

Canoe Trip

by Sarah Granbery and Mike Montgomery

Mike Montgomery led Ann Ward, Charles Beagio, Jeri Wilson, Peggy Schillinger, Bob Butler Yvonne Guy, Ray Besser, and Sarah Granbery off to New Braunfels on a wild river adventure the weekend of May 16, 17, and 18th. The group of soon to be "river rats" left Houston Friday night and went west in search of white water thrills with one stop for dinner at Schobels' in Columbus. After the sun screened adventurers loaded up for a short trip north to Spencer's Canoe rental on the San Marcus River.

The river trip started out with a dunking at the first set of rapids for Bob Butler, Ann Ward, and Yvonne Guy. As we approached the rapids we could see a troop of Boy Scouts trying to untangle a kayak and canoe. The brave threesome attempted the rapids but it got the best of them and they all took a swim. It happened again before they had time to dry out from the first dunking. After the second dunking Ann Ward, still tender from recent surgery, decided she wasn't cut out to be a "river rat" and took a land tour back to the canoe rental store with Bob Butler gallantly accompanying her.

Yvonne Guy and Sara Granbery joined together to continue down the river. They too had difficulty with a low tree and fast moving water. Canoeist Yvonne Guy seemed to be the common denominator of which canoe got a bonus swim and those that stayed dry.

A little further down the river the remaining seven stopped for a picnic lunch of cheese, crackers, fruits, and of course assorted beverages. There were several sightings of turtles sunning and even a few snakes but none would come close to this group!

After lunch Jeri Wilson and Sarah Granbery canoed together and seemed to have a magnetism for gnarled trees. One set of rapids sent them under a forked tree causing Sarah to have to lay down on her back and push them off from under the tree. It would have been a great clip of America's Funniest Home Videos. Jeri was laughing so hard she couldn't paddle for a few minutes. This difficult maneuver was witnessed by a whole troop of Boy Scouts having a picnic on the riverbank.

The remainder of the trip was fairly peaceful and we "took out" in time to catch the last quarter of the Rockets game, which of course they won.

After a quick clean-up everyone took off for Gruene, Texas where we had a relaxing dinner, over looking the Guadalupe river, at the Grist Mill Restaurant, after which we wandered around in the antique and T-shirt shops and then headed over to Gruene Hall for some "Two Stepping". Jeri Wilson's lessons at SSQQ really paid off and she could dance with anyone.

On Sunday morning Yvonne Guy got out of bed and was doing some stretching exercises and tells her roommate Sarah Granbery that she feels like she got run over by a canoe, to which Sarah responded "more than once"!

Sunday morning the group left New Braunfels for a one hour tour of Natural Bridge Caverns and then Mike, Sarah, Yvonne, and Charles headed to San Antonio for lunch at Mi Tierra's in Market Square while Bob, Ann, Jeri, and Ray returned to Houston.

A good time was had by all!

