



FOUNDED 1989  
ACA PADDLE AMERICA CLUB

WINTER, 2017-2018  
VOL.26 No.1a

# THE RMSKC NEWS

THE LATEST ABOUT THE CLUB  
AND OUR MEMBERS

## OVER THE FOREDECK

By President Clark Strickland

Sure sounds like I  
missed a wonderful

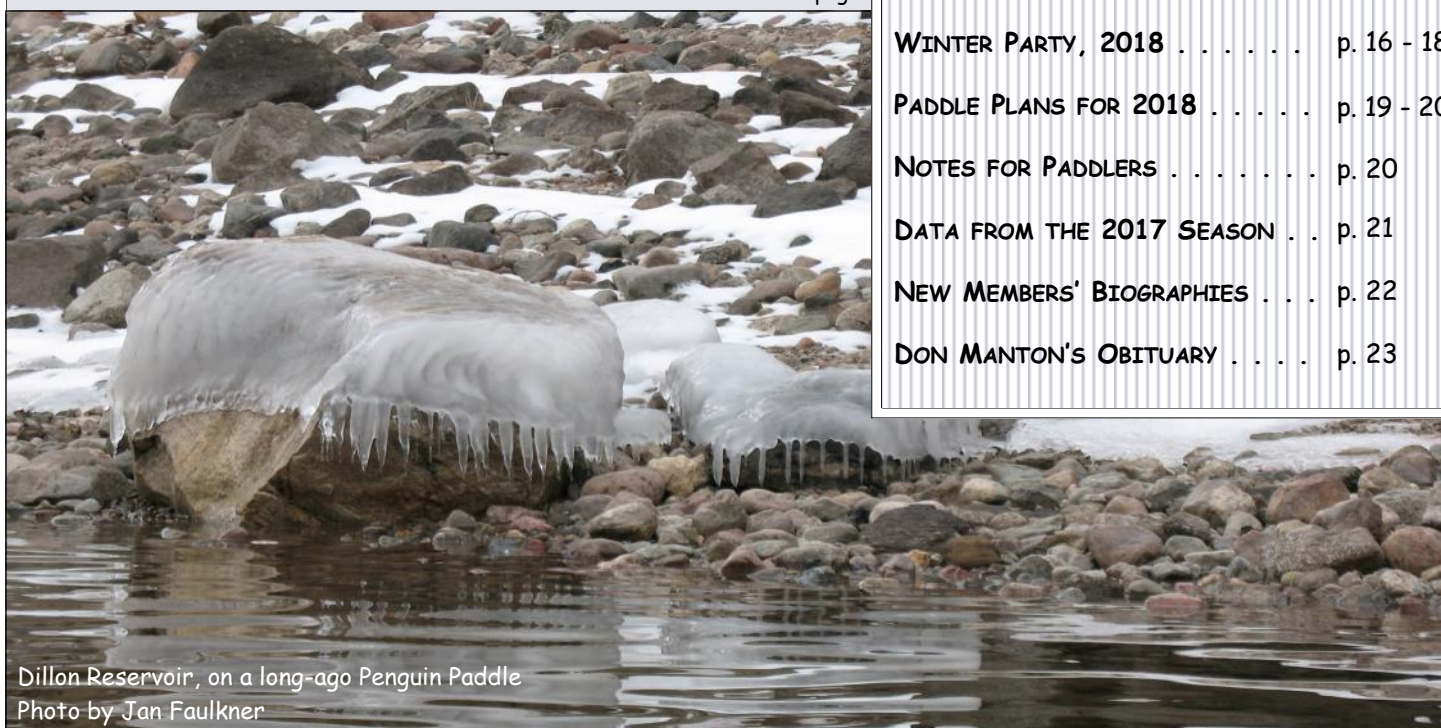
Pot Luck this year. On the same day I was also absent from the 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday celebration for my granddaughter. Darn! My cold has gotten better, thankfully, and I was able to view the Super Blue Blood Moon before dawn the last day in January.

Seeing that incredible lunar show reminded me that the key to having such experiences is planning (note the date, set the alarm), making the effort (get up, Lazybones) and just doing it.

Continued on the next page

## IN THIS ISSUE

OVER THE FOREDECK . . . . .	p. 1 - 2
By Clark Strickland	
MEMORIES OF RAY VAN DUSEN . .	p. 3 - 10
STEERING COMMITTEE NEWS . . .	p. 11 - 12
TREASURER'S REPORT 2017 . . . .	p. 13
NEW WEBMASTER'S BIO . . . . .	p. 14
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2018 . . .	p. 15
WINTER PARTY, 2018 . . . . .	p. 16 - 18
PADDLE PLANS FOR 2018 . . . . .	p. 19 - 20
NOTES FOR PADDLERS . . . . .	p. 20
DATA FROM THE 2017 SEASON . .	p. 21
NEW MEMBERS' BIOGRAPHIES . . .	p. 22
DON MANTON'S OBITUARY . . . .	p. 23



Dillon Reservoir, on a long-ago Penguin Paddle  
Photo by Jan Faulkner

RMSKC has a wonderful calendar of day paddles, evening and nighttime activities, expeditions, special events, and training sessions set up in 2018. There will not only be something for everyone, there will be lots of things for everyone. The trick is to check the calendar, note the date and time, notify the trip leader and just do it! Paddles are so much more fun when we have a group of folks together having a good time.

We're also setting up regular evening paddles each month, one on the second Tuesday at McIntosh for the northern Front Range members and another on the fourth Tuesday at Chatfield for the Denver metro folks. I missed the evening paddles last year, and so have agreed to co-lead the Chatfield paddles this year. I plan to have a bite and a beer after the paddles, hopefully with RMSKC members.

Perhaps there's a paddle that you'd like to do that's not on the list. The solution is simple - suggest it to Jud Hurd, our Paddle Coordinator, and he'll work to set you up as Trip Leader or will help find someone who can serve as leader.

The pool sessions are underway (see the Calendar on the website) and the water is warm. Before long we'll be under Colorado's beautiful blue skies and on the water in a fair number of other locations as well.

March is renewal month for RMSKC. Membership runs through March 31 of each year. Renew both RMSKC and ACA on time so that you can sign up for RMSKC activities, take part in lotteries for high-demand paddles and not have to pay the non-member fee for an event. [Directions on page 15; forms are on the website: <http://www.rmskc.org/membership.html>]

Finally, as we remember the passing of Ray Van Dusen on February 2, let's think of a way in which our Club could honor him. Ray's memory, his voice and his advice still resound within me. Let me know if you have suggestions about how we can honor his name and what he has meant to RMSKC.

See you on the water.



Clark volunteering at  
Girls Scout Camp, 2017

**STARTING TIME:** "Starting time" means the time that everyone will be *in the water and ready to paddle*. Be sure to arrive early enough to have your boat off the car, loaded and ready to go by that time.

**DAY PADDLES:** Non-member guests may paddle with the Club on day paddles if they sign an American Canoe Association *Waiver and Release of Liability* form and pay the \$5 ACA event fee. ACA members from other Paddle America clubs may join RMSKC day trips if they provide a current ACA card; they must also sign a paper Waiver at the put-in but do not have to pay the event fee.



**MULTI-DAY PADDLES:** According to RMSKC policy, overnight and extended trips are open only to RMSKC members; additional criteria for members' participation may be included in the trip description at the discretion of the trip leader.

# RAY VAN DUSEN:

PURVEYOR OF QUALITY GEAR, TEACHER, REPAIRMAN,  
AWESOME PADDLER, AND A DEAR FRIEND

**River Mouse Kayaks**  
*Sales of Fine Touring Kayaks  
Camping and Paddling Equipment*

Current Designs		Northwest Kayaks
Seda		Nimbus
Chota Boots		Epic
Valley Kayaks		Snap Dragon

Representative for Canoe Colorado  
10% DISCOUNT ON ACCESSORIES  
TO ALL MEMBERS  
Raymond Van Dusen

Tandems  
in stock!

Call for a  
free demo!

President Clark Strickland wrote, "Long-time RMSKC member and mentor, Ray Van Dusen aka "River Mouse" died February 2, 2018. He had been ill for some time and passed away after a short stay in hospice care.



Ray at PaddleFest, 2013

"There was no one like River Mouse. Many of our members benefited from his teaching and skills critiques. As his good friend Gary McIntosh said, "Nobody had an eye like Ray for what was going on in a paddle stroke or maneuver. He could watch for a few seconds and put his finger right on what could be improved, from placement of the hands during a roll, to how to rotate in a stroke and the mechanics of where a paddler's weight needed to be."

"Ray was generous in so many ways. He shared his skills willingly. He could fix anything. He knew about the dynamics of paddles and how to match the style of the paddle with the paddler or the type of paddling. He knew about equipment, sources for boats and every sort of accessory and piece of paddle wear, having tested them personally. He took paddling seriously and was intensely interested in helping everyone move to higher levels of skill, confidence and enjoyment. He was a pillar of RMSKC, and we shall miss him."

In 2009 the *Mountain Paddler* ran a series of biographies about our instructors. Here's what we wrote about him, with the photos we used at the time on the following page:

"Ray started paddling in 1995 after he couldn't backpack or ride bikes anymore. All of his boats have come from Canoe Colorado; he paddles with them on most of the trips he does, and they like to cover distance! Because of that, and since those fellows are bigger and stronger than he is, he says he's had to learn to be more efficient in his paddling. He also picks kayaks that are long and narrow enough to compensate but still roomy enough to carry gear for a week or more.





"Ray has studied every book and video that he could get his hands on to become a better paddler. He gives credit to his friend Gary McIntosh for his help the last few years learning to teach paddling techniques.

"In 1998, Jerry Nyre of Canoe Colorado asked him if he would sell kayaks and gear, and that's when he started River Mouse Kayaks. With each demo and sale of a boat he gives a lesson to help his customers have a better time paddling. He also teaches private lessons to people who haven't bought his boats; call him if you're interested: 303-421-3729.

"About that same time his wrist started hurting so much he thought it was time to quit or try a bent shaft paddle. Lindal, his paddle manufacturer, told him they could install their blades on bent shafts or they would sell him blades and he could buy shafts and put them together himself; that's what he has done. He hasn't had any wrist pain since, and he can fix up a paddle for you, too.

"The places he likes to paddle are the Platte River, in Wyoming; the White River from Rangely, Colorado, to Gas Wells, Utah; the Gunnison River from Delta to White Water, Colorado; the Green River in Utah to the confluence with the Colorado River; the Missouri River in Montana; and lakes in Yellowstone National Park.

"Ray plans to give a roll class and tie a video in with it, but that will wait until it's warmer. His suggestion for improving paddling skills is you need to paddle as much as possible and practice—practice a little every time you go out."

Ray was **ALWAYS TEACHING OR HELPING MEMBERS PRACTICE** to improve their skills, either in scheduled sessions or just out paddling informally with friends. Here's a list of some of the classes he taught, often with his good friend and fellow instructor Gary McIntosh. [The list doesn't begin until in 2008, when RMSKC publications started keeping records.] Ray seemed to hide from cameras, but there are a few photos of him from these events on the next page.

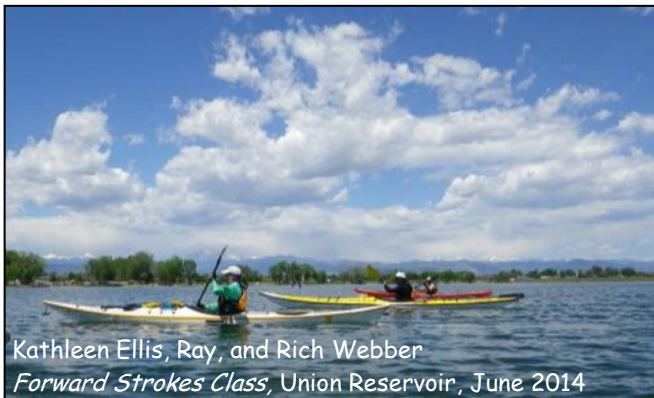
- 2008: Basic Skills Class, Eagle Cove Chatfield
- 2009 and 2010: Informal help before Multi-Club on the South Platte for people new to river paddling
- June, 2010: Advanced Strokes at Soda Lakes, with other RMSKC instructors
- July and August, 2010: ACA Coastal Kayak Skills at Soda Lakes, with Brian Curtiss [photo]
- June, 2012: Bracing Clinic at Soda Lakes, which was cut short by lightning
- June, 2013: ACA Level 2 Coastal Sea Kayaking at Soda Lakes
- May, 2014: Moving Water Practice on the South Platte at Brighton, Ray and Gary McIntosh [photo]
- May, 2014: Edging practice at Union Reservoir with Gary, Rich Webber and Brian Hunter
- June, 2014: Lunch after a Union Reservoir paddle for advice on paddling the Missouri Breaks
- June, 2014: Forward Strokes at Union [This became just practicing maneuvers, but there's a photo.]
- July, 2014: Roll Class at Soda Lakes
- July, 2014: ACA Certification classes
- August, 2014: Moving Water practice on the Colorado River, with Gary McIntosh
- Spring, 2015: Info on Subaru tie-down retrofits and keys without computer chips
- Every Winter: Pool instruction at Meyers pool in Arvada [photo]



Ray rocking George Ottenhoff's boat to help him practice bracing; *Coastal Kayak Skills*, Summer 2010



Ray and Gary lining their boats around the drop; *Moving Water Practice*, Brighton, May 2014



Kathleen Ellis, Ray, and Rich Webber  
*Forward Strokes Class*, Union Reservoir, June 2014



Ray analyzing Bernie Dahlen's roll at Meyers Pool, 2013



Ray sanding one of the coats on his CLC Shearwater, which he fine-tuned by speed testing with his GPS

Ray was also **ALWAYS WORKING ON BOATS**—his or other people's. He dropped the seats and added aggressive thigh braces to all his kayaks, and then built one almost from scratch. It was from a CLC Shearwater kit, but he tweaked the design so much it was hard to tell. [Read the specifics in the *Mountain Paddler* 23-2b.]



Ray working on a kinked skeg cable in the parking lot at Union Reservoir. Of course he had the tools in his car!



Ray wasn't a big-group person, but he almost always joined us for **PADDLEFEST AND THE WINTER PARTY**.

Several years ago he brought buoys to set up a race course at PaddleFest. He whipped his boat around them using his extreme edging so efficiently he left everyone except Gary McIntosh and Brian Curtiss far behind! No one has said anything about having a slalom race since.



Ray talking to Kristy Webber  
PaddleFest, 2017



Rich Webber and Ray  
PaddleFest, 2009

Starting as far back as 2009, articles about the Winter Party mentioned Ray's Chile Relleno Casserole. For years, people in the know surreptitiously elbowed their way to the front of the line to make sure they got at least a little bit before it ran out.



Ray's Chile Rellenos



Winter Party, 2012

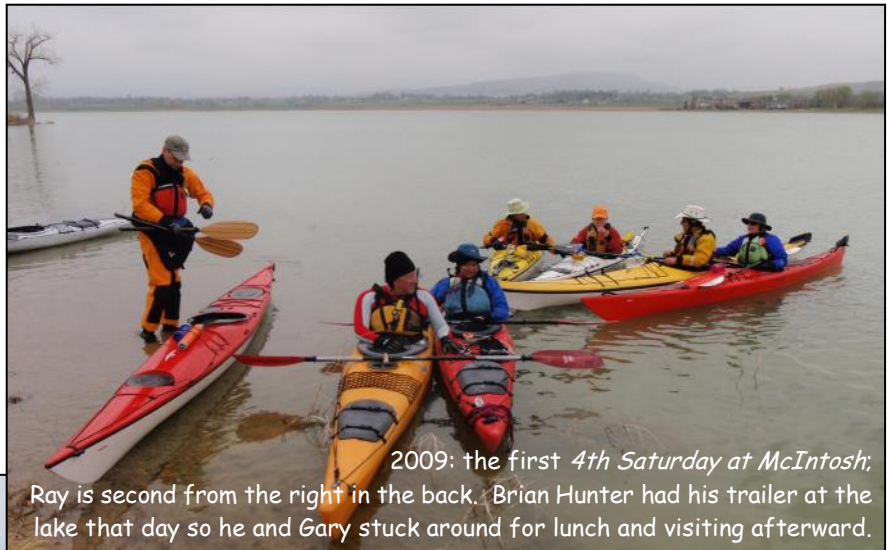


WINTER PARTY, 2014

Ray Van Dusen on the left,  
visiting with Tim Fletcher, Dick Dieckman,  
Anna Troth, Clark Strickland and Gary McIntosh



HE PADDLED WITH RMSKC FRIENDS, in impromptu get-togethers or on Club paddles.



2009: the first 4th Saturday at McIntosh; Ray is second from the right in the back. Brian Hunter had his trailer at the lake that day so he and Gary stuck around for lunch and visiting afterward.



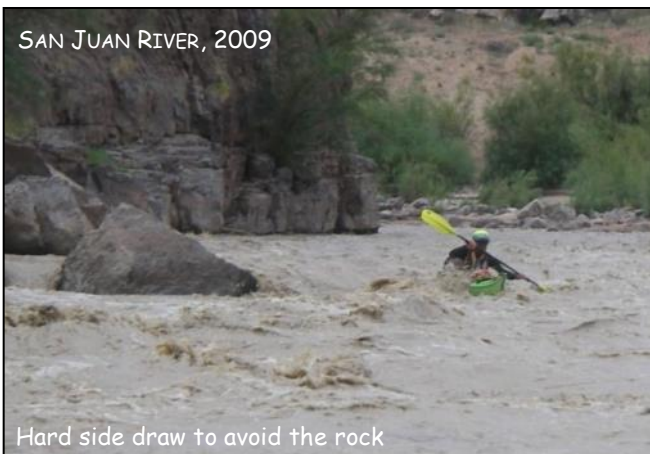
Union Reservoir, Fall 2015; Ray is in his newly built white boat farthest from the camera

A group often came up to Union on Saturdays to avoid the weekday traffic. Start Time was announced as 9:00 but since most people were early it evolved to mean on-the-water-and-ready-to-go at 8:30.

They usually paddled a couple circles around, and then worked on some maneuvers or rolls.

**RAY LOVED RIVER PADDLING.** Here are some photos from trips with his Canoe Colorado friends. [Also check a super article he wrote about paddling the Current River in Missouri, in our *Mountain Paddler* 19-1b. You'll find an article about a trip with him through the Missouri Breaks on the Missouri River, by Kathleen Ellis, in issue 17-3b.]

Here and on the next page are photos that member Pam Noe, and former member Eric Niles, sent from trips on the North Platte, the Green, the Missouri, the White and the San Juan rivers.



SAN JUAN RIVER, 2009

Hard side draw to avoid the rock



Deep in the hole below the rock

The third photo in this series is on the next page



Big grin after the hole



Hiking in Chota mukluks;  
he stocked those boots because they are the best



Camping with Canoe Colorado on the San Juan



Visiting with people before  
the put-in on the North Platte,  
Saratoga to I-80 run



Somewhere in Colorado or Utah  
on the White River, 2008

Ray joined RMSKC in 1995;  
he was already a wonderful  
resource when the rest of us  
first became members.

And when we did, he became  
an important part of paddling,  
and a friend, for many of us.

On the following pages  
are some memories of Ray  
from Club members.



**MATT LUTKUS**, former President and long-time ACA instructor who now lives in Maine, sent Ray this email:

Ray, I saw where you were selling your personal boats. If I were still in Denver I would come down and have a look. But the real reason that I am emailing you is to thank you for getting me into the sport in the first place. I went to the Denver outdoor show in January, 2003. That is when I met you. I was looking for either a canoe or a kayak that I could take on a cross country trip that I was planning to do later that year. You not only got me into a Northwest Kayak's *Pursuit XL* but also hooked me up with the Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club. The sport continues to be one of my lifetime passions. Thank you, Ray!

**BRIAN CURTISS**, former ACA instructor who now lives in North Carolina most of the year: Ray was the first person to teach me about sea kayaking. I had gone paddling a few times on my own using rental kayaks but had never had an actual lesson. I first contacted Ray in the spring of 2002 to buy my first kayak and he suggested we meet at Chatfield Reservoir to try out boats. We spent about 3-4 hours with me trying out all three of the kayaks that Ray had brought along that day. As I found out later, he had selected them to illustrate a range of performance characteristics and we spent the day with me figuring out what gave each one its 'character.' I ended up ordering a Current Design's *Storm* that took several months to arrive. In the meantime, Ray lent me one of the boats I had tried out and we spent several more days at Chatfield with Ray teaching me to paddle in a straight line and other basic skills. Over the next few years Ray continued to provide these informal kayaking lessons and was always willing to provide suggestions for improvements when on club paddles. A number of years later in 2007, I accompanied Ray (with several others) on my most memorable sea kayaking adventure, a five day trip down the San Juan River in Utah. I'll always remember Ray as someone who was always willing to spend the time teaching, both on and off the water. He will be missed.

**KRISTY WEBBER**: There was nothing typical or ordinary about Ray. From the first paddle I did with RMSKC until the end of his life he was *always* supportive of me. He would not allow me to feel sorry for myself or to believe that I could not do whatever I wished in my boat. He believed I had the potential to do a solid roll even when I did not. A very high compliment indeed was paid to both he and Gary McIntosh when Shawna and Leon of Body Boat Bladed asked Rich and I where "pond paddlers" like ourselves from Colorado had learned to do so many turns and strokes reasonably competently.

Not only was he an amazing kayak mentor, he had amazing stories about his life to share. He was generally pretty quiet on the water and I always felt honored when he would give me the gift of one of his experiences. It is an unspeakable loss to both Rich and me to no longer be able to learn from and play on the water with Ray.

**KATHLEEN ELLIS**: I just need a single word to remember Ray: ROTATE. He also claimed it was possible to talk while maintaining my paddling form. Here's a fun memory that shows another side of Ray: Once while camping on the Missouri Breaks, he became annoyed by a group in canoes who had partied a little too late for his taste. One of the group was celebrating his birthday the following day. At the crack of dawn before they had stirred, Ray stood on the river bank and sang both verses of Happy Birthday as loudly as he could. I believe he made his point.

**JAY GINGRICH**: We're glad we stopped for a visit with Ray to recall some trips and anecdotes before leaving for Baja last fall; he was still excited about paddling! Let's try to celebrate life as we remember Ray. He didn't do any half steppin'.

**MARSHA DOUGHERTY**: When Ray was teaching me to rotate in the forward stroke, he paddled up to me and said, "You are arm paddling again". I said, "Oh yeah, I forgot," and started to paddle correctly. Ray said, "That's OK. Whenever you catch yourself reverting back to arm paddling just correct yourself, and pretty soon the correct way will be second nature."

**ANNE FIORE:** One thing I am especially appreciative of was the insight he shared with us concerning the route through the Missouri Breaks on the Missouri River. He really offered a lot of insight. He was always willing to share his knowledge.

**SUE HUGHES:** Ray taught me and Jud, and maybe others of us, our first kayak class at Eagle Cove at Chatfield in 2008. The next year he gave the beginners some pointers on river kayaking before the spring Multi-Club paddle on the South Platte, and then ran to pull me out of the bushes when I'd tried to follow Brian Curtiss over a log and had gotten high-centered and pushed sideways into the trees.

I always felt he had confidence in me, even when I needed to be rescued. He's a big reason I have had the self-assurance to do so much paddling and enjoy so many camping trips with RMSKC. I didn't realize some of these insights about Ray until I started to express them when I wrote Judy, his wife. I wish I'd told him before he died.

**ANNA TROTH:** Ray helped me in a lot of ways. He tried to teach me how to roll, and brace with no success, but finally with his help I learned to paddle correctly. He was very patient. He helped me pad my cockpit so it would fit me better. I was also a friend of his wife, Judy, as we are both artists, and were in art classes at Park Hill Art Club.



We will continue to paddle with the kayaks and gear Ray sold us, the boats he outfitted and repaired for us, and with the good paddling instruction and wealth of helpful hints and advice he offered us so generously.



# STEERING COMMITTEE NEWS

OCTOBER, 2017

## STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

- **NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS:** All the present members of the Steering Committee whose terms would be expiring (Dave Hustvedt, Treasurer; Brian Hunter, Safety and Training; Tim Fletcher, Onshore Coordinator; and Jud Hurd, Paddling Coordinator) were willing to continue and they were nominated for those positions. The need for a new Webmaster was discussed, since Bernie Dahlen has moved to California. Andy McKenna was proposed and accepted the position; read his biography on page 14. The Committee discussed the need to involve more members in the Steering Committee.
- **FINANCIAL REPORT:** Treasurer Dave Hustvedt's financial report showed a January 1, 2017 balance of \$4,285, income through September of \$3,122, disbursements of \$318, and an balance of \$7089 at the end of September. Dave noted that \$1,725 of this balance came from the sale of Mark Weir's boats and equipment, which had been designated for safety education and training. It was decided to segregate these funds from the general fund into a separate legacy *Safety and Education Fund*.
- **SAFETY AND EDUCATION FUND:** Various group classes for first aid and safety were discussed, as well as the idea of offering scholarships to members to attend safety training and skills classes. Plans were made for a brief CPR class to be offered at the Winter Party, and SC members will investigate other possible uses for the legacy fund.
- **2017 PARTICIPATION:** Paddling Coordinator Jud Hurd reviewed his records for the 2017 Club paddling events. There were twelve one-day paddles and six multi-day trips. Total participation in these trips was 157 paddlers. [More data from 2017's paddling on page 21.]
- **TRIPS FOR 2018** were reviewed. Proposed multi-day trips are Clayquot Sound on Vancouver Island, British Columbia; Big Horn Canyon in Wyoming; Lake Granby; and Lewis/Shoshone Lakes in Wyoming. Clark mentioned the possibility of a trip to New York state and the Atlantic coast. Regularly scheduled summer paddles on Cherry Creek or Chatfield Reservoir in the south Metro area, and Lake Macintosh, Lonetree Reservoir and Union Reservoir along the north Front Range were planned. [The dates for these trips have been put on the website calendar. See pages 19 - 20 for a full list of locations and leaders.]
- The question of **PEOPLE WITH UNKNOWN PADDLING ABILITIES** signing up to go on trips was raised. The right (and duty) of trip leaders to set paddling ability requirements, including the right to test the skills of new members, was reaffirmed.
- **MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:** Marlene Pakish reported that our current membership is 72. She also informed us that the ACA has revised its website, and that joining and renewing a membership is now even much more difficult than it was before. Clark will attempt to contact an ACA Board member who lives in Colorado to explain the ridiculous problems of renewing memberships online, and the futility of trying to get ACA to improve their system. [As of January, Clark has received no response from ACA.]
- Brian Hunter stated that he will offer **TRAINING SESSIONS** at regularly scheduled local paddling events in 2018, and that he is willing to offer rescue training for multi-day trips in both the north and south areas.

# STEERING COMMITTEE NEWS, CONT.

- The group considered the possibility of **PURCHASING A KAYAK TRAILER** to use for club trips. After some discussion, Clark was asked to research the cost of a trailer, where to park it and how to insure it.
- Clark and Tim have investigated opportunities to help **BOY SCOUTS LEARNING TO KAYAK** but they report that no firm plans have been developed.
- **COAST GUARD BOAT LABELS**—their importance and the need to modify them—was reviewed. Although the orange stickers do not have a line for it, Colorado law requires that a boat has the owner's address in it.

Dave Hustvedt, an EMT, clarified that the reason is not only that the owner may be notified if the boat is found but, more importantly, that emergency agencies can visit the house to determine whether there is a paddler they need to look for if an empty boat shows up.

As he says, "Unlabeled boats cause emergency responders to waste a lot of time looking for kayakers who are down in Boulder having a beer."



**ADD YOUR ADDRESS  
ON THE SECOND  
"PHONE" LINE**

## 2018 STEERING COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Clark Strickland	720-300-7789	clark.strickland@msn.com
TREASURER:	Dave Hustvedt	303-442-2814	davidhustvedt@hotmail.com
SECRETARY:	George Ottenhoff	970-351-6968	gho@what-wire.com
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:	Marlene Pakish	303-619-4661	mjoycep@yahoo.com
PADDLE COORDINATOR:	Jud Hurd	970-377-9277	hurdofoats@gmail.com
SAFETY and INSTRUCTION:	Brian Hunter	303-748-6776	oldmanadrift@yahoo.com
ONSHORE EVENTS:	Tim Fletcher	303-726-1549	timfletcher5583@comcast.net
PUBLICATIONS EDITOR:	Sue Hughes	303-776-4541	suehughes@yahoo.com
WEBMASTER:	Andy McKenna	720-412-9279	monstor@comcast.net





# END OF THE YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2017

Dave Hustvedt,  
Treasurer

ITEM	TOTAL
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE, January 2017</b>	<b>\$4285</b>
REVENUE	
Members' dues	\$500
Sale of donated equipment	\$2622
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$3122</b>
EXPENSES	
Website	\$288
Events (venue rental, etc.)	\$20
Colorado State non-profit fee	\$10
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$318</b>
<b>ENDING BALANCE, December 2017</b>	<b>\$7089</b>

EDITOR'S NOTE: After his death on the Arkansas River in June of 2017, Mark Wier's heirs donated his kayaks and boating equipment to RMSKC. The Steering Committee has suggested that the \$2622 from its sale be placed in a separate *Memorial Safety and Education Fund*. A detailed accounting of how that money is spent will be included in future Treasurer Reports.

## RMSKC's NEW WEBMASTER

Andy McKenna and his wife Dawn moved from Concord, California, to Westminster in 2000. They've been together since 1993 and have a son and daughter, Gavin age 16 and Devyn, age 13.

Andy got his first taste of paddling in 1992 when a friend invited him to paddle Avila Bay in California in 18' fiberglass boats constructed several millennia ago. In 2003, after a long dry spell Andy, a sister-in-law and her husband paddled inflatable rentals to reach Ahjumawi Lava Springs, a state park near Mount Lassen in California accessible only by boat, with the goal of hiking a volcanic area. After surviving the paddling portion of that adventure Andy found he liked the paddling as much as the hiking and resolved to get a kayak.



Andy at the weir dam;  
Multi-Club paddle, 2016

In spring 2011, after various delays caused by things like work and kids, he made good on the resolution and bought his first boat at Confluence Kayak's Parking Lot Sale. It was Jud Hurd's well cared for Prijon *Touryak*, and the able salesman, Brian Hunter, introduced Andy to the RMSKC at the point of sale.

After his first pool training at Myers Pool, Andy joined RMSKC and signed up his whole family with the ACA. Andy's first season on the water included a lot of capsizing, a day paddle on Standley Lake with Brian Hunter, many subsequent solo trips to Standley Lake, an evening paddle on McIntosh Lake with Richard Ferguson, RMSKC's ACA paddling class at Chatfield Reservoir, several afternoons in Pillar Point Harbor, California, pushing past his comfort level in various boats, PaddleFest with his son Gavin, a nice morning on Big Soda Lake with the Club, and a challenging morning paddle on Dillon Reservoir led by Stan White. Whew.

After 6 years Andy considers himself a seasoned novice, having paddled many spots around the front range and some areas he holds dear on the Pacific coast. He's looking forward to joining many club paddles in 2018. He's also added whitewater kayaking to his paddling pursuits in 2018 and is enjoying the way paddling the two different styles of boats and water improve overall paddling competency.

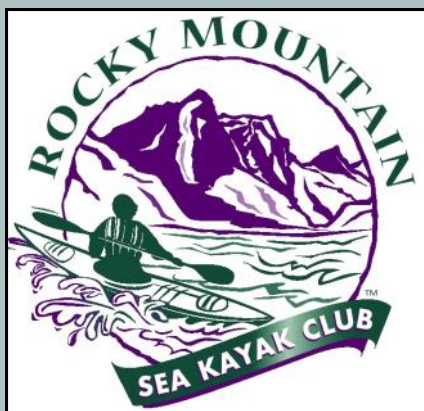


During the winter months, look for Andy at the Meyers pool sessions where he will always be glad to practice and learn with you. Once the water is no longer solid he can most often be found paddling and practicing self-rescues at Standley Lake, Chatfield Reservoir, or Gross Reservoir, looking for wind and lumpy water.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Andy took Anne Fiore's *Introduction to Moving Water* workshop in 2013. A photo of him picking up trash that day has inspired many of us to remember to carry and use a bag for trash we find.

He has also attended Lumpy Waters, a sea kayak symposium in Oregon several times. He's promised to write an account of his latest trip for the next *Mountain Paddler*.





# RENEWAL PROCEDURES:

## RMSKC AND ACA MEMBERSHIP



Your Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club membership has two components. They are membership in RMSKC itself and membership in the national paddling group which provides our insurance, the American Canoe Association.

Your **RMSKC MEMBERSHIP**, the first component, expires on March 31. In the next month or so, please follow the renewal procedures on the "Membership" page of the RMSKC website (<http://www.rmskc.org/>) and mail or email the application form and snail-mail a \$10 check [Individual or family membership, either is just ten dollars!] to Marlene Pakish before the end of March.

Being a current **MEMBER OF THE ACA** and having a current **ACA WAIVER ON FILE WITH RMSKC** are the second components of being in RMSKC. Your American Canoe Association membership is also renewed yearly, but that date depends on when you first joined ACA. The ACA renewal is done on their website <http://www.americancanoe.org/>. This website is not intuitive and you may want an adult beverage before you start.

Click "membership" at the top of their homepage and then "renew". It will take you to a "Membership Renewal" page, with a "renew" link in blue. When you are signed into your account you will designate RMSKC as your Paddle America Club affiliate, which entitles you to ACA membership at a reduced rate. Look for the further reduction offered for seniors, if that applies to you. If you've renewed before these two specifics will register automatically.

After you've paid you will be sent to a "Thank You For Supporting ACA" page. Hidden there near the end of a letter from the ACA director is a link in an only slightly darker blue to "on line waiver". That takes you to the "On Line Waivers" page, which says you'll need to sign into your account. Don't fret, just hit "please click here".

On the next page, click "adult" and fill in the yellow boxes. Sign it with your mouse, click "electronic signature consent" and "agree to this document" and fill in all the information they already have about you a second time. They'll send you an email to confirm your email address and ask you to click on a link in that email to complete your document.

You will then get another email titled, "ACA PAC Waiver is signed and sent to all parties to the agreement." This is false. It sounds like they send the waiver to RMSKC but they do not, so you are not done yet!

That email has a link "down load it here". Click on that and you'll see your waiver with a floppy disk icon at the bottom. Click that icon, and save the waiver to your desktop.

Then please attach the .pdf of your waiver to an email and send it to Marlene. That is the only way that RMSKC will get the copy, which is a mandatory part of your Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club membership

**Evejoy1719@gmail.com**

**1719 Utah Street, Golden, CO 80401**



Marlene



23 members and ACA State Volunteer Coordinator Theresa Zook enjoyed the 2018 Winter Party. It was held at Onshore Coordinator Tim Fletcher's church, Lutheran Atonement in Lakewood, again this year; they provide a nice space with a kitchen counter for the buffet and ample parking. As always, the food was good and the camaraderie top-notch.

Teresa spoke for a few minutes about evaluating ACA's membership renewal process, but had to leave before people began to eat.

Because President Clark Strickland was home sick, Paddle Coordinator Jud Hurd introduced the Steering Committee members who gave brief updates about their responsibilities or pet projects:

Onshore Coordinator Tim Fletcher announced that **PaddleFest** has been scheduled for June 16 at Chatfield, remodeling permitting.

Treasurer Dave Hustvedt **reviewed the club's finances** and the new ***Memorial Safety and Instruction Fund***, which was established by the SC with the proceeds from the sale of Mark Wier's equipment. [See page 13 for the exact figures.]

Secretary George Ottenhoff refrained from using his very best words this year.

Publications Editor Sue Hughes reminded members that they are asked to carry an **Emergency Medical Card** in their PFD. Hers, which had been "laminated" with clear packing tape, is still legible after a season of paddling and practicing wet exits in the pool.

Brian Hunter, charged with Safety and Instruction, said there will **cold water rescue practices** scheduled at both north and south metro areas as soon as the ice melts.

Membership Coordinator Marlene Pakish reminded us that **RMSCK dues were due by March 31**, and that being an up-to-date member of ACA with a newly signed **ACA Waiver** was a condition of membership. [See page 15 for help using ACA's website to renew with them, sign their waiver, and forward a copy of it to RMSKC.]

New Webmaster **Andy McKenna was introduced**. He will be adding new material to the website as it is sent to him. His bio is on page 14.



Then **Jud**, as **Paddle Coordinator**, showed a PowerPoint presentation which reviewed the highlights of last season's paddling [page 21] and listed the full season of paddles already scheduled for 2018. [pages 19 - 20 ]. He and Brian Hunter had each participated in 13 club outings, so they were both awarded the *Top Paddler Award*.

Several members spoke about volunteer opportunities; see page 20. We were pleased to see a handful of the "new faces" from the list in Jud's report [page 21] at the party.

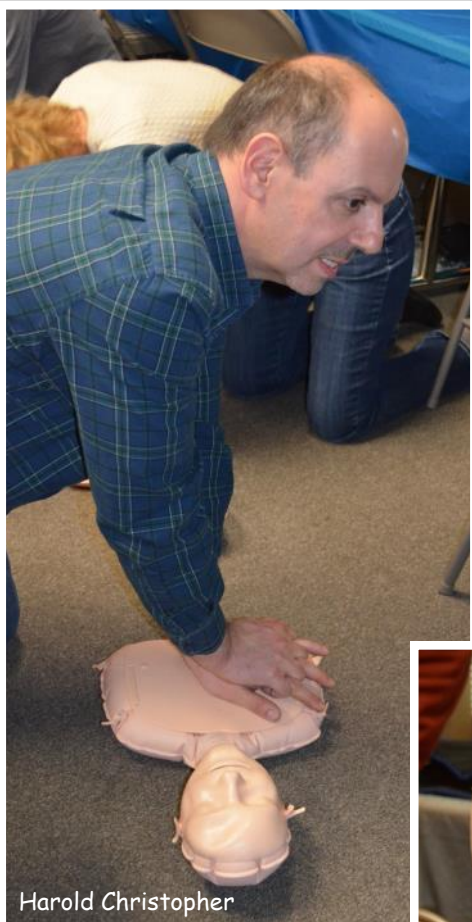
Then the afternoon was turned over to three presenters from the HANDDDS Program from the University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus who reviewed the steps for administering CPR and spoke about the latest updates in effective CPR practice.

They passed out nifty plastic torsos which we used to practice the technique. The mannequins had clickers in them which registered if the chest compressions were forceful enough.

Several of us were surprised to find how difficult it was to push hard enough to get them to sound.



Jud, and Brian with his Top Paddler Award



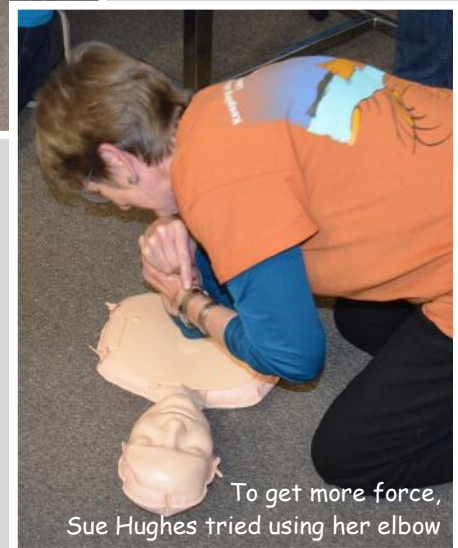
Harold Christopher



Gary Cage



Julie Rekart and her dummy



To get more force, Sue Hughes tried using her elbow

Check the next page for a popular Winter Party recipe.

The pages after that have a full listing of 2018's paddles, and Jud's data from 2017.



Lots of our members are good cooks. Jud is one of them, and he always brings something homemade. This year it was a huge bowl of tender and tangy red cabbage, which was a good side dish for the ham and the rest of the delicious food people brought.



A couple days later, Brian Hunter used one of the ham bones to make a pot of white beans and ham



George and Jen Ottenhoff made 13-bean soup with the other ham bone

### AMAZING GERMAN RED CABBAGE

#### INGREDIENTS:

2 Tbsp. butter  
5 cups shredded red cabbage  
1 cup sliced green apples  
1/3 cup apple cider vinegar  
3 Tbsp. water  
1/4 cup white sugar  
2 1/4 tsp salt  
1/4 tsp. black pepper  
1/4 tsp. ground cloves

#### DIRECTIONS:

Place butter, cabbage, apples, and sugar into a large pot. Pour in the vinegar and water, and season with salt, pepper, and clove.

Bring to a boil over medium-high heat, then reduce heat to low, cover, and simmer until the cabbage is tender, 1 1/2 to 2 hours.

### MEMBERS AT THE WINTER PARTY

Karen Amundson, Leah Bornstein and Joe Findley,  
Roz Brown, Gary Cage and Anne Fiore,  
Sandy Carlsen and Harold Christopher,  
Dick Dieckman, Marsha Dougherty,  
Tim and Ben Fletcher, Sue Hughes,  
Brian Hunter, Jud Hurd, David Hustvedt,  
Andy McKenna, Ann Marie Odasz,  
George Ottenhoff, Julie Pfannenstien,  
Julie Rekart and Marlene Pakish, and John Ruger





# RMSKC'S PLANS, 2018

- **POOL PRACTICE AT MEYERS POOL** in Arvada: Usually every other Sunday, at 10:00 (the "canoe" time). Check our website for specific dates and a phone number for weather-related pool closures.

- **TRIP LEADERS CLASS** in Longmont: February 12; Jud Hurd



T-rescue practice

- **LAKE SUMNER, NEW MEXICO CAMP AND PADDLE:** April 18-23; Marsha Dougherty
- **12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MUD HEN PADDLE** at McIntosh Lake in Longmont: April 28; Sue Hughes
- **SECOND TUESDAY AFTER WORK MONTHLY PADDLE (NORTH)** at Lake McIntosh in Longmont: Beginning May 8, check the website for the dates for the rest of the summer; Dave Hustvedt
- **BARR LAKE BIRDING:** May 12; Ann Troth and Gregg Goodrich are leading this third annual outing.
- **FOURTH TUESDAY AFTER WORK MONTHLY PADDLE (SOUTH)** at Chatfield Reservoir: Beginning May 22, check the website for the dates for the rest of the summer; Clark Strickland or Brian Hunter
- **OPENING DAY AT GROSS RESERVOIR:** May 26, the Saturday of Memorial Day weekend; Dave Hustvedt
- **BIGHORN CANYON, MONTANA, CAMP AND PADDLE:** June 2-6; Jud Hurd
- **PADDLEFEST AT CHATFIELD RESERVOIR'S ROXBOROUGH COVE**, our annual summer paddle, gear share and sale, and potluck lunch: June 16
- **LAKE PUEBLO DAY TRIP OR WEEKEND CAR CAMPING:** June 23; Jud Hurd
- **LONETREE RESERVOIR** near Berthoud: July 7; Andy McKenna
- **KAYAK CAMPING CLASS:** Two sessions (an introductory talk with a packing demonstration, and a shakedown practice pack-and-paddle) followed by an overnight at Horsetooth Reservoir: July 8, July 14 and an overnight later in July, hopefully on a weekend night; Brian Hunter and Sue Hughes
- **FULL MOON PADDLE AT CHERRY CREEK:** Open to members who have paddled with the club at least once: July 27; Sue Hughes



Visiting at PaddleFest

*More plans for 2018 on the next page*

- **CLAYOQUOT SOUND, KAYAK CAMPING** in British Columbia, Canada: August 4-14; Jud Hurd and Dave Hustvedt
- **GRANBY THREE LAKES CAMP AND PADDLE:** August 18-19; Ann Troth and Gregg Goodrich
- **LEWIS AND SHOSHONE LAKES KAYAK CAMPING** in Yellowstone National Park, WY: August 25-31; Jud Hurd
- **GREEN RIVER KAYAK CAMPING FROM CRYSTAL GEYSER** (a few miles south of Green River, Utah) to Mineral Bottom: September 9-15; email Tim Fletcher to be put on the wait-list
- **HORSETOOTH RESERVOIR PADDLE AND FINE PATIO DINING:** September 29; Jud Hurd
- **LAKE POWELL SELF-SUPPORTED**, going downriver out of Bullfrog: October 6-13; Gary Cage and Anne Fiore
- **LAKE MCCONAUGHY**, in Ogallala, Nebraska: early November cold water outing; Clark Strickland



#### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- *Trash Trackers Cleanup*, Lake Powell: Apply online to be put on their waitlist for cancellations
- *Girl Scout "Sampler" Water Camp*, Big Soda Lake at Bear Creek Park: June 18-22
- *Tri for the Cure*, Cherry Creek Reservoir: August 5
- *Open Water Swimmer Support*, Horsetooth Reservoir: September 9

## NOTES FOR PADDLERS

**READ THE *PARTICIPANTS' GUIDELINES*:** Before joining a club day paddle or longer trip, please check the guidelines in the "For Participants" section of TRIPS AND DAY PADDLES on the club's website. It has lots of particulars about paddling with RMSKC.

**RSVP TO THE TRIP LEADER:** Check with the Trip Leader to discuss the necessary skill level and other requirements. When you RSVP you'll learn important details about the outing and stay in the loop about any last minute changes due to our famously unpredictable Rocky Mountain weather. It's a fact of life: sometimes trips get relocated, postponed or cancelled!

**ORGANIZE SOMETHING NEW:** Is there a day paddle or a trip that you'd like that you don't see? Read the *Trip Leader Checklist* on the RMSKC website: <http://www.rmskc.org/for-trip-leaders-1.html>. It's full of helpful suggestions for paddle coordinators. There is also a tutorial for post-trip reporting required by the ACA [The NEWS, 20-2a]. Or check with Paddle Coordinator Jud Hurd for help; he's a master at "Jud-Led" trips and will be happy to help you with any details.





# PADDLE DATA, 2017

Compiled by Jud Hurd, Paddle Coordinator

If you missed the Winter Party, Jud gave an interesting PowerPoint review of the 2017 season's paddling. Here are some of the facts in his summary:

## PADDLES WITH THE MOST PARTICIPATION

Pueblo Lake - 16  
Horsetooth Reservoir - 14  
Powell Houseboat - 10  
10,000 Islands Everglades - 8  
Apostle Islands - 8  
Colorado River (Moab to Spanish Bottom) - 8  
Barr Lake Birding - 8  
Cherry Creek Full Moon - 8  
Chatfield Reservoir - 7  
Cold Water Practice - 7 and 4  
Sterling Reservoir - 7



Jud presenting his Data Summary

## MOST FREQUENT PADDLERS

Brian Hunter and Jud Hurd - 13 each  
Marsha Dougherty - 12  
Clark Strickland - 9  
Susan Hughes - 8  
Tim Fletcher - 7  
George Ottenhoff - 7  
David Hustvedt, Ann Troth, Greg Goodrich  
and Joy Farquhar - 5 each

## NEW (OR ALMOST NEW) FACES IN 2017

Karen Amundsen - Pueblo Lake and Powell Houseboat V  
Dave Anderson - Pool Practice  
Belle Bradshaw - Rescues Training  
Leah Bornstein and Joe Findley - PaddleFest and Horsetooth  
Chris Davenport - Pueblo Lake  
Richard Ferguson - Everglades  
Von Fransen - Horsetooth, Pueblo Lake, Colorado River  
Scott Hilliard -- PaddleFest  
Ann Marie Odasz - Lake Powell Houseboat V  
Julie Pfannenstein - Pueblo Lake and July Full Moon  
Michaela Poole - Barr Lake Birding and Rescues Training  
Annabel Saunders and John Anderson - Lake Powell Houseboat V  
Tim Shea - July Full Moon  
Jesse Vankempen - Barr Lake Cleanup

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Here is information about one of our new members with highlights of his kayaking background; we look forward to paddling with him, and reading about other new members in the next issue of the *RMSKC's NEWS*.

### PHIL SIDOFF

I'm a 73 year old, originally from Wisconsin. During my teen years I was in the 4-H. At age 17 I entered the Air Force and was stationed in Viet Nam. I used the GI bill to obtain two masters degrees and worked for nine years as a museum anthropologist.

Prior to moving to Colorado in 1980 with my wife Doris, I ran two marathons, and after moving out here began doing trail runs. My interest in kayaking is very new and was in part promoted by a leg surgery that has finished me off as a runner. I felt that kayaking would be an excellent upper-body workout coupled with my past four-year involvement with Longmont Cross Fit.

Last spring I purchased a Delta 12.10 from Confluence Kayaks in Denver, and through their excellent guidance have taken lessons in their indoor pool and with RMSKC at Meyers Pool, but I still am really a newbie to the sport.



Phil waiting for paddling weather



We were sorry to learn that Don Manton, an RMSKC member since 2014, died this past December, following a long battle with cancer.

Don was active in the club when he first joined: he considered the 2014 trip to Lake Mead, and paddled with a group at Lake Pueblo in May. He joined club members on Union Reservoir and talked about their upcoming Missouri Breaks trip with them at lunch afterward. He attended PaddleFest that year, where he and Brian Hunter discussed carving Greenland paddles, and he participated in a roll class at Soda Lake.

His information in the *Welcome New Members* section of the RMSKC's *The NEWS* said, "Don got into paddling about seven years ago. He paddles a Delta 17' or a 16.5' self-made Redfish cedar strip boat. He has been lots of places; his favorite kayaking town is Port Townsend, Washington."

More information about Don's life and his memorial service in Frisco the evening of March 3<sup>rd</sup> can be found at:

[https://www.meaningfulfunerals.net/?action=obituaries.obit\\_view&CFID=a6c0081f-1771-4158-8eeb-eba5b02c40f0&CFTOKEN=0&o\\_id=4459455&fh\\_id=14405](https://www.meaningfulfunerals.net/?action=obituaries.obit_view&CFID=a6c0081f-1771-4158-8eeb-eba5b02c40f0&CFTOKEN=0&o_id=4459455&fh_id=14405)



Don on Lake Mead



## MERCHANTS WHO OFFER DISCOUNTS

- AAA INFLATABLES (dry bags, PFDs, maps, etc.)  
5610 Lamar Street, Arvada  
303-296-2444
- CONFLUENCE KAYAKS  
2301 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Denver  
303-433-3676
- GOLDEN RIVER SPORTS  
806 Washington Avenue, Golden  
303-215-9386
- SEA KAYAK BAJA MEXICO - courses and custom instruction in NDK kayaks with premium paddles  
[www.seakayakbajamexico.com](http://www.seakayakbajamexico.com)
- SUBURBAN TOPPERS - discounts for members on all products: Yakima, Thule, Rhino-Rack, caps, etc.  
5795 E Colfax Avenue, Denver  
303-320-8677

## RMSKC SUPPORTERS

Take your ACA card  
and mention RMSKC  
when asking for  
your member discount.

# Suburban TOPPERS

### Sea Kayak Baja Mexico

[www.seakayakbajamexico.com](http://www.seakayakbajamexico.com)

- Trips & Training for enthusiasts
- World Heritage location
- Nigel Dennis Kayaks
- Werner; Kokatat; Beale GPs
- BCU-certified leaders & coaches:  
Ginni Callahan, Yuri, Marcos, Santiago, Ramon



10% Discount for RMSKC Members. 17 years experience.

