with the bad overnight weather we had 21 boats and 36 racers compete on the 14 mile course. The Adventure race started at 5:00 AM with 10 teams running the LeMans-style portage to Peach Creek. The first logjam caught the front runners by surprise, including the team of Cullen Franz and Jason Willis who lost their map in the fray. The team of Bobby Snyder and Celeste Adyanthaya took first overall in the

2007 East Fork West Fork Canoe Challenge April 1, 2007

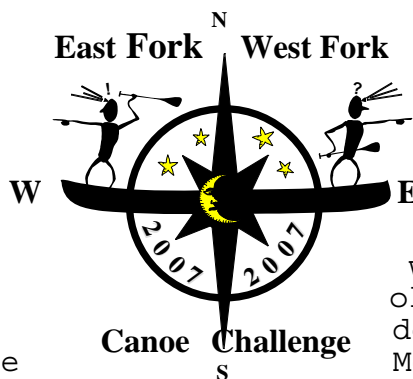
Adventure race with a time of 2:52:16. They successfully acquired all of the checkpoints running a fairly conservative course in a fast boat. Second Place overall went to Franz and Willis in 3:04:59. They overcame their misplaced map with a fast boat, experience and some slick GPS work.

Third Place overall went to the team of Jim and Michelle Willis in 3:47:55. One of the challenges of the AR was to solve the anagram, which was made up of letters on each checkpoint. Only one team, Wil and Steven Williams figured out the obvious solution - APRIL FOOLS - and were awarded the 2 minute bonus.



11 Marathon teams started with the required LeMans portage into the creek, and they also had quite an adventure at the Once again the portage turned out to be a significant challenge for the front runners. This year, they all found the portage start, but many had significant adventures finding the portage finish. Richard Steppe and Scott

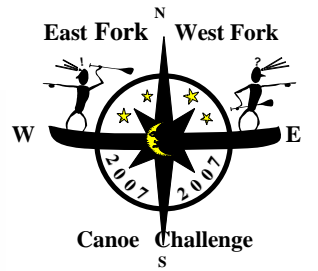
Cummins led Adam Neville and Richard Ameen on a legendary walkabout through East End Park that ended with a ¼ mile trudge through a snake and gator infested swamp back to the river. At one point Scott Cummins asked if they were in Jurassic Park. To their credit they actually then paddled back upstream and found the checkpoints. Roy Tyrone and Les Burkhalter also missed the sharp left turn to the portage trail and ran over 1 mile to where they found the river again. Although they were penalized for missing the checkpoints, they actually cut off a big bend of the river. Brad Pennington in his K1



managed to find the portage successfully and came through this section with the lead which he held to the finish to take first overall in 2:22:05. He was surprised that he was in first, as he did not realize he passed the other teams at the portage. Steppe and Cummins recovered for second overall in 2:25:34 and Neville and Ameen took third in 2:26:07. One of the more impressive races was turned in by 65 year old Mike Lesnick who was down visiting from Montana. He was fourth overall in 2:29:30 and had never been on the river before. Also of note - Tim Curry won the RedFish Kayak foam seat donated byLuv2Paddle.com as the first non-K1 solo unlimited

Thanks to Mike Stinson and A storms to set out the race course Janet Nelson for running sweeper, man the portage section and Ma start and finish. The Houston Lo usual patrolling the course and th were very accommodating. The K let us use River Grove Park for the the portage. Also thanks to the Authority, Southwest Paddle S Association, Galveston Bay Found Nelson's and

finisher.



EFWF Canoe Challenge 2007 Marathon Race Results by Class						
Class	Class Place	Paddlers	Clock Time	Penalty / Bonus Time	Official Time	Overall Place
Marathon Solo Unl. Mens	1	Brad Pennington	2:22:05		2:22:05	1
Marathon Solo Unl. Mens	2	Mike Lesnik	2:29:30		2:29:30	4
Marathon Solo Unl. Mens	3	Tim Curry	2:54:17		2:54:17	7
Marathon Tandem Unl. Mens	1	Richard Steppe / Scott Cummins	2:25:34		2:25:34	2
Marathon Tandem Unl. Mens	2	Adam Neville / Richard Ameen	2:26:07		2:26:07	3
Marathon Mixed Unl.	1	Mike Rendon / Erin Magee	2:35:51		2:35:51	5
Marathon Mixed Unl.	2	Bobby Smart / Ann Best	2:38:30		2:38:30	6
Marathon Aluminum	1	Gary Gibson / Aaron Gibson	2:55:01		2:55:01	8
Marathon Aluminum	2	Roy Tyrone / Les Burkhalter	2:41:00	" +0:20:00	3:01:00	9
Marathon Aluminum	3	David Walker / Patricia Morin	3:48:19	" +0:20:00	4:08:19	10
Marathon Aluminum (Rec)	4	Ed Delao / Philip Rich	DNF		DNF	11
EFWF Canoe Challenge 2007 Adventure Race Results by Class						
Class	Class Place	Paddlers	Clock Time	Penalty / Bonus Time	Time	Overall Place
Adventure Mixed	1	Bobby Snyder / Celeste Adyanthaya	2:52:16		2:52:16	1
Adventure Mixed	2	Jim Willis / Michelle Willis	3:47:55		3:47:55	3
Adventure Mens Tandem	1	Cullen Franz / Jason Willis	3:04:59		3:04:59	2
Adventure Mens Tandem	2	Nate Mayo / Chris Schwartz	4:04:19		4:04:19	4
Adventure Mens Tandem	3	Chad Giardina / Alan Henson	4:09:10		4:09:10	6
Adventure Mens Tandem	4	Wil Williams / Steven Williams	4:27:40	" -0:02:00	4:25:40	8
Adventure Mens Tandem	5	Alex Smith / Jason George	4:47:50	" +0:40:00	5:27:50	10
Adventure Mens Solo	1	Robert Chan	4:06:29		4:06:29	5
Adventure Mens Solo	2	Gareth Burton	4:06:31	" +0:10:00	4:16:31	7
Adventure Mens Solo	3	Robert Rollen	4:01:54	" +0:30:00	4:31:54	9

PALMETTO HOTLINE

April 2007

The prelim is just around the corner so hold on to your hats. This year's looking like plenty of solos and mixed teams, and most other divisions wide open for the taking. See you in Cuero but a word to the wise: When trophy hunting, don't show all your cards too early. –The River Guru email palmettohotline@yahoo.com

And the Winner Is...

The RG is not talking about the Safari, only the winner of the bidding war. Cha-Ching, Cha-Ching! **Mike Riley** was at his best auctioning off **the Belizeans**: “Do I hear 3 hogs.. **Alfords** got 3 hogs.. Now **Wades** got 4 hogs, a chicken & 1 ol' goat.. SOLD!! It was too late when the **way-South-of-the-Border guys** found out that the old goat was in fact **Pete Wade**. **Wade** also had to convince the **Killer B's** that **West** would not be his usual egocentric, self-absorbed pontificator this year. To prove it, he promised that **West** would get his tonsils removed after the Friday night check-in this year. That left only one seat to fill and **Richard Peppy** told Wade that he'd speak like a Jamaican if he could catch a fast ride to Seadrift this year. **Alford** on the other hand, rented a Bugge 6-man because **John** told him, “there ain't a rock within a hundert miles of Prairie Lea 1½ bridge that can knock a hole in this boat and the rudder cannot be snapped in the bay, no matter what.” **Terry** was sold at that point. When his auction bid fell through, he got **Leo Pride** and **Red Green** back in the boat to fill the seats...talk about a step down. **Sammy P's** got a couple of long boats on loaner from **Spelce**, with **Jeff squared** (aka **Glockenweuste**) committed at this early date.

Word is that **Spelce** has “dibs” on the driver's seat and **Jerry C** will round out the lineup. Also known to be in a long boat, don't count out **The Cowboys**-on second thought, go ahead.

Class Races

C1 Class

Some have said **Karim Aziz** is not running C1 this year but witnesses report a sighting of him after the San Marcos Cleanup cursing, swearing and trying to convince the cleanup coordinator that his C1 was the biggest piece of junk ever put in the river, so RG says he's a definite “Go”.

Jerry R - hit singer of “I'm a Belizer” fame, is reportedly trying C1. Story is he figures nothing could be harder than hauling **John B** down the river, and then having to listen to him say how he “guided” the paddlers to victory.

Fired-up Simmons and **John Jackson** are definitely back in C-1 again. This could be shaping up as the first year ever with more than two C1 boats making it in time for the banquet.

Mixed Class

John Zeek and Little Sis: Seems last year Johnny was traumatized by his fellow paddlers' constant taunts of “You paddle like a girl!” so now he's going to paddle *with* a girl. It took a whole year but he's finally assembled his retort. Whatever happened to “Sez who?”?

Jay and Cindy RG doubts Madam President (and they said Texas wasn't ready for a

female president) has prepared sufficiently, for Jay's limp humor that is.

Cindy: "Paddle a little harder"

Jay: "That's what she said!"

Cindy: "I'm going to mix a drink"

Jay: "That's what she said!"

Cindy: "Look, we're losing speed here"

Jay: "That's what she said!"

Cindy: "I'm coming back there and beat you senseless!"

Jay: "Hey, that really is what she said!"

And now for the **Mixed and Kissing**-at least at the start...

Word on the street is that the **Safari board** has come up with a specials honors for teams that are dating or married. A lovely trophy, cash prize and framed certificate for the first such team to hit the seawall. Only catch is they have to collect their prizes at the Safari party and must still be dating/married and *speaking to each other at that time*. RG predicts no takers on this "Contest".

Bugge & his sweetie Megan

Megan: "Johnnie-kins, what do you wuv the most about widdle ol' me?"

Johnnie-kins: "I love it most when you get a decent catch, pull efficiently and execute a fast recovery". Megan to self: "I could've dated a golfer, or a bowler, but oooooooh no, I wanted something we could do together! %&*\$#@!"

The Derricks Overconfident is the only adjective I can use to describe these two. **Peter** told the RG, "I say there, Governor looks like a sticky wicket this June. We'll 'ave us a fortnight lead by the time we reach the Thames." Translation: We'll follow our usual pattern of smooth start, crushing all

takers and make the **Bugge-Mynar** feud look like tea and crumpets with **Hyacinth Bucket**.

Fred and Deborah They'll be fast out of the blocks alright but RG sees trouble when they hit the **Erin-Steppe** "marked territory" AKA **Lover's Lane**...formerly known as the Hochheim run.

SOLO CLASS

The RG was convinced a couple weeks ago that **T Yonley** was the odds-on favorite, but that was before his old teammates found out that his 180 mile training runs last year were just a cruel practical joke. Who would have thought that those homeschoolers could be so malicious? **Mike Rendon**'s got the only workable plan that the RGs heard that might beat **Mr. Y**...blind him with his Viscous headlights while still on Spring Lake. Haven't seen or heard from **H Donack** yet this year, but if he does enter solo, rumor has it the Dow slogan: "Better Living through Chemistry" will no longer be on his boat. **Devo**'s been training hard this spring, which means chasing deer on foot, hunting them down bare-handed and eating the raw flesh. His only goal now is to stay out of "America's Funniest Videos" while portaging Ottine. It really looks like **Cory**'s going to have his hands full trying to be the first solo winner to repeat in over 25 years. As for the **Erin-Sandy** matchup, it's already become a heated battle ... of catty insults: "Did you see her outfit? The color coordination is so last year." "Look at her; nobody with any fashion sense wears dark colors in the spring." The RG would hate to be near those two during the race; it could only get worse.

All Other Classes

Who cares?