



ALICIA

RIVER NAME: RIVER RAT

Alicia goes to the Chattahoochee for recreation and reflection. She lives, works and plays on the river. The “river of painted rock” holds a history that Alicia loves to share with others. A foggy morning on the river, surrounded by bird song, is perfect for Alicia and she always brings along her wide-brimmed adventure hat for the ride. Alicia is Atlanta born and raised. Her grandmother taught her first bird to her – a chickadee. She hopes to teach our participants to love mother nature and the beauty surrounding them, seeing the Chattahoochee in a different light. She is an avid reader of Barbara Kingsolver and Edward Abbey and would rather be outside than anywhere else. She has a wealth of plant and bird knowledge and loves to watch sunrises and sunsets out on the water while watching Swallows darting by.

BECKIE

RIVER NAME: MOUNTAIN MAMA

Beckie has been a canoe guide for the last 2 seasons and has taken on the role this year as canoe coordinator, making sure the programs run smoothly and all the guides have what they need for a successful trip. She has worked at the Nature Center in multiple roles throughout the past several years, including camp, marketing, school programs and as a volunteer. When not canoeing, Beckie enjoys backpacking, visiting state parks, reading and trying to improve her green thumb in gardening. She grew up fishing and hiking around the Chattahoochee with her grandfather and finds the most peace in a boat somewhere in the middle of nowhere. She hopes to help participants find ways to appreciate the river, both as an essential resource and as a place to escape and explore. She is always on the lookout for Muskrats swimming along the shoreline.



ERIC

RIVER NAME: THE NAVIGATOR

Eric has spent time on the Chattahoochee River all over the state, from tubing in Helen to fishing in Westpoint. His favorite thing about canoeing, is that no matter how many times you paddle a spot, each trip is different and has its own surprises. Eric was born in Atlanta, but has lived all over the state, and currently works as an educator at the Georgia Aquarium. He makes sure to always have comfortable water shoes when canoeing and hopes to teach a love for the outdoors and a drive to find ones own outdoor passion, wether it is paddling or gardening or anything in between. On the weekends, Eric enjoys playing soccer and would be happy spending all his time on Sapelo Island, where he once did an internship. Eric has a keen eye for reading the river and understanding what is going on beneath the surface of the water. He is always on the lookout for Ospreys and Bald Eagles.



DEBBY

RIVER NAME: STINKY FEET

Debby grew up along the Chattahoochee River, so it has always been a part of her life. As a kid whenever she would drive over a bridge she had to make sure to see both sides of the river from the car window. Her love of the river started at a young age and she enjoys all the different feelings the river evokes. She grew up right near Roswell but is originally from Medellin, Columbia. She hopes our participants get to experience and find a new appreciation for this beautiful resource right in their own backyard. When on the river she tries to pick up as much trash as possible and loves canoeing or just spending time outside. Her favorite book is The Lorax by Dr. Seuss.

JENNY

RIVER NAME: JOY

Jenny grew up in nature, canoeing and hiking in north GA every summer. She has always loved the outdoors. She started working with plants in 2008 and now is a full time Flower Maintenance specialist for Avant Gardener in Midtown Atlanta and Buckhead. On the weekends, she is a Canoe and Trail Guide at CNC and spends her free weekends hiking and camping.



JOEY

RIVER NAME: GROUND CONTROL

Joey grew up in Newnan and lived in Florida for 10 years, before moving to Roswell, GA. While he used to work full-time at CNC, He is now the School Partnerships Manager for the Clean Air Campaign. He loves how the river is never the same, each trip has different sights, sounds and something new to learn. He hopes to teach participants a sense of place. Outside of canoeing, Joey enjoys ultimate Frisbee, reading, hiking and mountain biking. His favorites books are Everything Matters by Ron Currie Jr. and Ishmael by Daniel Quinn. His favorite spot to canoe is in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Northeastern Minnesota.

KIM

RIVER NAME: MAMA OTTER

Since improving the NPS Chattahoochee River Recreational Area Trails along the Chattahoochee during the summer of 2009, Kim has been drawn to the water and misses the sounds and smells that surround the river when away from it. Her favorite moment on the river is simply floating along and enjoying the peaceful setting. Kim is a native to Marietta and works as a Naturalist at CNC. This summer, Kim can be found at Camp Kingfisher as the Environmental Education specialist. She loves exploring, hiking, camping, canoeing and kayaking in Georgia! She hopes to teach the participants that every day on the River is a treasure hunt with many areas to explore! A perfect weekend for Kim is spending time in the North Georgia Mountains with her birds and flowers field guides.



KEVIN

RIVER NAME: MURPH

When Kevin first moved to Atlanta, he lived on the Chattahoochee for the first couple years and usually spent 4-5 afternoons a week fishing and kayaking. To Murph, the river is almost an unknown playground in Atlanta. He spends many afternoons on the river still, and enjoys people seeing it for the first time for what it really is: incredible! His favorite thing about canoeing is how relaxing it is! Canoeing, while work, is Kevin's way to relax and have fun. Whether canoeing a flat lake, or paddling down "Edge of the World Rapids", the river is something that has to be experienced to be understood. Kevin hopes to teach that the river is cleaner than most people think and it is an amazing resource that is vital to the survival of Atlanta, along with the ways it provides amazing recreational opportunities to get people outside.



VINCE

RIVER NAME: POPS

Vince remembers swimming and being in the Hooch as a kid back in the 70's and still enjoys the serenity of being on the water. Vince is from Atlanta and works in project management & consulting. He did research for GA Southern University and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for two summers on St. Catherine's Island. He, of course, never goes paddling without his PFD and paddle! He hopes to teach our participants to appreciate the Chattahoochee for what it was, is, and will be and hopes that they will share their love for the river with others. He enjoys being outside, usually on his motorcycle. His favorite place is Venice Beach and Santa Monica Pier in California. Vince is always on the lookout for turtles along the river.

