

VOYAGEUR'S COMPANION

Greetings from Mike and John:

Hope everyone is enjoying their summer. This has certainly been a good season for boating. High run-offs plus a cool, wet spring have kept many rivers runnable for much longer periods than usual. We should be able to canoe well into September if interest exists. From our point of view, this has been a paradoxical summer for the club. Memberships are running quite high, with over 100 people presently on the mailing list. Despite this large membership, however, many trips have gone off with only 3 or 4 boats. We're not sure how to interpret this. Perhaps many of the newer members consider themselves beginning canoeists, and are hesitant to go on trips labeled intermediate and higher. On the other hand, maybe people only want to go on 1 or 2 trips per summer. We would be interested in your comments, either by phone or letter. Because the trip schedule is made up in the spring by the experienced club members, it tends to be biased toward more challenging stretches of water. If you feel more easy stretches should be planned, let us know.

There are still a variety of trips planned in August. Don't let the summer get away without getting your boat wet at least one more time. The trips are:

August 21st - Nail Soup Special

This is the club's midsummer gathering at Gaither and Katy Randall's. Bring the family, some vegetables, and something good to share. Lake races and lots of fun. Call Gaither at [redacted] for the whole scoop.

August 28-29th - Two nice stretches of the Colorado between Radium and Dotsero. The river will be down at this time, hence anyone with some whitewater training who wants to practice should come along. Pumphouse to State Bridge has a couple of nice canyon and some interesting Class I-II rapids. Burns-Dotsero is a little more difficult, with a number of Class II and one Class III (portageable!) rapid. Go for it - Call Bob Eaton, [redacted]

Labor Day Weekend - Chris Conrad is leading the exceptional overnight trip on the Colorado between 9 mile bottom and Moab. Although this trip has some rapids, it is primarily a scenic excursion through the beautiful canyon country near Fishers Towers. Call Chris [redacted] or John Licht [redacted] if you want to close the summer on a high note.

Although the club typically steers clear of politics, I have been alerted to a potential government policy shift which directly affects access to many of our favorite stretches. In an effort to raise revenues from federal land, the BLM is planning to start charging noncommercial river runners \$2.00 per person per DAY to run certain Western rivers, including stretches of the Delores, Colorado, Arkansas, San Juan and Green. The galling thing about this policy is that river runners are singled out to pay while fishermen, hunters, off-road vehicle users and campers will continue to use the lands for free. To protest this unfair policy, write a strong letter as soon as possible to:

James W. Monroe, Chief
Office of Public Affairs
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of Interior
Washington, DC 20240

Hope to see everybody on the river. Trip Leaders - Send in those reports!

COLORADO RACES

CANOE/KAYAK MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS

October 2-3, 1982

Glenwood Springs, Colorado



All races start at Grizzly Creek, 6 miles above Glenwood Springs, on the Colorado River.

OCTOBER 2nd (10:00am Start)

Mass start per class

- *OC-2 Recreation canoes
- *OC-2 Mixed couples recreation and cruiser classes
- *OC-2 Jr/Sr recreation canoes (jr. paddler 14 yrs. or under)

(4:00pm Start)

Mass start per class

- *OC-1 and DR K-1. (The K-1 race will be 2 segments, with the fastest total time determining the winners. The 2nd segment will start at 10:00am, Sunday)

All races October 2nd will run 9 miles to West Glenwood. The water will be Class 1-2.

OCTOBER 3rd (10:00am Start)

Interval timed start, each race

- 3/27 Pro Boats (covers allowed)
- USCA Cruisers (covers allowed)
- *OC-2 (all open canoes)
- DR K-1, 2nd segment

Race will run 17 miles to New Castle Exit. The water will be Class 1-2-3.

*Open canoes

1. Whitewater decks are allowed, not to exceed 36 inches from bow and stern.
2. All flotation must be below the gunwales and not impede water flow to the bottom of the canoe.

LIFE VESTS must be worn at all times while on the water.

AWARDS to 3 places in each race. The winners of the mixed couples races will receive Dinners-for-two gift certificates. The Jr. paddler in the winning Jr/Sr canoe will receive a Grey Owl Paddle.

ENTRY FEE \$5.00 per person, per race entered.

FREE BEER AND POP AT THE FINISH LINE OF ALL RACES---For further information contact: