



ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB



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MARCH 5, 1984

1984 MEETINGS

The schedule for the upcoming meetings of the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club is as follows:

Thursday	Mar 15	Trip Leaders Meeting
Friday	Apr 6	Spring Meeting
?	?	? Nail Soup
Saturday	Oct 6	Fall Meeting

A Note From The President

It won't be long now before they start releasing enough water out of Chatfield Dam to paddle the South Platte and we can begin to get the feel for the water again. It looks as if we will have another good high water year with some great paddling. March 15 is the trip leaders meeting and between now and then we can be thinking of the trips we want to lead. There are a couple of categories of trips that should be bolstered this year, if possible. Last year with the high water it was hard to find easy trips on which beginners could practice their skills. If we all give some thought to these kinds of trips before the leaders meeting, perhaps we can come up with some possible easy trips even for a high water year. The second category of trip that I would like to see more of this year is new trips, or at least trips that the club has not done in a while. There are already a couple such trips scheduled. I am hoping to lead a trip on the Rio Grande in New Mexico. Chris Bidwell is tentatively planning an exploratory trip on the Laramie River in Wyoming. Lyn Berry will lead a trip on the San Juan. The Apishapa River near Trinidad, mentioned on p. 24 of Rivers of the Southwest, sounds like it might be an interesting river for us to explore, if we can find someone motivated to do the research for it.

Last but not least, please remember to send your dues in. We are enclosing a waiver form to be filled out and sent in with your dues. Also, you can now wear the new RMCC t-shirt; see the coupon enclosed. If you want a t-shirt, remember to enclose the order form and send your payment check.

Kerry Edwards

TRIP LEADERS MEETING

Thursday, March 15, 1984, 7:00 pm

To be held at the Edwards' house: Aurora.

Take Parker Road southeast from the intersection of I-225 and Parker Road. Go 1 mile and you will see Meadow Hills Condominiums on the east side of Parker Road. The entrance to Meadow Hills is E. Lehigh Ave. Turn left (east) into Meadow Hills and go around the circle driveway to the north side of the complex. You will find unit just north of the swimming pool and clubhouse area.

SPRING MEETING

Friday, April 6, 1984, 7:00pm

To be held in Room 240, General Classroom Building (GCB), University of Denver. GCB is the large red brick building on the south side of E. Asbury, between York and Race streets. This is the meeting that all you newcomers should attend to get your questions answered and to meet some of the longer standing club members. We will have a film:

"Song of the Paddle" by Bill Mason

Wilderness, a white man's word, and yet a word to describe a beautiful land not easily accessible, but always sure to inspire a sense of reverence. "We are all part of the land and its history," Bill Mason says. And "Song of the Paddle" shows how families can reestablish contact with the natural world. In his sequel to his four films on canoeing technique, Bill Mason, well known conservationist and award winning filmmaker, has produced "Song of the Paddle," a lyrical account of his family's canoeing holiday on the ancient Ojibway waterways of Lake Superior.

Guide for Trip Leaders

This column is intended as a guideline for those people who have not been trip leaders before and are considering leading a trip this coming summer. The rules are not hard and fast and have been bent in the past, but we think they are helpful for those people starting out as leaders.

Trip leader should have been a member of the club for at least a year so that he or she is familiar with the procedures of organizing a trip. They should have previously paddled the river on which they intend to lead the trip. If it is an exploratory trip, the river should be thoroughly researched. The leader should be acquainted with basic canoe safety and carry safety equipment such as a first aid kit and throw line. The leader should also be willing to be available by phone the week prior to the trip and to screen paddlers for the trip. The skill of the participants on the trip should be equal to the difficulty of the river. The shuttle procedure should be arranged by the leader who should also set the tone and style of the trip. Ideally, the tone and style intended should be included in the trip schedule. Maps should be available from the leader so that participants have some idea what is in store for them.

We hope that this year some of our members who have not led trips previously will be willing to fit into these broad guidelines and have the rewarding experience of leading a river trip. If you have any questions about your ability to lead a trip, please feel free to call one of the club officers, or come to the trip leaders meeting and discuss the possibility of leading a trip.

Kerry Edwards

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club
Training Plan for 1984

Intermediate/advanced

May and June

This will take advantage of the "optimum" water levels and will allow our experienced paddlers to enhance their skills and enjoy the good water.

Training will be on the river, and consist of one or more training days,

which will be at a single place for 1/2 day and then a cruise for 1/2 day.

Train the trainer

June

Now that all of the Club's experts are into the season...time to get ready for the next phase of training.

Possibly a river trip, with emphasis on teaching skills and methods, as well as skills and lots of fun!

Beginner training

July

This will take advantage of the lower water levels of this time of year and allow inexperienced paddlers to enjoy less intimidating water when the weather is nicer and the water warmer.

Training will also be on the river and have the same format as the intermediate/advanced.

Topics: (for all training levels)

eddy turns
strokes
water reading and route finding
sets and ferries
trip and group safety, concerns, etc.

It is possible that specific days will be devoted to certain of these topics.

Dates will be advertised later. (Keep alert for them)

Instructors are needed. Contact Lyn Berry at if interested.

The American Red Cross is offering an Instructors Training Program which some of our more interested members might want to take in order to be better qualified to train.

You are likely to see dozens of different birds along our rivers during a canoe trip. That's one of the advantages to canoeing; there are usually times to drift along and observe in the scenery and the wildlife. I would like to tell you about some of the more interesting birds you might see. The raptors, the birds of prey, are among the largest of birds, and are classified together because they are hunters of prey. They share common characteristics of excellent eyesight and powerful talons for killing. Despite the commonalities, most raptors belong to different biological families and are very different in appearance, size, and preferred habitat. They range in size from the magnificent 8 foot wingspan of the bald eagle to the sparrow hawk, which measures just inches. Let's look more closely at a few of the species you might spot along our western rivers.

The largest of western raptors are the two eagles: the bald eagle, our national symbol, and the golden eagle. Both may be observed soaring over rivers and open areas, as well as perched in high trees. The bald eagle is easily recognized by its stark white head and tail, and its huge size. The golden eagle is slightly smaller, with a wingspan of about 7 feet, and has a distinct gold color to the feathers of its head and neck. Both eagles nest in Colorado, and, in particular, there are several nesting sites for bald eagles along the Colorado River. The exact locations are a closely guarded secret, as the US Fish and Wildlife Service as well as the Colorado Department of Fish and Game are trying hard to protect the endangered species. The nests of eagles are huge, and they are used over and over again from one year to the next. They are large, messy structures made of sticks, usually perched in trees or on protected cliff ledges. In the late spring and early summer, young eagles may be observed with attentive parents nearby providing food and teaching the young to hunt and fly.

Several types of falcons may also be found in this area. The rarest is one that has been revered for centuries and was kept by kings as a hunting bird, the peregrine falcon. It is a medium to small sized raptor, with thin, bow-shaped wings that can be identified through binoculars by its black eye stripes. The peregrine breeding and re-introduction program of the state of Utah has had significant success in the last few years, and biologists hope this rare bird will continue to reestablish. The peregrine falcon is known for its eyesight which is 8 to 10 times more acute than ours, and is known for its magnificent "stoops" or hunting dives which head straight for the ground at a velocity of up to 200 mph. Another falcon, far more common, is the prairie falcon. You are

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB MEMBERSHIP MAILING FORM

1984 SEASON

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____ PHONE _____

Please fill in the blanks in the form. Read and sign the waiver. The waiver is a legal instrument, if you do not understand it, consult your attorney. The yearly dues are \$7.50, payable by check or money order only payable to Rocky Mountain Canoe Club. Mail completed form and signed waiver together with your check or money order to:

Terry Owen, Treasurer
 Rocky Mountain Canoe Club
 13453 W. Saratoga Drive
 Morrison, CO 80465

Please list all children who intend, or are about, to engage in canoeing activities organized by the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club:

As the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the aforesaid minor(s), I/we have read the foregoing Waiver/Release and approve of my/our child's/children's or ward(s)'s participation in the activities. I am/we are aware that the intended risks, hazards, potential for injuries, loss or death stated in the Waiver/Release may well be greater for a minor's participation but I/we assume these risks as parent(s) or guardian(s) of the above named and herewith forever release, remise and discharge the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club as specified in the foregoing Waiver/Release.

Date: _____

likely to see this one soaring over open land. It is easily identified by its light color with "armpits"--black stripes or patches located mid-wing, and seen from underneath. It also has the characteristic bow-shaped falcon wings.

Several hawks may be seen too during your river trip. These birds are larger than the falcons, and are sturdy looking birds. They have a heavier shouldered, bulky look both in flight and while perched. The red-tailed hawk is one of the most common, and it is easily recognized by its dark body and bold reddish tail, which, when observed from underneath and lit up by the sun, is unmistakable. Another hawk you could see is the light colored ferruginous hawk, or perhaps the two-toned Swainson's hawk. Finally, a very common hawk is the small sparrow hawk, or kestrel. The male of the species is beautifully colored, with blue and green on its wings and head. It is easy to identify by its characteristic hovering. It just sits in space, moving its wings very quickly to maintain its location, waiting for an unsuspecting mouse to move out into the open and become dinner.

What we have discussed so far have been only the diurnal, or active during the day, raptors. Owls are also raptors, although they are nocturnal, or active at night. You may hear the call of a great-horned owl or several other owls at night, or you may surprise one out of its day-sleep while on a canyon hike.

Watching out for these big, classy birds becomes addicting, once you start to recognize a few of them. Be sure to bring your Peterson's Bird Guide and binoculars on your next trip! Remember the old camp song? Up in the air, junior birdsmen....Keep your noses off the ground!

Joanne P. Brown

THE END PRODUCT
by all who live and breathe

follow these simple rules of sanitation, then the rivers we travel and the places we camp will continue to be worth visiting...

Bill Nelson

The disposal of human wastes is to most of us something we do without giving it much thought, unless we are overcome with a sense of urgency at an inopportune time. The disposal of wastes in the outdoors requires a little foresight, sensitivity, and planning if it is to be done in such a way that will not compromise the health of others or place an undue burden on the native habitat. For this reason, we bring up the subject of * THE * END * PRODUCT *.

Treasurer's Report March 3, 1984

For a small number of boaters on any given trip, disposal of feces is quite simple. What one does is make a "cat john". Find a suitable location, preferably out of the way and well away from the river. Take a small trowel or shovel and dig out a small hole at least four or five inches deep. Therein, do your duty. Used toilet paper is placed atop and burned (watch out in high winds). Lastly, cover it all up with the dirt you dug out originally. The purpose of burning the toilet paper is to get rid of it and to char the feces, discouraging flies. It is easiest to keep the matches inside your roll of toilet paper, which is kept in a plastic bag.

When the number of boaters is more than a few, or if you will be staying in one place for more than a day or two, or if the environment is delicate, then more than a simple "cat john" is in order. The party should take with them a five gallon bucket (hereinafter referred to as "the bucket") expressly for use as a toilet. Line the bucket with a trash bag (two if they're generic). After each use, some hydrated lime should be sprinkled in so as to begin the process of decomposition and to keep the air from getting polluted. People are advised to refrain from urinating in the bucket so as to keep the contents from getting too heavy, too liquid, and too much like a foul water balloon waiting to burst (again, all toilet paper should go in the bucket). The bucket may be used with an optional seat, depending on the mood of the person in charge. Change bags when it seems expedient, and keep the accumulated collection in another bucket for safe keeping. Dispose of it all in town, where facilities for disposal are more adequate.

One last note, if you are staying in a campground with permanent toilets, use them, as there is probably a large human use there, with a large waste impact (no pun intended). We have probably all visited campgrounds where the aesthetics, as well as health issues and a concern for the earth have been violated by the sight of a pile of dung complete with streamers of toilet paper. It's not right!! If all boaters and campers in general use their heads and

	Expense	Income
Balance as of 1983 Fall meeting		478.60
January Newsletter Mailing	101.73	
Canoe Films Festival	77.61	
Canoe Roundup	80.00	
Canoe Club T-shirt Costs	128.95	
Dues		195.00
T-shirt Sales		96.00
Miscellaneous	10.70	5.22
Total Expense and Income	398.99	296.22
Present Balance		375.91

Upcoming Trips

Laramie River, Wheatland Res. #3 to Wheatland, planning stages for a new river
call Chris Bidwell

San Juan River, third week in March, 6 days on river, mostly class II, deep
canyons, Indian ruins, Bluff to Clayhill's Crossings
call D. Dubois

John Day River, Oregon trip, late June, plan now
call D. Dubois

Green River, Labrynth and Stillwater Canyon to Spanish Bottom, June 6-19
call D. Dubois

Purgatoire River, information requested
call Jim Herring

Classified Ads

Sawyer D.Y. Specials, one red, one yellow; lake usage only
\$560 each James Jenrich

Dick Helds "Clearwater" touring kayaks; 14'; one yellow/white, one red/white,
expedition equipped with all accessories, complete package, call for details
\$450; \$550; James Jenrich

Blue Hole OCA, red, thigh straps, d rings, extra gunnels
\$550 Bob Eaton

WENONA Whitewater II, 18.5 ft, like new, yellow, flotation, fast
cruising/tripping for experienced paddler; 4X32 class
\$650 Bob Eaton

Sawyer Cruiser, blue, good karma and history
\$300 Ray Crockett

Hyperform glass kayak, very good condition, built in flotation
\$125 Bill Nelson

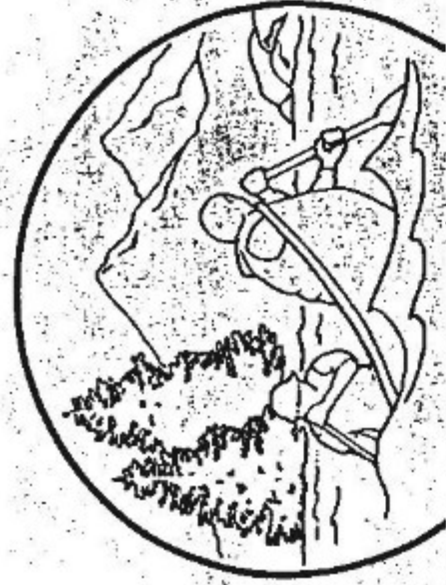
Floating rope, 5/8" soft lay, polypropylene
\$0.15 per foot

Bill Nelson

Classified ads free to members, send copy to;

Andy Forberg

Denver, CO 80207



ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club
T-Shirt Coupon

Name _____ Qty _____ Light Blue _____ Size _____
Address _____ & Tan _____
City, Zip _____ Color _____ Yellow _____

Please indicate size of S, M, L or XL for small, medium, large or extra large.

Enclosed is _____ for _____ t-shirts at \$6.00 per t-shirt.

Make check payable to: Rocky Mountain Canoe Club
13453 N. Saratoga Drive
Morrison, CO 80465.