

# North Texas River Runners



## Commodore's Column

By Diana McCown

### Commodore's Column Turkey Delight

Happy Thanksgiving! For those who can make it, our next meeting will be just a gobble away from Thanksgiving Day, which, of course, led me to ponder...

- 1) If you paddle on Thanksgiving, is it okay to be a 'turkey in a hole'?
- 2) If you paddle on Thanksgiving, is it acceptable to associate with (river) Pilgrims?

I say, "Yes!" on both counts. What better time than the Thanksgiving season to be a 'hole hog'? To 'gobble up' all the attention on a good surfing wave? To get your 'just desserts' on the river? (Okay, I'll stop.) Living in Texas, paddlers could likely have 80 degree weather for a Thanksgiving excursion. Since in Texas 80° translates to "winter", you probably aren't likely to run into many pilgrims on the river, which is why I think you should take some pilgrims of your own. What better time of year to invite a newcomer along (on a trip appropriate to his/her skill level), so she can gain a better appreciation for the turkey that you really are? We could show our thankfulness to those who helped us get started in the sport by extending the same offer ourselves.

I can't wait to see everyone at the meeting. For those who can't make the meeting, I look forward to watching you open your White Elephant Gift at the NTRR holiday party (see inside for details). Remember, we do not have a club meeting or a newsletter in the busy month of December, so take advantage of these opportunities to visit your paddling friends! Have a great holiday season! I hope Santa puts a new boat in your stocking (although I can't imagine HOW he'll get that down the chimney- sounds like a potential pinning hazard to me).

See you on the river,  
Diana

## November Program

Western River Permit info,  
Jack & Yolanda Deatherage,  
Sun & Ski mini product presentation  
November

### Inside this issue:

Holiday Party Invitation	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Monthly Programs for this year	4
Student Trip Reports from TCC	4-5
Meeting Map	6



# Treasurer's Report

October

## Income Statement

### Income:

Membership (2):	\$ 15.00
Raffle/ T Shirt Proceeds(Jan+Mar):	\$ 102.00
	<u>\$ 117.00</u>

### Expense:

Raffle Prizes	\$ 0.00
Office Supplies/ Newsletters	\$ 21.11
Post Office Annul fee	\$ 48.00
Bank Fees	\$ 2.50
	<u>\$ 71.61</u>

Net Income : \$ 45.39

## Bank Reconciliation

Prior Month Ending Balance:	\$ 2,298.17
Deposits	\$ 179.00
Checks	\$ (69.11)
Bank Fees (2mos)	\$ (2.50)
October Ending Balance	\$ 2,405.56
Nov. Pending Deposit	\$ 124.00
Pending Checks	\$ (30.58)
Available Cash Balance	<u>\$ 2,498.98</u>

## Balance Sheet

Assets:	\$2,585.98
Ending Bank Balance w Deposit	\$ 2,498.98
Petty Cash (Raffle Change):	\$ 7.00
Raffle Prizes (Estimated)	\$ 80.00

Liabilities: \$30.58

Equity: \$2,555.40

**November, Western River Permit info, Jack & Yolanda Deatherage, Sun & Ski mini product presentation.**

**January, Ben Kvanli Olympic Team Trial Qualifier.**

**February, Barbara Cutter Race preparation for Texas Water Safari, Mountain Sports mini product presentation.**

**March, Elizabeth Acosta Elm Fork Nature Preserve, Canoe Kayak launch, Steve Isenburg rivers visited around the world while training for and with the US Team, Mountain Sports mini product presentation.**

**April, Charles Smith Trip Planning.**

**May, Charles Snider Gates of The Artic National Preserve Noatak River. Possible book signing event.**

**June and subsequent months, need more ideas and programs!!!**

**Can you run all this in the newsletter and hopefully it will generate a few more program ideas for June and subsequent months.**

**Thanks**

**Dave**

Ryon Byrd

Canoeing, fall 2003

#### Trip Report

There is a distinctive sound that I have become accustomed to. I hear it at least twice a year. It comes in the early spring and the early fall. It is similar to the sound that a vacuum makes when you turn it on high. What could it be? It is the sound of my hobby sucking the finances right out of my pocket. Canoeing is the most exciting (and expensive) extreme sport. I hear my credit card scream every time I set foot in Mountain Sports. Not only is it the things that I need such as helmet and life jacket, it is even more so the unnecessary things that I want such as brand new river clothes or new and luxurious sleeping bags. I truly believe that if properly funded I would be that most fully outfitted person in the world. By properly funded I don't mean a few hundred dollars because that would barely get me in the door at any respectable outdoor shop. I'm talking about thousands and thousands of dollars so that I could have a different canoe for every possible river condition. I would need at least seven or eight paddles to match all the different colors of life jackets that I would need, as well as four or more top of the line ice chests that would keep all the food that I could not possibly live without over the weekend. I could certainly put to use a high quality RV that would keep me from having to endure the discomfort that a weekend of sleeping in a tent can bring, as well as a large cooling unit that would rescue me from the horrible punishment brought on by the Texas sun. To pull this RV and haul all of my new supplies I would without question need a new pickup. More than likely it would have to be a four door Ford F-350 though not wanting to be frivolous I would probably settle for the F-250. As much as would like to say that this would make me content I am quite positive that my type of gear junkie will never be satisfied. As far as I can see I will never be able to afford this kind of lifestyle as a poor student, so I will have to start considering different avenues to my riches. I've already tried the lottery thing but people keep buying up all of the good tickets. My newest plan is to find an incredibly rich and incredibly old sugar mama, but so far I haven't had any luck with that either. If anyone has any good ideas for me they can submit them to [www.makeastudentrich.com](http://www.makeastudentrich.com), which also serves a personals site for old ladies.

## TRIP REPORT

### Saline River

#### DeQueen, Arkansas

PHED 1150 to the verse of Psalm 23. Charles I write this knowing we are both Christians and with no disrespect to the Bible.

Charles is our leader, what else would I want.  
(The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.)

He makes me bow draw and stern pry through the class ones and twos, besides strainers he leads me, he assures me of my strokes.

(He makes me lies down in green pastures; he leads me besides still waters; he restores my soul.)

He leads me river right or river left for he knows best.

(He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.)

Even though I enter the Eddy too low, I will not worry; for you are on the bank with a throw bag and rescue boat to save me.

(Even though I walk through the valley of evil, I shall fear no evil; for you are at my side with your rod and staff to comfort me.)

You video my moves for the class to see, and positively critique my moves; my confidence grows.

(You prepare a table before me in the presences of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil: my cup overflows)

Only fun and excitement fill me after each trip, and I will develop my skills for years to come.

(Only goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for years to come.)

What a truly great experience this time. The first trip was to the Saline River. A more appropriate name should have been the Sulphur River, what a great smell. Needless to say I was a little slow to start that morning; I had to get used to the feel of the boat and that took getting a taste of the river. Confidence blown and cold we headed down for the first rapid. Empty was a good word to explain what I was feeling not just in my stomach but all over. Simple eddy turn behind a rock right, what about the hole in the middle of the rapid that was just waiting to suck you in? In theory and watching some one make the turn it always seems simple. This was the first of what I would like to call major rapid I encountered in a solo boat so I was intimidated to say the least. I took off and was actually doing pretty well until I decided to stop thinking. I lost my angle did not really have any forward momentum but I made it into the turn. How, I do not know but now that I had that behind me I was ready for more. As a new solo boater I quickly found out what over confidence can get you, WET! The rest of the day was spent with a little more caution and a lot more thinking. That night I spent reflecting on the current day and looking forward to the next day.

I started the second day with a little more caution which was not really the best way to start. That only leads to over thinking and mistakes. I decided quickly that if the day was going to go well then I needed to trust my instinct and mistakes were ok. That made the morning a little smoother but when your confidence is on the blink things tend to not go your way. Wet again is how I like to look at the situation as a I made some errors that somehow forced my boat over. A late morning of being cold and wet led to an afternoon of being warm and wet but the day got better. Things started clicking again and I was making turns and peel outs like I should be. I ended the day on a good note after a rough start.

The final day always fills me with sadness and regrets. Sadness because I do not want to leave and regrets that I did not do more to improve. I decided I would really open up today. If I got wet no big deal, this was going to be the only way I was going to really test myself. It worked, we had the freedom to open up and just work the river. I felt very much in tune with the boat and the river. The turns had become more instinctive. I ate lunch on a high note looking forward to the next trip.

As I look back and reflect on both trips I have realized some things. I am extremely hard on my self and set goals that may be difficult to reach based on my skill level. Is this a bad thing? Only if you let it get to you. I feel 10 times more confident in my skills as a paddler and know that higher expectations will only make me better.

By: Jonathan Ramsey



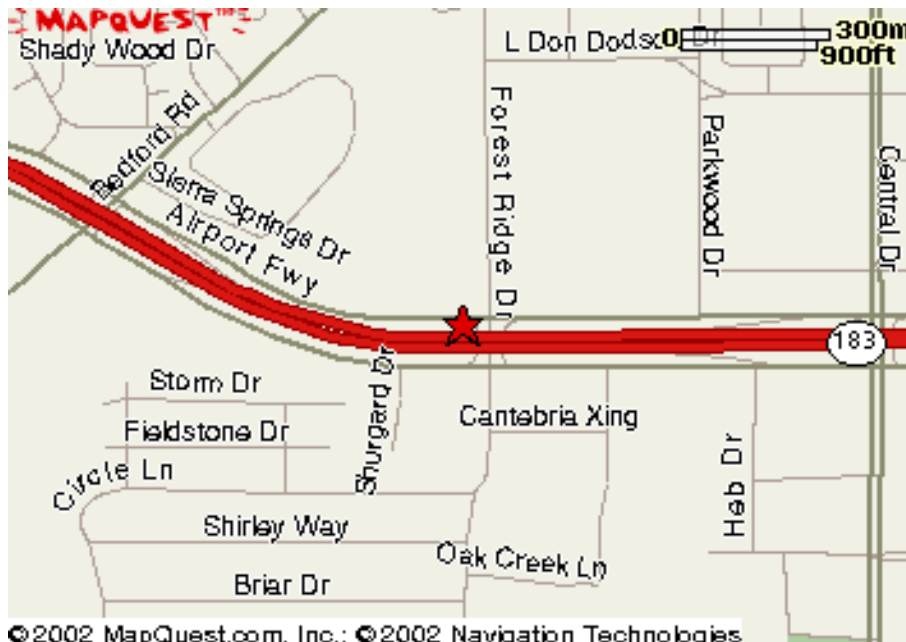
**The North Texas River Runners**  
**P.O. Box 1284**  
**Bedford, TX 76095-1284**



Home of the Prairie Dog Surfing Society  
"If we're not in the hole, we're sitting right beside it."



**If you would like to receive the Newsletter by email, please  
contact: Tyler Bennett @ GMChighrider01@aol.com**



Club meetings  
are held on the  
last Tuesday of  
the month at  
Spring Creek  
Barbeque from  
7:00—9:00 PM

**Spring Creek Barbecue**  
1509 Airport Freeway  
North-West Corner of Forest & 183  
817-545-0184