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

RMCC Trip and Event Schedule

Summer 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 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. New trips are added frequently during the boating season: http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org/schedule.html

To add a trip or event to the schedule, please send complete information to Trip Coordinator Ned Banta,

July 1-4. Colorado River, Pumphouse to Dotsero. Karen Jankowski, Class III-. We will carry gear, camp out along the river, and probably portage Rodeo Rapid (III+).

Sat. July 8. Colorado River, Grizzly Creek to Glenwood Springs. Ned Banta, Class II. Lower part of Glenwood Canyon. Joint trip with Poudre Paddlers.

July 15-16. Colorado River, State Bridge to Catamount Bridge. Dave Allured, Class I-II. Beginner practice day trips, come for one or both days.

July 15-22. **Green River, Desolation and Gray Canyons.** Karen Amundson, Class III. 96 miles. Extended adventure in Desolation and Gray canyons with numerous class III rapids.

July 28-30. **RMCC Summer River Rendezvous.** Dave Allured, Variety of class I-III day trips, cookouts, get-together. See article.

July 28-31. **Arkansas River, Buena Vista (more-or-less) to Parkdale.** Lyn Berry, Class IV. 4 days with 3 nights camping on the river. Carry camp gear in boats. Camping in Browns Canyon and at two other places on BLM land in Big Horn Sheep Canyon.

Late July to early August. Lac La Ronge/Churchill River Area, Saskatchewan, Canada. Jim Baker-Jarvis, NOTE: TRIP IS FILLED! Class II. Canoeing lake/river mix. Around 150 miles canoeing lakes and rivers with portages.

Sun. Aug. 20. Colorado River Race: Dotsero to Hanging Lake. Eric Nyre, Class I. Sponsored by Canoe Colorado. See www.canoecolorado.com for more details. This is a fun race vs. a serious one. There are race classes for just about everyone. Prizes for 1st, 2nd, 3rd place. There is also a drawing open to all participants for at least \$500 in prizes, so even if you don't win the race you'll probably win something.

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Sept. 2-4. **Green River, Flaming Gorge or Lodore.** Karen Amundson, . Class II+ (III). Will do 4-5 days on Lodore if I can get a dropped permit for this time frame. Otherwise it's Flaming Gorge on the dates shown.

Sept. 2-3. Colorado River, Cisco to Hittle Bottom. Dave Allured, welcome.

Class I. Beginners

Sept. 3-4. Colorado River, Dewey Bridge to Big Bend. Dave Allured, Novices welcome.

Class II+.

Sept. 12-20. Green River, Desolation and Gray Canyons. Tony and Peggy Littlejohn, Class III. 8 nights.

Sep. 16-17. **Dismal River, Mullen to Thedford, Nebraska.** Eric Nyre, Class I. 36 miles. Joint trip with Canoe Colorado -- their rules apply. This is an exploratory trip, since we've never paddled there. The Dismal is spring fed, so it does not rely on runoff. There should be a canyon section, and the regular sand hills. Solo boats must be at least 15', tandems 17'. Canoes must have float bags, end lines, etc. PFD's must be worn at all times while on the river.

Sep. 30 - Oct. 8. Current River, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Montauk to Big Spring, Missouri. Eric Nyre, Class I+. 90 miles. Joint trip with Canoe Colorado -- their rules apply. We will probably paddle the Jacks Fork while we're there, adding another 50 miles or so to the trip. This has been timed to enjoy the fall colors. Like the Dismal, it is a spring-fed river. Solo boats must be at least 15', tandems 17'. Canoes must have float bags, end lines, etc. PFD's must be worn at all times while on the river.

Summer River Rendezvous 2006

July 28-30

(Friday Afternoon through Sunday) Colorado River at Radium, Colorado

Welcome

Everyone is invited to Rocky Mountain Canoe Club's Summer Rendezvous on the Colorado River. This is our big group event of the summer -- a fun weekend of river canoeing, camping, and picnicking. The location is the Radium group campsite southwest of Kremmling, Colorado.

Newcomers and novices are welcome! There will be river trips for most skill levels. You must be a member, or the guest of a member, to participate. Memberships may be purchased in advance by mail, \$20 per year. You may also join at the Rendezvous.

Directions

From I-70 in Silverthorne, take Hwy 9 North almost all the way to Kremmling. About 1-2 miles before Kremmling, turn left on County Road 1 (dirt) AKA Trough Road. Go west and south approximately 15 miles to intersection with 11 Road where there should be a sign to Radium. Turn right onto 11 Road and go about 2.5 miles to the Radium

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BLM recreation site, which is on the left just before the road crosses the Colorado River.

For those of you coming from west of Frisco, take I-70 to the Wolcott exit. Take Hwy 131 north 15 miles to State Bridge, then right (northeast) on County Road 1 (dirt) about 10 miles, then left on 11 Road, about 2.5 miles to the Radium campsite as above.

Drive through the parking lot to the rest rooms near the boat ramp. Turn left here onto the campground loop road. Camp at either the RMCC group camp site at the north end of the loop, or one of the five individual camp sites. Look for cars with canoes on top, also our large canopy set up.

Facilities

The campground includes toilets and tent and vehicle camp sites, some with fire pits. There is no drinking water, electricity, or trash pickup.

Be prepared for hot and cold weather, possible very strong winds and rain.

Fees

The only general fees for this event are Bureau of Land Management (BLM) recreation fees. Fees for the group camp site are \$1.00 per person per night, plus \$3.00 per vehicle per night. If you camp at any of the five individual camp sites, the fee is simply \$6.00 per night for all persons and one or two vehicles. If you come for the day only, without camping, it's \$3.00 per vehicle.

After you choose your camp site, go to the self service pay station at the main entrance. Fill out a separate payment envelope for each vehicle. If you use the group camp site, write "group site" on the envelope. If you share one of the \$6.00 camp sites, write "share" and the campsite number on the envelope. Enclose fees as described above, keep the payment stub, and deposit the envelope.

Camping fees also cover your daytime use of the Radium and Pumphouse boat ramp areas. Be sure to keep the payment envelope stub displayed on your dashboard.

For trips putting in or taking out at State Bridge, there may be a \$3.50 per person fee to park on private property.

Waivers

All river trips are joint ventures. Everyone must sign the RMCC waiver, which is your agreement that you know you are taking risks on the river trips, and that you are taking full responsibility for your own safety and participation.

Advance Schedule (Subject to Change)

Trip organizers are needed! Please volunteer if you could run any of the listed trips. Feel free to add a new trip to the schedule.

Please check this web page, also the white board at the RMCC canopy, for additional trips and changes. Unless otherwise noted, all trips meet on the campground exit drive, vehicles ready to go, at the time indicated.

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Friday

Afternoon	Possible class I-III trip
After 1 nm	Set up a few hands needed

Saturday

9:00 am Fumphouse to Radium, m-, 4 miles	9:00 am	Pumphouse to Radium, III-, 4 miles
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9:15 am State Bridge to Landing Strip or Catamount Bridge, I-II, 9 or 14 miles

Afternoon Pumphouse or Red Gorge?

6:00 pm Social and hurricane defense hour. BYOB. 7:00 pm Dutch Oven Cook-off and Pot Luck Supper

Sunday

7:00 am Pancake Breakfast

9:00 am Day trip(s) to be determined

9:15 am Catamount Bridge to Twin Bridges, II-III, 12 miles (first 9 miles okay for

novices, if two portages are taken)

Special Events

Saturday evening 7 pm: Dutch oven cook-off contest and pot luck supper. We will present awards for main dish, salad, dessert, and best all around dish. Judging begins promptly at 7 pm. Plan enough advance time to have your Dutch oven masterpiece ready by 7!

Everyone is welcome to join in the food! Please bring something to share if you are not Dutch oven cooking. Suggestions are appetizers, salads, side dishes, and desserts.

Sunday morning 7 am: Pancake breakfast. Please bring a side dish to share.

Help Needed

To volunteer for any of the following, please contact any of the organizers below:

- Organize a trip
- Partner with a beginner or novice
- Set up and take down the group canopy
- Bring supplies for group supper
- Bring fire wood
- Help organize the pancake breakfast
- Bring large stove for pancake breakfast
- Site clean-up and trash removal on Sunday morning

Reminders -- What to Bring

Boating:

- Boats, paddles, floatation bags, painters
- Life jackets, throw bag, first aid kit, bailer
- Sun protection (sunscreen, sunglasses, hats)
- Water, lunch
- Dry bag, spare clothes
- Rain suits

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Camping:

- Water supply, beverages, ice
- Cups, dishes, silverware, cooking stuff
- Fire pans, charcoal, marshmallows
- Chairs, tables, tents, etc.
- Guitars, harmonicas, musical instruments

Organizers:

To volunteer and for general questions:

Dave Allured

Dutch oven cook-off and pot luck:

Karen Jankowski



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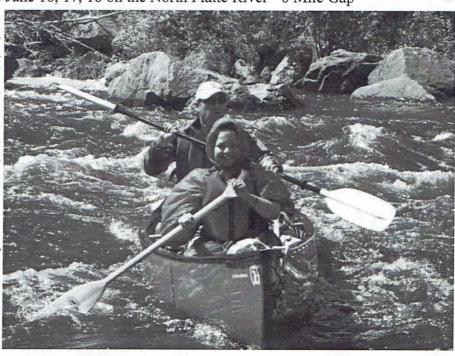


Ask Father!

By Bonnie Gallagher... (Single Mother of 4 kids)

2006 Father's Day Paddle June 16, 17, 18 on the North Platte River - 6 Mile Gap

As my children were growing up, each year for Mother's Day the family always did what I wanted to do. When the children were small, we had a family bar-b-que, which later became a family hike into the foothills of Boulder. It wasn't until the children were old enough for me (and a huge army of support friends - Jerry Starr, Teresa Ukrainetz, and Ken Bauer) was I able to safely put them each in their own kayak



Mike Langello and his son Adler

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and our Mother's Day outing became a family paddle on Filter Plant. So, given my past, this

Father's Day weekend paddle was especially wonderful for me.

Since Father is the one to choose the family activity for Father's Day, it is not surprising to find five Father's on the North Platte trip. These were: Gary Osteen and his son Garrison, Mike Langello and his son Adler, Jim Baker-Jarvis and his daughter Aquena, Doug Hurcomb and his daughter Allison, Douglas Kretzmann and his two sons Christopher and Ian. Women on the trip with me were Helen Kretzmann and Karen Amundson.

Trip organizer, Ken Bauer gave our safety talk as we put on the river at 11:00AM on Friday morning, giving the usual instructions but finishing with "Since this is Father's Day weekend, all children will behave." ...and surprisingly enough.....all six children did behave

and it was a wonderful trip in every way!

OK...you say. "I've been with kids on the river too much to know it isn't easy." Yes, we did have a scraped knee while still at the put-in and two adults got into their first aid kits to patch up the knee before we had even begun. Yes, we did have to stop in the first thirty minutes of paddling to put warm clothes on small, cold children. Yes, we did take much, much longer getting started each morning due to sleeping children. But the joys so out-weighed the inconvenience and trouble.

I think the biggest joy of the trip for me was the final paddle out, which can be windy and difficult, as it was mitigated by the most delightful boat partner. I had with me.... Christopher, age 5, well not really five until 2 weeks from now. Christopher entertained me with stories of his pet dragon, named Dragon, who has hundreds of heads and eats everything. Scary! Christopher recounted stories of his pet rabbit and his pet ghost. From the eyes of a child, I saw nighthawks and bald eagles and counted five pelicans circling high overhead. While I paddled

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my solo boat, Christopher, crouched on the pedestal in front of me, demonstrated with his fingers how each of his pets runs across his paddle which was precariously balanced across the gunwales of my boat. With the stories to entertain me, the long paddle out seemed only momentary.

Another highlight of my Father's Day weekend was when I was walking back to the boat and I came across an abandoned baby crow about the size of a small chicken. I gasped and Adler, age nine, came to my rescue immediately. When I showed him the small crow he told me it had been there for a while. When I was a young child, I saw the Alfred Hitchcock movie, The Birds, and to this day, I am still scared and startled easily by birds, especially crows. Shortly, a discussion followed among the adults as to where the absent mother had gone. Before I knew it, Adler was asking me for a little dish from my kitchen set to give water to the baby bird. He got a hemostat and worms from his Father's fishing set and off he went to dangle a worm over the baby bird. Amazingly enough, the baby bird ate two or three worms hung over its head.

For our entertainment in camp, Karen and I thought we would enjoy a quiet game of Scrabble away from the hustle and bustle of the Fathers with their children. We were barely into our game when we were surrounded by a handful of small children wanting to know how Scrabble works and helping us with our letters and ultimately requesting in adorable and polite little voices, "Can I play too?" Since Scrabble is a much too difficult game for so many children this young, fortunately I had tossed a game of Farkle (6 dice in a film canister) into my ditty bag. Much to the delight of the parents and kiddos, I was able to entertain a group of six sitting down children for almost an hour two times during the trip. It really doesn't get any better than this:on the river, ...good friends, ...happy families, ...great weather, ...nice water levels.

The grand finale for our trip was held in the town of Saratoga. After a delightful soak in "too hot" hot springs and a refreshing shower we all had great food and then went for dessert in the quaint 1950's ice cream store on Bridge Street in downtown Saratoga. Ice cream, smiling kids, Father's Day Sunday, an outdoor deck on a warm summer afternoon....yup....

IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS!

Before McPhee Dam was completed, Part 1 - 1983

By Chris Bidwell

In 1984, the McPhee Dam was completed. Since then the river has been periodically unrunnable. Perhaps in high water years when the dam is filled, the Delores will really flow again. It is doubtful that flows like 6000 CFS will be seen again.

River:

Delores

Run:

Slickrock to Bedrock

Time: Rating:

3 days Class III Levels: Length:

6000 CFS 45 miles

ACCESS

Put-in:

at the town of Bedrock.

Take-out:

at the town of Slickrock. (5080')

SATURDAY MAY 28, 1983

We met in Bedrock at 7:00 AM and shuttled gear and boats to Slickrock and put on the river. It turned out that the guy that I paddled with had never paddled whitewater before. He also had a ton of camera gear, so I knew that we would have our hands full. The river was running at 6000 CFS, which is well above the normal peak of 2300 CFS. We paddled through fast flat water and pulled into Bull Canyon and camped for the night. I hiked up the canvon a



Lyn Berry, 1983, 6,000cfs, Delores River

couple miles and took pictures. Bill and Kerry and I hiked down the river to checked out the first big rapid and we saw some boaters go through.

SUNDAY MAY 29, 1983

We got on the river at 9:00. We did numerous rapids. At one short drop above Spring Creek Rapid, we saw three canoes and two kayaks dump. Guy did a serious gunnel grab at the bottom of the drop, but we managed to make it through. Spring Canyon Rapid is a long straight shot with waves and some hydraulics but no obstacles. On one rapid we shipped about 4" of water, mainly because we paddled too fast, rather than going slower and ferrying. We camped at a bend in the river, right above Coyote Wash. We set up camp and sat around the fire next to the river. We BS'ed, and told joked and read stories and poetry from Robert Service. Temperature was in the 80's today.

MONDAY MAY 30, 1983

We got on the river right after 8:00. We paddled around Mule Shoe Bend. Numerous small rapids and two big ones. At the first, the main current went left with a smaller right channel, which I took and it was fairly easy. At the second, there was a smaller left channel that looked rocky and a bigger right channel that curved left which we took by back ferrying through the big waves. We then turned forward and blasted to the inside of the bend to avoid a large hole that flipped a raft. Bill and Becky took a lot of water along the left channel and eddied in their boat with the back under water. Got to the take-out in the early afternoon. I grabbed a burger in Grand Junction and got home at 11:15 PM. It was snowing on the Eastern slope.

Trimming your Canoe By Eric Nyre

One trend I've noticed this spring is that several boats are out of trim. Trim refers to how the boat sits in the water. If it is level in the water, it is said to be trim. If the bow sits lower than the stern, the boat is bow heavy. If the stern sits lower, the boat is bow light.

So what does trim do? It changes the personality of the canoe.

If your canoe is bow heavy, it's going to act like it has a mind of its own. It will start veering to one direction, and no matter what corrective strokes you do, it's like it has a magnetic attraction to heading one direction. When you finally get it straightened out, it will veer to the opposite side. Talk about a headache!

If your canoe is bow light, it will waddle. You put all your effort into trying to get across the lake, but instead of going forward, it seems the boat spends half its motion waddling left and right. It doesn't move very fast, and to others watching you look like a duck.

When your canoe is trim, it goes forward when you want it, turns when you want it, and behaves like a canoe should.

How do you find out if your boat is trimmed?

Easy! Nature's level is at your service. Take a cup of water, pour it in the bottom of the boat (with passengers in place) and watch where it goes. If it sits in the middle of the canoe, perfect! If it moves to the bow or stern, you'll need to shift weight until it gets where you want it. For canoes that have sliding seats, the paddlers can slide their seats fore or aft until the boat rides right. If you don't have sliding seats, shift some gear around. If you are seriously out of balance, you might think about remounting the seats.

Now there are some situations where you want to be slightly off trim. Wind is typically the most common factor. If you are paddling into a headwind, you will want to be bow heavy. The same trait that makes the boat act like it has a mind of it's own on calm water turns your boat into a weathervane. By having the bow sit low, the boat will naturally weathercock into the wind and hold course.

If you have a tailwind, go ahead and lighten the bow. The wind will grab the lighter bow and push it away so it points downstream. Now be careful how light you leave the bow, because if the wind turns direction it will ship you around faster than any river eddy.

Racing canoes also use trim as a trick in shallow water. If you know you are headed for a short shallow section, such as cutting across a gravel bar, slide the seat as far forward as possible and paddle like mad. Dropping the bow in shallow water changes the length of the boat wake. Instead of scraping bottom, you can surf your own bow wave across the shallow section.

The Annual RMCC Rendezvous By Mark Zen

During my canoeing life, I have always been the paddler in the stern. When the kids were younger [8-15], I weighed as much as all three put together. Much has changed since then. I have a two-year-old grandson and another due in August. Our four girls all went on camping/paddling trips, and have fond memories of the Summer Rendezvous. They had never seen 50 people all moon a train, or an inebriated Dutch Oven cook-off winner fall into a ditch, while

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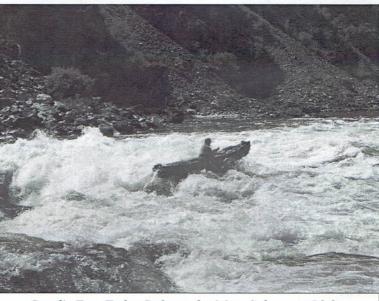
trying to pull her pants back up. Nor had they seen a family use a teepee for a weekend. They learned a lot of (mostly) good things the five or so we had the opportunity to partake in.

I have not paddled a canoe or kayak in 6 years, this summer would have been the 7th season. I went to the annual Multi-Club paddle on the S. Platte, but still was not ready to get in a boat. This last weekend I was visiting with friends, and they were very willing and helpful getting me back on the water. Dave Allured and Karen Maley helped me get into the bow of the canoe. We only paddled a few hundred yards out & back, and it was nice to be in a boat again, I forgot how much I really missed it. Thank you Dave & Karen!!!

MY Rival, R.I.P. By Bonnie Gallagher

Remember when you were a kid, you would go to the fair and you would buy a roll of tickets. Some rides took 1 ticket...the baby rides...some rides took 3 tickets, those rides were nice...but the really good rides took 5 tickets. The good rides are worth it. You can ride until you are out of tickets. My Rival was out of tickets. That boat had taken lots of good rides but the Royalex on the bottom was missing in many places. And without Royalex, like tickets, the rides just don't happen.

I had noticed a crack while on the San Juan in April and we put duct tape over it. When I got home I took it apart and found large areas where water had gotten into the foam core and had rotted the interior layer of the boat. I dug out all the rotted foam and repaired it with epoxy paste. Then I went boating again last Saturday. All was fine for the boating day but when I came home I found the repair had cracked again and there was an additional crack on the outside of the hull. The Rival was just getting thin. My Rival was out of tickets....but we sure had some good rides together.



Rival's Five Ticket Ride on the Main Salmon in Idaho

Now, I am sure you are wondering, what was the precipitating event? I think it was on the Main Salmon last September when I chose the adventure route through the middle of a drop. The rock hit my Rival's stern with a loud kerthump. My Rival and I had flown up together in a great little ender. Together we came out of it HAPPY with lots of water in the upright Rival. At the take out that afternoon, I noticed an oil can dent in the stern which I pushed out with my feet. Sadly, I think the last 5 ticket ride was on the Main Salmon in the fall of 2005.

These Rivals are getting rare, But I just found another one in someone's garage/barn gathering cobwebs. Same hull. Same gunwales. Same color. Same size. Similar outfitting... ... but I know it won't be the same.

My Rival, R.I.P.

The Shortest Trip By Jeanne Willson

And the award for the shortest trip with the smallest group goes to. . .

Trip leader Karen Amundsen and co-traveler Jeanne Willson paddled a mere 6 miles of the Arkansas in early June but built a great day around the whole excursion!

It was the weekend of the Pueblo Bluegrass on the River festival. Although we could have camped out at the festival, we chose to rise early on Saturday and drive from Denver past miles of blooming yucca and cactus to the park on the riverwalk just west of Pueblo. But first, we drove up to the little park below the dam at the Pueblo Reservoir, where we left the canoe all packed up for the day. We then drove downriver about 6 miles until we found public parking and acceptable river access (which turned out to be guarded by an enormous bullfrog). There, we parked and unloaded our bicycles. We rode the bikes about 3 miles upriver on the riverwalk path and stopped in at the bluegrass festival. It's a smallish gathering of perhaps 300 people in attendance; even so, there are two stages (acoustic and amped), and it draws performers from around the country (Wyoming anyway, and I think North Carolina). The main stage is built over the river, and the audience sat in chairs or on the grass facing the river. The setting is beautiful; the park is between some low, interesting cliffs and the tree-lined river. We paid just \$15 for our entry bracelets and wandered through the vendor tents (yep, bought some stuff) and listened to tunes. Before it got too hot, we got back on the bikes and continued the shuttle upriver to the put-in for the canoe.

The bike ride was a most delightful part of the trip, unlike most shuttles! And you can stop without doing an eddy turn! We rode through fields of desert wildflowers, abandoned oxbows, eroded cliffs and side mini-canyons, and cottonwood groves. The bike ride was over all too soon. We locked up the bikes and got in the canoe. This section of the Arkansas is flat but had plenty of water that was moving right along, and it also had many constructed short drops to add a little pseudo whitewater interest. My GPS said we were moving at about 5 mph in places. So we had a very pleasant trip back downriver to the Bluegrass Festival. As we approached the festival, the major river obstacles were humans wading in the river to escape the heat! We came to shore with a perfect eddy turn into a tiny cove right in front of the audience, and they cheered loudly. OK, they were actually cheering for the musicians. ;-) (<-RMCC humor marker).

After a break to listen to music, we continued the remaining miles downriver to our car (yes, the canoe trip was too short, too). There was one portage around a big dam toward the end of our trip, and some eager teenagers helped us gently drop the boat about 4 feet down a concrete spillway. When we reached the takeout, we talked the bullfrog into letting us pass by to haul the canoe out of the river and up the steep muddy bank. Fortunately we actually remembered to go back to get the bikes, and then we returned to the festival to stay through a delight-



Karen Amundsen photo from the San Juan

ful (if hot) afternoon and evening before going home to Denver. Thanks, Karen, for leading yet another great and unusual trip!

Tips from the Field:

By Eric Nyre

Use your tie down straps as end lines:

Have you ever gotten to the take-out and forgot your tie down straps? Most of us carry extra straps or rope, but the easiest way to always remember your straps is to secure them to the bow and stern thwarts. That way not only do they come downriver with you, but they are also handy for all those things end lines are good for. If someone flips, they are a handy grab line to assist in recovery. If you need to tie off on shore, you have a strap right there. The straps I use are 12' long webbing, and there are many uses for them besides just securing the boat to the truck

Don't forget to backpaddle:

Tired of getting a lap full of water when you go into a class II drop? Do you ever feel that rocks, holes, trees and other hazards are creeping up on you way too fast? Have you tried to backpaddle?

Slowing the boat on a river does several things. First it gives the canoe time to rise over waves. If you are going fast, and most drops have some good speed to them, you will plow into a wave before the flare can even kick in. The result is a lap full of water, and now you need to figure out how to get that water out. If you backpaddle going into a drop, it will slow the boat down, and instead of plowing into the wave you will ride up over it. Backpaddling also helps keep your paddle in the water, where you have the most control to prevent flipping.

When you come up on an obstacle, backpaddling also buys you time. You can set a reverse ferry angle and side slip before ramming a rock and taking an unplanned dunk. All it takes is a stroke or two, and you have slowed yourself down enough to get the time you need.

Keep a day bag:

A day bag is the bag that contains everything you think you'll need throughout the day. It's the place to stash your lunch and snacks, raingear, extra clothes, first aid kits, etc. That way when you need something, you don't have to dig through all your other bags to find something. Opening the clothes bag during a downpour to find raingear is a quick way to get everything soaked. Unpacking your boat to find lunch isn't nearly as easy as grabbing the day bag.

Before McPhee Dam was completed, Part 2 - 1984 By Chris Bidwell

River: Delores Time: 3 days

Run: Slickrock to Bedrock Levels: 4000 - 5000 CFS

Rating: class III-

Length: 45 miles

ACCESS

Put-in:

at the town of Bedrock.

Take-out:

at the town of Slickrock. (5080')

(Continued from page 12)

NOTES

This is a description of the same run done a year later.

TRIP REPORT:

FRIDAY MAY 25, 1984

Matt and I got the car, loaded and ready to go. We left home at 12:30 AM but had to run back to get our water and some left over French bread to munch on. We headed up I-70 and spent two hours waiting in Glenwood Canyon. We got to Slickrock at 11:00 PM and saw Dave. We walked down and had a beer with Bob and Carol before pitching our tent and going to bed.

SATURDAY MAY 26, 1984

We got up at 6:00 AM and cooked oatmeal. We got to the put-in at 7:00 and met Joe and Brenda there (in another group). We got pretty well munched on our legs by little flies while waiting for the sun to warm things up. In our group, there were 11 boats (2 solo) and the following people: Bob and Carol, Gary and Mike, Kerry and Pauline, Ron and Pete, Scott, Dave, Ray and Mike, Bill and Becky, Terry and Joe Anne, and Phil and Forrest. We also had a raft with Tom, Linda, and their dog Buck with us. We decided to run our own shuttle so Matt and the other drivers left for Bedrock and were gone for a little over three hours. Bill's water pump broke on his pickup. Ray and Mike paddled on ahead, while we waited for the shuttle. They were going to get us a campsite.

We got on the water at around 11:00 and paddled through the Little Glen Canyon where we had lunch. We paddled on down to Bull Canyon where we camped for the night.

Matt and I set up camp at the end of the creek in a nice sandy spot. All of our vegetables had gone bad, so we had only rice and cheese and clams (all together) for dinner. It was actually quite good. Before dinner I dozed off in the sand for an hour or so. We hiked up a rock and met Joe and his crew above Bull Canyon Rapid. We had some Gin and Tonics with Ron. Joe and crew ran Bull Canyon and camped out right at the base of the rapids. Every one sat around the campfire later and finished eating and talked. We later took turns reading Robert Service and then we turned in. I slept really well in the sand.

SUNDAY MAY 27, 1984

We got up at 8:30 and ate some more oatmeal and drank apple juice. Matt and I were the second boat ready at 9:30, and we left a half hour later. Matt and I ran Bull Canyon rapid right down the middle and then took the lower rock on the right. Joe and crew were just getting up when we paddled by. An hour later we hit a drop that I remembered being worse last year. Ron and Pete dumped in it and took a swim. The temperature today was near 90 degrees F.

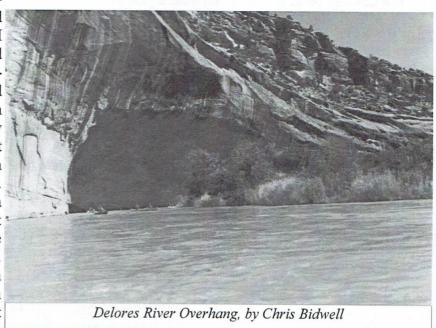
We ate lunch at the overhanging alcove. Later, we went through Spring Canyon Rapid which only three or four boats scouted. Matt and I ran it early and I hiked up and took pictures on a rock where I got a bunch of cactus spines in my hand. We raced Ray and Mike who were paddling a Wenonah racing boat. They gave us a head start and we paddled quite a ways downriver at full blast before they caught up to us. We were all bushed. We paddled on down to Coyote Wash, where we set up camp. Matt took a nap in the tent and I wandered around and

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talked to the others. The little biting flies were out in force. Matt and I played on some boulders.

I went down to Covote Wash, which Bob had measured at 88 degrees F. I sat in the water and dunked under in a deep hole. I borrowed some soap and washed my hair, keeping my body in Coyote Wash water and my head in the slightly but not much cleaner (but much colder at 550) Delores water. Coyote Wash was only a couple inches deep and Matt and I walked up it a little ways and dried off in the sun. Buck came charging down the middle of Covote Wash and thought that he could just run right on across the



Delores, but he found out otherwise in a hurry. Matt and I cooked Burritos with refried beans and cheese for dinner. We then went down to the campfire where there were no bugs and eventually everyone else wandered down also. We played Trivial Pursuit around the fire for at least three hours. Matt and I stayed up with Gary for another 45 minutes after everyone else went to sleep listening to Gary's tales. There were millions of stars out.

MONDAY MAY 28, 1984

Matt and I got up at 7:30 and had apple juice. Neither of us wanted any more oatmeal. We were loaded and on the water at 8:00 and we finally left at 8:30. We paddled around Muleshoe bend, aiming for the sunny patches because it was a little cool in the early morning. It got hot very quickly however. Joe and party were on the downriver side of the Muleshoe bend cutoff. We played around and stole each other's hats. We scouted the first rapid and then ran it on the left and pulled out on the island and tool pictures. We paddled on down to S-bend rapid and Matt and I ran it early so I could take pictures. Everyone made it through. A kayak with Ron's party dumped in the bottom hole. We paddled on through flat water to the take-out and got there at a little past 11:00 AM. We got the boats and gear loaded and carried Bill and Becky's gear to Naturita for them. Bill was going to hunt down a water pump. Matt and I drove to Placerville and Gunnison and Canon City on the way home because Glenwood Canyon was closed. We got home at just past 11:00 PM.

A smooth sea never made a skillful mariner. ~ English Proverb

The trick of the spare paddle By Eric Nyre

When it comes to a spare paddle, there are two schools of thought. Buying the el junko for \$15 in the hope that you never need to use it, or having a real spare paddle. As you can guess, I choose door #2.

The trick with the spare paddle is to have something different. The spare isn't just a spare, but it's a different paddle for different conditions. Do you have a trip with some class III but also long sections of flat? Think about using a bentshaft for a spare, and grabbing that to eat up the flat sections. You can switch to your straight for the whitewater, and in a worst case scenario a bent can be used in class III.

On my last trip down the North Platte I had a 64" red cherry beavertail as my spare. I switched between that and my graphite bent, depending on my mood. The beavertail let me play, practice various traditional strokes, and have fun. When I needed to gain some speed, I parked it on deck and went back to the race paddle.

On longer trips I've been known to carry two spare paddles, just in case. On the Nahanni many years ago, I lost a paddle on the second day out of Moose Ponds. I don't recall the rapid (that upper section is really one long rock garden), but by having two spares I was prepared should I have problems over the next three weeks. I can only imagine what would have gone through my head if I was stuck using el junko for those weeks.

A spare is always a good thing to carry, but instead of having a paddle you'll never use, take one that will allow you to adjust for various conditions or moods.

Response to "Ask Wally"

By Karen Maley

I propose that "Ask Wally" is the RMCC version of Moose Turd Pie, a concoction made famous in a parable told by the great hobo-storyteller Utah Phillips.

In case you haven't heard the tale, Phillips explained that his worst job ever was working on a railroad track-laying crew in the remote wilds of Canada. Because no one wanted to cook for the group, the newest man on the crew was typically saddled with the job, but he could get out of it if anyone one complained about his cooking, in which case the complainer would become the cook. One day the unlucky cook came across an extra-juicy moose turd in the woods and hatched a plan for getting himself a promotion. He took a stick and rolled the moose turd back to his kitchen car and baked it in a great big pastry pie shell. When the crew came in for supper he proudly served up his creation and sat back to see which man would take the bait. One railroad worker took a bite and made a horrible face; then he looked down at his plate and exclaimed, "Why, that's Moose Turd Pie!!" Just a half-second later he had the presence of mind to add "Good, though."

I'm sure everyone who complained about "Ask Wally" remembered to say "Good, though." Anyone who didn't, now is your chance to get "your stuff together," as Utah would have said, and write something funny or creative that is better suited to the sophisticated literary palate of our organization.



Englewood, CO 80113



Rocky Mountain Canoe Club

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:

President	Dave Allured	
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Trip Coordinator	Ned Banta	
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Instruction: Whitewater/Freestyle	Bob & Jill Stecker	
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