

# Newsletter of the Rocky Montain Canoe Club www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org

Jan 2006

RMCC trips are cooperative adventures shared by members and their guests. The entire group is collectively responsible for the trip, and each participant is individually responsible for judging their own qualifications, skill level, and safety on the rivers being run. The trip coordinator may refuse to allow a participant on a trip, but the responsibility for judging one's own qualifications lies solely with each trip member.

Trips are open only to RMCC members and their guests. All trip participants must sign the RMCC Waiver and Assignment of Risk agreement prior to each trip. Please sign up well in advance. Check the RMCC on-line schedule for the latest updates: <a href="http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org/schedule.html">http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org/schedule.html</a>

Date	River or Event	Organizer	Phone	Comments
Jan 8,15*,22,29*	Pool Practice Sessions	Karen Jankowski		Meyers Pool. See article.
Jan 27	Video Meeting	Dave Allured		REI, 1416 Platte St., Denver, 6:30-8:45 pm. Movies, slide shows wanted.
Feb 5,19*,26	Pool Practice Sessions	Karen Jankowski		Meyers Pool. See article.
Feb 18	South Platte, Evans to Kuner	Dave Allured		Icebreaker trip, class I. Snow date Feb 25.
Mar	Pool Practice	Karen Jankowski		Meyers Pool. See article.
5*,12,19*,26	Sessions			
Mar 18	South Platte, Evans to Kuner	Dave Allured		Joint paddle with other clubs, class I. Snow date March 25. Beginners welcome.
Apr 9*, 30*	Pool Practice Sessions	Karen Jankowski		Meyers Pool. See article.
Wed. Apr 19	Safety Fair	Karen Jankowski		REI Flagship meeting room, 7:00 to 8:30 pm.
Sun. Apr 23	Safety Fair Pool Session	Karen Jankowski		Meyers Pool, 11 am to 2 pm.
Late July	Arkansas River	Lyn Berry		Planning announcement: 4-day canoe camping trip, class IV. See article on page 4.

#### 2006 Pool Practice Sessions

#### by Karen Jankowski

Keep those paddling muscles in shape all winter and join the club at George Myers indoor pool in Arvada. Practice rolling, paddling, and gates. Try out your new boat before you put in the river, or come and try new skills with the help of fellow club members.

- Where: George Meyers Pool, 7900 Carr Drive, Arvada, Colorado.
- When: Most Sundays, January through April, 11 am to 2 pm. See schedule above.
- Cost: \$7.00 per person -- pay on entry.

Sessions marked (\*) above are shared pool sessions with Colorado Whitewater Association. The rest are for RMCC and canoes only. Please check the main schedule on the RMCC website before attending, for possible cancellations or other changes.

Bring a boat, paddle, life jacket, neoprene clothing, water shoes, goggles, and bathing suit. Please remove river mud from boats and gear in advance. Pool facilities include shower and changing room.

For more info, call Karen Jankowski



Trip Planning -- Permitted Trips by Ned Banta E-mail:nbanta@comcast.net

This is the season for applying for river trip permits!

As the new trip coordinator, I have put two new web pages on the RMCC web site to facilitate coordination of permitted river trips:

- a The "Trip Planning" page <a href="http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org/permit\_info.html">has information on some of the nearby river sections that require permits. If a trip that interests you is not listed on this page, please feel free to email me with information I can add to this page. This page can be accessed from the RMCC Schedule page by clicking on "Trip Planning" at the top of the page.
- a The "Permit Status" page <a href="http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org/permit\_status\_2006.html">http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org/permit\_status\_2006.html</a> is what I will use to allow trip leaders and potential trip leaders to stay informed of the planning status for permitted trips. I will update this page as I receive information from trip leaders regarding the status of their permit applications. This page can be accessed from the "Trip Planning" page by clicking on "Permit Status".

The intent for these pages is to enable trip planners to see what trips are planned, and to schedule their own trips for dates that will optimize paddling opportunities. For this system to work successfully, I ask that trip planners email me twice in the permit process:

- (1) Please email me when you submit the permit application. Include the river name and put-in and take out, and the date(s) for which you have applied. Feel free to include additional information such as the river difficulty or other details such as planned hiking time, kids' trip, or boat-length restrictions, etc.
- (2) Please email me again when you know whether the permit has been issued or denied. Again, feel free to include additional information. When a permit has been secured, I will add the trip to the Schedule page.

You are welcome to send me early information on potential trips that are in the early stages of planning -- before applying for a permit. Thanks to those who have done so.  $-\text{Ned } \mathbf{b}$ 

#### aaaaa

## Wilderness trip: Lac La Ronge, Saskatchewan by Jill and Bob Stecker

We spent our 22nd annual north woods Canadian canoe trip on Lac La Ronge this past September. It was a three week trip, and we wanted to explore the northern half of the lake -- the parts we had not explored on two previous short trips.

The lake is about 20 miles wide and 40 miles long, as the crow flies, but not as the canoe is paddled. There are about a thousand islands on the lake, and numerous long bays and coves along the mainland shore. So there are endless shoreline to explore. You have to take care not to loose your map, because if you did in some areas, it would be like trying to



find your way out of a maze to continue on. The islands give it such scenic variety that we believe it is the most beautiful lake we have ever paddled. You can easily spend three weeks or more canoeing this majestic lake.

This is a great lake to get started on for canoeists who have never paddled in the north country and want to get a taste for it. Camp sites are scarce, especially large ones, so you might want to limit your group size to just a few people.

If you go there in summer, you will see quite a few people out there enjoying the lake, in shore side cabins and even in a few house boats. If you go after labor day, you will hardly see anyone. We like the solitude and the fall color of September. However, it is windier in September, and there are some big crossings that must be dealt with cautiously.

We were wind bound in camp at least four times on this trip, also once during the middle of the day at a site that wasn't very campable. We were able to leave this southerly wind exposed beach later in the evening for a more protected site. As it turned out, we faced our most violent wind storm in this "protected site" later in the evening, when a tremendous thunderstorm out of the north hit us almost straight on. Several 60-70 mph gusts almost picked up our tent, with us in it, like a wind swept umbrella. Fortunately, it passed quickly and we were able to hold down the tent by grabbing the corner poles.

Lac La Ronge is located in the central part of northern Saskatchewan, about a 2-3/4 hour drive north from the last big town, Prince Albert, on highway Route 2.

We paddled a Verlin Kruger sea canoe, the tandem Kruger Cruiser. It has large decks, and Jill made a canoe cover for the open cockpit portion of it. The boat is made of heavy duty Kevlar<sup>TM</sup>; with the canoe cover it weights about 90 pounds. Even so, it is fast because it has a rudder. With the rudder, we can both power paddle -- no correction strokes in the stern. It's just right for sea and big lake canoeing. We have paddled this canoe on much bigger water, even the coastal water of British Columbia. This winter we'll take it to the Sea of Cortez to paddle with RMCC past members Dianne and Ron Schmidt, b

# PLANNING FOR 2006 by Dave Allured RMCC President

It is the off season for canoeing, but river day dreaming and planning for interesting trips and events is winding up. Several paddlers have already registered their river permit applications, which must be mailed before the end of January, on Ned Banta's new RMCC trip planning web pages. There's a multi-club paddle trip on the South Platte in March. Karen Jankowski is organizing the Safety Fair for April. A number of other special events are under discussion. Let's see how else we can have fun.

Successful activities need volunteers to plan and get work done. You may notice that as your new President, I'll work on promoting our special events and also trying to draft people into helping out. Volunteering can be fun and rewarding. So when you see something that appeals to your talents and interest, and you can find the time, please give something back to RMCC and volunteer.

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The following are upcoming activities in need of volunteers. Some of these may not happen without your assistance. To help, please contact me or the event organizer, if there is one. Thank you for supporting our club.

#### Help Wanted -- General

**Trips:** Please consider leading trips you like on rivers that you know. Day trips, canoe camping trips, novice trips, kid trips, whitewater trips.

Contact Trip Coordinator Ned Banta,

Also see

the new trip planning pages on the RMCC website.

Newsletter Editor: Critical need! We have someone to put together the March newsletter. After that, we will need volunteers either to guest edit a single later issue, or to take on the remainder of the year.

#### **Special Programs**

- **a** Video meeting Jan. 27: Short videos and slide presentations of recent river trips are needed.
- **a** Safety Fair in April: Instructors needed. Contact Karen Jankowski



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# www.canoecolorado.com

**a** Introduction to Canoeing in Colorado: RMCC promotional program at REI, early May. Short presentations are needed for specific rivers in the Colorado area.

### **Long Term Planning**

- **a** Arkansas River weekend: Envisioned for early July. Lots of help is needed for campsite selection, logistics, leading trips. Please contact Dave Allured if you have specific knowledge of a potential group camp site in the Arkansas River Valley.
- **a** Dragon Boat Race: Some time in August. Organizers and crew are needed NOW to meet a reservation deadline in early February.
- a Got another idea for a new event? Are you willing to organize it? Let me know and we'll get started!

# Arkansas River Canoe-Camping Adventure by Lyn Berry

Here is my "hot" idea for a canoe camping trip this summer. At this time this is a pre-trip announcement.

This will be a canoe camping trip on the Arkansas River, from Buena Vista (more-or-less) to Parkdale. The time frame will be, likely, toward end of July, depending on water level. I am considering four days with three nights camping on the river. This will likely include a weekend and adjacent days.

The first desired camp will be in Browns Canyon. I have been wanting to do this for years, and this is a main incentive for design of this trip. We will then camp at two other places on BLM land somewhere in Big Horn Sheep Canyon.

The plan is to carry camp gear in boats. This will add an extra level of challenge to the Arkansas by having to carry all camp gear including a potty and fire pan.

We will choose the dates to tie-in well with any other Arkansas canoe event.

Let me know ASAP if you are interested.

More later. b



Rocky Mountain Canoe Club -- Contact Information

Website: http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org

Membership: \$20 per year, per household. See Membership section of our website,

or contact Karen Jankowski for forms and information:

RMCC Membership Karen Jankowski

General Address:

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club

c/o Dave Allured

President	Dave Allured	ured		
Treasurer	Paul Holscher		i en	
Newsletter Editor	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED	HELP WANTED	
Membership	Karen Jankowski			
Trip Coordinator	Ned Banta			
Advertising	Clem McHale		2.99	
Conservation	Greg Jankowski			
Instruction: Whitewater/Freestyle	Bob & Jill Stecker			
Instruction: Instructors/Basics	Jeff Oxenford		Tip Salad Perk (Charles and	
Quartermaster	Doug Hurcomb			
Webmaster	Jeanne Willson		38	

# Snow Sports

Come see our new inventory of clothing, skis, boards, and accessories! Blizzard, Voile, Atomic, Head, Karhu, Atlas, Loki, Ride, Ozone Kites, pull sleds, beacons, shovels + more!

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Canoes!

Colorado Wildlife Habitat Stamp: by Dave Allured, RMCC President

New Fee for Boaters and Hikers

Boaters, hikers, and other visitors to public lands -- get ready to pay a new \$10 annual fee starting this month. In the interest of protecting wildlife habitat, the Colorado legislature passed a law requiring most visitors to Colorado State Wildlife Areas (SWA's) to purchase a Habitat Stamp each year.

A \$5 stamp may be purchased with each Colorado hunting and fishing license, \$10 maximum per year. Other visitors (hikers, boaters, etc.) must purchase a single annual stamp for \$10. The stamp is per PERSON, not per family or vehicle. Persons 18 and under, 65 and older, and certain people on military leave are exempt. You can also purchase a single lifetime stamp for \$200.

This program is administered by Colorado Division of Wildlife (DOW), the same people who patrol hunters and fishermen. Money collected is estimated at \$2.3 million per year, to be spent for preservation of wildlife habitat by land purchase and cooperative land acquisition.

The tricky part is that many boaters and hikers may be used to crossing through SWA's without realizing it. There are about 241 SWA's across the state. Most are little known; some are along sections of navigable rivers. The DOW is putting up signs about the required stamp at SWA entrances.

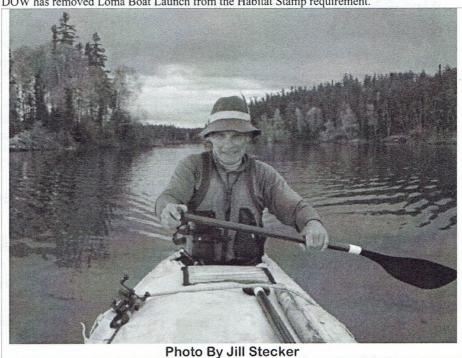
A DOW spokesman sent this preliminary list of rivers where you are most likely to see a higher volume of boaters. There are many others that are off the beaten path -- streams going through State Wildlife Areas. He highly recommends the excellent book on SWA's published in 2001. It is very comprehensive. You can purchase it on the DOW website.

- a Eagle River State Wildlife Area Eagle River
- a \*Loma Boat Launch Loma State Wildlife Area The Colorado River
- a Horse thief Canyon State Wildlife Area The Colorado River
- a The Carbondale State Wildlife Area The Roaring Fork River (very popular)
- a Lake Fork of the Gunnison State Wildlife Area The Gunnison
- a Dolores river State Wildlife Area The Dolores
- a Brownlee State Wildlife Area The North Platte River
- a Radium State Wildlife Area The Colorado River (very popular)

- a Buena Vista River Park State wildlife Area The Arkansas
- a The Big Bend State Wildlife Area The Arkansas
- a The Salida State Wildlife Area The Arkansas
- Catamount State Wildlife Area The Colorado
   \*As of press time, it appears that DOW has removed Loma Boat Launch from the Habitat Stamp requirement.

Impacts to boaters are as follows. Sooner or later you may find yourself entering a SWA unexpectedly during a river trip. It would be wise to purchase the Habitat Stamp in advance so you don't get caught in a jam. Stamps will NOT be available at SWA entrances. They are available anywhere that hunting and fishing licenses are sold, mainly sporting goods stores around the state. They may also be purchased remotely, through the DOW website.

You will need to carry the blue paper certificate that comes with the stamp while visiting SWA's. Exempt persons close to the age limits should carry their driver's license or other proof of age.

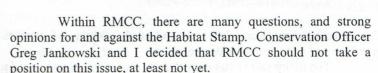


You may be checked by a DOW ranger. There will probably be a penalty for being caught in an SWA without having paid up. There MAY be some leniency during an introductory period in the first year.

The annual Habitat Stamp goes by the calendar year, January through December. It does include a 25 cent contribution for the Colorado Search and Rescue Fund.

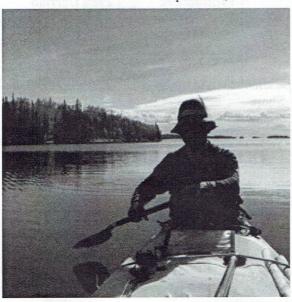
Since the Habitat Stamp is new, the rules and enforcement are still in a state of flux. There are unanswered

questions and conflicting information to be resolved. The relation to federal navigation laws is being examined. We will try to keep our members informed of important developments.



Whether for or against the fee, my advice to frequent boaters is this. Go out and buy your stamp for this year, keep yourself out of trouble, and consider joining the debate as to how this fee should be administered, and generally how public lands should be funded and protected.

DOW says they will publish an information brochure. Please see the DOW website for official information and more details about the Habitat Stamp: <a href="http://wildlife.state.co.us">http://wildlife.state.co.us</a>



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Rocky Mountain Canoe Club

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# **RMCC Video Meeting**

Friday January 27 2006 6:30 - 8:45 pm REI Flagship Store 1416 Platte Street, Denver Large Auditorium, Third Floor

Just for fun! Movies and slide shows of recent paddle adventures by RMCC members. Short presentations wanted, most any length. Show us where you have been lately. DVD, VHS, digital photos, some other media acceptable. Set up starts at 6 pm.

**a** Pizza may be ordered, or bring your own food. Contact Dave Allured at 303-499-7466 in advance to coordinate presentations and to order pizza.

a This show is open to the public, and we may use the opportunity to sign up new members.

a Families and friends are welcome!

Directions: Take the 23rd Ave. exit east from I-25 in downtown Denver.

Turn north on Water Street, pass under Speer, then REI is on your right.

Parking: Please use the underground parking lot in front of the store.

Deadline for next newsletter: MARCH 9 Send trips to Trip Coordinator Ned Banta