



The Voyageur's Companion

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CANOE CLUB

March 2004

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

from Ron and Nancy Stanker

We're off to a good start with a plethora of RMCC activities and trips scheduled for the 2004 Paddling Season! Now, if the snow pack cooperates and fills our Rocky Mountain Region Rivers, we'll be set. Even though there was a slight increase in the annual dues, an additional five dollars to offset expenses, we hope many new paddlers will join our club. Talk up your experiences of the RMCC with friends, relatives, and co-workers. Invite them to our **Spring Potluck and Slideshow Meeting at REI on March 26th**. Be sure to come, too, and bring your trip videos. Share this issue of *The Voyageur's Companion*, which is packed with information, or refer them to the website, (<http://www.rockymountaincanoeclub.org>) as another way to connect with the club.

We apologize for the oversight in not listing Bob and Carol Aikin as Quartermasters in the list of officers in the last issue of *The Voyageur's Companion*. They have graciously agreed to continue in this position for this coming year. The RMCC may have an article of clothing or a piece of gear you could borrow for one of the trips, so check with them.

Keep in touch with RMCC on the WEB at

rockymountaincanoeclub.org

Trip Schedules
News & Information
Pictures
Training
Schedule Your Trip

This season, as in the past, we're trying to set up the schedule of classes and events to support people new to the sport of canoeing. For example, after the Spring Potluck in March, the **Safety Fair weekend in April (Friday 16th and Sunday 18th)** serves everyone as either a refresher course or first-time information on safety and river rescue techniques. Then, on May 1st and 2nd the **Basic Solo and Tandem Canoeing Classes** help people improve their skills. After attending these classes, some beginner trips are planned like the **Dotsero to Hanging Lake Meet-and-Greet on May 8th**. This Class I paddle and barbecue lunch at the take out site will be a good way for newcomers to the RMCC to meet some of the more experienced paddlers and have a fun day on the Colorado River. This run along Interstate 70 goes past some awesome side canyons and gives a new perspective to this oft-traveled road.

All of the trips and events need support, so plan on signing up early and thinking of ways to help. We have two great opportunities this spring for promoting our passion of paddling. **REI has invited the RMCC to support both their Flatwater Day at Chatfield on May 16th and Camp REI at Chatfield on June 12th**. At these events, the RMCC can host a booth about our club, pass out flyers and information, and as always, have a good time. We'll post more information about the times and locations within the State Park on the website, but please let us know if you are available on either one or both of those days to help. (HINT: highlight above dates in your newsletter, mark on your calendar, then pick up the phone and call Ron and Nancy to say you'll sign up for a shift at the RMCC booth.) With a good turn out of club members, we can easily plan a picnic or party to add to the day.

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Begin Year Newsletter

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RMCC Membership

By Paul Holscher

Time to ReNew

Now is the time. If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail, it is time to renew. The required application and waiver form is included on page 10.

Thank you for your quick response.

Some Changes

At the officers meeting in December it was decided to make a few changes to membership. First of all it was decided to set dues at \$20 per year effective for 2004 (a cut back from the \$22 previously discussed at the membership meeting in November). Second, the officers decided to restrict the internet discussion list to members only. Since the club pays for this

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President Message (Continued)

As the old adage goes, many hands make light work. We know this spirit of cooperation and helping new paddlers will always prevail in the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club. On a personal note, Ron and I have received lots of help from everyone as we have learned to canoe better and taken on this position as Co-Presidents. A big 'thank you' to all the members of the RMCC, and especially the Officers, for all the hard work and energy invested in organizing and implementing our 2004 Paddling Season!

Membership Changes (Continued)

list and supplies the volunteers to keep it up to date, it was felt that this should be a members only benefit. Finally, in a move that won't affect anyone except new members, it was decided to have memberships renew on the members anniversary date. For people who were members before 2004, the membership will continue to expire on February 1. But for people joining in 2004 their memberships will 12 months after they join. It was felt that this will help with recruiting during the spring and summer.

Join American Canoe Association

The American Canoe Association is nation's largest and most active nonprofit paddle sports organization. The ACA is dedicated to promoting canoeing, kayaking, and rafting as wholesome lifetime recreational activities. The ACA provides a variety of worthwhile programs and public services in such areas as: event sponsorship, safety education, instructor certification, waterway conservation, paddler's rights and protection, and public information campaigns.

The easiest way to join ACA or to renew is to use their Website:

www.acanet.org

Their phone number is (703) 451-0141

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club members may join ACA at special reduced rates through the Paddle America Partner program. That translates into a savings of about 1/3rd off the cost of an individual ACA membership and almost 1/2 off the cost of a family membership. (This cost is \$20 individual, \$25 family)

NOTE: To receive the Paddle America discount, be sure to fill out the Paddle America Memberships section in the middle of the form on the internet. Under "List Paddle America Club", enter "Rocky Mountain Canoe Club".

Your ACA Membership entitles you to this valuable package of member benefits:

Access to hundreds of ACA sanctioned paddling events — trips, races, clinics — and includes liability insurance coverage.

Six exciting issues of PADDLER magazine — an \$18 subscription value.

Quarterly AMERICAN CANOEIST on-line newsletter — featuring the ACA calendar and complete ACA news.

Valuable member-only discounts on paddling equipment, books, services & other products.

Paddlesport information and resources network.

Join ACA: Enhance your canoeing experience and also support the RMCC.

Safety Fair

Jim and Karen Baker-Jarvis

The club is sponsoring a Safety Fair on Sunday April 18 at Meyers Pool from 10:00 AM until approximately 2:00 PM.

Our Safety Workshop Weekend kicks off on Friday night, April 16th at 6:30 pm with a potluck dinner and safety videos. As with the Spring Potluck and Video Meeting, please bring your drinks and a main dish, salad, or desert to share. The club will supply the paper products and condiments. REI closes at 9:00 pm, so dinner and our safety information will wrap up by then. Please plan on attending both this meeting and the pool session on Sunday to get the most information about being safe while canoeing.

Volunteers Needed: If you are interested in helping out please

contact: Jim or Karen Baker-Jarvis

We will start with an overview and discussion of safety concerns and types of hazards encountered on the river. We will break up the group into subgroups. If there are enough children we will have a kids group. We will have a number of stations where specific safety and rescue techniques will be practiced. Each subgroup will rotate from station to station. These stations will include: self rescue techniques, boat assisted rescue, throw bags, boat-over-boat rescue, swimmer concerns and technique, rescue equipment to be carried on the river, and knots and pulley systems.

People should bring swim suits, lifejacket, boat with airbags, paddles, throw bag.

Paddle safely!

THE SUMMER RENDEZVOUS

Ron and Nancy Stanker

Mark your calendars! The RMCC's annual Rendezvous will be held Friday, July 23rd through Sunday, July 25th at the Bureau of Land Management's Recreation Site in Radium, near Kremmling. This event is a great way to meet fellow members in the club, paddle the colorful Colorado River, camp and cook and croon around a campfire, and, in general, have a fun-filled weekend.

We have reserved the group campsite for Friday and Saturday nights. Each night's reservation accommodates 30 people and 4 cars. We'll need to collect, on site, \$3.00 per car and \$1.00 per person for any additional vehicles or people.

As in past years, people arriving early on Friday afternoon can canoe if there are enough drivers to run a shuttle. On Saturday and Sunday, trips usually form as someone announces which part of the river he or she plans to run, and others join. Some of the popular runs on this stretch of

the Colorado include: Pumphouse to Radium; Radium to Yarmony and State Bridge; and Yarmony Bridge to Landing Strip. Various whitewater skills are needed for these runs, so keep paddling.

For all our new members, one of the highlights of Rendezvous is the Dutch Oven Cook-off on Saturday night. Any recipe you choose qualifies as an entry. Prizes are awarded in the categories of best main dish, dessert, bread, and the People's Choice, over-all favorite of the gang. If you like to cook, or even if hungry children are your chief motivator, come join the fun. Dutch-oven cookbooks and recipes are available at the library and on line, so **No Excuses!** Even if your dish is not prepared in a Dutch oven, plan on bringing food to share for Saturday night's potluck dinner.

For the campfire after dinner, bring your guitars, harmonicas, and any other musical instruments you might play. Don't forget your camp chairs, and if anyone can pack some extra firewood, that will be appreciated, too.

The traditions of Rendezvous continue Sunday morning with pancakes prepared

by the Co-Presidents. (Of course, anyone who wants to help is welcome.) Come load your plates with pancakes before heading off for another day of paddling and fun on the river.

There will be more information in the May edition of *The Voyager's Companion*, including a map and directions to the campsite in Radium. If you are coming to the Rendezvous, please let Ron and I know, so we can plan accordingly.

Lastly, after investigating the logistics for changing the Rendezvous to the Arkansas River this summer, it was decided to keep it at Radium for 2004, and continue to explore the campgrounds and runs for next year at a different location. We hope to see lots of both new and familiar faces in July at the Summer Rendezvous!

RAFFLE OF REMAINING RMCC'S PATCHES

We have about 70 Rocky Mountain Canoe Club Patches left to sell. They cost \$3.00 each and buying one is a great way to support the Club (and fill our coffer). The patches are attractive and iron on easily to a favorite hat or article of clothing. To move this merchandise, we are offering an incentive. For each patch sold, you will receive a raffle ticket and the matching number, if drawn, will receive a \$5.00 Starbuck's Gift Certificate. There will be two drawing, one for the first 35 patches sold, and a second one after the last patch is purchased.

If you haven't got your RMCC patch, and want one, please send a **check for \$3.00, payable to the RMCC, to the Stankers at- 6631 Yale Drive, Highlands Ranch, CO 80130.** We will mail your order to you, or if possible, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope. Either way, you'll receive your patch and raffle ticket, and qualify for the lucky drawing! The drawing dates and winners will be posted on the website and published in our newsletter. Please **ACT SOON** to be in our first drawing!

RMCC -SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

These are "specialty events!"

See also RMCC Trip Schedule on page 6

Event	Date	Time	Location
Spring Potluck & Videos	Fri. March 26	6:30 - 9:00 pm	REI flagship store
Safety Potluck	Fri. April 16	6:30 - 9:00 pm	REI
Pool Safety	Sun. April 18	10:00 - 2:00 pm	Meyers Pool
REI Flatwater Day	Sat. May 16	TBA	Chatfield Res.
Camp REI	Sat. June 12	TBA	Chatfield Res.
Rendezvous	Fri. July 23	Come early	BLM Camp, Radium
(Camp/Cook-off)	Sun. July 25	Stay late	
Dragon Races	Sat. Aug. 14	TBA	Sloan Lake
(Practice & Race)	Sun. Aug. 15	TBA	Sloan Lake
Fall Potluck	Fri. Nov. 12	6:30-9:00 pm	REI

Please mark your calendar with these dates so you don't miss out on supporting the RMCC and having lots of fun!

"Life on a twist of the paddle!"

Doug Green, Conservation Officer. dg_cww@msn.com

Hi Folks! There's good news and bad news on the conservation front. The good news is, a big first step has been made towards eliminating the Fee Demo program. The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee recently passed S.1107, permitting fees for recreation in the National Parks to continue, but allowing fees to lapse on BLM, Forest Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands. The Fee Demo program was never voted on by Congress, it was enacted as an appropriations rider and been extended as such without voter approval. The BLM and Forest Service lobbied hard, but their attempts to extend fees permanently for recreational use on everything from dayhikes to launch sites was stopped by hundreds, in some cases upwards of a thousand, phone calls and faxes to the various Senators' offices. Thanks to all who responded to the email alert forwarded on our club's discussion list. Next comes a fight for matching legislation in the House of Representatives.

I've also been asked if the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club would join the list of groups which support the Western Slope No-Fee Coalition in opposition to the Fee Demo program. So what do you think? Should our club add its name to the list? Please email me and let me know what you — yes, YOU — personally think!

The bad news is, private boater permits are coming to Browns Canyon on the Arkansas. According to the BLM officials at the Denver meeting of the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area (AHRA) on Monday February 9th, it's not a question of IF a permit system is coming, it's a question of WHEN it will start, and what form it will take. We still have time to influence the way permits will be implemented, where and how they will be issued. These are important details, as you know if you've ever struggled to get a launch per-

mit for a popular river run.

But you never run the Arkansas, you say? Why does it matter to you? Because our sport, paddling, is growing in popularity. Privately and commercially, both residents and tourists love taking to the water. Colorado's human population is growing rapidly. People who can't get permits for the Ark will paddle someplace else. What's next, the Poudre? Horsethief/Ruby? Lower Gunnison? What's your favorite run? There's a land manager out there eyeing it, guaranteed. What happens here will influ-



Arkansas River, Frog Rock rapid in winter ice.

Lyn Berry

ence what happens on other rivers in the future.

Upper Arkansas River recreation is a complex issue, with lots of sides, and lots of history. The planning process started over 12 years ago, and the BLM's proposed "Integrated Concept Plan" is undergoing final revision. It will be voted on by the Colorado Parks Board in the near future. As of this writing, the public comment period closed February 11th, but my contact at the BLM was "pretty certain" it would be extended for "awhile" longer. Public comments are still being accepted. In fact, the BLM planners truly do appreciate written comments from the public that address specific issues.

As I see it, from the private canoeist's point of view, the commercial rafters are giving up launches in Browns Canyon, and some in Parkdale, and are moving into The Numbers. That's good for private boaters in Browns, but potentially lethal for small boats in Numbers, where eddies are small-

er, tighter, and rocks that hang up rafts are much more numerous. The launch window cutoff for commercial rafts in Numbers will be extended from 11:30 until 2 pm, as it is in Browns. This means if you want to canoe either section without risk of being plowed under by a raft, you are stuck with a late launch. This extension of the commercial launch window for Numbers was a real concern for many small boaters at the meeting, and may be affected by your comments. One aspect not addressed in the ICP ought to be some limitation on commercial rafts based on low flow parameters, as well, because rock-hung rafts can pose a real danger to small boats in a tight channel.

A permitting system for private boaters in Browns Canyon will be implemented when private launches exceed the BLM's somewhat-arbitrarily-chosen numbers, expected to happen this year or next year or the year after — the official at the meeting admitted they haven't adequately counted the actual numbers of private launches to determine the various runs' true capacities, something you might point out when you write. The

numbers for commercial and private launches were determined over a decade ago, based on guesstimates of the future made at that time, not what is actually happening on the river today. I don't believe they adequately or fairly reflect the growth in private boating, and they heavily favor commercial launches over private, something I think is intrinsically unfair. You might disagree.

While the plan calls for permits initially only in Browns Canyon, the system adopted will likely be extended to other sections of the river soon enough. Details of the permit plan yet to be worked out include where and how the permits will be obtained (at the BLM office? at the put-in? first come first served? by mail in advance? over the phone? off the Internet?), will advance reservations be taken and if so how far in advance, will there be a lottery system, a waiting list, or some call-in scheme? These are important

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Trip Coordinator's Corner

By Karen Amundson

January 11th Permit Party:

A group of people gathered at my house to socialize and strategize about which river permits to apply for. Our biggest effort was to put out at least 6 applications for Yampa Canyon, ranging from June 21 to July 3rd. A few people are trying to get permits for Lodore Canyon of the Green River, Desolation-Grey Canyon of the Green, the Rio Chama, and San Juan River. I heard rumors of the Main and Middle Fork of the Salmon, too. With any luck, we will come up with a couple of these rivers and run them as RMCC trips.

Results thus far

Nancy Stanker was drawn for a Chama permit in late July, and Dennis Daigle has included a few canoes on his April 6th Salt River, Arizona trip. Three Deso-Grey permits for August were granted to Dave Allured, Nancy Stanker, and myself; so we'll need to pick the best date. The Yampa looks promising. Watch the website trip page to see if we have captured any other permitted trips.

Joint Trips Announced:

Eric and Jerry Nyre of Canoe Colorado are also Rocky Mountain Canoe Club members, and have agreed to lead their 14+ trips this season under both banners. They have several stretches of river that I have not run nor seen on the RMCC schedule, so this will open up some new territory. Note that a few of the trips are for sea kayaks only, but most are for canoes and we will make this distinction clear on the website and in any printed schedules. For those who are not familiar with Canoe Colorado, their primary function is to sell canoes, sea kayaks, and related equipment. Access their website at <http://canoecolorado.com/> and see their advertisement in this newsletter.

NOTE: There is no specific cost for RMCC members to participate in these joint trips.

Trip Leaders Needed:

Now is the time to pick a nice stretch of river and volunteer to lead a trip. If you are new to this, I can help you determine your readiness or pair you up as an apprentice to another leader. In general,

CANOE COLORADO

Performance Canoes and Sea Kayaks



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Denver, CO 80247
303-344-2813

New Canoes from Bell

Prodigy X Bob Footes latest playboat
Alaskan A new tandem by Cliff Jacobson
Ocoee It's now made by Bell

Are you a fan of the Outrage or Explorer?
Jim Henry has moved away from Mad River and
he is now updating his classic designs for Bell

We-no-nah Bell Navarro
Mitchell Sawyer Grey Owl Bending Branches
Outfitting by Mikey

For the latest information visit us online
www.canoecolorado.com

a trip leader's duties are as follows:

1) Define a stretch of river - consider length, difficulty, dates that are likely to have a reasonable water flow, shuttle needs, and any rules or permit requirements; usually you should have run it at least once before leading it; get a permit if/when it is needed.

2) Publish the trip on the RMCC website - either use the Send Announcement button on the web trip page, or call

or email me at

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Pool Sessions

Sundays 10am to 2pm
George Meyers Pool
7900 Carr Drive, Arvada
One block west of
80th and Wadsworth
Turn south on Carr
Pool is on left

MarchAll except Mar 7
AprilClosed Easter Apr 11

Rate is \$6.50 per person

Practice Pool Sessions are going good! They have been well attended and our Club's camaraderie is evident. In fact, some husbands (I won't say which ones) claim their wives come to raft up and visit rather than practice paddling. Some people are perfecting their combat rolls, and others are tipping over accidentally, but everyone is available to help each other learn. In addition to paddling, we've discovered a great Thai restaurant, Tuk Tuk, on the north end of town near Simms Landing. To stop there for lunch on the way home has become part of our

Sunday-Go-To-Pool-Session routine. Come check it out on one of these remaining weekends, and join us for lunch!

Please note that the Aquatic Director wants our priority to be boating, children if swimming will need to be behind the roped area in shallow end or rope line in the deep end. No swimmers allowed in boating area. Children under 6 must be supervised by an adult.

NOTE: Sunday April 18 is also the Safety Fair!

RMCC TRIP SCHEDULE 2004

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 his/her own qualifications, skill level, and safety on the river 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 only to RMCC members and their guests. All trip participants must sign the RMCC Waiver and Assignment of Risk agreement prior to each trip.

Date	Trip Location	Coordinator	Phone	Level	Description
Mar 20	South Platte. Evans to Kuner	Dave Allured		I	Snow date March 21. Joint paddle with 5 groups. Beginners welcome.
Mar 27 - Apr 4	Green River; Canyonlands	Eric Nyre		I	Sea kayaks only. Fast paced 56 miles downstream, then return upstream. Side canyon hiking.
Apr 2-4	Colorado R.	Dave Allured		I+	Loma to Westwater.
Apr 14-18	San Juan R.	Dave Allured		II+	Mexican Hat to Clay Hills.
Apr 15-18	Colorado River. Loma-Westwater	Eric Nyre		I	2 days of paddling and 2 of hiking up Mee Canyon; optional backpack for 1 night.
Apr 17-18	Colorado River. Loma-Westwater	Jerry Nyre		I	The classic trip in 2 days; joins the hiking group to camp at Mee Canyon Saturday night.
Apr 24	Colorado R., Pumphouse	Eric Nyre		III	Whitewater canoe day trip ending at State Bridge or beyond.
May 1 & 2	Chatfield Reservoir. Platte River	Jeff Oxenford			Basic canoeing (solo & tandem) instruction. See registration form.
May 1-2	Dolores River, Slickrock -Bedrock	Eric Nyre		III	Whitewater canoe thru Little Glen and Slick Rock canyons. Low water backup plan is the Dolores below the San Miguel confluence.
May 8	Colorado R., Dotsero - Bair Ranch	Ron Stanker		I+	Meet and Greet and Grill - Introduction to RMCC; public welcome. Beg. Assistants needed.
May 8	South Platte. Brighton - Ft. Lupton	Eric Nyre		I	Classic beginner trip - flat and slow with only 2 drops.
May 29-31	Green River. Fontenelle Dam to Green River, WY	Eric Nyre		I	50 river miles includes the Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge.
June 5-6	North Platte. Pick Bridge, WY to Ft. Steel	Jerry Nyre		I	Near I-80, this is a good overnight trip for beginners - 38 miles.
June 5-6	North Platte. Treasure Island, WY to Ft. Steel	Eric Nyre		I	A faster, 65 mile trip will camp Saturday night with the above group.
June 19-20	Arkansas R.	Lyn Berry		II-III	Camping and pot-luck. Class II run on Saturday and a Class III run on Sunday (specifics TBD). Other coordinators needed for additional sections.
June 20	Arkansas R. - FIBArk Downriver Races	www.fibark.net more info & to register.		II-III	Annual FIBArk Whitewater Festival, Salida. Consider canoeing the 26 mile expert race from Salida to Cotopaxi or the shorter 10 mile intermediate race.
June 26-27	Yampa. Craig to Duffy	Karen Amundson	I	Birds, wildlife, and pretty canyons. Call early to join Friday night campground reservations.	
July 23-25	Rendezvous, Colorado R.			Camping. Dutch Oven cook-off. Canoeing. BLM Radium campsite.	

Be sure to call the Trip Coordinator early to sign up!

Getting the year off to a great start

By Bonnie Gallagher

How many people can say that they have ever paddled the Colorado River on New Year's Day? I'm sure there are more of you out there than I realize, but for me January 1, 2004 was a day to remember!

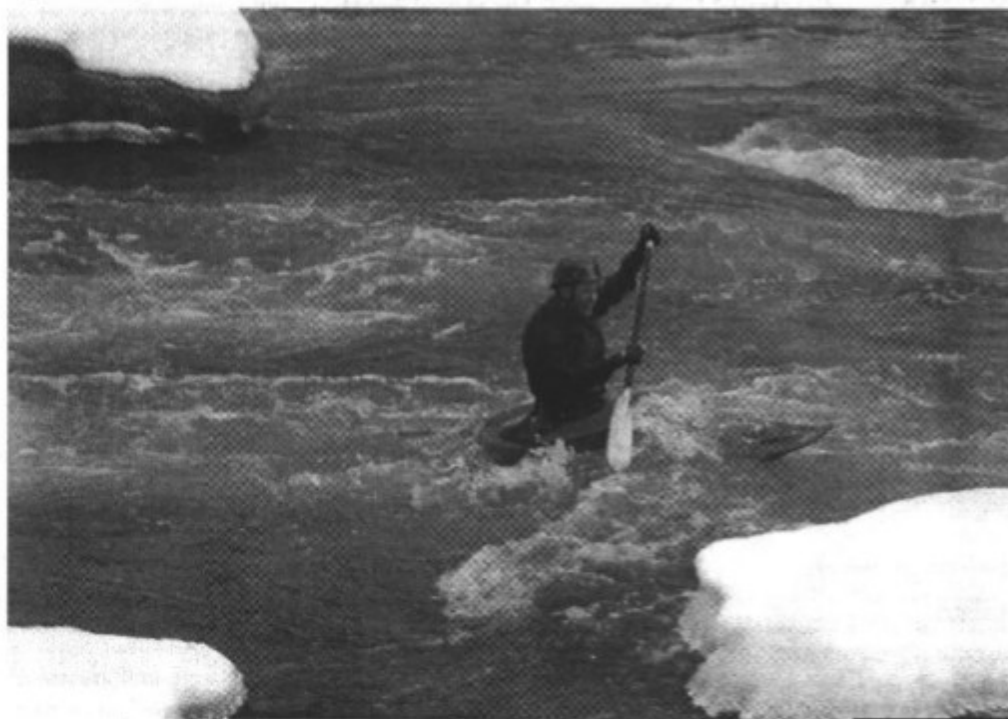
Tom's fiftieth birthday was January 1, and he wanted to celebrate the beginning of both the New Year and the second half of his century by paddling on Shoshone. His wife, Marnie, decided to join, as well. That was my opening to inquire as to whether or not the two of them would be willing to paddle with my daughter, Katie, in her C-1. Initially, there were four people in the group. Several others joined them as the paddling day progressed. Imagine that! People willing to give up a New Year's Eve late night celebration in favor of an icy morning of paddling?!!?!?!?

I had already made my decision to paddle vicariously through my daughter and to be the group photographer, traipsing along the snow-covered path. I wore my hiking boots to trudge through the 6-inch deep snow...crossing over the gate telling me the sidewalk was closed to pedestrians. My fingers and toes were freezing and I was just walking. I wondered how those who were paddling were managing in the 33-degree water? Catching eddies behind snow covered rocks may be photogenic, but what about their extremities and other body parts too? My experience was telling me that had to be anything but comfortable.

The boundless energy and stamina of teenagers amazes me on a regular basis. Katie's energy left me in awe this time. She was actually throwing ends in the river that day. I motioned for her to do one so I could get it with the camera. She looked at me obligingly and shouted, "If I flip, I will...**!"

Up she went into a perfect vertical bow stall, which I snapped.... and over she went into that freezing gray river. Only a mother could know how I felt as my child was upside down for the moment it took her to set up and roll. (I had swum on Shoshone myself on New Year's Day six years ago.) As water flowed out of her helmet and rolled over her cheeks, she grinned at me. "Did you get it?"

At the takeout there were many triumphant smiles (...or were they smiles of relief?) and lots of scurrying to get into dry clothes. One of the adults commented after getting dry and warm, "Maybe it wasn't fun, but I'm glad I did it!" What a way to start the New Year!



Photos by Bonnie.

Register me for the following classes:

Class Dates	Deadlines for pre-registration*	Cost per boat		Amount enclosed
		tandem	solo	
May 1-2	April 21	\$80/90	\$60/65	_____

(RMCC Member/non-member)

BASICS weekend (16 hrs)

Note: a \$6.00/person insurance fee for each class must be added if you are not an ACA (Am. Canoe Assoc.) member (Membership is \$30/person & includes 1 yr. of Paddler Mag. If you are a RMCC member, ACA membership is \$20/person or \$25/family)

Insurance fees:
 \$6 / person _____
 Late Fee: \$5 _____
(one class) Total = _____

Please send ONE registration form and ONE payment check per class.

Name _____ Tandem partner's name (if applicable) _____

Address: _____ City/zip _____

Phone: (h) _____ (w) _____ fax _____ e-mail _____

I will be canoeing: Solo _____ Tandem _____ Skill level (see Evaluation below): _____

If you are under 18 years old, your age _____ If you are an ACA member, your ACA #: _____

Do you have any physical disability or medical problem we need to be aware of? No _____; Yes _____. Explain: _____

*Fees: Due 2 wks. before class. If late add \$5 late registration fee. Send this application to the instructor and address listed below. Make checks payable to the instructor of the class:

BASICS Instructors: Jeff Oxenford, _____

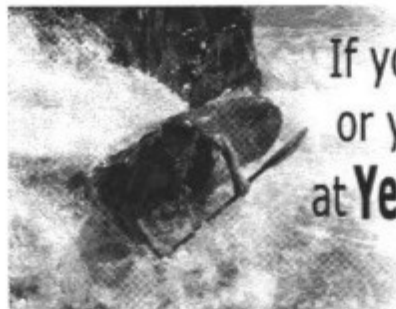
When payment is received you will be notified that you are enrolled and given all necessary materials (you will be contacted if there are changes in schedule or location). You must have your own canoeing equipment, and you will need to sign a waiver.

Self Evaluation: Please complete the following, blackening all appropriate circles. A blackened circle means you can execute the maneuver with proficiency. (Tandem couples: each should rate their preferred bow/stern location).

	solo	bow	stern
High Intermediate Skill Level:			
Consistent eddy turns on Class III water	O	O	O
Back ferry using reverse J and reverse sweep	O	O	n/a
Effective onside and offside duffeks (with pronounced leans)	O	O	n/a
Low brace (as a knee-jerk reaction)	O	O	O
Low Intermediate Skill Level:			
Consistent eddy turns on Class II water	O	O	O
Effective "pop pry"	O	n/a	O
Sculling draw (lateral and diagonal movement)	O	O	O
Forward ferry in moderate current	O	O	O
Novice Skill Level:			
High and low brace on Class I water	O	O	O
Draw, cross bow draw, sweep, on Class I water	O	O	O
Forward stroke with correction	O	n/a	O

Check this box if you are a **BEGINNER**

!! Please note the LATE REGISTRATION FEE of \$5—we gotta know you're coming !!



If your goal is to **challenge yourself** and improve your skills or you're just looking for a **great time** with good friends at **Yellow Jacket River Guides** we've got a paddling trip for you..

"I'm an ex-river guide turned kayaker. I did a trip with Yellow Jacket last summer. It was a great trip...kind of like a private trip with somebody else rowing your gear and cooking for you. Perfect for the typical do-it-yourself kayaker."

Just show up at the put-in and let Team YJ handle the rest...paddle all day, then relax in camp and leave the chores to us! If you're ready for warm, clear water, sweet playspots, hearty meals, beach camping, great hiking, world class fly fishing, and even hot springs, Idaho is the place for you

5 day Salmon River Adventure: ~~\$875.00~~ \$699.00
10 Day Middle Fork/Main Salmon Combo: ~~\$2625.00~~ \$1199.00

Trips available May through September. Give us a call or check us out online:

WWW.YJRIVERGUIDES.COM



P.O. Box 243
 Salmon, ID 83467
 info@yjriverguides.com
 Toll Free: 1.877.YJIDAHO
 Yellow Jacket River Guides
 Is Bonded and Insured
 Licensed by the State of Idaho
 Permitted by the U.S. Forest Service



Arkansas River (from page 4)

details, and your input is requested. I want to know what the RMCC membership thinks, and so does the BLM. Soon. Very soon. Please, folks, write today.

If you want to learn more about the AHRA, check out the addresses listed below. I'd like to thank those RMCC members who attended the AHRA meeting, we had a good turnout, and I'm looking forward to meeting new friends at the upcoming potluck at REI. See you there!

Get your own copy of the ICP from the BLM at 719 539 7289.

Mail written comments to either or both:
 Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area
 Attn: Rob White
 307 W. Sackett St.
 Salida, CO 81201
 rwhite@ahra.salida.co.us

Colorado State Parks
 Attn: Lyle Laverty
 1313 Sherman St. Suite 618
 Denver CO 80203
 lyle.laverty@state.co.us

Check out the Private Boaters Coalition at privateboaters.org and a free discussion group at groups.yahoo.com/group/privateboaterscoalition.

RMCC Begin Year 2004

Trip Coordinator (from page 5)

3) When people call about the trip, give them enough information to decide if they are qualified and want to be on the trip. Get their contact info.

4) Set up any shuttle services or campground reservations if needed.

5) Communicate trip details as they become clear - especially meeting points, toilet and other equipment requirements, potluck plans, and any fees.

6) At the put-in: do a safety talk and get waiver signatures - both ACA (gives us insurance coverage) and RMCC; assign a lead and sweep canoe - - this can be rotated around occasionally.

7) Manage the selection of lunch and camping locations and breaks when they are needed.

Don't feel that you are responsible for everything. There are usually people who will help with many of the tasks. Once the group is on the river, you'll want people to make some individual and consensus choices.

Try it. That's what makes this a club.

Classifieds...

Classifieds information is best obtained from the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club WEB SITE.

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, 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.

Signature of parent or guardian: _____

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

Member Renewal _____ New Membership _____

Please print		Needs	Preferences
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 \$20.00 per household per year. 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 Paul Holscher [] Englewood CO 80110
Questions call: []

Your term of membership and for newsletter issues: **Members as of February 2004** membership will continue to expire in February of every year. **New members** membership will expire the same month as joining in the following year.

February 2004

Rocky Mountain Canoe Club 2004 Officers

we are here to help, call us

Co-Presidents

Ron & Nancy Stanker.....

Treasurer and Membership

Paul Holscher

Newsletter

Lyn Berry.....

Web Master

Dave Allured

Web Photo Page

Garrett Downs.....

Advertising

Doug Hurcomb.....

Instruction -Whitewater & Freestyle

Bob & Jill Stecker.....

Instruction -ACA Trainer & Basic

Jeff Oxenford

Trip Planning Coordinator

Karen Amundson.....

Conservation

Doug Green

RMCC Discussion List

Liz D'Antonio-Gan

Quartermaster

Bob & Carol Alkin.....

RECRUITING A PADDLE TEAM

Written by Karen Jankowski

We are looking for 9 men, 9 women, alternates, agile flag catcher, and drummer to paddle in the **Colorado Dragon Boat Festival** in August 2004 to represent the RMCC Team. This is an exciting ancient sport that is still new to Colorado. This past year there were 48 teams competing for the coveted Dragon cup.

The history of Dragon Boat racing dates back to ancient China, when the poet Chu Yan drowned himself and his followers banged their drums and beat their paddles on the water to keep fish from eating his body. That tradition has combined with the powerful image of the dragon to become Dragon Boat Racing today. Now, Dragon Boat Racing is an international sport with sanctioned races held all over the world. The boats are 40 feet long and hold 18 paddlers, a drummer and a flag catcher. The organization trains us the day before the race and will provide the stern paddler. It's a thrilling competition, and one that requires hard work and teamwork.

There is an approximate \$30 entry fee per person. Please contact myself, Karen Jankowski at or Diana Preusser at for more details. We would love to have a RMCC team. It would be good PR as the organization prints a blurb about each team.

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. Please restrict articles to less than about a page and a half. BUT, nice photos enhance the interest in your news.

Submitting Articles: Editorial material for The Voyageur's Companion should be sent to: Lyndon Berry, Editor, The Voyageur's Companion, Buena Vista CO, 81211 OR e-mail to: Prefer Word format via e-mail, but most other formats and paper is OK too. I have a scanner, so pictures are welcomed. JPG format is preferred for electronic photos, but most other formats OK also.

Deadline for a next issue is April 23. Get it to me, See it in print.

RMCC Membership:
\$20.00 per Household per Year.
Contact Paul Holscher at
Mail applications to:
 Englewood CO 80110

DUES are Due!
Application & Waiver
INSIDE



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



**PLEASE
PAY DUES
NOW!**

