

TEXAS CANOE RACING ASSOCIATION

August 2007

PROMOTERS AND ORGANIZERS OF THE SPORTS SINCE 1971

Sizzling Summer?

Maybe not in the terms of heat like we usually have! Between the Texas Water Safari, Yukon, the Gritty Fitty, and the Aluminum Nationals, Texas paddlers are making a strong statement to the rest of the paddling community. My congratulations to all.

It is election time. The ballot is enclosed in the newsletter and will also be sent electronically. Please choose the method that suits your convenience. You will be electing the ten members of the Board of Directors and alternates. Officers will be selected at the General membership Meeting held after the Junior Texas Water Safari award ceremony. All members attending the meeting may vote on the offices of President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer. I urge you to participate in the election process.

The State Aluminum race will be held on the well-known Hwy 969 Bridge to Fisherman's Park course on the Colorado River on August 18th. The 2008 Aluminum Nationals is on this very same course. Start practicing early! Come join us for a day of competitive fun in the sun. Please see the TCRA website for details.

Best Regards,
Cindy



Cindy Meurer
2007 TCRA President



TEXAS CANOE RACING ASSOCIATION

<http://www.txcanoeracing.org>

2007 Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairs

TCRA OFFICERS

President

Cindy Meurer
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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Ken Kieffer
perromasfuerte@yahoo.com

Membership

Richard Steppe

Constitution & Bylaws

Bob Spain

Conservation & Newsletter

Ginsie Stauss

USCA Delegates

Bob Spain
Richard Steppe

Race Directors

Unlimited	Jay Daniel
USCA	Grady Hicks
	Frank Gray
Aluminum	Bob Spain
ICF	Lee Deviney
Martindale	Cindy Meurer

Budget

Lee Deviney

Web

Cindy Meurer

Trophies & Insurance

Ginger Turner

Club T-Shirts

Annual Banquet



**The " River Guru"
Somewhere between
San Marcos and Seadrift**

PALMETTO HOTLINE AUGUST 2007

This is annual post-race, wrap-up issue of the Hotline, written in the days immediately following the Safari. Please excuse if it's more incoherent than usual..–Hotline Writer email

palmettohotline@yahoo.com

Everyone enjoy the water levels this year after the 2006 Slogfest? The records were falling like drunks on the loveboat. The RG saw that the teams who made it to Gonzales after 4:00am made their TCs work to give them water by making them wade through knee-deep muck.. Next time, pick up the pace a little bit and you'll catch the high water. You can tell it was easier than usual this year because there was only one racer who was sent to the hospital, this guy for having too many electrolytes in his bloodstream! I guess he took Zen Master **Tom Goynes'** advice during the invocation to the extreme and now they'll have to start putting warning labels on the Chinese plums at Herberts.

RANDOM THOUGHTS AND OBSERVATIONS

- The team that generated the most talk along the bank was of course the two-piece boat. That was one incredible patch job by **Sammy & company**. RG understands that the **crew of the Titanic** were in good spirits until, somewhere during the Victoria run **Sammy** hit the 1000 mark in repeating his favorite joke "If two halves make a whole what does one hole make?? Two halves if it's big enough!!!"

But that was better than his first joke

"Knock, knock"

"(groan) Who's there?"

"Jeff"

“Jeff who?”

“Jeff can’t drive worth a %^&*\$!”

But that was better than **Jeff’s** first joke on the subject.

Somebody: “Jeff, why did you go that way?”

Jeff: “ (giggle) Oh, I dunno (heh, heh, snicker) it was a “snap” decision! (ha, ha, HARR)

- The **Zeeks** and **Norm T.** were so impressed that they wanted to show off their patching skills too. While both teams got style points for snapping their boats on the same rock and for their repair work, the fact that they weren’t able to paddle it down to Seadrift cost them their shot at the Duct Tape Trophy.
- Be very careful what you wish for or you could end up like **Pete Binion**. **Wade** told the RG that after the safari and then the Yukon races, Pete now sits at the breakfast table, staring at his box of Cheerios half the day saying, “What challenges are left? What am I going to do with the rest of my life?” Wade’s already started the process of having him put into a home.
- RG admits to having a tear in his eye during the banquet. Yes, partially to have seafood during the banquet after years in the desert of fajitas, but sometimes at the eloquence of his fellow paddlers as they explained, excused or accused for their performance. To wit:

Pat Patrisky’s near refusal to accept the Tandem U trophy. RG sniffled a little as he expressed guilt in receiving an award when other tandems had in fact placed ahead of him. Until partner **Vance** ended the argument with the snappy rejoinder “Gimme!”.

The **Rask boys** with a similar note of self-deprecation as they hoisted the C-2 trophy, stating that another mixed C-2 had in fact, beaten them by about 20 hours. The coup-de-gras was that the actual first place boat was their brother and sister in law!

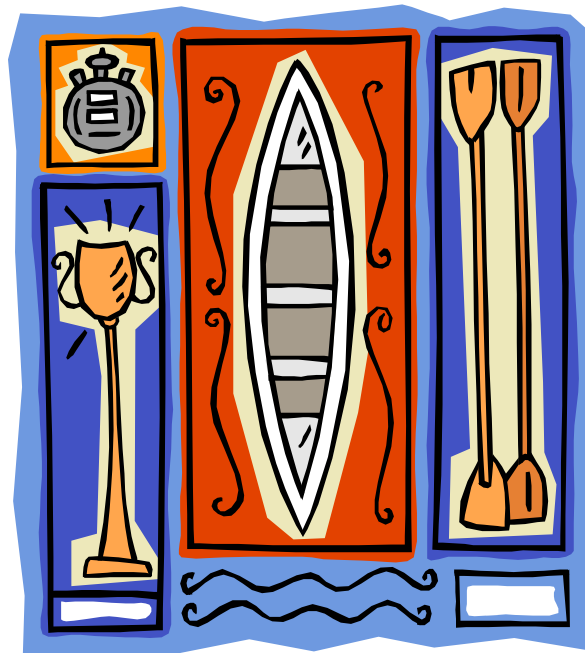
Zoltan, complaining that if he could have circled a few more hours he would have finished his age; not realizing that shooting your age is only good if you’re playing a round of golf.

- What is up with the strategy of the solo boats? The two out-of towners from **Belize** and **California** surf the wake of the big boats like they’re the guys in “Endless Summer” while the safari-savvy solo **Texan** does everything possible to avoid stern sucking. The RG would have to say that the finishing positions of the boats proves that the peleton-effect really does work.
- The faces of the racers coming into the checkpoint at Saltwater Dam were something

- The faces of the racers coming into the checkpoint at Saltwater Dam were something to behold. You could easily tell those teams with a good run through Alligator Lake from those who “explored” it like **Cabeza de Vaca**. The RG heard that **Terry Alford’s** and **Erin’s** teams only wished they had been captured by savages while wandering the lake. The **Mynar’s** proved it can be a great shortcut, but only in the right hands.
- What did **Armin and Amado** do to P.O. the **Mynarsty** and make them field a last second team? Is the RG the only one who would have liked seeing what a team without training could do in this race?

CONVERSATION THE RG WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OVERHEARD.

10. This conversation in Alligator Lake: **Jim**: “Hey, Mike we’ve been here hours and haven’t seen any alligators, How come they call this Alligator Lake?”
Mike: “ My understanding is Bermuda Triangle had been spoken for.”
11. This Conversation on the Guad: **Tim**: “Abbie, the moon is about to come up. It’s only me & you here on this romantic Hochheim, run...”
Abbie: “Timmy Poo, it’s a little cloudy, can you see any stars?”
Timmy Poo: “No, Abbie- kins”
Abbie-kins: “Well get paddlin’ again, or so help me, you will!”
12. Any boat down below Victoria: Bow: “Geeze, what is it; do I *smell* or something?”
 (After several hours of a long, uneasy silence, a quick topic changer)
 Stern: “Look, a turtle!”



**DICKINSON YOUNG & EARNEST
CANOE RACE
Saturday September 29, 2007
PAUL HOPKINS PARK**

**K
I
D
S

O
N
L
Y

!!!**

7:30 REGISTRATION BEGINS

8:00 Junior Boy's K-1
Junior Girl's C-1
Cadet C-2

8:30 Youth C-2

9:00 Cadet Girl's C-1

10:00 Junior Girl's C-2

10:30 Youth C-1
Cadet K-1

10:45 Junior Boy's C-2

11:30 Youth K-1
Cadet Boy's C-1

12:15 Cadet Girl's K-1

12:45 Junior Boy's C-1
Junior Girl's K-1

Cost: \$5.00/person
(covers all races entered)

**Races of various lengths.
C-1, C-2, K-1 races.
All young canoe & kayak
racers of all abilities
welcome!
Entry fee **\$5.00**
for all day.
Food, Door Prizes,
& Awards
for all racers**

Paul Hopkins Park,
Dickinson Texas

Take I 45 Hwy South
exit # 19,
Turn left on FM 517 &
travel east about ½ half
mile .
The park is on the right
(just a few miles south of
Houston).

**2007 Dickinson Young & Earnest Canoe Race
Registration Form:**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cost: \$5.00 per person (Covers all races entered)

Make Checks Payable to: Frank Gray

2007 TCRA STATE ALUMINUM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sponsored by the Texas Canoe Racing Association
&
Lower Colorado River Authority

DATE: August 18, 2007; Registration – 8:30 AM; Race start: 9:30 AM

RACE: Colorado River from FM 969 to Fisherman's Park in Bastrop

On August 18, 2007 the Texas Canoe Racing Association will again hold the state aluminum championships on the Colorado River near Bastrop. The 14-mile race will include Championship classes for men, men's masters, women and women's master and classes for juniors and novice racers.

Directions: the race will begin at the crossing of FM 969 and the Colorado River. To get to the race start, take Hwy 71 East from Austin toward Bastrop. Take a left on HWY 1209 about five miles before entering Bastrop (across from the Valero gas station). Follow 1209 for about 5 miles, arriving at the FM 969 junction. Head North (left) on FM 969 for less than a quarter of a mile. Cross the bridge that spans the Colorado river and turn back toward the river and drive down to the river. The race will begin at the bridge.

AWARDS: Trophies will be awarded in the championship classes to the first three places and medals to the first three places in the junior and novice classes.

The **COLORADO CUP** will be awarded to the first novice finishers that live in any one of the six counties in the Colorado River Basin: Travis, Bastrop, Fayette, Colorado, Wharton, or Matagorda.

BOAT SPECS. : Championship Classes: maximum length 17'4", minimum width 34.5 inches @gunwales; junior and novice: any recreational canoe(aluminum, plastic, wooden, royalex, etc.)

Entry Fee per paddler: \$12 for TCRA members and \$17 for non-TCRA member in Championship classes; juniors are \$6 and \$12 for novices.

-----application-----

Name _____ Age ____ Male _____ Female _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ ZIP _____

Partners Name _____ Total paid _____

Classes: **Men** ____ **Men Masters** ____ **Women** ____ **Women Masters** ____ **Junior** ____
Novice ____

Make checks payable to **TCRA**- for any additional information contact Bob Spain at 512-302-1005(night).

Synopsis of the USCA Nationals Women's Master's race:

Teddy and I were lined up and ready to go at the 5 minute warning. However, we had moved from the shade in front of the park to the other side of the river. The starting line was just downstream from a noisy bridge. We heard the 1minute warning and then a horn immediately thereafter? Other paddlers were going so we did too!

We were the first team to the first downstream buoy a mile away. We managed a clockwise buoy turn at the creek quite nicely and headed back upstream. The lead safety motor boat was throwing off fumes and very large waves that threatened to slam us against the trees and logs next to the bank. I was not only annoyed, but angry.

We passed the starting line and headed towards the eddy behind the gravel bar just past the bridge. We had completed 2 of the 11 miles. The next upstream section is 2.3 miles long. Once again, had to deal with boat wake while conducting a very technical tricky ferry through the fastest water on the course to get on the other side of the river.

We did a sweep around an old concrete railroad bridge column soon after our first ferry. Then negotiated an immediate ferry to the other side. This was the beginning of a huge left turn for about a mile that varied between deep water and shallow sand.

Next, a ferry to the right. Short corner with large sand bar. Ferry to left. Short corner. Ferry to the right. Short corner with large sand bar to the convergence of two rivers. I had 'words' with the safety officials whose boats were parked on the sand bar that were in our way of cutting the corner as close as we wanted. Nice counterclockwise buoy turn.

2.3 miles downstream later, we managed a nice clockwise buoy turn at the starting line to head back upstream over a minute ahead of the 2nd place women's team.

Once again, we conducted the hardest technical tricky ferry through the fastest water on the course to get on the other side of the river.

Sweep around an old concrete railroad bridge column. Immediate ferry to the other side. Huge left turn for about a mile that varied between deep water and shallow sand.

Ferry to the right. Short corner with large sand bar. Ferry to left. Short corner. Ferry to the right. Short corner with large sand bar to the convergence of two rivers. The safety officials whose boats were parked on the sand bar that were in our way of cutting the corner as close as we wanted had moved their boats. Nice counterclockwise turn.

First place men's team passed us pretty soon after we had negotiated the last upstream counterclockwise buoy turn. Tried to catch their draft but once again, the lead safety motor boat was throwing off large waves and we missed catching a ride. But, we were successful in slogging on in

and beat the 2nd place team by just under 2 minutes.

The current was so strong that even the 1st place men's team did not finish the 11 mile course in under 2 hours. I believe their time was 2:02. Our's was about 2:21. The times were not announced at the awards ceremony so I am awaiting the official posting.

My thanks to the Arkansas paddlers and volunteers that were very welcoming and organized. And special thanks to my partner Teddy for calming me down and powering us to a great National title.

Cindy

2008 TCRA Board - Election Ballot

This is your official ballot for the election of the Board of Directors of the Texas Canoe Racing Association.

Only this ballot or a copy of it will be accepted. Please vote for ten directors from the current membership.

You will find a list of the members in this issue of the newsletter. You should include at least one member of each gender among your selections. At least one member of each gender will be represented on the board.

Family memberships are entitled to two votes.

You must be a current 2007 TCRA member to vote and you must be a current member to take office in December if you are elected.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

The following is a list of members who have expressed an interest in serving on the board.

John Baltzell	Lee Deviney	Frank Gray	Grady Hicks	Ken Kieffer
Erin Magee	Jim Pye	Bob Spain	Richard Steppe	Tommy Yonley

Ballots must be received or postmarked no later than **September 4, 2007**.

Send your completed ballot to:

Lee Deviney
212 Ashworth Drive
Austin, TX 78746

OR, I will accept an email ballot as long as the ballot clearly identifies the voter/family voters (I won't take notice of who you vote for, only that you are entitled to vote). Please don't assume that I can associate email addresses with bona fide TCRA member names. Send e-ballots to txpaddler@aol.com. Subject line: "TCRA Election"

TCRA members-name only

*Yellow names are new members! Welcome!

**Tan names just received notice of need for renewal in order to vote in elections or to run for office! List is frequently updated by Lee D.

Family name	First name	Family names/other
<i>BOARD 2007</i>		
Meurer	Cindy	
Daniel	Jay	Kristin/Kasey
Magee	Erin	
Gray	Frank	Teddy
Hicks	Grady	Eileen/Travis
Spain	Bob	
Binion	Pete	Becky
Baltzell	John	
Drost	Mike	
Deviney	Lee	
Turner	Ginger	
Steppe <i>MEMBERSHIP</i> <i>2007</i>	Richard	
Acker	Jim	
Alford	Terry	& Family
Ameen	Richard	
Anderson	Michael	
Anglin	Tim	
Austin Outdoor Gear & Guidance	John Van Ness	
Bailey	Butch	& family
Beggs	Jeff	Denise
Best	Ann	
Binion	Wade	
Bishop	Flint	
Bowden	Phil	
Boyett	Grover Shawn	
Bradley	Kevin	& Shirley
Branch	Aidan	
Brown	Barry	
Bugge	John	
Burge	Michiel	
Churchman	Peter	
Comisky	Joseph	
Coffey	Larry	& Kay
Cohen	Kelly	
Cutter	Barbara	

Dambach	Kay	
Derrick	Peter	Kathy
Dignan	Thomas	
Doran	Jimmy	
Dornak	Henry	
Dunn	John	Helen
DuPont	John	Veronique
Elvig	Jack	
Elvig	Mark	
Emmshoff	Joy	
Esrkine	John	
Feaster	Max	
Fly	Trey	
Frey	Karl	
Garton	Trenton	
Gibson	Gary	Aaron
Griffin	Terri	
Hannafin	Anne	
Hansen	West	Lizette/Isabella
Harlan	Kent	
Harras	John Mark	
Helm	Tom	
Hoffart	John	
Jechow	Susie	
Johnson	Scott	Ana
Joseph	John	
Keeline	Don	
Kennedy	Gerald	
Kent	Travis	
Keiffer	Ken	
Kirkwood	Noel	
Kissling	R.D.	
Koslosky	Ed	Martha
Laskoski	Cory	
Locke	Jason	
Logan	Stephen	
Marshall	Kenneth	
Mattingly	Kevin	Pam
Mattingly	March	
Mayfield	Charles	Kathleen/Joe/Ben/Sam/Peter
Mecredy	Henry	
Medler	George	Suzanne
Mraz	Zoltan	
Myers	William	
Nelson	Roger	Janet/Holly/Stephen/Alex/Katrina/Amy/Emily

Family name	First name	Other name
Nilsestuen	Jon	Robin
Nolen	Hunter	
Nunnery	Jerry	
Ohlemacher	Leo	
Olsen	Inger	
Orr	Holly	
Parker	Marvin	Luke
Parker	Luke	
Parker	Charles	
<i>Pecan Park Retreat/Goynes Canoes</i>	<i>Tom & Paula Goynes</i>	
Pennington	Brad	
Petrisky	Pat	Diane/Patrick/Stephanie
Pankhurst	Richard	
Pomeroy	Cait	David
Poole	Lynn	Nancy
Pope	Tom	
Posnick	Allan	
Prochaska	Sammy	
Pye	Jim	
Qualls	John	
Rendon	Mike	
Robinson	Gary	& Mary
Schau	Tori	
	Jason Scott	
Sellers	Vance	
Sherrrod	Michael	
Smart	Bobby	Pam
Smith	John	David
Startz	Kennith	& Laura
Stauss	Ginsie	William Dunn
Stewart	Charles	
Stewart	Chuck	
Stinson	Mike	
Stockwell	John	

**UNDER 40 HOURS FINISHING TWS
(NO MATTER HOW YOU GOT THERE) CLUB**

Fastest Year	Class	Name	Fastest Time	Total appearances
2007	UNLIMITED	Anglin, Tim	36.78	1
1997	MIXED	Ayers, Steve	36.68	1
1997	ALUMINUM	Baumbach, Daniel	38.91	1
2000	UNLIMITED	Baumbach, Donald	34.38	5
2007	UNLIMITED	Binion, Pete	34.15	4
2007	UNLIMITED	Binion, Wade	34.15	4
2004	UNLIMITED	Blouin, Philippe	37.55	1
1992	UNLIMITED	Bowden, Phil	34.55	1
1992	ALUMINUM	Bradley, Kevin	<u>39.91</u>	1
2000	MIXED	<u>Bugge, Donna</u>	36.81	2
1997	UNLIMITED	Bugge, John	31.88	11
1992	UNLIMITED	Burns, Joe	31.03	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Carriere, Solomom	29.76	1
1976	UNLIMITED	Chatham, Robert "Bubba"	37.30	1
2007	UNLIMITED	COBB, ANDRES	36.78	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Cochran, Jerry	29.76	10
2000	UNLIMITED	Coffey, Larry	36.60	2
2004	UNLIMITED	Coppedge, Marc	37.55	1
1997	MIXED	<u>Cowan, Susan</u>	36.68	1
2006	UNLIMITED	CRUZ, AFRAIN	38.00	1
2007	UNLIMITED	CRUZ, ARMANDO	34.15	2
2005	UNLIMITED	Cruz, Daniel	36.93	2
2007	UNLIMITED	CRUZ, FELIX	36.78	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Daniel, James H. "Jay" "Horsefly"	37.03	2
2004	MIXED	<u>Derrick, Kathie</u>	<u>39.45</u>	1
2000	UNLIMITED	Derrick, Peter	38.98	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Deviney, Lee	37.97	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Drost, Mike	37.55	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Dunn, John	29.76	12
2007	UNLIMITED	DUPONT, JOHN	36.78	2
1992	STANDARD	Edgar, Mick	<u>39.35</u>	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Glock, Jeffrey "Jeff"	37.97	1
1979	UNLIMITED	Gore, Howard	36.66	2
1977	UNLIMITED	Goynes, Thomas "Tom"	38.71	2
2007	UNLIMITED	HANSEN, WEST	34.15	3
2007	UNLIMITED	Harras, John Mark	36.78	3
2004	UNLIMITED	Harvey, Jimmy	37.55	1
1997	MIXED	Hicks, Grady	36.68	2
1976	UNLIMITED	Hodges, Louis "Butch"	37.30	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Jackson, Jeremiah	37.03	1

2002	UNLIMITED	Jensen, Dave	37.83	1
2007	SOLO	JOHNSON, CARTER	36.05	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Kraus, Jack	31.88	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Landick, Steve	29.76	2
2007	MIXED	<u>LANE, DEBORAH</u>	37.75	1
1992	STANDARD	Lightfoot, Lynn	38.30	1
2000	UNLIMITED	Lollar, Thomas "Butch"	36.60	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Long, Richard "Rich"	31.88	1
2007	UNLIMITED	LOPEZ, ARMIN	34.15	4
2001	MIXED	<u>Magee, Erin</u>	38.58	2
2004	UNLIMITED	Maika, John	36.10	4
1979	C-2	McDonald, Scott	38.66	1
2004	UNLIMITED	<u>Meurer, Cindy</u>	37.55	1
1979	UNLIMITED	Miller, Richard	<u>39.75</u>	1
1992	ALUMINUM	Mraz, Zoltan	<u>39.91</u>	1
1992	UNLIMITED	Myers, Roger	34.55	2
1997	UNLIMITED	Mynar, Brian	29.76	15
1997	UNLIMITED	Mynar, Fred	29.76	15
1992	UNLIMITED	Mynar, Joe	31.03	9
2001	MIXED	Mynar, Kyle	36.05	2
1975	UNLIMITED	Nabors, John	38.08	2
1977	UNLIMITED	Oxsheer, Patrick R. "Pat"	38.71	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Petriski, Pat	36.10	3
2004	UNLIMITED	Prochaska, Sammy	33.13	3
1997	UNLIMITED	Prochaska, Tommy	39.33	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Pye, Jim	36.10	2
2007	MIXED	<u>RASK, ABIGAIL</u>	39.80	1
2004	C-2	Rask, Michael	38.35	3
1998	UNLIMITED	Rask, Timothy "Tim"	38.65	3
2005	UNLIMITED	Rhaburn, Jerry	36.93	3
1993	UNLIMITED	Roberts, Russ	37.36	1
1997	MIXED	Rojas, Rob	36.68	1
2005	UNLIMITED	Romero, Leroy	36.93	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Shea, Michael "Mike"	31.88	1
2004	UNLIMITED	Sherrod, Vance	36.10	4
1992	UNLIMITED	Shively, Mike	32.45	7
2005	UNLIMITED	Simmons, Mark	38.10	1
1992	UNLIMITED	Slaughter, Ted	37.91	1
1991	UNLIMITED	Spain, Robert "Bob"	37.30	1
2003	UNLIMITED	Spelce, Allen	36.25	2
2004	UNLIMITED	Stafford, Bill "Polecat"	37.03	2
2007	UNLIMITED	Steppe, Richard	34.15	5
2004	UNLIMITED	Stewart, Chuck	33.13	6
1986	UNLIMITED	Swift, Troy	38.60	1
1992	UNLIMITED	Thiede, Sam	37.91	1
2000	MIXED	<u>Turner, Ginger</u>	36.81	1
1979	C-2	Tyrone, Roy	38.66	1
1997	UNLIMITED	Verryp, Jeff	31.88	1

2001	MIXED	<u>Vincent, Fiona</u>	36.05	1
2001	MIXED	Vincent, Mike	36.05	3
1992	STANDARD	Wilson, Ron	38.3	1
1976	UNLIMITED	Wooley, Michael "Mike"	37.60	4
2004	UNLIMITED	Wueste, Jeff	37.55	1
2000	UNLIMITED	Wytaske, Rob	36.60	3
2004	UNLIMITED	Yonley, Jonathan	37.03	1
2007	SOLO	YONLEY, TOMMY	38.07	3
1997	MIXED	Youens, Robert	36.68	3
2004	UNLIMITED	Zeek, Jonathan	37.03	1

The **40 below** honorees totals 99 confirmed. Underlined names denotes female honoree. All caps names denotes a qualifying finish this year. Bold numbers denotes a Monday finish. A Sunday finish would need to be less than 39 hours. Well done Boys, &



Girls!

Aug-07	
Saturday	Sunday
4	5
11 USCA Nationals (PA)	12
18 State Aluminum Champ	19
25 Neches	26

Sep-07	
Saturday	Sunday
1 Labor Day Weekend <u>CR100</u>	2 Labor Day Weekend <u>CR100</u>
8 <u>Trinity River Challenge</u>	9
15 <u>Jr Tx</u>	16
22 TCRA State Championship	23
29 Young & Ernest	30

TCRA Race Calendar

Oct-07	
Saturday	Sunday
6 Come & Take It	7
13	14
20	21
27 <u>Martindal e Tri</u>	28

Nov-07	
Saturday	Sunday
3 Fall Cleanup Banquet	4
10 Dickinson Bayou	11
17	18
24 Thanksgivi ng Weekend	25 Thanksgivi ng Weekend

Dec-07	
Saturday	Sunday
1 December Solo	2

This is an actual letter sent to a man named Ryan DeVries regarding a pond on his property. It was sent by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Quality, State of Pennsylvania. This guy's response is hilarious, but read the State's letter before you get to the response letter.

SUBJECT: DEQ File No.97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20;
Lycoming County

Dear Mr. DeVries:

It has come to the attention of the Department of Environmental Quality that there has been recent unauthorized activity on the above referenced parcel of property. You have been certified as the legal landowner and/or contractor who did the following unauthorized activity:

Construction and maintenance of two wood debris dams across the outlet stream of Spring Pond.

A permit must be issued prior to the start of this type of activity. A review of the Department's files shows that no permits have been issued. Therefore, the Department has determined that this activity is in violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Pennsylvania Compiled Laws, annotated.

The Department has been informed that one or both of the dams partially failed during a recent rain event, causing debris and flooding at downstream locations. We find that dams of this nature are inherently hazardous and cannot be permitted. The Department therefore orders you to cease and desist all activities at this location, and to restore the stream to a free-flow condition by removing all wood and brush forming the dams from the stream channel. All restoration work shall be completed no later than January 31, 2006< /st1:date>.

Please notify this office when the restoration has been completed so that a follow-up site inspection may be scheduled by our staff. Failure to comply with this request or any further unauthorized activity on the site may result in this case being referred for elevated enforcement action..

We anticipate and would appreciate your full cooperation in this matter. Please feel free to contact me at this office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

David L. Price
District Representative and Water Management Division.

Here is the actual response sent back by Mr. DeVries:

Re: DEQ File No. 97-59-0023; T11N; R10W, Sec. 20; Lycoming County

Dear Mr. Price,

Your certified letter dated 12/17/02 has been handed to me to respond to. I am the legal landowner but not the Contractor at 2088 Dagget Lane, Trout Run, Pennsylvania.

A couple of beavers are in the (State unauthorized) process of constructing and maintaining two wood "debris" dams across the outlet stream of my Spring Pond. While I did not pay for, authorize, nor supervise their dam project, I think they would be highly offended that you call their skillful use of nature's building materials "debris."

I would like to challenge your department to attempt to emulate their dam project any time and/or any place you choose. I believe I can safely state there is no way you could ever match their dam skills, their dam resourcefulness, their dam ingenuity, their dam persistence, their dam determination and/or their dam work ethic.

As to your request, I do not think the beavers are aware that they must first fill out a dam permit prior to the start of this type of dam activity.

My first dam question to you is:

(1) Are you trying to discriminate against my Spring Pond Beavers, or

(2) do you require all beavers throughout this State to conform to said dam request?

If you are not discriminating against these particular beavers, through the Freedom of Information Act, I request

completed copies of all those other applicable beaver dam permits that have been issued.

(Perhaps we will see if there really is a dam violation of Part 301, Inland Lakes and Streams, of the Natural Resource and Environmental Protection Act, Act 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, being sections 324.30101 to 324.30113 of the Pennsylvania Compiled Laws, annotated.)

I have several concerns. My first concern is, aren't the beavers entitled to legal representation? The Spring Pond Beavers are financially destitute and are unable to pay for said representation -- so the State will have to provide them with a dam lawyer. The Department's dam concern that either one or both of the dams failed during a recent rain event, causing flooding, is proof that this is a natural occurrence, which the Department is required to protect. In other words, we should leave the Spring Pond Beavers alone rather than harassing them and calling them dam names.

If you want the stream "restored" to a dam free-flow condition please contact the beavers -- but if you are going to arrest them, they obviously did not pay any attention to your dam letter, they being unable to read English.

In my humble opinion, the Spring Pond Beavers have a right to build their unauthorized dams as long as the sky is blue, the grass is green and water flows downstream. They have more dam rights than I do to live and enjoy Spring Pond. If the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection lives up to its name, it should protect the natural resources (Beavers) and the environment (Beavers' Dams).

So, as far as the beavers and I are concerned, this dam case can be referred for more elevated enforcement action right now. Why wait until 1/31/2006? The Spring Pond Beavers may be under the dam ice then and there will be no way for you or your dam staff to contact/harass them.

In conclusion, I would like to bring to your attention to a real environmental quality, health, problem in the area. It is the bears! Bears are actually defecating in our woods. I definitely believe you should be persecuting the defecating bears and leave the beavers alone. If you are going to investigate the beaver dam, watch your step! The bears are not careful where they dump!

Being unable to comply with your dam request, and being unable to contact you on your dam answering machine, I

am sending this response to your dam office.
THANK YOU,
RYAN DEVRIES
& THE DAM BEAVERS

