



FOUNDED 1989
ACA PADDLE AMERICA CLUB

SUMMER, 2013
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THE RMSKC NEWS

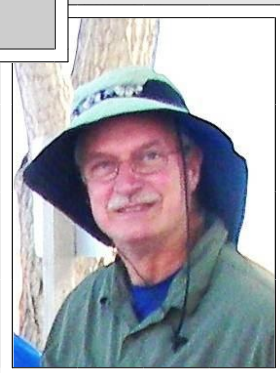
CLUB INFO AND THE LATEST SCHEDULE

FROM THE COCKPIT

By President Jud Hurd

Well, fall is upon us which means we are rapidly headed toward the end of another Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club paddling season. I think we had a pretty exciting summer with a lot of fun paddles and destinations.

I know I have had a lot of fun going to some new lakes and enjoying the company of a lot of friends. We have 61 members in the club and I got to paddle with 26 of you this summer, which unfortunately means I didn't get to paddle with 34 of you. I know summer is a busy time



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Glacier Bay beach plant in the rain

Photo by Sue Hughes

for most people and it is hard to work everything into those busy, busy schedules. I hope to improve on those numbers next year.

While we had a lot of fun overnight paddles it was pointed out to me that we didn't have that many one-day weekend paddles in the Denver metro area. I think that is a valid statement and I would invite the membership to email me back and let me know your thoughts on this year's calendar. Did it work for you? Did it not work so well for you? What would you like to see more of? What type of paddles would work better for you? We can use your input to develop a 2014 paddle calendar that better meets what you want.

Speaking of fall, Steering Committee elections are coming up again. The Treasurer (John Ruger), Instruction and Safety Coordinator (Brian Curtiss), Paddling Coordinator (Deb Jenkins) and Onshore Coordinator (Lou Ann and David Hustvedt) positions are open for elections this year. As you know, the RMSKC is a volunteer run club which means we need members to volunteer to fill these important positions. The Steering Committee meets no more than three times a year and none of our positions require a lot of work. But they are critical for keeping the club operating. So I ask every member to consider volunteering for one of these positions. Feel free to contact me or the incumbents (their phone numbers and email addresses are listed in the blue box below) to find out what is involved in performing the duties of these positions. Please give this some serious thought and let me know if you are willing to serve. We will hold elections via email in November so you have some time to give this your careful consideration.

In closing I hope you all have had a great summer and have lots of safe fun for the rest of the summer and this fall. I look forward to hearing from you all regarding the paddle calendar and the Steering Committee positions.

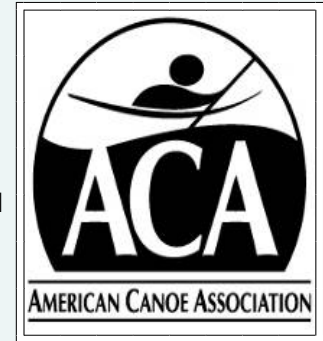
RMSKC STEERING COMMITTEE 2013

PRESIDENT:	Jud Hurd	970-377-9277	hurdoofcows@q.com
TREASURER:	John Ruger	303-989-2232	jtruger@gmail.com
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PADDLE COORDINATOR:	Deb Jenkins	303-940-6963	debjenkinsart@yahoo.com
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STEERING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Steering Committee met in June and again in August at Sue Hughes' house, a central location for our SC members who live all over Colorado. Here are the highlights of what the committee did at those meetings:

- Accepted John Ruger's **TREASURER'S REPORTS**. We're in fine financial shape, with slightly more money than we had at the beginning of 2013.
- Discussed some changing aspects of **COLLECTING RMSKC DUES** and **NOT COLLECTING ACA DUES**.
 - The definition of "family" for RMSKC purposes was enlarged to include everyone in a member's household, regardless of legal relationship, and to include a member's children who are away at college or reside with a non-member custodial parent.
 - RMSKC is the only ACA Paddle Club that collected ACA dues on a partial-year basis, which we had been doing so that our members' ACA dues all renew at the same time, April 1. In the future we will have members handle their own ACA renewals. For most of us, that will mean that we continue on the April 1 to March 31 cycle, but for new members their year of dues will begin whenever they first joined the American Canoe Association.
 - Having members whose ACA renewal dates are different will require that everyone verifies that their ACA membership is up-to-date before participating in any RMSKC activity. It was decided that the easiest way to do this is to ask members to bring their current ACA card to all events. It was suggested that a copy of a member's card could be kept in their kayak to facilitate this.
- Postponed a discussion of the Club's **\$50 INSTRUCTION FEE** until our Safety and Instruction Coordinator, Brian Curtiss, could be present. Please email Jud if you have any thoughts about this fee, which currently means that once you've paid you can take as many classes as you wish during the year that you paid.
- Revisited the status of several ongoing **PUBLICITY EFFORTS**. It was decided that business cards might be more useful and less expensive than brochures. It was admitted that not much work had been done on either, or on up-dating the Club website or creating a Facebook page. Perhaps these will get rolling when paddling season is over. If you'd be willing to help on any of these projects, please email Jud Hurd.
- Brainstormed ways to **SCHEDULE MORE LOCAL PADDLES** for weekends. It was decided that Jud would email the membership reminding them that volunteering to lead trips means that more trips happen, and that mentoring can be arranged for people who are new to trip leadership.
- Set the date for the **WINTER PARTY**. Although we don't have a venue yet, please mark your 2014 calendars for the 4th Saturday, January 25. It will be the usual fun time of catching up with old friends and meeting new members, sharing pictures from the summer's adventures, enjoying the always delicious pot-luck dinner, and making plans for the 2014 paddling season.



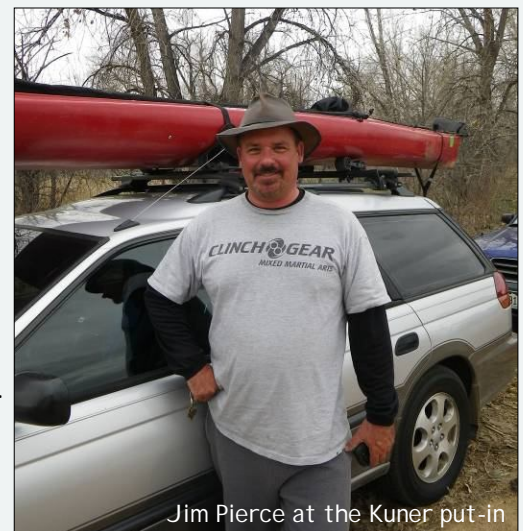
WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Here is information about some of our new members with highlights of their paddling background; we look forward to reading about the other new members in the next issue of the *RMSKC's NEWS*.

- **RUSS LEA FROM BOULDER:** Russ has been paddling sea kayaks since 2000 and has paddled on the Atlantic, Pacific, Gulf, and Alaskan coastlines. He most recently hails from Mobile, Alabama, where his paddling encompassed open Gulf, bay, and river paddling. He enjoys overnight camping out of the kayak and has taken week-long trips in places like the Bowron Lakes Wilderness Area in British Columbia, the Boundary Waters and southeast Alaska. He is up for almost any trip as long as he can fit it in his schedule.



- **JIM PIERCE FROM COLORADO SPRINGS:** Jim paddled last spring with Anne Fiore's group practicing river skills on the South Platte. He enjoys being the self-employed owner of a cleaning service with multiple employees, including his sons.



- **BILL MILLER FROM LAKEWOOD:** Bill is 70 years old and retired. He has owned a canoe and a folding kayak in the past and recently purchased a Wilderness Systems' *Tempest 165* which he has been using on lakes in Colorado. He would also like to take it on some flat water and Class 1 stretches of the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers. He's lived in Colorado 40 years and was a scientist with the USGS before retirement.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS, CONT.

- **HAROLD STURGIS FROM ERIE:** Harold sent in this bio: "I started paddling two years ago on a family trip to Clearwater, Florida. A bunch of us decided to rent kayaks and paddle on Tampa Bay, and I thought, "This is REALLY cool!" I have been paddling ever since. So that's two seasons of paddling, and looking forward to extending the second and starting the third.

Right now I'm paddling a Perception Expression 15'. I have paddled a number of local lakes...my favorites so far are Lake Granby, 11 Mile Reservoir, Gross Reservoir, and Horsetooth. Also, I just got back from six days of paddling on Yellowstone Lake—West Thumb to Flat Mountain to South Arm and back. Fantastic! Looking forward to more like that. Also have set my sights on the Apostle Islands for next summer.

Other than that, I work in accounting and finance, spend a lot of time with family (especially the three granddaughters), and still hike and climb occasionally, although not as much as I used to."

Also joining the Club since the last issue of the *RMSKC's NEWS* are **FRED AND TENA ENGELMAN** from Colorado Springs; we hope to publish details about their paddling backgrounds in the winter issue of the *NEWS*.

THE NEXT *MOUNTAIN PADDLER*

If you have a report or an article for the end-of-the-season *Mt. Paddler*, email it to the Publications Editor at suehughes@yahoo.com. Longer articles tend to run about 3,000 words, but any length is fine. Almost any topic is also fine; we publish reports of non-Club activities and even commercial trips. It works best if you send the photos separate from the text, with captions to identify where they fit.

Worried about writing something? Call the editor (303-776-4541) with the details and she'll be glad to work up connections and captions for your pictures. Still too much like school? Just send her the pictures.

The deadline for the next *Mt. Paddler* is October 1.

IN THE UPCOMING ISSUE YOU'LL ENJOY THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ▪ Jud Hurd and Dick Dieckman in the Lower Grand Canyon | ▪ Blue Mesa Reservoir I I |
| ▪ A Commercial Trip to Glacier Bay: Lessons Learned | ▪ Making a Contact Tow |
| ▪ Red Fleet State Park, Vernal, Utah | ▪ Shadow Mountain Reservoir |
| ▪ Lewis and Shoshone Lakes Kayak Camping | ▪ Lake Powell, 2013 |

PADDLEFEST 2013

ROXBOROUGH COVE at
CHATFIELD RESERVOIR
JUNE 22



This year's PaddleFest was scheduled earlier than usual, with the thought that maybe new members would get introduced to the fun and then turn out for more paddling over the summer. It didn't work quite that way, since Russ Lea and his wife Robin were the only newcomers among the 18 usual suspects and spouses, but everyone had the customary good time.



Talking about boats

Photos by Anne Fiore

It was a bright and sunny day. A few members arrived early and paddled around the reservoir; most of the others joined them for a second, mid-morning circle to enjoy the active water near the marina.

Then it was time to talk about kayaks and try out other people's boats, or check out the gear sale, or sit in the shade and catch up on the winter's happenings.

As always, the grill was going and the potluck offerings were delicious.



Kristy Webber, Gary McIntosh



Double-crested cormorants drying their wings

SUMMER LESSONS

DAY PADDLES AND MISC.

JUNE 9 AND JUNE 29: ACA INSTRUCTION BIG SODA LAKE, NEAR MORRISON

In early June our ACA Instructors, Gary McIntosh and Rich Webber, worked with Kristy Webber, John Ruger, Richard Ferguson and new member Bill Miller. Several weeks later Ray Van Dusen joined the ACA instructors; Bernie Dahlen, John Ruger, Bill Miller and our newest member, Harold Sturgis, attended this class.

JUNE 13: HORSETOOTH CASUAL FUN

Brian Hunter and Mark Willey drove up to Fort Collins to join Jud Hurd and Wilson for a nice day paddle on this beautiful northern Colorado reservoir. Everything was still really green this early in the year and the views of the houses on the mountainside at the back of the coves were gorgeous.



AUGUST 18: OPEN SWIM SUPPORT HORSETOOTH RESERVOIR



Every August Horsetooth Reservoir hosts a 10K open water swim. For safety reasons the organizers require a support boater for each swimmer. For the last two or three years a small number of RMSKC members have volunteered to join the support paddlers.

This year the Club members were David and Lou Ann Hustvedt and Jud Hurd.



MAY 16: MARKETING FOCUS GROUP DOWNTOWN DENVER

Sue Hughes, Jud Hurd, Joe Phillips and Clark Strickland answered an email from an advertising agency requesting Club members' participation in a focus group about outdoor sports gear. It was held in an upper room of a nice English pub-like bar just a few blocks from the Capitol, and was very smoothly run.

They enjoyed meeting the other participants and articulating their opinions about sports equipment. They also enjoyed a glass of ale and a good pub dinner. For their trouble each took home a crisp \$50 bill.

At the end of the evening they learned that it had been organized for NRS, whose initials stand for Northwest River Sports. Their motto may be "First On The River" but they have an extensive catalog with gear for all water sports and a cheerful postage-free (both ways!) policy.



JULY 18: SODA LAKE PADDLE CARVING WORKSHOP

Jim Whipperman and Brian Hunter met at Big Soda Lake on Thursday, July 18, to glue up and carve a Greenland paddle. In his announcement email Brian said, "I will go through the basic steps starting with ripped western red cedar and ending up with a carved and sanded paddle. I have developed a method that works for me and would like to share it, and see what ideas others have, too."

They had a great day but neither of the fellows took pictures. Here are some links to Greenland paddles in use that Brian sent instead:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mZ-FP36QGU0>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOIOE1fJh-q>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IQgS9cvNzy0>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfuVuSoHdXI>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3sKOuaIeI>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1RiMiX4GYMQ>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OT1Cl_oi0ow

Forward stroke modification when using a Greenland paddle discussed by Greg Stamer:

<http://www.gregstamer.com/2012/01/27/forward-stroke-with-greenland-paddle>

BBB class:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jhiSqm21OpQ>

MISCELLANEOUS TIDBITS

- September 1: Union Reservoir in Longmont had almost three dozen egrets—great and snowy—hanging around before traveling south. There were also sand hill cranes in the fields along the road into the reservoir.
- The Union Reservoir will be closed the morning of September 14 for a water dog competition and the morning of September 22 for a City of Longmont Triathlon.
- ACA membership entitles you to a variety of perks. Check their website for a discount of up to \$3,300 off the sticker price if you're buying a new Subaru and to see if any other offers are of interest. The *Benefits of ACA Membership* page on their website is also where you can select which complementary magazine you want to receive: *Canoeroots*, *Adventure Kayak*, *Rapid* or *Kayak Angler*. Please email the RMSKC Publication Editor (suehughes@yahoo.com) with details if you have had any experiences with these benefits.
- While in Alaska in August, Sue Hughes bumped into a young friend of Kathleen Ellis's who had paddled with the two of them and Ray Van Dusen at Union Reservoir a couple of years ago. The girl demonstrated an impressive butterfly roll that day; she's even more amazing now. She and a friend had completed 80 days of paddling—Bellingham, Washington to Glacier Bay. Check her blog: <http://www.padlethepassage.com>
- Former member Matt Lutkus is having fun in Maine. He was enlisted to escort a large styrofoam duck down the Damariscotta River. The big duck led the way for the rubber ducky race, an annual fundraiser for the Pemaquid Watershed Association. Matt is in the red Storm. Ken Fink, east coast paddling legend, is in the fancy white Epic in the foreground alongside all of the little yellow ducks. Note the film crew in the canoe on the right.
- Brian Hunter sent a link to a Coast Guard article about safe boating and navigating on water where there are markers and big ships. Check out *U. S. Aids to Navigation System* at www.uscgboating.org
- Lone Tree Reservoir is still has lots of water and it's pretty clear, but there's less paddling than in the early spring because most of the back areas are choked with water plants.



THE LAST OF OUR 2013 SEASON

■ **September 21-29: Lake Powell Houseboat-Supported Paddling Trip**

- This trip departs from Wahweap, Arizona
- Because of the size of the houseboat, the group is limited to twelve participants
- The trip is full at this time. Work to organize a second houseboat or contact Jud to put your name on the waiting list: hurdofcows@q.com

- **Other Possible Trips:** Below is a list of other possible over-night trips and day paddles, most of which could be scheduled between now and cold weather. If you're interested in organizing one of them, or have any other ideas, please contact our Paddling Coordinator, Deb Jenkins. Her email address is: debjenkinsart@yahoo.com

OVERNIGHT SUGGESTIONS

- Boyd Lake
- Jackson Reservoir
- Twin Lakes/Turquoise Lake
- Escalante Bridge Gunnison
- Green River
- Pueblo Reservoir

LOCAL DAY PADDLE SUGGESTIONS

- Lake Estes
- Horsetooth Reservoir
- Rampart Reservoir
- Lake Pueblo
- Ruedi Reservoir
- Green Mountain Reservoir
- Cherry Creek Reservoir
- Chatfield Reservoir
- Dillon Reservoir
- Gross Reservoir
- Boyd Lake

Any sport carries with it risks, and it's for you to understand those risks and decide whether you are prepared to accept them before undertaking any activity. Kayaking is no different; it can be dangerous if not undertaken in a safe manner and should never be done without proper training, experience and the correct use of relevant safety equipment.

The Rocky Mountain Sea Kayaking Club cannot therefore accept responsibility for any injury or accident which may occur as a result of articles, advice or images published in its publications or on its website.

MERCHANTS WHO OFFER DISCOUNTS FOR CLUB MEMBERS:

- AAA INFLATABLES (dry gear, clothing, PFDs)
3264 Larimer Street, Denver
303-296-2444
- COLUMBIA RIVER KAYAKING/SEA KAYAK BAJA
Puget Island, WA, an hour from Astoria, OR
www.columbiariverkayaking.com/baja
- CONFLUENCE KAYAKS
2373 15th Street Unit B, Denver
303-433-3676
- GOLDEN RIVER SPORTS
806 Washington Avenue, Golden
303-215-9386
- OUTDOOR DIVAS (15%)
1133 Pearl Street, Boulder
303-449-3482
- RIVER MOUSE KAYAKS (Club member Ray Van Dusen)
303-421-3729
ray@rivermousekayaks.com
10% on gear; 5% on your 2nd (or more) kayak

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