

# NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE



October 2022

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### **Questions? Want to contribute to the newsletter?**

Patty Geisinger at [pattyjoeg55@gmail.com](mailto:pattyjoeg55@gmail.com)

### **Membership:** New Membership Benefits!!!

Membership must be renewed unless you are a lifetime member! Please consider joining or renewing for 2022! Here is the link to the website. Fill out the form and submit at your chosen level and you will be redirected to PayPal. You will receive 2 vinyl TCKRA stickers, a 2022 TCKRA Magnet Fridge Calendar, a free parking pass for the new Fentress Amigos Beach and San Marcos River Retreat, the TCKRA Newsletter and the annual TCKRA banquet! Thank you for supporting Texas paddling sports!

[Join the TCKRA](#)

## **About the TCKRA**

The Texas Canoe and Kayak Racing Association is a statewide club for persons interested in paddle sport racing. The primary focus of the club is USCA and ICF class marathon racing, but other disciplines of paddle sports are promoted through <https://www.tckra.org/calendar>

In 1971 a group of canoe paddlers with an interest in canoe and kayak racing joined together and formed the TCRA (which later evolved into the TCKRA). During the past years the organization has grown to one of the largest canoe and kayak clubs in the state. The club is now recognized as the voice for canoe racing in Texas and its members have gained national recognition. Each year the TCKRA participates in approximately 20 canoe races and the TCKRA also organizes and sponsors the Texas State Canoe and Kayak Racing Championship Series. These championship level race events compliment the other annual racing events by recognizing the top competitors in a variety of paddle sport disciplines and classes.

Whether you are a novice paddler, intermediate or seasoned racer, TCKRA is a great way to meet new people, improve your skills and get out on the river. Our membership spans the state and varies widely by age, gender, skill-level and boat type; even our working careers and professions. We also share a great deal in common-the competitive spirit and an enduring love of the water.

Your annual dues help fund events and activities throughout the year and around the state. By joining the TCKRA you enjoy the following benefits:

- 8 championship races, (Unlimited, Aluminum, USCA and ICF, Surfski)
- The Martindale Triathlon
- Spring and fall river cleanups
- Newsletter
- Annual banquet
- Paddling clinics – free to TCKRA members
- 2 TCKRA decals for every member
- A 2022 TCKRA wall or fridge magnet calendar
- A 2022 TCKRA parking pass at Fentress Amigos Beach and San Marcos River Retreat
- A TCKRA membership will give you a voice in the racing community and allow us to continue to promote canoe and kayak racing in Texas.

Our members paddle kayaks and canoes crafted from wood, plastic, aluminum, carbon and Kevlar.

## 2022 TCKRA Officers and Board of Directors

### Officers

Nathan Tart (President)  
Shannon Issendorf (Vice President)  
Grady Hicks (Treasurer)  
Patty Geisinger (Secretary)

### Board Members

Sandy Yonley  
Kaitlin Mynar  
Clint Sutherland  
Jay Daniel  
Keifer Mauldin

Brian Jones

### Alternates

Morgan Kohut

## 2022 Race Calendar

*(Editor's Note: We will continue to update the 2022 Race Calendar as soon as information on the races becomes available.)*

<b>Oct. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Greens Bayou Regatta, Houston, Tx 9am	<a href="#">Info Here</a>
<b>Oct. 8<sup>th</sup></b>	Remember Goliad Paddling Race, Goliad Paddling Trail Riverdale Access	<a href="#">Info Here</a>
<b>Oct. 15<sup>th</sup></b>	TCKRA Open Water Championship, Galveston Tx, 1pm	<a href="#">Open Water Championships</a>
<b>Oct. 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Rotary Regatta, Friendswood, Tx, 9am	<a href="#">Rotary Regatta</a>
<b>Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Lost River 50, Wallisville, 9am	<a href="#">The Lost River 50</a>
<b>Oct. 30<sup>th</sup></b>	Martindale Triathlon, Martindale Tx, 9am	<a href="#">Register for the Martindale Triathlon</a>
<b>Nov. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Kanu Rennen, New Braunfels Tx, Noon	<a href="#">Kanu Rennen</a>
<b>Nov. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Dickinson Bayou Brawl, Dickinson Tx, 9am	<a href="#">Dickinson Bayou Brawl</a>
<b>Nov. 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Sabine River Challenge, Lindale Tx (Sabine River Boat Ramp at Hawkings), 9am	<a href="#">Info</a>
<b>Nov. 19<sup>th</sup></b>	Hill Country Challenge, Junction Tx 9am	<a href="#">Register by Nov. 13th Online Only</a>
<b>Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	December Solos, San Marcos Tx, 10am	<a href="#">December Solos</a>
<b>Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	TCKRA Member Banquet, San Marcos River Retreat, 6pm	<b><i>Invite coming</i></b>

## Message from the TCKRA President

*Nate Tart*

**It is time for the 2023 TCKRA Board of Directors elections.**

The TCKRA is run by a board of directors of 10 individuals and 2 alternates. Don't be scared, this is not suit and tie board meetings, just ask Chris Issendorf, he sometimes makes guest appearances in the background of Shannon's zoom! So if you haven't served on the board yet, I highly encourage you to submit your nomination by email, [natetart@gmail.com](mailto:natetart@gmail.com), with a short blurb on yourself. The board is responsible for ensuring the club continues to meet its mission of promoting paddle sport racing in Texas with a continued stewardship and awareness for our local waterways.

**Please have all Nominations submitted by Friday, Oct. 14th to Nate Tart at [natetart@gmail.com](mailto:natetart@gmail.com). Voting for the 2023 TCKRA Board of Directors will start on Monday, 10/17.**

## Paddler Profile

*In each edition of the newsletter, we will feature an interesting and accomplished member of the Texas Paddling Community. If you would like to nominate someone to be featured in the Paddler Profile, please email their name and contact info to [pattyjoeq@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pattyjoeq@sbcglobal.net)*

## Joe Mynar

**What is your name, where are you from originally and where do you live now?**

**Joe-** Joseph Lynn Mynar

**How and why did you get started in paddling?**

**Joe-** I grew up near Abbott, Texas. I now live in Brazos point, Texas.



**How did you get started racing?**

**Joe-** In the early 70's, I went on a canoe trip with a college group from UT Arlington. The movie "Deliverance" spurred a lot of interest in canoeing at that time. In the early 80's, I had been running rivers for several years and owned an aluminum canoe. My first race was the "Corsicana Spill". It didn't go so well! Later, my son Brian decided he wanted to give it a try. Then, my brother Fred started racing with us. And so, I guess you could say the rest is history!



**Where do you paddle most frequently?**

**Joe-** I mostly paddle the middle and upper sections of the Brazos River.

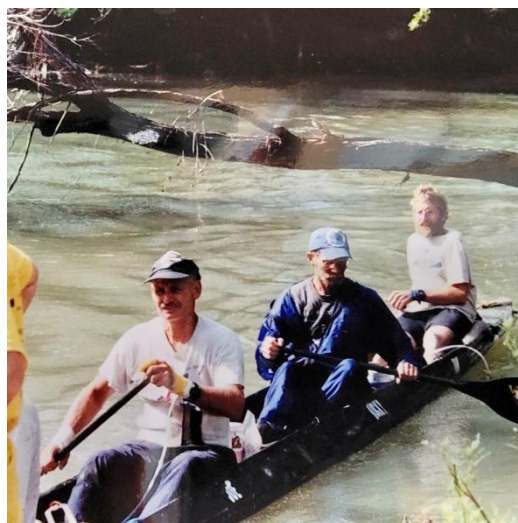
**What is your favorite race?**

**Joe-** For racing, The Texas Water Safari was/is my favorite. As a spectator and bank support, The Au Sable River Canoe Marathon is my favorite.



**What is the most interesting race you have done?**

**Joe-** The most interesting race I've done was the 2003 TWS on a 4-man crew with Tom Goynes, Bucky Chatham and John Dunn. It was Tom's and Bucky's last race.



**What kind of boats do you paddle? What kind of paddles do you use?**

**Joe-** Currently, I am paddling a Landick-2, and a Jensen C-1. I use a Zavarel single blade and an Epic double blade.



### **What is your training regimen?**

**Joe-** I paddle about 5 times a week. One long paddle of 4 hours+. 2 steady paddles of 1 to 1 1/2 hours. 2 interval workouts of 1 to 1 1/2 hours.



### **What type of cross training do you do?**

**Joe-** I used to do a lot of running when I was younger. Now, I use a rower and elliptical.

### **What kind of food or supplements do you use during training and racing?**

**Joe-** Vitalyte or Tailwind in the drink bottle. Spiz in the food bottle.



### **What are your significant accomplishments in paddling?**

**Joe-** My significant accomplishments were finishing the TWS with each of my sons; Brian at 15 years of age, Kyle at 12 years of age, and Logan at 11 years of age. 1992 TWS record time on a 4-man crew in 31:02.



### **What do you enjoy most about paddling?**

**Joe-** What I enjoy most about paddling is observing nature without leaving a footprint. And, the relationships we have with our family and close friends because of canoe racing.



### **Do you have any training or racing goals for the next few years?**

**Joe-** Nothing really specific on racing goals. I just hope to be able to enjoy the sport a few more years....whether it's racing, bank running or spectating.



### **Do you have any advice or words of wisdom for paddlers just starting out?**

**Joe-** Words of wisdom: Seek advice on paddling technique from a veteran. Attend paddling clinics. Try to avoid developing bad habits that might be hard to correct.





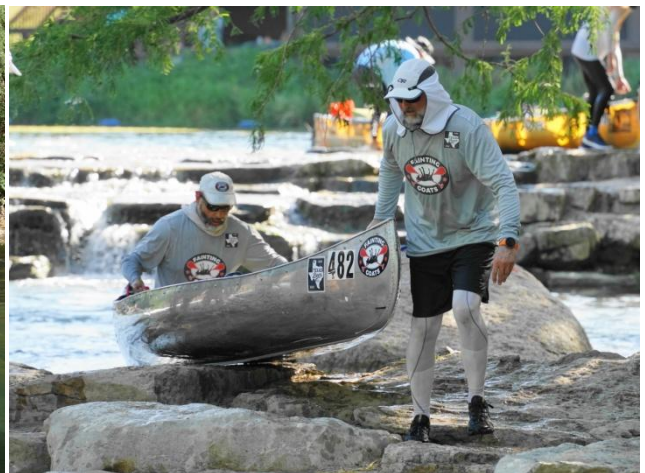
## Race Reports

### 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Water Safari

*Patty Geisinger*



Did you race the Safari this year? Were you a team captain or volunteer or family member? This was definitely the year of pain for everyone involved along the race route. We had a weather/water/wind issue which made this one of the more challenging Safari's in memory. Super high temps, lack of rain causing low water levels and a bay which caused most everyone (except for Holly & William Orr), enough fodder for nightmares for years to come! With a 51% finish rate – only 71 of 138 boats made the finish line this year, we saw so many veteran finishers succumb to health impacts from the heat or boat failure due to river conditions. Even for folks following along on the Spot tracker website and Facebook—it was a grueling marathon of a race. Some serious bragging rights were earned by folks who gritted out this 2022 Safari and then faced a bay with 25-35 mph winds and waves. We had a large novice class who had trained quite extensively and many had come out for TCKRA and MAC races. We all cheered for the Fainting Goats when they finally arrived in Seadrift! We hope many will be back to try again! A few months have passed and the pain and choice words have faded some. Someone get to waving that rain stick now for the 2023 60<sup>th</sup> Annual TWS because it is just only 8 months away!











*Photos: Ashley Landis, Sandy Yonley, Kate Tart, Patty Geisinger & Jill Mulder*

We are so fortunate to have many talented photographers who capture race moments during the year! These photos can be found on the TCKRA Facebook page and most will have links to the photographers separate google drive, flickr or website to download full resolution copies for your own personal use! Free!

As we all also do pictures for the TWS, here is the link for those albums as well!

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/texaswatersafari/albums>

Sandy Yonley: <http://www.SandyYonley.com>

Kate Tart Photography: <https://www.katetart.com/water-sports>

Patty Geisinger: [https://www.facebook.com/patty.geisinger/photos\\_albums](https://www.facebook.com/patty.geisinger/photos_albums)

Jill Mulder: [https://www.facebook.com/jill.a.mulder/photos\\_albums](https://www.facebook.com/jill.a.mulder/photos_albums)



## **TCKRA USCA State Championship & SUP Race**

*Shannon Issendorf*



In the midst of prep and planning for the Au Sable Canoe Marathon—we had a large number of folks come out for the fun of buoy turns on a warm day in July. We raced USCA C1 & C2 plus the kids had the most fun racing this year! Every single kid got to paddle if they wanted. We had a few race the full distance but all the kids race was the highlight of the day. Here are some pictures and the results. Come out next year and have fun with us in the State C1/C2 Championships.





## 2022 TCKRA C2/C1 State Championship

### Mens C1

Place	Paddler	Time
1	Jeff Glock	41:38
2	Wade Binion	43:08
3	Gaston Jones	43:28
4 (1st Seniors)	Jason Cade	43:46
5	Don Walls	43:47
6	Richard Zambrar	45:49
7	Josh Hulin	48:54
8	Bob Spain	

### Womens C1

1	Lydia Huelskamp	47:52
2 (1st Vetrans)	Teddy Gray	50:54
3(1st Seniors)	Gensie Stauss	1:01:23
4	Debbie Sackett	1:01:28
5	Tina Sackett	1:04:56

### Mens C2

Place	Bow	Stern	Lap 1	Final
1	Logan Mynar	Clay Wyatt	40:17	1:20:00
2	Chris Issendorf	Jeff Glock	40:19	1:20:08
3	Jason Cade	Dodd Yeagar	41:31	1:23:14
4	Gaston Jones	Wade Binion	41:33	1:24:00
5	Kyle Issendorf	William Orr	42:40	1:27:17
6 (1st Seniors)	Don Walls	Roy Tyrone	43:37	1:28:53
7	Grady Hicks	Mark Finstad	47:44	1:37:03
8	Clint Sutherland	Steve Conlon	48:00	1:37:10
9	Brian Jones	Breck	51:27	1:48:07

### Mixed C2

Place	Bow	Stern	Time
1	Logan Mynar	Lydia Huelskamp	39:34
2	Chris Issendorf	Holly Orr	39:38
3	Dodd Yeager	Shannon Issendorf	40:45
4	Don Wall	Teddy Grey	41:28
5	Sam Binion	Wade Binion	42:25

6	Gaston Jones	Courtney Martinez	43:21
7	Kyle Issendorf	Lilly Jones	44:15
8	Ginsie Stauss	William Orr	46:08
9	Katie Bee	Richard Z.	47:02
10	John Bugge	Jessica Davis	54:08

### Womens C2

1	Lydia Huelskamp	Courtney Martinez	43:34
2	Shannon Issendorf	Holly Orr	45:32
3(1st Seniors)	Teddy Grey	Andrea Cash	46:19
4	Sam Binion	Lilly Jones	50:15

### Kids Race

1	Matthew Orr	Welch	10:15
2	Brighton	Lydia	10:46
3	Kaylee	Lilly	13:06
4	Bridger	Berkley	15:15
5	Kaitlyn	Magdoly, Micholola	16:30



## MR 340

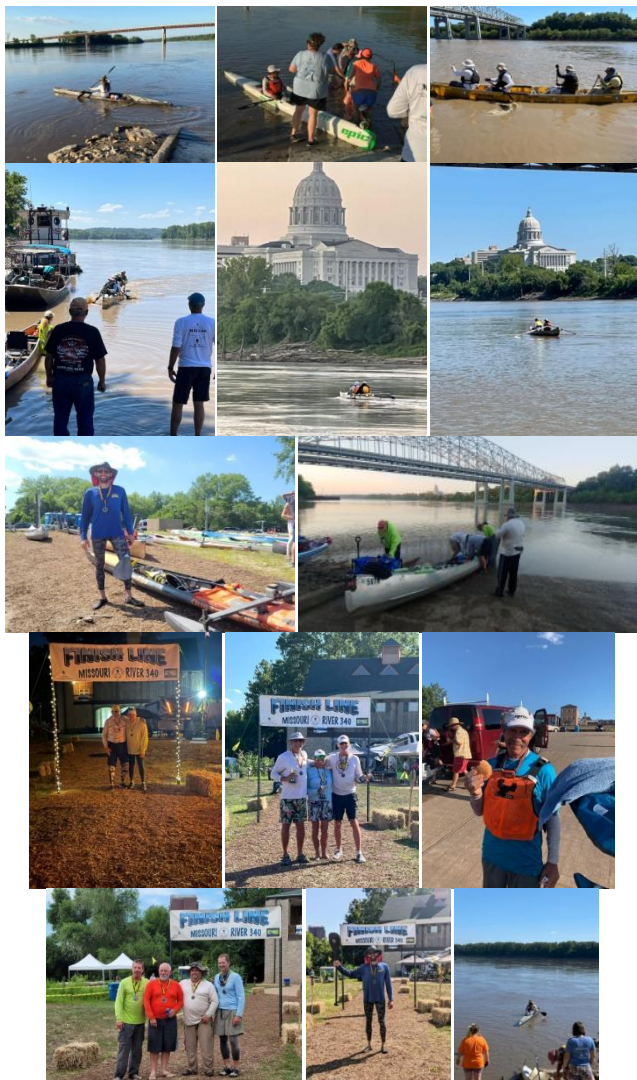
Patty Geisinger



Although I didn't get to go to the MR340 this year, a few of our Texas paddlers did get up there to compete! This might be a bucket list for you so remember that signup begins on New Year's Day for the 2023 MR 340! [MR 340 Info](#)

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 16 <sup>th</sup> : Ellen & David Falterman      | 1 <sup>st</sup> Tandem Rowing    |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> : Trey Golden & friends        | 4 <sup>th</sup> Team             |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> : Liam Price                   | 10 <sup>th</sup> Men's Solo      |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> : David Carlson                | 12 <sup>th</sup> Men's Solo      |
| 31 <sup>st</sup> : John Knippers                | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Men's solo SUP   |
| 57 <sup>th</sup> : Nathan Russell               | 24 <sup>th</sup> Men's Solo      |
| 61 <sup>st</sup> : Salli O'Donnell (Mike & Joe) | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team Pedal Drive |
| 108 <sup>th</sup> : Chuck Scheidt               | 48 <sup>th</sup> Men's Solo      |
| 122 <sup>nd</sup> : Mike Gordon & Mark Foss     | 22 <sup>nd</sup> Men's Tandem    |
| 137 <sup>th</sup> : Andrew & Kyle Kaldenbach    | 25 <sup>th</sup> Men's Tandem    |
| 180 <sup>th</sup> : Mike Dey and buddies        | 11 <sup>th</sup> Team            |





## **The 2022 Triple Crown**

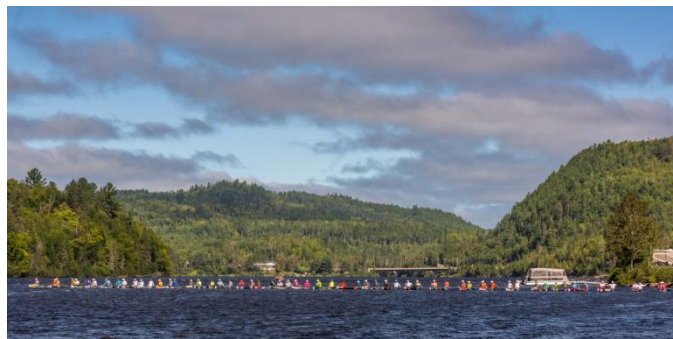
*Lydia Huelskamp*



One moment you're going out on your first casual paddle and the next you're crossing the finish line completing your first Triple Crown. The addiction happens fast. To those of you just finding the sport, welcome. You are now a part of one of the best communities. To those of you who've been around for a bit, thank you for being the amazing mentors and competitors that you are. But I digress, I'm not here to talk about all of that sappy stuff, I'm here to talk about the royalty of canoe racing: The Triple Crown.

For those of you who don't know, The Triple Crown of Canoe racing consists of three pro C2 races that take place from Memorial Day to Labor Day: The General Clinton Regatta, The

Au Sable River Canoe Marathon, and La Classique. Each race offers its own unique edge which keeps everything interesting because for each race you're training differently, strategizing differently, and utilizing skills differently.



The General Clinton is a 70 mile race in mid-state New York taking place on Memorial Day weekend. Imagine sprinting. Now imagine sprinting for 70 miles down a twisty river, through a lake or two, across portages, and into the right cuts (hopefully you've chosen correctly). This first stage of the Clinton, although the shortest, should not be taken lightly.

The Au Sable River Canoe marathon in Michigan happens on the last full weekend in July. From the sprints to determine your starting position to the paddler's introduction to the noise from the crowd so loud you can barely hear "hup"; this race will have you feeling like a superstar. But don't be fooled, the 9 PM start, 120 miles, and fast pace will have you feeling humbled soon enough. This race has the best fans (and the most Texan houses) than any of the others. 10 out of 10 recommend.



La Classique Internationale de Canots de La Mauricie is the last leg of the Triple Crown and takes place over Labor Day weekend. If the race name reads funny, that's because it's in French and you'll be racing in Quebec, Canada. This is a three day staged race, starting each day where you finished the day before. You'll paddle on the well known Canadian "big water", run a 1k portage plus a few more, and go down rapids so big your bowman will be getting some waves to the chest. I'm not kidding when I say this race is a BLAST. Don't let the logistics scare you off, the Canadians are some of the nicest folks and want to grow their race. They are willing to help in any way they can to get more of us up there!

For those of you who are thinking of taking on this beast (or just one of these races) here are some tips that I have (coming from a newer paddler):

1. Start training early, especially if you're new to C2.
2. Find a good partner that you'll get along with (shout out to Kaitlin) or at least can tolerate for said amount of time and exhaustion
3. Seek out your best resource: the paddlers around you. Texas has some of the best paddlers, don't be



afraid to ask for advice, practice, tips, training, etc. I couldn't have done it without them and most of them aren't that scary.

4. Train hard, but have fun.
5. JUST GO DO IT!!!

Anyways, I could go on and on, but I'll leave it at this, I'm proud to be part of only a handful of Texans (but hopefully growing) who have completed the Triple Crown. And super proud to have completed it alongside two of the best: Kaitlin Mynar and Cecili Bugge. Thanks to everyone who supported us this season, trained with us, wished us luck, gave us advice, etc. We felt it. Hopefully there will be even more of us crossing three finish lines in the years to come!!

### General Clinton Results

4 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Issendorf & Ryan Halstead	8:06:43
5 <sup>th</sup>	Logan Mynar & Kyle Stonehouse	8:07:16
7 <sup>th</sup>	Danny Medina & PO Quesnel	8:11:36
11 <sup>th</sup>	Kyle Mynar & Clay Wyatt	8:17:28
26 <sup>th</sup>	Kelly Truitt & Megan Roberts	8:54:05
27 <sup>th</sup>	Lydia Huelskamp & Eve Chamberland	8:56:05
39 <sup>th</sup>	Kaitlin Mynar & Cecili Bugge	9:05:16

### Au Sable Results

5 <sup>th</sup>	Logan Mynar & Kyle Mynar	15:01:17
6 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel Medina & Colin Hunter	15:07:46
7 <sup>th</sup>	Chris Issendorf & Brett Stockton	15:14:26
14 <sup>th</sup>	Nick Walton & Clay Wyatt	15:47:59
20 <sup>th</sup>	Gaston Jones & Wade Binion	16:11:57
25 <sup>th</sup>	Dodd Yeager & Shannon Issendorf	16:25:06
28 <sup>th</sup>	Kyle Issendorf & Andrew Condie	16:27:55
35 <sup>th</sup>	Lydia Huelskamp & Kaitlin Mynar	16:50:51
44 <sup>th</sup>	Cecili Bugge & Bruce Barton	17:14:40

### La Classique de canots Results

12 <sup>th</sup>	Cecili Bugge & Danny Medina	13:54:05
26 <sup>th</sup>	Kaitlin Mynar & Lydia Huelskamp	14:54:10



Photos: Caleb Casey, Katie Toth, Frederic Blais

## The Gorge Downwind Championship

*SandyYonley*

Over 500 boats raced in the 2022 Gorge Downwind Championships including a small contingent of Texans and Texafriends. If you enjoy surfski or OC paddling, put this race on your bucket list. It's a week long event held about an hour east of Portland, OR on the Columbia River every July. For more information, visit their website at <https://www.gorgedownwindchamps.com>



## Junior Texas Water Safari

The 2022 Junior TWS was held on a very low river this year! The 16 mile canoe race from San Marcos City Park to Staples Hwy 1977 bridge had a fairly good turn out and of a lot of aluminums! And a special entry which was dubbed the "Legends".





## TCKRA USCA Aluminum State Championship



A big kudos to all those folks who came out to race in the 2022 TCKRA Stock Aluminum Championship! Great job Kaitlin Mynar for organizing and to Sandy Goynes Yonley, Patty & Libby Geisinger, Jill Mulder, Lee Harle, Lenny Briones and Elizabeth Jamerlan for your help in bringing it all together on race day! Lee Harle with Bastrop River Company truly went the extra mile to, not only shuttle folks, but took his crew to clean up under the 969 Bridge and brought in a port-a-potty from Jackpot Portables for race day! We had some racers bring extra trash bags, so we all had a 5 minute clean up before the race!



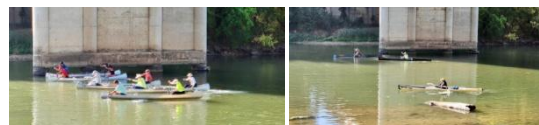
## USCA National Stock Aluminum Championship



*Saturday, Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> Start of the Men's, Women's and Juniors National Race*

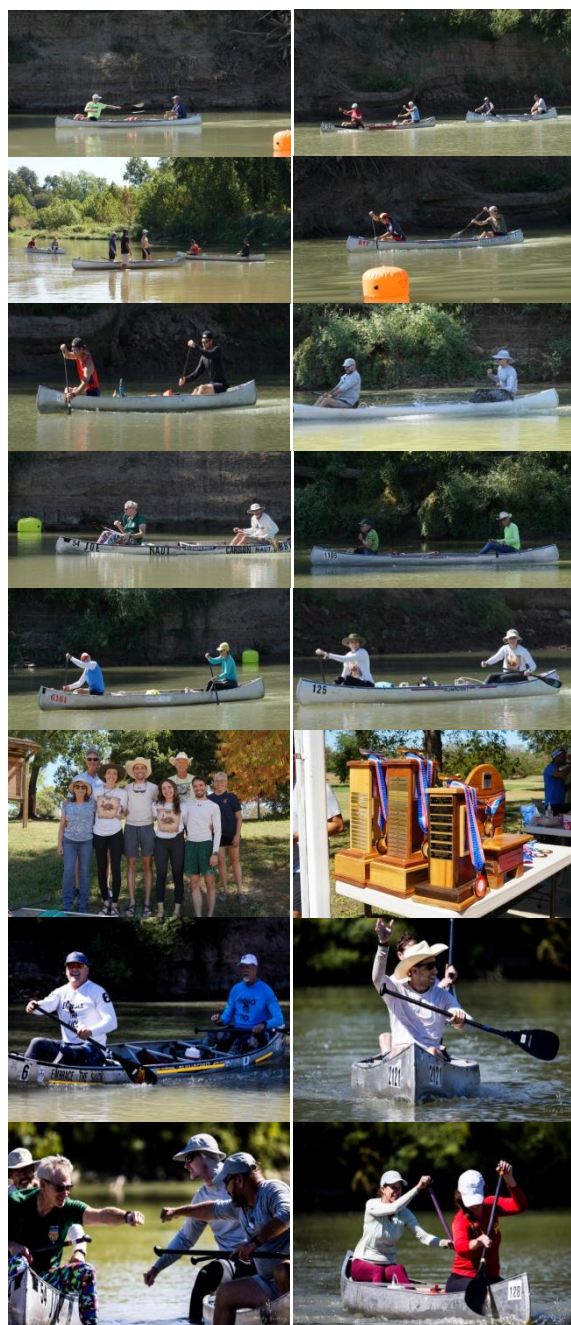
Despite falling water levels on the Colorado, we were still glad to have a good attendance for the Natl. USCA Stock Aluminum Championships! Two fun days of racing! Thank you to Bob & Joy for their organization and Nate Tart & TCKRA crew for all their hard work to

host this national event! We had a small but valiant group of Solo's who came out to play on Sunday as well! Thank you everyone for the support!



*Start of the Sunday Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mixed Natl Race & Solo's*

Everyone seemed to have a good time on the river! It was a bit more challenging and technical a course than in years back. We were very glad to host this national event close to home so that more Texans could attend!



## Upcoming Races

### Greens Bayou Regatta

Saturday Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> 2022 7:30am-1:30pm

Experience Houston's most secluded and natural paddling destination. The Greens Bayou Regatta is back after a three year Covid-induced hiatus! Join us for this fun 7.7 mile race from Brock Park to Thomas Bell Foster Park. Racers receive a t-shirt, plus lunch, beverages, awards and music at the end-of-race party. Funds raised support the mission of Greens Bayou Coalition to improve the quality of life in the Greens Bayou watershed, including the development of the Greens Bayou Paddle Trail. Register at the event website here: <https://www.greensbayou.org/>

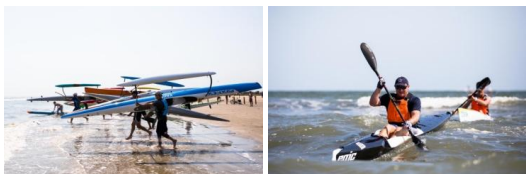


### TCKRA Open Water State Championship

Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 1pm,  
Stewart Beach, Galveston

[Open Water State Championship Information and Registration](#)

The typical course will be out and back short distance laps approx 1/4-1/2 mile out from the beach. 4-6 miles total. **Race fee: \$20:** You will also need to pay \$15/car to enter Stewart Beach. We will give an update on the racecourse Thursday, before the race based on the anticipated weather forecast. The race will have championship classes for Surfski, OC1, and SUP. First place medals will be awarded for winners in each overall category (in Surfski, OC1, and SUP): Men's, Men's Masters 50+, Women's, Women's Masters 50+



## Rotary Regatta

October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 10am



### 2022 Rotary Regatta - October 16, 2022 - 5th Annual

A joint effort of the Friendswood Rotary Club & League City Rotary Club, this race is for canoes, kayaks, and SUPs and is open to everyone from the novice enthusiast to the competitive paddler. The 7 mile race starts at 1776 Park in Friendswood and ends at Countryside Park in League City showcasing Clear Creek as an important watershed and recreational paddle trail.

<https://www.rotaryregatta.org/>

Please note that online registration \$35 will close on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (at 2:00pm). Day-of registration is \$50 per paddler.

## Lost River 50

October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 8 am



Beginning at 9am with a final cut off at midnight, the Lost River 50 offers over 50 miles around the lower Trinity River. Lost rivers, lost lakes, navigation, alligators, portages, and tough water. Brutal paddling, but nice scenery. A truly unique adventure course that is guaranteed to beat you down. An option for a 10 mile is available as well.



Pre-Race Videos: [See them Here!](#)

Lost River 50 Mile - \$65 Classes: Tandem Unlimited, Solo Unlimited, USCA C2, Aluminum

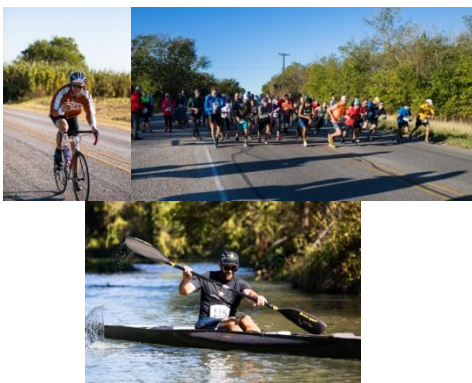
Lost River 10 Miler - \$40 Classes: Canoe, Kayak, and Sup  
[Registration](#) More Information: [More Info Here](#)



## 44th Annual Martindale Triathlon

October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022

The Martindale Tri is reputed to be the oldest triathlon in Texas. It is unique in that the swim leg has been replaced by a paddle leg (canoe, kayak, or SUP) down the beautiful San Marcos River.



The Tri kicks off with a 7-mile run through the quaint little town of Martindale, TX. Next up is the new bike course, which covers 22 miles of roads just outside of Martindale and Staples. Finally, a 5.5 mile paddle from Shady Grove Campground (aka Spencer Canoes) down to the 1977 bridge in Staples. Sign up solo, as a two-person team (one person runs, the other bikes, and both paddle together in a 2-person boat) or as a three-person relay (one person per leg).

[Register Here!](#)

### Race Classes:

**Solo** (Men's, Men's Masters 40+, Women's, Women's Masters 40+)

**2-Person Tandem** (Men's, Men's Masters 40+, Women's, Women's Masters 40+, Mixed, Mixed Masters 40+)

**3-Person Relay** (Men's, Women's, Mixed)

Start: Shady Grove Campground, 9515 FM 1979, Martindale, TX. Finish Line: Staples Bridge FM 1977.

No Race Day Registration. A Shuttle may be provided. Need to rent a canoe or kayak? Call Spencer Canoes 512-357-6113 and Camping is also available at Shady Grove Campground. Please call them at (512) 357-6113 to make a reservation

## Sabine River Challenge

Saturday, Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>

Please join us for the 2022 Sabine River Challenge. This is a 31-mile paddle race that starts south of Hawkins, Texas on State Park Hwy 14 and continues to the southside of Gladewater on US 271. This race will take you through some of the beautiful East Texas bottom land.

Cost is \$35 per paddler and Classes are as follows: Aluminum, Kayak, Parent / Child, SUP, Unlimited & USCA

Register Here: [Sabine River Challenge](#)  
Event Page: [More Information](#)

**Race Start:** The race will start at 9:00am at the concrete boat ramp on the north side of State Park Hwy 14. When arriving and setting up please do not block or hinder the access to the boat ramp as there could be other boaters on the river.

Same day registration will be from 7:45am-8:15am followed by a Pre-race meeting at 8:30am.

There are only 2 public access points on the course. One point is roughly 8 miles down on State Hwy 155 and the other at 9.5 miles River Road-356. If you will be receiving any support from your land crew, then they will utilize these two access points. There will be a mandatory time checkpoint at State Hwy 155 at 10:46am (or 1:46 from start of race). If you fail to make this checkpoint by this time, then you will be pulled from the race.

\* For this year's "CHALLENGE" there will be (5) rubber ducks placed along the race course. Each will have a number assigned to them. They will be placed in the water, hanging from a tree, tied to a logjam.....who knows! But.....They will not be on private property or more than a paddle length away from the water's edge. Only one can be collected per person/team. Bring them back to the finish and we will draw a number for a new ZRE Power Surge Medium Paddle. So.....Do you slow down and get the duck or do you keep your head down and race to win?



## Dickinson Bayou Brawl

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 9am  
Paul Hopkins Park, 1000 FM517, Dickinson, TX



**Kids Race Schedule** (\$10/kid with a \$20/family maximum...in other words, if you have 4 kids racing, you still pay \$20)

9:30 am Kids Registration opens

10:00 Jr. C2 Beginners

10:20 Girls C-2 Beginners

10:40 Boys C-2 Beginners

11:10 Fun Races

11:40 War Canoe

12:00 Kids Awards and Pot Luck

**Adult Race Schedule (\$20/adult)—6 miles long**

12:30pm Adult Race Registration Opens

1:30 pm Adult Race Start

3:00 pm Adult Awards



## Kanu Rennen

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 11am  
503 Peace Ave, New Braunfels, TX



Kanu Rennen is German for "Canoe Race." The race is held in New Braunfels, which was heavily settled by Germans, so we thought it an appropriate name! Come enjoy a series of short, fun canoe races held the afternoon at Cypress Bend Park on the Guadalupe River! Bring the entire family - all ages and paddling skills welcome! On-site registration & check in opens at 11 am.



## Junction Hill Country Challenge

Saturday, November 20<sup>th</sup> 2022 9am



Brought to you by the City of Junction and partnering with the South Llano State Park, the Hill Country Challenge is now OPEN for registration! This second annual dry triathlon will take place on Saturday, November 19th. Pull together a relay team (one person per leg), a tandem team (one runner, one cyclist, both paddle) or go it alone for this race. Using what the hill country has to offer, the trail run and road bike legs include challenging climbs and rolling hills while the paddle leg takes you on a trip down the lovely South Llano River, ending in town at Schreiner Park. With plenty of obstacles to keep you entertained, we'd love for you to join us here in Junction, Texas for a day of fun and friendly competition.

Registration fee is \$40 per solo competitor, \$110/relay team, or \$75/tandem team. (There will be an additional [racehub.com](http://racehub.com) processing fee). Classes are relay, tandem, and men's and women's solo, with cash prizes being given to the top solo competitors. All participants are responsible for providing their own boats. Helmets on bike and PFDs in the boat are absolutely required!

Minimum age of 15 years in the solo category and 13 years in the team events. Anyone 13 or 14 years of age must be accompanied by an individual 18 years or older.



Register Here: [Hill Country Challenge](https://www.hillcountrychallenge.com)



## **December Solo's**

Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10am  
San Marcos



### **December Solo's Information**

Goynes' Birthday Bash aka the San Marcos Solo. This race commemorates the birthday of TCKRA founder, Tom Goynes.

The 2022 December Solo will start at Rio Vista. Start times are staggered and based off of previous finish times. The course will be downstream to Staples FM 1977. Race distance will be approx 16 miles. Race registration begins at 8am Race briefing is at 9am Race begins in waves at 10am.

This race is open to everyone – novice to experienced, as long you're in a solo boat. Pre-running the course is recommended but not required.

## **TCKRA End of Year Banquet**

*December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 6 pm  
San Marcos River Retreat*

We are so glad to alert our members that we will once again be sending an email invite for our End of Year TCKRA Banquet, happening this year on December 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the evening following the December Solo race. So add it to your calendar and plan on joining for a night of free food, beverages and paddling fellowship!

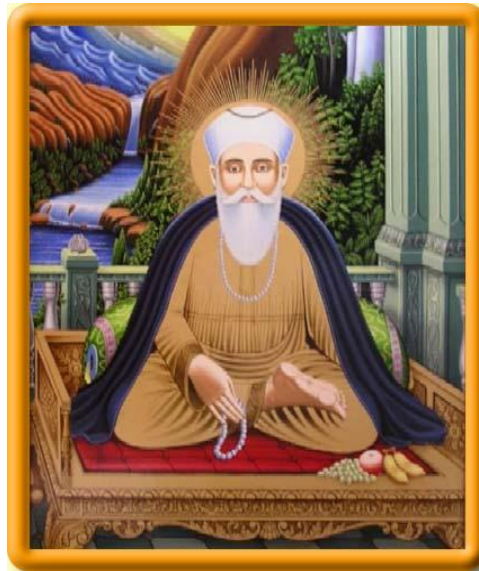
Last year we had a lovely gathering of TCKRA members and families for the return of the annual banquet. Hosted by the amazing Shannon Issendorf & Kaitlin Mynar and all the board, who contributed to a fun evening. Remember to Renew your membership (if not on auto-renew already) and join in with us to support paddlesport in the state of Texas!

<https://www.tckra.org/membership>



## Palmetto Hotline

### *River Guru*



Greetings Inferior Racers,

Well, y'all made it, you Spiz-swilling paddle people. Or, rather, about half of you did. The Big Dance (that's the Texas Water Safari for those of you who don't know how to two-step) is over, and I'm still chuckling about the results. A 100-paddle salute to those of you who braved conditions that shall from here on be known simply as the "trifecta" – hotter-than-a-Flamin-Hot-Cheetoh heat, slower-than-a-car-stuck-in-MoPac-traffic river flow, and a choppier-than-a-chopped-beef-sandwich Bay. Lucky for y'all, the log jams were a piece of cake this time out, otherwise I'm not sure anyone would have made it to the finish line. In all, 67 of the 138 teams of paddlers that started the Texas Water Safari this year couldn't hack the once-in-a-lifetime conditions. Lots of them washed up on the banks for a nap or two along the way, too, more than in most other years. Even more telling? Only four boats finished in less than 50 hours. Compare that to last year, when 20 boats finished in fewer than 50 hours, and 2019, when 31 finished in less than 50 hours.

Bravo to everyone who actually did make it to Seadrift and a hearty better luck next year to the smart ones who bowed out early. As for 2023, stay tuned. I'm already predicting a cold front and record flood conditions.

\*\*\*

It apparently takes a Yankee to win Safari. Michigan resident Weston Willoughby paddled in the winning boat, a six-man also filled by Clay Wyatt, Andrew Condie, Gaston Jones, Logan Mynar and Ian Rolls. They probably ate that northern delicacy known as pasties and drank Verner's ginger ale the entire way.

\*\*\*

In best southern gentleman fashion, second-place overall finishers Chris Issendorf, William Russell, Kyle Issendorf, Tim Rask, Tommy Yonley and Nick Walton decided to practice their bay walking skills instead of gunning for the win. (And I don't see an Olympics in their future. Michael Phelps they aren't.)



\*\*\*

Credit to the third-place boat, filled by Jason Cade, Shannon Issendorf, Virginia Parker and Dodd Yeager. Obviously the moms took good care of the boys this year.

\*\*\*

Come on, Texans. How the heck did you let that pretty boy Andrew McEwan finish fourth overall? For that, every one of you loses your Lone Star card and will be forced to relocate to the land of hippies and tree-huggers known as California.

\*\*\*

Tip o' the hat to Brian Jones and Nathan Tart, who decided which boat they were racing only a week before the race and had to pull off the river every time they changed from single to double blades. Somehow they wound up winning the tandem unlimited category.

\*\*\*

Kudos to first place novice paddlers Trent Lowry and Bren Rose, who reached the finish line in just under 73 hours. Not bad, but you should have raced back when Safari was hard...

\*\*\*

Top women's finishers Kim Kaiser and Katie Bee will probably get an action movie deal after them after their performance in the log jams. Kim hoisted the boat overhead and battled off the bad guys (while wearing a bandana, of course) as Katie counted out loud and spoke to the river fairies.

\*\*\*

The Fainting Goats, whose name was inspired by a fainting spell, a car crash and surgery and (despite what everyone says) not their musky odor, didn't faint a single time during the big race, and team members Craig Ahlhorn and Luis Briones and racked up an impressive third place novice finish. Not baaaaaaaaaad.

\*\*\*

We can't get over the finish by Naut Normal, the five-person boat made up of Jim and Myla Weber, Bobby Smart, Edoh Amiran and Luke Parker. Some folks think it's hard to paddle the bay. This team walked it instead, after ditching their paddles in an effort to lighten the load. (Talk about being up Shit Creek.) Bobby bravely managed to float their boat to the finish, but everyone else took a few minutes to enjoy the hip-deep water and discuss (we're going out on a limb here) the merits of chili with beans versus chili without beans before parading down the road to a rousing rendition of "Pomp and Circumstance" led by Patty "Live Stream" Geisinger. (Someone please get that woman a job with the Mainstream Media!)

\*\*\*

We had our money on Sam Binion and Vance Sherrod to win the Mixed Tandem Unlimited Class, but they opted for safety over winning their category with a little nap 12 miles from the finish. Somewhere along the way Heather Harrison and her son Cameron (aka Team Long Flowing Red Hair) were having too much fun pretending to be goldfish, and Holly and William Orr snuck across the bay. Did anyone check to make sure they weren't using a sail?

\*\*\*

Even I have to salute the aluminum boats that kicked butt this year. Maybe all you wanna-be racers in carbon fiber should pay more attention. It's not about what you're paddling, it's about how you paddle. No more Fiberglass racing canoes for Joe and Libby Geisinger. After they won the aluminum division, we hereby declare that those two can only paddle metal boats from now on. Anything else would be just too easy.

\*\*\*

Fists of Fury (James Green, Debbie Richardson, John Murphy, Pam LeBlanc and Steve Daniel) apparently used dental floss for a rudder cable. It snapped on Spring Lake, pushing them into Rio Vista in dead last place. Pam "I'd Rather Be Swimming" LeBlanc had to get off in Cheapside, but the rest of the team eventually made it to Seadrift, despite stops for flush toilets and a brief swamping.

\*\*\*

The award for most boat tumpings in a single bay crossing goes to David Kaiser??????? and his five-man crew. Someone should tell them it's easier when you keep the boat right side up.

\*\*\*

How about that toothy alligator at Dupont? The friendly reptile greeted nearly every boat that came in. Luckily nobody got eaten, although I hear the beast really liked solo racer Adam Sims.

\*\*\*

I don't know how many finishes John Bugge has racked up at this point, but he looked like a peg-legged sailor hobbling up and around Gonzo Dam with a bum knee this year. He and partner Joe Mann are hard core. Can someone tell him to please quit while he can still walk?

\*\*\*

Brenda Jones and Keifer Mauldin snatched a second place finish in the mixed tandem category after rigging their canoe with a boat-sized swim floatie to get across the bay. Might as well...

\*\*\*

Bill "Pops" Stafford ditched the Cowboys to race with his son Brandon this year, and wound up winning the C2 class. Bet it felt good to beat them this year, didn't it Pops?

\*\*\*

I hear that Susannah Hulin prayed her way across the bay, after enjoying some pretty crazy hallucinations toward the end of the river. I guess it worked, because she and Joshua never flipped their boat in the chop.

\*\*\*

Veteran paddler Erin Magee squeaked it in with exactly 1 minute to spare. If you check her track you'll see she made a victory lap in the bay before touching the finish buoy in 99 hours and 59 minutes.

\*\*\*



Joel “Baby Daddy” Truitt and Gwen “Screw You, Michigan, I’m Movin’ to Texas” Hills finally got hitched. Congrats on the wedding and the baby, y’all. And Joel, we’re glad you finally got out of that auto parts store you thought you saw somewhere around Dupont. Hopefully that means no flat tires on the baby buggy.

\*\*\*

Look for a new book about the Texas Water Safari coming out sometime in 2023 from ole Water Safari veteran Bob Spain. The River Guru taught him everything he knows.

*The river guru is a collective hallucination shared by the greater paddling community. The views and opinions of the Guru are not the views of the TWS or TCKRA...but we all think that sometimes, it can be pretty darn funny.*