



# The Voyageur's Companion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB

January 2002

Early Winter Newsletter

## Inside this Issue:

RMCC Officers. . . . .	2
. . . . .	7
Member Purdy earns Award . .	3
Kayakers / Canoeists together .	5
OnLine Discussion list . . . . .	4
Member WAIVER . . . . .	6

## Pool sessions

Will again be held at Meyer's Pool starting Jan 6, closed Jan 20th, Feb 10th, Mar 10th and the 31st. Thats Sundays from 8 am to noon. Cost to be \$3/person.

George C. Meyers Pool, 7900 Carr Drive, Arvada. Thats a block west of 80th and Wadsworth.

These sessions will be for RMCC members only, or member's guests.

## Spring video meeting

Our next meeting will be at St. Judes on Feb. 16th at 6:00pm. This will be our annual video meeting, so all of you that have been getting the rest of us on tape, please clean up the expletives uttered and bring them on down for the rest of us to enjoy.

Keep in touch with RMCC on the WEB at

[rockymountaincanooclub.org](http://rockymountaincanooclub.org)

Trip Schedules  
News & Information  
Pictures  
Training

## The Year 2001 in Review

Greg Jankowski

As our first year of duties draws to a close, I guess it's inevitable to look back on the year gone past and look forward to the upcoming years. The club had it's usual occasions, starting off the year with the spring video meeting this time at the new REI store, where we all got to enjoy videos showing what can be done with a canoe. We were, very dramatically, shown how differently a canoe can be used. In Alan Whitem's video we got to experience creeking and other extreme river running and at the other end of the spectrum we got to see the Stecker's and many others dancing in their canoes. Also shown was the raw, uncut shots of some of our members making glorious runs and others getting trashed on the same runs.

Other club occasions were another successful running of the annual Safety Fair, a great turnout at all the training sessions and the Summer Rendezvous, complete with great food from the dutch oven cookoff.. (didn't you ask Santa for that aluminum 10" dutch oven?). The Flaming Gorge trip went very well, in spite of a lack of water. And last, but definitely not least, was another S. Platte cleanup that was well attended by club members.

## River trips that we were fortunate to be on

I had the great pleasure of starting the boating season with a short run with a very small group down Cataract. Since it was a trip done in mid March, having the ability to sleep under the stars each night and only swimming once made it a fantastic way to start the new year. My heartfelt thanks to Dennis Adams and Tim Ledford (both Grand Canyon experienced) for letting me be sweep and showing me where not to go.

Our week long family trips consisted of the San Juan in the heat of summer, and the Rio Grande in Big Bend NP for Thanksgiving. The Texas journey started with an amazing meteor shower to start the trip and the Northern Lights in NM on the way home. As in the years before, it's a great way to extend the season as much as possible.

## Time to pay dues for 2002.

All members must pay their dues by the end of February in order to keep current.

**Send in renewal form on page 6.**

## RMCC Officers for 2002

**Officers may be a bit of a strong term for such a loose club of eager paddlers, but these members will be "leading" the Club in these various categories.**

**Greg and Karen** are now in their second year of the presidency, having survived the first year without too many scars. Aside from keeping the various and complex mechanisms of the RMCC working smoothly, he will strive to keep members informed about the ongoing saga of river access issues as they unfold.

**Paul** is RMCC's new treasurer, and is eager to return service to the Club that has meant much to him over the last 4 or 5 years. His first canoe trip was with the Boy Scouts on the Missouri River.

Now handling the daunting task of keeping track of membership is **Laurel Adams**. Certainly not a stranger to canoeing or to the RMCC, Laurel really enjoys getting out and becoming involved with the river she is doing. You should have seen her expression after she successfully negotiated Lucifer's Rock rapid (a part of Hell's Half Mile) on the Green River last August.

**Lyn** is also in his second year as the Voyageur's Companion Editor. He certainly enjoys his new home along the banks of the Arkansas River where many and varied ice sculptures grace the river's rocks at this time of year and make the river very unrecognizable from its more familiar summer time excitements.

A native of Thailand, **Liz** recalls many happy hours paddling around in the "klong" (small canal) exploring, catching shrimp and tadpoles and chasing the ducks and geese.

These early and happy memoirs of her childhood are the basis of her interest in canoeing now in Colorado.

**Al** joined the RMCC a number of years ago, but not before he had many exciting river adventures "on his own." Through the club, he has met and paddled with some great people who share his same passion for open boating. Now he wants to increase the club's exposure through the retailers and manufacturers and work toward increasing RMCC membership.

**Bob and Jill** are already very familiar to most of the RMCC membership since they have been coordinating training for several years, and often show their very spectacular pictures at Club meetings. Since starting to canoe only about 15 years ago, Bob and Jill have greatly expanded their scope of canoeing to include wilderness canoeing, racing, quiet water paddling, finesse canoeing, as well as river tripping.

**Ken** is the Club's Trip Coordinator. His goal for this year is to have good, interesting trips scheduled on most weekends for most members. With the help of RMCC paddlers who, *ahead of time*, will be eager to promote a particular river trip and willing to volunteer to coordinate canoe trips, this will happen. Having been paddling most of his life in all manner of craft, Ken has only recently come to realize the value of working and paddling with a strong circle of friends such as found in the RMCC.

**Jim**, the RMCC former President, has agreed to spear head our Club's Conservation efforts. Jim is going to try to keep the club up to date on river access developments, dam removal issues, and fee demo issues, as well as finding out whether he is supposed to spearhead the club's involvement with the river clean-up on the S. Platte.

**See list of RMCC Officers and contact information on page 7.**

**FIBARK:** This four-day festival is more than just whitewater racing! There are more than enough activities for everyone, including spectators. FIBArk stands for "First In Boating the Arkansas." Extreme water sports enthusiasts and stars come from all over the world to tame the roaring whitewater of the Arkansas River as it rushes through some of the most technical mountain rapids in the United States. Besides the 26 mile downriver kayak race, there are all types of boat and river competitions, which include such things as the Pro Raft Race, the Freestyle competitions, and the comedic Hooligan race. Off the river there is plenty to do as well, with all kinds of community events and activities taking place - from the FIBArk parade on F Street in historic downtown Salida, Colorado to plenty of arts and crafts, food and merchant booths to enjoy.

In 2002, plan to enjoy the FIBARK weekend and have a fun intermediate paddle on the Arkansas River. See RMCC Trip Schedule on page 7.

# Club Member Receives Distinguished Award

by Jim Holloway

Club member, Penelope Purdy, who when not paddling or otherwise playing, serves as a member of the Editorial Board of The Denver Post, is the 2001 recipient of the Aldo Leopold Award for Distinguished Editorial Writing. The award is given by *The Wilderness Society* for editorials articulating the importance of protecting America's wilderness. The award, for which one does not apply, is given to a writer who has produced a solid body of work over a period of time. The President of the society, Bill Meadows, Council members, and staff will present the award to Penelope on January 18, 2002 during a ceremony at Denver's Hyatt Regency Hotel. Way to go and congratulations, Penelope!"

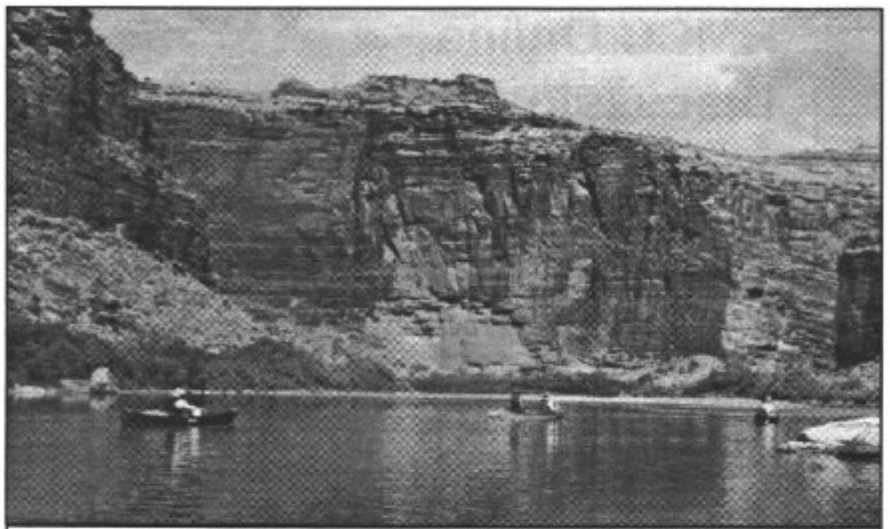
**The following is taken from the official Award announcement:**

## DENVER POST'S PURDY WINS LEOPOLD AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDITORIALS

WASHINGTON, December 3, 2001—The Denver Post's Penelope Purdy has been named the fifth winner of the Aldo Leopold Award for Distinguished Editorial Writing.

The Wilderness Society presents the award annually to an editorial writer who has produced editorials forcefully making the case for protecting America's remaining wild lands. The honor is named for the author of *A Sand County Almanac*, one of the seminal works in the literature of conservation. Leopold, who wrote a number of influential books and essays, was a founder of The Wilderness Society.

"Penelope has produced more than her share of first-rate editorials on land protection issues, which are of major importance to her Rockies audience," said Wilderness Society President William H. Meadows. "She has written lucidly and persuasively about wilderness, national monuments, energy policy, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, off-road vehicle traffic in national parks, and the future of our national forests.



Penelope (on the left) paddles her canoe through "Dewey" Canyon of the Colorado River on the way to Moab, September 2001

by Lyn Berry

"Anyone who has tried to win support during a debate on Capitol Hill knows how helpful it is to have in hand an editorial from an important newspaper, and we've carried a number of Denver Post editorials up there," Meadows continued.

Wilderness Society Governing Council Chairman Bert Fingerhut, an Aspen resident, said, "With all the important public lands issues on the agenda in Colorado and elsewhere in the Rockies, it is reassuring to have such an effective voice articulating the reasons for natural resource protection."

Purdy has been an editorial writer and columnist for The Post since 1989. She was a reporter for the paper during the four previous years. A graduate of the University of Wyoming (BA) and the University of Denver (MA), Purdy grew up in Wyoming. She has won awards from the Society of Professional Journalists, the Colorado Press Association, the Rocky Mountain Association of Environmental Professionals, and the Colorado Coalition Against Domestic Violence, among others. Purdy has climbed 63 of the 70 peaks above 14,000 feet in the continental United States and is a whitewater canoeist, scuba diver, skier, angler, and airplane pilot.

"Past generations of Americans showed tremendous vision in preserving our public lands, national parks, and forests," Purdy said. "I hope through my writing I've been able to instill in our generation a similar dedication to preserving that irreplaceable legacy."



## RMCC Online Discussion List

### Join, be connected

"Damn! The trip schedule is out and some of these dates just don't work. Aunt Ethel is visiting the week of the Green River Trip. I wish they had scheduled it some other time."

Granted that you may not have an Aunt Ethel but have you ever found yourself saying something similar to that? Chances are, you have.

Maybe you've seen an ad for a boat and it looks like a good deal but you don't know anyone who's paddled one of these models. You're wondering how it performs in Class IV water. Who can you ask?

The answer to both situations is oh so simple. Join the RMCC electronic discussion list and get in the loop!! The only requirement is that you have an e-mail address. Once you have subscribed to the list, you can send messages to the discussion list. Everyone who is subscribed will see your message and those who have an interest in replying to your question will do so. On many occasions, club members will post invitations for spur of the moment trips and trips that are organized after the schedule is printed in the newsletter.

The discussion list is available only to those members who are subscribed. For the most part, solicitors are kept from posting nuisance advertising and the club membership is not so large that you will be inundated with messages in your inbox. So come on! - Join the RMCC discussion list and join the fun!

If you don't have Internet/Web access to sign up, send Liz a message or call her and she can process your subscription for you. (see contact information to the right)

### To subscribe to the discussion list:

1. Go to this website:  
<http://mail.indra.com/mailman/listinfo/rmcc>
2. Enter your e-mail address in the box provided.
3. Choose a password and enter it into the box provided.
4. Confirm it by entering it again and then click the "Subscribe" button.

### To unsubscribe from the discussion list:

1. Go to the same website listed above
2. Scroll down to the very bottom of the web page.
3. Enter your e-mail address in the box provided.
4. Click the "Edit Options" button
5. Enter your password in the "Unsubscribing from RMCC" section of the page.
6. Click the "Unsubscribe" button.

### If you have forgotten your password or want to change it:

1. Follow instruction steps 1 through 4 for unsubscribing from the list.
2. Enter information in the appropriate places on this web page.

### To send a message or reply to the discussion list:

1. Use your regular e-mail service and send the message or reply to [RMCC@indra.com](mailto:RMCC@indra.com)

### Questions or concerns about this list? Contact:

## Is it really true?

### Can kayakers and canoeists paddle together in harmony?

*Bonnie Gallagher*

At my first canoe club meeting several years ago, I heard a few comments announced by the outgoing president about kayakers and the local kayak club. It became apparent to me that there were some definite difficulties.

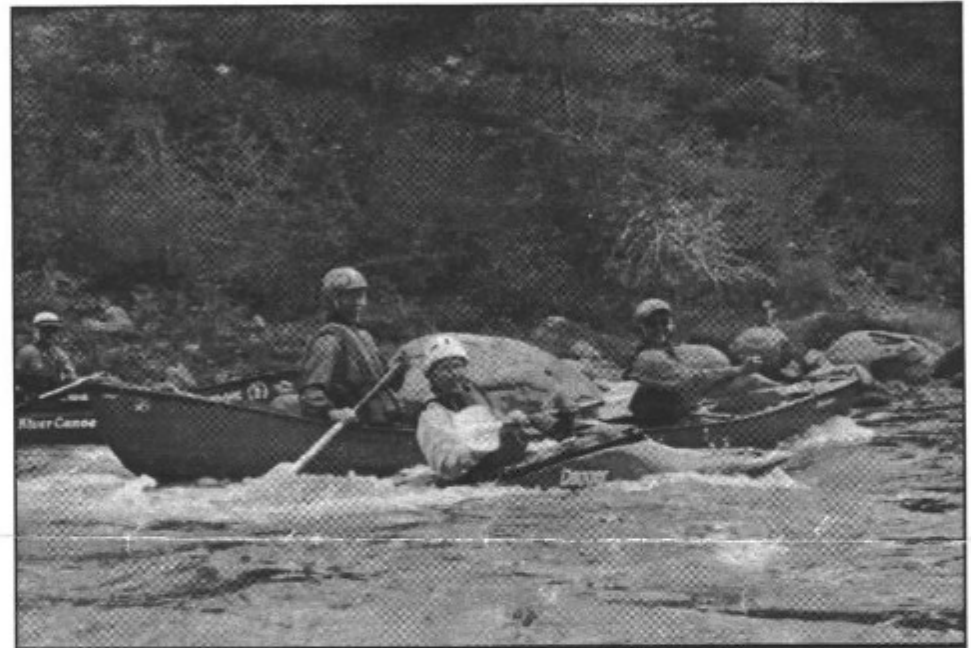
A few months later, on one of my first paddle trips with the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club, I was paddling in the bow of a tandem canoe with another woman. We had experienced a great, fantastic day on the lower Blue...(well, except for having wrapped her boat on a rock avoiding the swimmers from another tandem canoe.) However, at the takeout, I met a group of my acquaintances from the Whitewater Association in their kayaks. In order to head off any teasing I might get from the kayakers, a 6 foot 2 inch male member of the canoe club went over to the kayakers and let them know that I was paddling with them. That was my second realization that there was some friction between canoeists and kayakers.

Over the next couple of years, I was enjoying the C-1 paddling and the canoe club people so much that I really didn't care with whom I paddled or what craft they paddled. I just wanted to paddle my C-1.... so off I went for a few years of happy canoe paddling.

Recently, as I continue to age, I realize that I can paddle better and safer in my kayak, I have been faced with the conflict of wondering if those boundaries between canoes and kayaks are insurmountable.

Soooooooo, this last summer I managed to land in a group of kayakers and canoes all on the same river trip. Our group of 3 solo canoes, 1 tandem

canoe, and 2 kayakers just fell into place. The kayakers set the shuttle at the take out while the canoes went directly to the put in and began rigging their boats. We all ended up at the put in ready to go at pretty much the same time. Yes, kayakers can do some things faster...but canoes can do other things faster.... and it is so much a matter of personal preference. And it just so happened that the time worked out well for all.



Lyn Berry & Jeanne Younghaus -in the Dimension- surfing the wave along with Dan Lavender in the kayak. Arkansas River, August 2001.

When the canoeists needed to stretch their knees, the kayakers found a wave or two to surf.

As lunchtime rolled along we were all having so much fun as a group of mixed boaters that we decided we needed a group photo. Each paddler was identified as a canoeist or a kayaker by holding their paddle, thus identity was maintained but friendships were not compromised.

The ultimate camaraderie on the river, of course, is experienced while surfing and playing. As an kayaker for many years, there were some people I just didn't want to boat with because they simply couldn't share a wave. Well, at

the end of the day our group came across the ultimate surf wave. Everyone took their turn on the wave with no one becoming the "wave hog." But just taking turns wasn't enough. Someone in the group decided that what we needed was a photo of the tandem canoe surfing the wave, at the same time the rodeo kayak was on that very wave. Is it really possible that these two crafts can surf simultaneously and contentedly? Yes it is. It was so

satisfying for me to be paddling with both of the groups of people that I enjoy. We all enjoyed the sharing of time, beauty, waves, and friendship.

I have personally decided that it never really was true that kayakers and canoeists could not paddle in harmony together. I believe that it only takes a group of paddlers who focus on similarities and the wonders of the rivers we paddle. I am so happy that I don't have to make a choice of gear based on the people I want to paddle near me. We can all share and enjoy the same waves. We now have proof!

**Thank you Lyn and Jeannie, Bill, Ken, Dennis, and Dan!**

**Rocky Mountain Canoe Club, an ACA Paddle America Partner  
WAIVER / RELEASE**

This waiver / release is a LEGAL INSTRUMENT. If you do not understand it, consult your attorney.

WHEREAS, I (we) intend, or am (are) about, to engage in canoeing activities upon rivers, lakes, and/or other waterways, which activities have been organized by the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB (RMCC) of Denver, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, I (we) am (are) doing so entirely upon my (our) own initiative, risk, and responsibility, and am (are) duly aware that risks and hazards are, or may be, inherent in such canoeing activities; and

WHEREAS, I (we) elect voluntarily to engage in such activities having only limited knowledge of conditions and understanding that conditions may be more hazardous and dangerous than I (we) presently believe; I (we) further understand and expect that my (our) conduct during such activities shall be dictated by my (our) own decisions as to if and how to deal with any particular stretch of river, lake or other waterway; and

WHEREAS, I (we) understand that the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB, its officers, directors, and trip leaders in particular and its members in general organize such activities solely for the pleasure and enjoyment of the participants; and

WHEREAS, I (we) am (are) supplying for my (our) own use such first aid, safety and medical supplies as I (we) deem necessary and I am (we are) not relying upon the members or leaders for such items; and

WHEREAS, I (we) recognize that neither the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB, nor its several officers, directors, members and leaders are responsible for my (our) participation in any particular activity nor for the participation of other people and that in no event is the Club or its officers, directors, members or leaders responsible for my (our) conduct or the conduct of others sharing such participation; and

WHEREAS, my (our) participation is in no way based upon any representations made by any members, officers, directors or leaders as to the difficulty, danger or hazard of such activities, but rather because of my (our) independent desire to participate in such activities with other people with similar interests;

NOW, THEREFORE, I (we) do hereby, for myself (ourselves), my (our) heirs, executors, assigns, and administrators, release, and forever discharge the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB of Denver, Colorado, and all of its officers, directors, agents, leaders, and members individually and collectively, from any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of actions now or hereafter arising on account of my (our) death or on account of any injury to me (us) or damage to my (our) property, or on account of the injury or death suffered by any other person which may occur from any cause while I (we), or any other person, may be engaged in activities of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB, including therein all ground and transportation operations incident thereto unless such death, injury, or harm results from gross negligence or willful misconduct.

This WAIVER / RELEASE shall be binding in all its terms for all activities of the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB.

I (WE) HEREBY CERTIFY that I (we) have read the foregoing WAIVER / RELEASE, understand it in all its terms and conditions and sign it voluntarily and intelligently, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

<u>Print Name</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>List all children who engage in RMCC activities:</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

As the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the aforesaid minor(s), I (we) have signed 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 attendant risks, hazards, potential for injuries, lose 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.

**Signature of parent or guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION for ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB an ACA Paddle America Partner**

Member Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Membership \_\_\_\_\_

<b><u>Please print</u></b>	<b><u>Needs</u></b>	<b><u>Preferences</u></b>
Name (s) _____	Need a partner _____	Lakes _____
Address _____	Need a boat _____	Moving water _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____	Need instruction _____	Whitewater _____
Home phone _____ Work phone _____	Want to volunteer _____	Tripping _____
FAX _____ E-Mail _____	Want to lead a trip _____	Racing _____

Dues are \$15.00 per household per calendar year (all memberships expire Feb 28th). Make checks payable to the ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB. Mail this completed Waiver/Membership form together with your check or money order to:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB c/o Laurel Adams \_\_\_\_\_ Denver CO 80222  
Questions call: \_\_\_\_\_

Your term of membership and for newsletter issues: Memberships need to be renewed by Feb 28<sup>th</sup> of every year. If you join on or before August 31, your last Newsletter will be the following Early Winter (Jan or Feb) Issue. If you join after August 31, your last issue will be the second following Early Winter Issue.

## Rocky Mountain Canoe Club 2002 Officers

### Co-Presidents

Greg & Karen Jankowski.....

### Advertising

Al Johnson.....

### Treasurer

Paul Holscher.....

### Training

Bob & Jill Stecker ....

### Membership

Laurel Adams .....

### Trip Planning Coordinator

Ken Bauer .....

### News Letter

Lyn Berry .....

### Conservation

Jim Hollaway .....

### Web Master

Dave Allured .....

### Quartermaster

Kerry Edwards .....

### RMCC Discussion List

Liz D'Antonio-Gan...

Bob Aikin .....

## RMCC Trip Schedule

**Keep informed and Up-To-Date. Refer to 2002 trip Schedule on the RMCC Web Page. [www.rockymountaincanoe.org](http://www.rockymountaincanoe.org)**

Feb. 23, 2002    Class I canoe trip, South Platte River Evans to Kersey    Snow date March 2  
Call Dave Allured at     Beginners OK

June 15 & 16    Arkansas River Weekend    Class II    Lyn Berry      
A fun weekend on the river, in connection with the FIBARK festival. Camping. Pot Luck.  
Featuring a 10 mile intermediate paddle from Salida to Rincon including Bear Creek Rapid.

Kids Canoe program    Dates and details to be announced.    Watch for it!

The *Voyageur's Companion* is a periodic publication of the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club. It is primarily the venue for the RMCC to post trip schedules, classified ads, and related material, enabling members to share and enhance their canoeing interests. Members are invited to contribute articles on canoe trips as well as informative articles on subjects such as: Paddling techniques, Equipment, Rigging the canoe, Environmental issues, River safety, Camping techniques, Canoe history. The editorial staff appreciates your efforts to limit wordiness or superfluous details, and to restrict an article to under 1200 words (about 2 pages).

**Submitting Articles:** Editorial material for The Voyageur's Companion is welcomed and should be sent to: Lyndon Berry, Editor, The Voyageur's Companion, [ ] Buena Vista CO, 81211 [ ] OR e-mail to: [ ] {That is: j (Jeanne) l (Lyn) ark (Arkansas) river} . Material is preferred via e-mail or on PC disk, but paper is great too. Use the following formats for text: Word 6 or 7, Word Perfect, Word 95 or 97, and most others; and for images/pictures: .bmp, .tif, .pcx, .gif, .tga, .jpg, .pcd. So far I do not have a scanner, but hopefully that will change soon. **Deadline for Spring newsletter is March 20. Get it to me; See it in print!**

Membership: \$15.00 per Household per Year. Contact Laurel Adams at [ ]

Mail applications to: [ ] Denver CO 80222



**Dues are Due!**



Newsletter of the *Rocky Mountain Canoe Club*, an *American Canoe Association Paddle America* partner.

**The Voyageur's Companion**

C/O Editor

[ ]  
Buena Vista Colorado 81211 [ ]

