

Spring-Summer, 2011
GEORGIA PRIDE
 The Official Publication of
 Wildlife Action of Georgia

Visit us at: www.wildlifeactiongeorgia.com



In this picture are the kids that participated the week of June 26th. Here they are in Kokepeli Korner at Fork Retch, SC learning the camp songs. Read more about it in the Pride.

What was it?



We attempted to have a game of guessing what this device was. The proceeds were to go to the maintenance projects for the Georgia Resource Education Center. The prize for the correct answer which was a "Critter Viewer or Bug Viewer" It's actually really cool. You capture your critter in a small jar and place the viewer on the jar then invert. You can see magnified all the features of the critter both above and below.

I'd like to be able to announce the winner of the contest but unfortunately not one person attempted a guess.

Read with pride and Recycle...

This newsletter is printed quarterly and is dedicated to enlightening the community to the goals and achievements of WLA members. We invite you to take this opportunity to learn what you can do and have done for the good earth. When finished with the Georgia Pride, pass it on to a friend, your newspaper, or place it in an office.



Jousting at WLA?

Check out the article and photos about Camp Camellia Rose hosted at the GREC this summer.

**Wildlife Action
 Of Georgia
 Fishing Clinic &
 Fishing
 Rodeo**

Date: 10/23/11

Registration: 08:00 - 09:00

Fishing Clinic begins at 09:30

Lunch Break 11:00 - 12:00

Fishing Rodeo 12:30 - 4:00

Hamburgers / Hotdogs for lunch

Prizes awarded for:

5 biggest fish caught

Most fish caught

Check out the website for more information!

Wildlife Action of Georgia

National Wildlife Action, Inc.

Chartered April 26, 1977
Mullins, SC

President– Bunny Beeson
CEO – Frank Oliver

Georgia State Chapter

Chartered January 1987
2075 Kellogg Creek Road
Acworth, Georgia

Georgia State Officers

President – Joe Fraser

jfraser@wildlifeactiongeorgia.com

(770) 924-7464

Vice President – Kimbert McClure

(404) 277-9036

Secretary – Michelle Fraser

Treasurer – Kellie Morgan

Georgia State Board of Directors

Beverly Hutchinson

Kurt Heim

Ledlie Conger III

Ed Grier

Tim Pierce

Alan Ashley

April Wilson

Dale Brott Jr.

Mandy Endicott

Senior Vice Presidents

Education – Kurt Heim

Environment – Ledlie Conger

Fishing – William Ashley

Hunting – Tim Pierce

Wildlife Action, Inc., A private non-profit 501(c)(3) tax exempt volunteer organization with a 509(a)(2) public charity status, is dedicated to the appreciation and enjoyment of our wildlife heritage and to the educating the public in the value of protection, restoration, enhancement, and wise use of our natural resources.

*God Bless America
and those who serve her!*



Our Veterans Are Remembered.

Memberships

1 yr individual - \$30.00

1 yr family - \$40.00

Life Individual

Billed 1 time - \$400.00

Billed bi-monthly 1yr - \$66.66

Billed bi-monthly 2 yrs - \$33.33

Life Family - \$600.00

Billed 1 time - \$600.00

Billed bi-monthly 1yr - \$100.00

Billed bi-monthly 2 yrs - \$50.00

Georgia Chapter Life Members

George Garrett - Canton, GA

Norman P Higgins - Valdosta, GA

Don Howard - Canton, GA

Michael Marable - Watkinsville, GA

New! Kimbert McClure – Acworth, GA

Sondra McDaniel - Lawrenceville, GA

Gerald L Pickell - Stockbridge, GA

James H Rogers - Newnan, GA

Steve Scruggs - Watkinsville, GA

Charles E Williams - Lithonia, GA

Georgia Chapter Family Life Members

Jeff & June Barrow - Pensacola, FL

William & Yvonne Bennett - Smyrna, GA

Jerry & Linda Britt - Norcross, GA

Jimmy & Starr Camp - Marietta, GA

Ledlie W Conger III - Acworth, GA

Jim & Carrel Donnel - Clyn, GA

Joe & Michelle Fraser – Acworth, GA

Don & Margie Gossett - Thomaston, GA

Ken & Linda Grubbs - Fort Worth, TX

Glenn & Shelly Hall - Norcross, GA

William V Headley - Newnan, GA

Ron & Linda Henderson - Marietta, GA

Alan & Sandy Marion - Piedmont, AL

Kimbert McClure – Acworth, GA

Mike & Sandi McDaniel - Charlotte, ME

Tim & Carol Shelmutt - Athens, GA

Mark Williams - Duluth, GA

We now accept PayPal on our website for donations, dues, and facilities rentals. Check out the links on the website.



“WLA Worth Howling About”

Important Dates and Information

State Chapter Board Meetings

Sunday, October 23rd @ 4:00 p.m.

All members of the board are expected to attend the board meetings. The general chapter membership is also invited to attend and be heard at the board meetings.

Pioneer Fishing

Clinic and Rodeo

Sunday, October 23rd @ 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

See more information under fishing section of the Pride.

Remember the name of our organization is called **Wildlife Action**, not **Wildlife Sit On My Backside and Hope That Others Will Take Care Of Things for Us**.

Members Activity & Pioneer Day

We need **you** the members' involvement for activity days and pioneer days. We will be setting the proposed dates up at the spring board meeting. We cannot do this without you. You will be receiving in the mail a survey requesting your input on the types of activities that you'd be interested in participating in. Please take the time to read, answer, and get involved.

*Tell me - I Forget
Show me - I Remember
Involve me - I Understand*

Gate Code Change

The GATE CODE will change November 1st. To request the new gate code, please email Joe Fraser at jfraser@wildlifeactiongeorgia.com or phone the primary number.

Please understand that we will be confirming your membership status, and contact information during this process. Thank you for your patience.

The freedom to use the property comes with the responsibility to protect it. Remember once you are entrusted with the gate code do not share the gate code with anyone not a member of WLA.

Reserve Your Campsite

Please remember to call ahead if you intend to camp at the GREC over the weekend. Just call the main telephone number 770-924-7464 to make your camping reservations. We have quite a few booked already. Check out the calendar on the website to see what is already reserved. If you have a question please feel free to call the number.



Community Service

Special thanks to those who spend their Saturday's helping to maintain and preserve the Georgia Resource Education Center.

If you are an active member of WLA and would like to help with guiding our Community Service Volunteers please contact the chapter president.

"That which we persist in doing becomes easier, not that the task itself has become easier, but that our ability to perform it has improved."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Letter from the Chapter President

Dear Members and Friends,

This has been a very active spring and summer. We have had more families on site than previous years. Is this because of the economy, or a return to the values that hold our families together? I really don't know for certain, but I do know this. All kids benefit from camping or spending any sort of unplugged time with their parents. Our membership is up 41% in 2011. It is my sincere hope that you took my last letter to heart and have decided to become a more active member.

Our October board meeting is on Sunday, October 23rd, immediately following our fall fishing rodeo.

Sincerely,
Joe Fraser
President
Georgia State Chapter

GEORGIA STATE CHAPTER NEWS

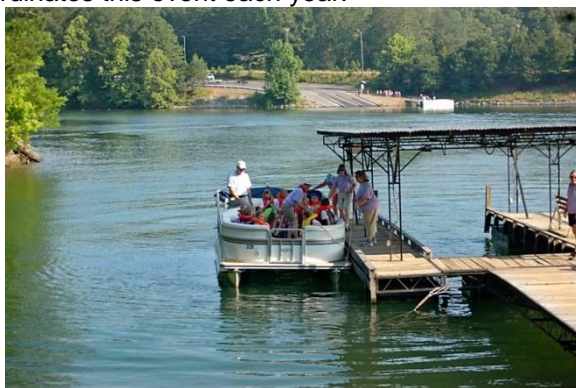
Elections

As you know our membership is growing dramatically. We are finally getting to be big enough that we need you to get involved.

In January we will be forming a nominating committee for our next year's elections. We'd like YOU on that nominating committee.

Camp Camellia Rose

Each year Wildlife Action of Georgia's Resource Education Center hosts the Girl Scouts Camp Camellia Rose. Our very own member Katrina Caulder coordinates this event each year.



They arrive by "ferry" each day courtesy of the Corps of Engineer's Payne Boat Ramp on the other side of Kellogg Creek.



They learn patriotism



Canoeing skills

...and in line with this year's theme of Medieval Madness!

The girls were treated to an exhibition of medieval games such as jousting (pictured on the front page) and falconry.



All the young ladies and young men had a great time this year at Camp Camellia Rose.

what I Learned at Camp

Board member – Ed Grier

A great man once wrote that "passion is the deep controlling desire that makes the leader's commitment to the guiding purpose a love affair with destiny." Believe it or not, my passion and its love affair with destiny met on the present property of Wild Life Action of Georgia (WLA of GA). The property here on lake Allatoona was where I spent each summer from the age of 8 to 19. At that time, it was called Camp Kiwanis, and was the week long summer camp of the Boys Clubs of Metro Atlanta.

I will never forget the sticky, star field night, on what is now the entrance field, when the Camp's Program Director asked who was 13 years old? Myself and three other paying campers, stood up in the midst of a crowd of 100 inner city kids from Atlanta. He then commented that we shouldn't be here, we were too old, but they- the camp had something special for us. I had been to Camp Kiwanis many times but this time I would be free help for the 18 staff members consisting of counselors, cooks, activity teachers, lifeguards and C.I.T's (Counselor -In- Training). My new role for the week was to do whatever these strangers asked in hopes that one day I would be admitted to the bottom of their food chain as a CIT trainee.

What was so special about working at Camp Kiwanis? Well, first of all when you find your passion, it is not WORK. Imagine for 7, 8 week summers of your life, waking up on Monday morning, grabbing your bag of

clothes for the week and rushing to get to the Boys Club location that would be sending 100 kids to camp. Your job started by breaking up fights on the Yellow school buses leaving the inner city of Atlanta headed to points far north in Acworth, Ga. only some 30 miles away. That's right 5 fun field days of 3 square meals a day plus a snack at night. Being Lord Protector to a group of 10 kids aged 11, who wanted only to swim, canoe, shot BB guns, learn archery, go creek-walking, fish, hold bugs, kill bugs, and take frogs back to Atlanta in their suitcases. Because I loved the out-of-doors and had a passion for learning and teaching at a young age, I honestly would have paid to go back every week every summer.

I am now forty-something, a husband to my wife Rhonda and father of two girls; Nia (11) and Erin (8). I am also happy and proud to be a Board Member of WLA of GA and a self-proclaimed writer and contributor to the PRIDE. After going from being a CIT trainee, to a CIT, to a CIT again, to Lifeguard, to a Counselor, and then to Head Counselor at Camp Kiwanis, with responsibility of 100 kids, 7 CIT's and 10 Counselors, it was passion for the people, the place and its purpose that kept me coming back.

So join me on this nostalgic journey as I try and tell you of the life lessons I learned on WLA of GA's property at Lake Allatoona. See you next PRIDE!!!



Flip aka Flipper

Wildlife Action Adventure Camp

State Chapter President - Joe Fraser

In keeping with the ongoing theme of summer camp and the goal that I have for one day bringing camp back to the Georgia Resource Education Center, I embarked on a research trip. Some of are already aware that I have dug in deep with Wildlife Action and in doing so attempt to go to the national board meetings to represent Georgia each quarter.



This last spring, when Kimbert and I attended the National board meeting; I pledged to Frank Oliver at National a week of my vacation to dedicate to the Wildlife Action Adventure Camp in Mullins, SC. My objective was to learn what it would take for us to get a camp running here in Georgia. I told Frank, "Now put me to work. I am not coming out there to sit in the shade for a week." Frank took me serious.

About two weeks into May I get a letter from Frank with my assignments. Teach canoeing, orienteering, and knot tying. I don't mind saying that I was rather pumped at the opportunity.

My lovely wife has this wonderful outlook on age. "If you didn't know how old you were, how old would you be?" On the drive to Mullins from Acworth, I felt like I was 20 again, excited and hoping that I could keep up with these kids.

I have to tell you I had lessons to learn. We started camp that Sunday afternoon with all the kids checking in. Some came in with confidence, others not so much and a few down right nervous. I met the parents and the kids as they got settled in.



I found that Camp at Wildlife Action is very traditional. I don't mind telling you that it brought back memories for me from my youth at Woodmen of the World camp and Boy Scout camp some thirty-plus years ago. As the kids get together and learn the camp songs and new skills they begin to bond together. They explore this new world for them and in that exploration find their new friends. It was wonderful to be the observer in this growth.

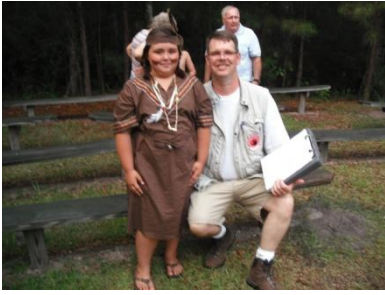
The little ones that were first timers had their challenges with homesickness but amazingly that dissipates quickly, with a little encouragement. Then as suddenly as it began it was over.



I was happy that I was able to contribute to the week. Although the canoeing class which I did teach seemed a little more taxing than it did thirty years ago. The kids pulled together and put on a wonderful pageant that also teaches the lesson of the Native Americans and their relationship to the land.

Finally it was time to go home.

Now to share something with you that even as I type makes my nose burn a little. As the parents were coming in to collect their children, the mother of this one little girl for whom it was her first time not only at camp but to spend the night away from home. She came up to



me and said, "Thank you. I got back a different little girl. I have never seen her so happy and confident." Now remember that I was a volunteer this week at camp. However, at that very moment, I got paid.

I am going to introduce an effort in 2012 for Wildlife Action of Georgia to start small. If we can start with a week of day camp, I am certain we'll learn much and be able to grow from there. I will be looking to you the "members" of the Georgia chapter to get involved and make this work. Won't you join me?



I thank Frank for the opportunity to volunteer. I saw that young man and his crew really work hard for these kids to have a great time. I look forward working them again someday.

The last bit is a little funny and I will share with you. On my way home from Mullins, my youthfulness abandoned me and I remembered that I was 20 years old anymore with unlimited energy. My 48 years caught up with me. Thank goodness for the Microtel in Austell, Georgia.

FISHING

Long poles becoming more popular

Vice President Fishing – Alan Ashley

Long poles have always been used for Crappie fishing. The long poles are extended out the front of the boat on both sides to put the bait where most fish will move to when a boat trolls by. I wonder if the makers such as B&M, Wally Marshall and others ever imagined that their long poles are becoming more popular with Bream fishing.

Bream fishing has always been done in the past with medium to short length light action poles. But, I am

seeing these same long Crappie poles being used by Bream Fishermen. I am one of them. The long poles, 10' and longer allow me to position my boat 20-30 feet away from the area I want to fish without disturbing the fish. With shorter poles I would need to get within 10' or so to sling my light bait over to the fish. The longer poles allow me to keep my light weight bait and cast it a lot further. We know that Bream put up a good fight for their size which makes it even nicer reeling in a nice size Bream on a 10' light action pole. At right you can see the difference in the two rod and reels. The one on the left is the traditional light action Bream or crappie pole. On the right is the 10' light action pole. The long light action pole give you lots of options on your next trip to the lake fishing for Crappie or Bream.



Solar Power

Vice President Fishing – Alan Ashley

I fish several lakes that only allow electric only motors and I've found this to be a great accessory to have on my boat. This allows you to fish longer on the lake without draining your battery down. The small solar power charger will not charge your boat quickly while you are using it, but it will help your battery maintain its amps with will make your battery last a little longer on the lake. I also use it in between fishing; by attaching it to my battery as it sets in my yard and it will trickle charge my battery over a few days and I don't have to worry about hooking up my big charger to the battery before I go fishing.



This is a great accessory to have on your boat, on or off the water.

Simple cooler to live-well conversion

Vice President Fishing – Alan Ashley

I spent \$50.00 converting this 48ct. cooler into very good functioning live-well. I was a little worried about the cooler keeping the fish alive and healthy to return back to the lake, after all I have always used the live-well that was built into the boat. I recently bought a 14' game fisher Jon boat that did not have a live well. I researched and came to the conclusion that I would be spending over \$200 for a live-well that would set in my

boat and take up a lot of room. I went to my sporting goods store and found me a 48ct. cooler and then purchased a fish saver aerator system from Bass Pro Shops and I simply attached it to the bottom of my cooler using the suction cups.



Simple cooler as purchased from sporting goods store.



The cooler with the aerator pump and hose attached.

Like I said earlier; I was reluctant about the cooler keeping the fish alive and I have found that it works just fine even on the hottest days of summer. The Fish Saver comes with two 12v clips that clip right to your boat battery. Below you can see just how it looks. If you find that the aerator hose is too long, you can cut it off to fit your cooler. Just a note about cutting the hose; keep it as long as you can because you can also use the pump and hose to fill up your cooler with water.



Tips for Fishing with Kids

Avoid the kid's stuff

An ultra-light spinning or spin casting rod and reel combo is usually easier for kids to use.

Small hooks = big catches

Avoid hooks larger than size 10 (hook sizes run backwards—size 12 is smaller than size 10). Fish won't readily take large hooks unless they are feeding voraciously.

Most of the time, a subtle presentation is needed to catch wary fish. Tiny hooks also allow small fish to "inhale" the bait, rather than nibble at the hook. If a fish swallows the hook and you want to return it to the water, simply cut the line as close to the hook as possible and release the fish.

Lighten up your line

Light line will do the job, preferably 6-pound test line or less. Unless you're targeting monster catfish or marauding-muskies, light line is your best bet.

Bag the big bobbers

Bobbers (or floats) are used to suspend your bait in the water and alert you when to set the hooks. The harder the bobber is to pull under, the harder it will be to hook a fish. Small floats will help convince the fish to take your tasty bait and run. "Slip" bobbers work well for kids. Slip bobber rigs cut down on the amount of line needed at the end of the rod and are easier to cast. Small ice fishing bobbers can provide a light touch any time of year.

Sink it with shot

Sinkers help get your line down to the fish. They can also create "zero buoyancy." Ideally, you want your bobber to just barely float on the top of the water. Squeeze small BB-sized split shot sinkers onto your line one at a time until your bobber nearly sinks from the weight. Since there is very little resistance when the fish takes the bait, it is more likely to bite the bait and run.

Great big gobs of worms won't do

There's no need to use whole whopping-big, writhing night crawlers on your hook. Keep the bait approximately the size of your hook. Live bait such as worms, bee moths or crickets work best. Cut the bait to fit your hook.

ENVIRONMENT & HABITAT



Results

The Great Lake Allatoona Clean-Up was a huge success this year. This time with an all-volunteer force administering it including Wildlife Action. Meaning all the monies raised went to support the project.

Number Volunteers Registered:	3627
Amount Of Trash Collected:	40,938
Thanks to all of the WLA members who participated.	



WILDLIFE ACTION OF GEORGIA

P.O. BOX 700

WOODSTOCK, GA 30188

www.wildlifeactiongeorgia.com

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For more information...

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www.wildlifeaction.com/advencamp.htm



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