

RMCC Rendezvous - August 5 - 8, 2022 – Event Report

They came, they gabbed, they cooked, they ate, they camped, they threw, and ahhh yes, they boated. From Friday morning through Monday, we rendezvoused once more at the BLM Radium campground on the Upper Colorado River. Ten of us started off the weekend running Pumphouse on Friday morning. The majority gathered throughout the afternoon and late into the evening at group sites A and B and three additional campsites nearby. With a few stragglers joining us on Saturday, we totaled 47. Rendezvouchers ranged from old timers, both in age and RMCC membership, to newbies, guests (several from Poudre Paddlers), and three furry friends sporting canoes, hard shell and inflatable kayaks, and a dory. Despite disciplined parking, we nearly maxed out on vehicle space, but thanks to members sharing their extra campsites, everyone tucked in.

The flows were perfect — in my opinion — ranging from 925 to 1040 cfs on the Kremmling gage. With runs on Friday through Monday, groups ran from Pumphouse to Catamount Bridge: Two Bridges to Catamount (Class I, but with some lively waves and rock dodging), Yarmony Bridge to Two Bridges (Class II), and Pumphouse (Class II+). On Saturday, Debbie Hinde wrangled an informal mentoring session on the Yarmony Bridge run with help from several RMCC and PP boaters. Thanks Debbie! Sunday runs included Pumphouse and parts of the Yarmony Bridge run. Fifteen people stayed over Sunday night reportedly enjoying “an extensive happy hour full of snacks that was so plentiful [it served as] dinner.” They all avoided the weekend traffic and four finished out the Rendezvous with a Monday run on Pumphouse.

During happy hour Saturday, Lindsay Meeks conducted the first, and hopefully annual, throw rope competition with 16 competitors.¹ Combining scores for

¹ If you were disappointed with your performance in the competition, were hesitant to compete, or just want to improve your rescue rope skills, see the following for coiling a rope quickly: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcHoXpHi5yU&list=PLqAWcG4wIk6NaN1cOLKXd-a37HHR LAuyk&index=15> and Throwing techniques: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B6dxD-ttYAw&list=PLqAWcG4wIk6NaN1cOLKXd-a37HHR LAuyk&index=6>

accuracy and speed, new RMCC member Chris Kelly won first, Tracy Hays second, Steve Guerra and Brookie Gallagher tied for third, and Joshua Guerra won the youth division. Thanks Lindsay!

In grand Rendezvous tradition, participants displayed their cooking skills and we shared a sumptuous potluck on Saturday evening. Thanks to recent rains, we did not suffer a fire ban, so Dutch ovens once again graced our tables. Winners of the cooking competition were Merlin Wheeler for his chicken green chile Dutch oven casserole main dish (see recipe following), Tracy Bellehumeur for her wild mushroom sauté side, and Noelle Bernhardt for both best Dutch oven dish and best dessert for her chocolate-raspberry torte (recipe coming soon!). Thanks to Miry Broughall and Karla Tanner for orchestrating the voting!

And thanks to the many volunteers who toted or heated water; transported, raised and packed the circus tent; cooked pancakes, made coffee, and brought goodies for Sunday breakfast; fixed car lights (mine!); tended the evening fire; made music; shared campsites, and generally watched out for whatever needed to be done. A special thanks goes to Bill and Kathy Ashworth who attended despite not being able to paddle. Bill hosted the Sunday breakfast, yet again, provided dish wash-up stations for Saturday night and Sunday morning, coordinated with the camp host, advised on multiple logistics issues, helped with our Catamount shuttle, and literally held down the fort (tent) while we boated on Saturday.

Finally, thanks to all who attended despite the dismal weather predictions (it was actually quite good!), served as leads or sweeps, and boated safely.

A few photos are attached. If you have others to share, please circulate them via the GoogleGroup.

Best Main Dish: Chicken Green Chili – Merlin Wheeler

Ingredients: about a dozen corn tortillas (torn in half), equal number chopped green chilis (I use Hatch chili that I buy in the fall and freeze), one medium onion (chopped), two cups chopped cooked chicken, grated cheddar cheese, green enchilada sauce (large can), powdered dried green chili (to taste).

Light charcoal about 20 minutes before baking. Don't use until glowing red.

Build up layers in oiled dutch oven starting with green chili, then tortillas (leave a little space between pieces), onion, chicken, and cheese. Add additional layers as space permits, ending with chicken. Mix green chili powder into enchilada sauce to taste and pour over layers, using fork to work sauce throughout. Add a final layer of grated cheese.

Cook on coals for about 20 minutes. For a ten-inch dutch, I use 8 coals underneath, and about a dozen on the lid.

Spiciness depends totally on your choice of green chili and whether you can find and use powdered green chili.

Pumphouse to Radium, approaching Eye of the Needle, Mack/Pauls



For videos from the Friday Pumphouse run:

- Running Pumphouse in a dory (Mack/Pauls video)
- How not to land a dory (Mack/Pauls video)

Go to:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FSsQqizB6KIRgY7RUzpNNIRuE3ehv56e?usp=sharing> (you might have to download them to view)

Two Bridges to Catamount (Fiore)



©anne mariea fiore (2 bridges 8/06/2022)

Rope throw – Chris Kelly’s winning form (Mutz)



Camp cooking and eating (Fiore)



©anne mariea fiore (RMCC rendezvous 8/05/2022)



©anne mariea fiore (RMCC rendezvous 8/05/2022)



©anne mariea fiore (RMCC rendezvous 8/05/2022)

Stiff competition in the potluck "Sides" category (Mutz)



A Rendezvous Tradition – Tent wrangling (Mutz)



