



FOUNDED 1989
ACA PADDLE AMERICA CLUB

WINTER, 2012
Vol. 20 No. 1a

THE RMSKC NEWS

CLUB INFO AND THE LATEST SCHEDULE

FROM THE EDITOR

By Sue Hughes

Here's the latest issue of
The RMSKC's NEWS, with

info about what the Club and its members are doing. Read it to keep up with what's happening, and be sure to check the RMSKC Schedule at the end to make your plans for later in the year.

Coming in the next *Mountain Paddler* will be Stan White's article on paddling with his son in the San Juans, one by Marlene Pakish about a trip to the Boundary Waters, and Brian Hunter's thoughts about the Club's biggest challenge: keeping paddlers together on the water.

And if you're boating someplace warmer between now and summer, please send in pictures and an article about those adventures. We're all interested to know more about where people are paddling.

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Photo by Dave Hustvedt

END OF YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2011

Mike Anson, Treasurer

ITEMS	AMOUNT	TOTAL
BEGINNING BALANCE:		\$3116
DEBITS		
Members' Dues sent to ACA	\$1647	
ACA Annual Paddle America Club Dues	\$200	
Colo. State Organization Renewal	\$10	
Winter Party Venue Rental	\$75	
Food and Misc. for Club Events	\$188	
Digital Space Charges	\$161	
Postage, Supplies, and Misc.	\$18	
TOTAL DEBITS:		\$2299
CREDITS		
Dues paid by members	\$2128	
RMSKC Skills Classes	\$110	
Misc. Income, adjusted	\$25	
TOTAL CREDITS:		\$2263
DECEMBER 31, 2011 BALANCE:		\$3080

EDITOR'S NOTE: Are you wondering why the Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club has two publications, and what's the difference between them? Here's the answer:

The *RMSKC's NEWS* is like a NEWSPAPER that publishes mostly just Club news—the details of the workings of the RMSKC. Many of the things in it will be less newsworthy after a bit of time.

The *Mountain Paddler* is like a MAGAZINE that publishes articles about trips and other aspects of kayaking that will remain relevant over a longer time span.

The two separate publications were created in July of 2009 because the *RMSKC Newsletter* had gotten too long. What needs to happen now is to create, and post to our website, an index of articles in the past publications that would be of reference value.

RMSKC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL UPDATE

Anna Troth, Membership Coordinator

Anna Troth, our Membership Coordinator, will be emailing membership notices and forms in February, as everyone's membership expires on March 31, 2012. The RMSKC dues are still only \$10.00, whether you are an individual or a family. This is a great value for the opportunity to meet other paddlers and attend Club day paddles, overnight paddling trips, kayak skills and safety classes, and social gatherings.

New this year is the \$50.00 *Instruction Fee*, which has been added to the membership form for individuals wishing to take advantage of instruction by our ACA certified instructors. Pre-paying will alleviate collecting money at the paddle site, which is prohibited in some places. People paying the per-person fee may take as many classes, or repeat a class as many times as they wish, for the whole summer.

When renewing your RMSKC dues, you must also renew your membership with the American Canoe Club (ACA) and sign their waiver and release of liability, as all paddlers must be registered with ACA to insure our Club activities.

For people 18 through 61, ACA membership is \$30, and family ACA memberships are \$40.

Individual senior members (62 and over) can take advantage of the ACA senior rate of \$25.

For more information about the benefits of ACA membership, check out their website at www.americancanoe.org.

In the past ACA has emailed people directly to renew their portion. This has proven to be confusing; please send your ACA renewal dues and ACA waiver in to Anna with your RMSKC dues. The Club will forward the ACA portion to them.



If you have any questions about RMSKC or ACA dues, contact Anna Troth. Her email address is: anntro@msn.com

RMSKC STEERING COMMITTEE 2012

PRESIDENT:	Jud Hurd	970-377-9277	hurdofcows@q.com
TREASURER:	John Ruger	303-989-2232	jtruger@gmail.com
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:	Anna Troth	303-368-1861	anntro@msn.com
PADDLE COORDINATOR:	Deb Jenkins	303-940-6963	debjenkinsart@yahoo.com
INSTRUCTION AND SAFETY:	Brian Curtiss	303-581-9045	bcurl@me.com
ONSHORE EVENTS:	Lou Ann and Dave Hustvedt	303-442-2814	lahustvedt@gmail.com
PUBLICATIONS EDITOR:	Sue Hughes	303-776-4541	suehughes@yahoo.com
WEBMASTER:	Dan Bell	303-986-7025	dbell12345@msn.com

STEERING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Steering Committee met the end of January at Sue Hughes' house. The basics the SC handled were:

- Addressed **PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS** from the new SC members Deb Jenkins, John Ruger and Lou Ann Hustvedt.
- Discussed Jud Hurd's plans to rework **THE WEBSITE**. Brian Curtiss provided some history of the site's creation and some suggestions.
- Rehashed **WHAT TO CALL THE PERSON ORGANIZING AN RMSKC TRIP**, "Trip Coordinator" or "Trip Leader". Several years ago we tried to move to "Coordinator" to remind members that when someone puts together a trip the participants are not getting a professionally trained guide. However, that name was not used consistently and some members felt that it appeared to absolve the person organizing the outing of any responsibility while on the water. It was voted to return to the use of "Trip Leader".
- Talked about Jud's upcoming **CLASS ON BEING A TRIP LEADER**, and the possibility of reworking the two relevant documents on the website, *Planning a Trip* and *Trip Leader Checklist*. The *Participant Guidelines* are also being rewritten to include specifics from ACA
- Reviewed the **PLANS ON THE 2012 SCHEDULE**, with a discussion of how much marketing a Trip Leader should do. We are now waiting for the people who volunteered to lead trips at the Winter Party to set dates. In the past, trips have been put on the calendar with a note that they will be cancelled unless a leader steps forward, which is an approach that sometimes produces a Trip Leader.
- Discussed the **STEERING COMMITTEE'S GOALS** for 2012. In addition to updating the website and developing and teaching a Trip Leader course, the main focus will be our skills instruction. The SC was in agreement that our ACA lessons are a primary benefit of Club membership.
- Considered **HOW TO ENLARGE OUR POOL OF ACA INSTRUCTORS**. We have lost several instructors over the last couple of years and the SC discussed ways to encourage members to become ACA certified. As in the past, it was agreed that the Club would pay a portion of the cost of becoming an instructor.



Clockwise from the back: Jud Hurd, Brian Curtiss, Lou Ann and Dave Hustvedt, Deb Jenkins, John Ruger

PEOPLE TO CONTACT:

- Jud Hurd with suggestions for the website or more information about the Trip Leader class
- Deb Jenkins to put your trip on the Club's schedule
- Brian Curtiss for more information about ACA Instructor Training

TRIP LEADER TRAINING

By Jud Hurd

Have you ever considered leading a trip but just weren't sure what was involved and didn't have enough information to help you boldly step out there and go where many have gone before you?

**TO HELP MEMBERS STEP BOLDLY
WHERE MANY HAVE GONE BEFORE**

Have you led a trip in the past but it has been some time and you aren't sure if anything has changed?

Have you recently led a trip but had questions arise that you would love to discuss with someone?

Have you ever wished the RMSKC would provide a Trip Leader class, as do other clubs, to address all these issues?

Well, take heart! The Steering Committee has heard your concerns and is developing just such a course to be offered this spring. The goal of the Trip Leader Training is to cover everything you need to know to plan, promote and lead a trip. The topics to be covered are:

ACA INSURANCE

HOW TO DECIDE YOU WANT TO LEAD A TRIP

TRIP LOGISTICS FROM START TO FINISH

OBTAINING STEERING COMMITTEE APPROVAL

PLANNING FOR FIRST AID AND EMERGENCIES

ADVERTISING THE TRIP; GETTING PEOPLE SIGNED UP

GOING ON THE TRIP

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO AFTER THE TRIP

RMSKC RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR YOU

The heart of the RMSKC is our paddle trips. We are grateful to our members who currently lead trips and we want to do everything we can to support them. But we can't rely forever on the same people being available as trip leaders. If we don't have other members willing to step forward and fill their shoes, we will see a deterioration of our trip calendar and the eventual deterioration of the RMSKC.

I encourage all members to consider leading a trip. This course is designed to help you. While the prospect of leading a trip can be intimidating, I believe you will find that with good information and support, it is not that big of a deal. The best way to get familiar with leading a trip is to attend this class and then do a day-paddle to a local lake. After getting comfortable at this level you will find yourself considering a multi-day paddle to a larger venue.

So, give this some thought and sign up for this course when we get it published. In the meantime, it would be useful to hear what questions you have about leading trips and what information you would like to see covered in the class. So email your thoughts to me, Jud Hurd, at hurdo cows@q.com.

The Winter Party

32 of us enjoyed the traditional winter social at Jan Faulkner's clubhouse in Broomfield. Jan, Mike Anson and Brian Hunter did the setting up and shortly after 5:00 the room was full of people chatting about their lives since summer, watching the Hustvedts' pictures of their Alaska trip and eyeing the table of food. We missed Pruitt Faulkner's ribs and shrimp, but the pot-luck offerings were as good as always and no one went hungry.



Rich Webber, Clark Strickland, and Georgene and Dick Harsh

After dinner introductions were made. We were glad to welcome new members Clark Strickland, and Dick Harsh and his wife Georgene, and several spouses we've heard of but hadn't met joined the fun: Gail Hurd, Laura Hunter and Stan White's wife Van. Marsha Dougherty introduced Bob Kilker and Chris Hoagland.

Jud led a discussion of possible trips for the 2012 paddling season, suggestions were made and people signed up for those they'd be interested in hearing more about.

Ray Van Dusen and Gary McIntosh listening to Jud Hurd talk about upcoming trips. That's John Ruger, Jan Faulkner and Laura Hunter in the foreground.



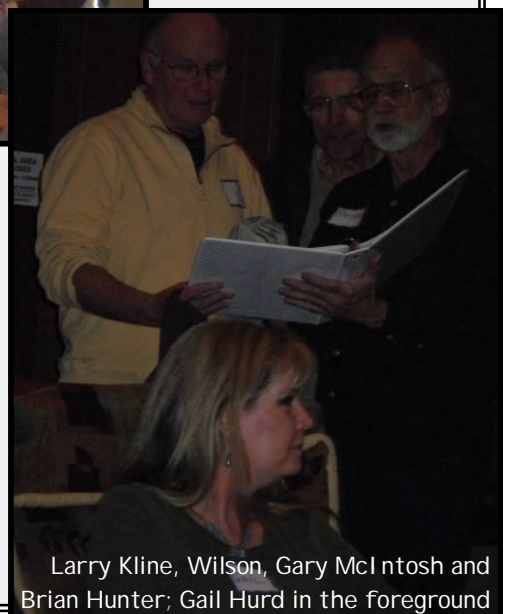
Bernie and Marcie Dahlen sent an accounting of Wilson's adventures and he was passed on to Larry and Carole Kline, who may take him on a float trip in a livestock watering tank down the Middle Loupe river near Merritt Reservoir, and maybe even to China.



Jan Faulkner, Jud Hurd and Laura Hunter



Wilson, our intrepid traveler



Larry Kline, Wilson, Gary McIntosh and Brian Hunter; Gail Hurd in the foreground

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Anna Troth, Membership Coordinator

Here, and on the following page, is information about some of our new members with highlights of their paddling backgrounds; we are looking forward to getting to know them.

- **TRICIA GRODZICKI FROM LITTLETON:** Tricia was originally from Long Island, New York. She and her husband made the move to Colorado five years ago after vacationing here many times. They are the proud parents of a two-year-old Colorado native. Trish, as she likes to be called, began paddling about 12 years ago. The desire to do so was just something that always called to her. She paddles a 12-year-old Perception *Carolina*. She has kayaked on Long Island, and in upstate New York, Connecticut and Colorado, and in the future hopes to get on the water in Fiji, Ireland, Alaska, Utah and, of course, more places in Colorado.



- **ANDY AND DAWN MCKENNA AND FAMILY FROM WESTMINSTER:** Andy and his wife Dawn moved from Concord, California, to Westminster in 2000. They've been together for 20 years and have a son and daughter, Gavin age 10 and Devyn, age 7. 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.

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 a first season full of learning, laughs, and gear-gathering, Andy's short term goals are hitting every pool practice this winter, learning at least one roll technique, getting on a river in the spring for a float with the Club, kayak camping, and getting his family on the water in the spring. Long term goals include paddling more lakes and rivers in Colorado, paddling the California and Oregon coasts on multi-day trips, exploring places off the beaten track, and paddling the coasts of Ireland and Scotland.

NEW MEMBERS, CONT.

Anna Troth, Membership Coordinator

- JIM WHIPPERMAN AND YOKO IMAI FROM GEORGETOWN: Jim is a retired small animal veterinarian, most recently working at a practice in Lakewood. He currently is the caretaker at the Loveland Ski Area where he lives and skis, body permitting. Yoko works at an interior design firm in Denver where she has been employed for almost 20 years. They began kayaking two years ago, but started getting serious about it last summer when they were able to do a number of trips in Colorado, an extended trip to the Tetons and several weeks in the San Juan Islands.

They both currently paddle Feathercraft's *Wispers* which they enjoy, occasionally experimenting with Greenland technique. They are hoping to break the code on a reliable roll this season and said they would appreciate any advice or help. Their future plans include paddling part or all of the Inside Passage, the Noatak River in northern Alaska, and the Sea of Cortez. They attended the Loco Roundup on the Columbia River last summer and got a glimpse of the incredible potential of kayaking; there is life beyond ravaged knees! Jim has an almost new Longhaul Mark 1, a folding kayak like an industrial grade Klepper, for sale. You can contact him at: jameswhipperman@yahoo.com

- MARK SCOTT OF NORTHGLENN: Mark's a Wyoming native who relocated to Colorado in 1978. He says, and most of us agree, it's a privilege to live in such a beautiful state. The first time he kayaked was in the Florida Everglades and he's been hooked ever since. He's paddled a few rivers and many area lakes and reservoirs, and he's tried circumnavigating one of the Channel Islands off California. He also enjoys mountain biking, climbing peaks and hunting. He owns an Eddyline 18' *Falcon* and a Necky *Looksha*, both Kevlar-carbon builds. Mark looks forward to doing more Utah trips and the Flaming Gorge paddle with the Club.
- JANE LEWIS AND JAY GINGRICH FROM NORTH OF BUENA VISTA: Jane is originally from Seattle; she lived there for forty years before she discovered that it did not rain most days in Colorado and the snow was in the form of powder not concrete. Then her raingear wore out and she never went back. Jay belonged to RMSKC in the past but lost contact with the Club's activities when they moved to Buena Vista, living in a 13' trailer for a year while building a house.

He has been whitewater kayaking on western rivers and sea kayaking for many years, and Jane picked it up in Colorado. Their sea kayaking trips have been in the Pacific Northwest, Belize, western lakes and rivers and Mexico.

They both paddle Wilderness Systems *Tempest 17* composite kayaks, which they find provide a good balance between size and volume for paddlers under 170 pounds.

They follow backpacking strategies, including drying veggies and some meats, and are able to take plenty of camp gear, up to 30 liters of water each, and enough food for longer trips, with fishing or spearfishing to fill in some of their calorie requirements.





Jay on the Baja coast near Timbabichi, with a pargo (snapper) he caught on the way to camp by trolling with a hand line on a *tabla*, the winding board that Mexican fishermen use instead of a rod and reel

One of their favorite gimmicks is to travel with a thermos and make coffee in the evening before packing away all their stove and cook gear. Then they can wake at 4:30, have coffee and cereal in their sleeping bags and get on the water before sunup for the best paddling and least wind.

Jay quit counting at 3400 nautical miles of paddling in the Sea of Cortez, having gone from San Felipe to Cabo los Frailes, and around most of the islands on various trips. However they're still drawn back there. In fact, Mexico is tempting them for this spring, since

their car insurance, fish license, and passes for protected areas are still valid from last fall. Is this a pattern, or an addiction? *¿Quién sabe?*

Jane and Jay also enjoy hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, and skiing: classic, skate and backcountry.

JAY WRITES ABOUT MEXICO: "There's something very satisfying about a self-supported kayak trip with camping on deserted beaches, snorkeling and free diving, and plenty of hiking on layover or windy days. Then too, there's usually fresh fish to eat at the end of the day, and the marine life, from squid to whales, is always pretty entertaining.

Mexico is surprisingly progressive, meeting the needs of people who enjoy access to the sea: 20 meters in from the high tide line is the Federal Zone, or public land with open camping. The camping is free but the wind can be treacherous, although it's fairly predictable with an eye on the sky and a barometer, and a small SSB radio receiver to get forecasts from long range sailboat cruiser radio nets. Don't forget that pushing wind and seas in a loaded boat can be exhausting, so paddling skills and conditioning are important, and there's no Coast Guard to hail on the VHF; you must be self-reliant.

The Mexican fishermen and ranchers are your best friends if you run out of water, food, luck, or talent. Actually, locals are your best friends any time. It's like visiting family, even when you have just met someone. The Hispanic culture is gracious, and inclusive. We have watched kids grow up in some of the small fishing camps on successive visits. The key is to be able to speak Spanish.

We've started going to Mexico by way of southern Arizona for mountain biking, then connecting to Baja via Nogales in Arizona, Los Mochis in Sinaloa, and then the ferry to La Paz, Baja California Sur. This is faster than driving the whole peninsula from Tecate in Baja Californian Norte since we mainly want to travel in the south.

If anyone from RMSKC would like to try a new destination and paddle in Baja, I would be glad to provide background information. For people who would like less ocean exposure, camping in Bahía Concepción and doing some day paddles would be a good option."

Tristan White, a 17-year-old RMSCK member, collapsed last week during a high school wrestling practice. He was airlifted to Denver where he died Friday, February 3rd.

Our love goes out to his parents, Stan and Van White, his sister Juli, and his extended church, school and Dillon community. What a loss to them, to us and to the world; we are all heartbroken. Here are some of our memories.

BRIAN HUNTER: Early last year I contacted Stan White about kayak camping on Lake Granby and we went in June when the lake was full. Stan's son, Tristan, joined us because it was a "tune-up" for their future week-long paddle in Washington state.

There were several traits that were quickly obvious about Tristan and his dad:

They had a wonderful two-way respect for each other.

When they communicated each listened to the other carefully and respectfully.

Tristan was polite and respectful of others, too.

It was refreshing and special to observe the give and take between the two as they talked about what to expect on the upcoming Washington trip. They had watched some videos about kayaking in the ocean and Tristan actually stood and practiced his balance on the rear deck of his kayak just as he had seen in one of the videos.



Tristan, Stan and Brian Hunter on Lake Granby



It is impossible to fathom why someone so young and with so much promise should leave us so soon. I can't imagine how difficult it is for Tristan's family and school friends.

It reminds me that we must remember to show love and respect to one another just as I saw between Tristan and his dad, because we never know what tomorrow holds.

JAY GINGRICH: I recall last fall's Dillon trip with Stan and Tristan. Near the end of the paddle Tristan and I waited for some others to catch up. Then the two

of us kind of got into a little sprint for shore to...er, well, blow a bit of soot out of the pipes...a guy thing. He was a super athlete, and could have totally left me. However, he looked back at times and was careful to beat this old guy by just a little bit, and not give him a total shellacking. Quite a gentleman.

SUE HUGHES: Tristan was in a class of ACA lessons this summer at McIntosh. He didn't know any of us old fogies, but he was friendly, polite and completely at ease—the most darling teenage boy I have ever met, a fast learner and a talented athlete.

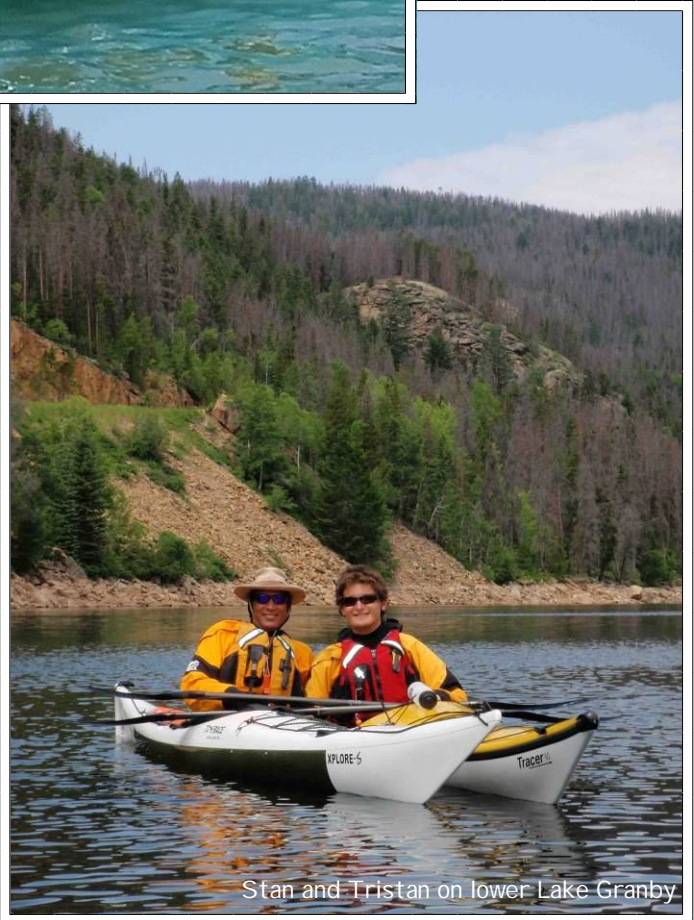


Tristan laughing after his first reentry

SOME OF OUR FAVORITE PICTURES



Tristan's exuberant self portrait, camping on James I island with his dad



Stan and Tristan on lower Lake Granby

LATEST CLUB SCHEDULE

2012 SEASON

■ Meyers Pool Kayak Sessions [Pool sessions are not RMSKC-sponsored opportunities]

- The FIRST and THIRD Sundays of each month through April
- 10:00 to 1:00 (This is the "canoe" time for larger boats; it's better than the "kayak" time, which is primarily for white water boats, because there are fewer participants.)
- \$9.00 per person; credit cards accepted
- Address: 7900 Carr Drive, Arvada
- For weather related closures: call 303-424-2739

Club instructors and some of our better paddlers often attend the pool sessions at Meyers Pool. It is a good way to stay in shape, practice important skills and meet people. It's fun, and you can almost always find someone willing to help you learn something new.

■ Other area pools also offer winter practice opportunities; call for times and dates, and to make sure they accept sea kayaks

- Carmody Pool in Lakewood
- Centennial Pool in Longmont
- DU's Ritchie Center
- Englewood Recreation Center
- Golden Community Center Pool

■ March 13: Pre-Spring After Work Celebration

- Location: McIntosh Lake, Longmont; the south parking ramp
- Time: 5:15 pm on the water and ready to go
- In celebration of daylight savings time, which begins Sunday, March 11, join us for a paddle around McIntosh Lake after work on Tuesday, the 13th.
- RSVP to Anne Fiore: anne_fiore@yahoo.com

■ March 23-30 Trip to South Padre Island and Corpus Christi, Texas

- Car camping at Goose Island State Park and one night of kayak camping on Matagorda Island, a barrier island
- Contact the Trip Leader, Jud Hurd, for more information: hurdofcows@q.com

■ March 31: Deadline to pay 2011 DUES and WAIVERS

- If you didn't get one by email, download an application and waivers from the RMSKC website.
- Send them and your annual dues to:
Anna Troth
13625 East Evans Avenue
Aurora, CO 80014

EDITOR'S NOTE: You can find more information about most of these multi-day trips on the Master Schedule that's on the RMSKC website. As always, email the Trip Leader if you have specific questions.

▣ **Late-ish March or April: Eleventh Annual Multi-Club South Platte River Trip**

- This is often the third Saturday in March, but sometimes it's on a Sunday, and there is always a snow date.
- This is not a RMSKC-sponsored event, but many members have enjoyed it over the years and it's a good introduction to paddling moving water.
- Contact Anne Fiore for more details: anne_fiore@yahoo.com
- Here, in blue, are the particulars from *last* year that may, of course, change:
 - Starting time: 9:00; the shuttle begins at 9:30
 - Meet at: Riverside Park in Evans (also known as Evans Ball Field Park); for a map: <http://www.rmskc.org/places/splatte-evans.html>
 - Bring: a lunch to eat at a stop on the river and a hot drink in a thermos
 - Dress for the water, not the weather: this is a cold water paddle
 - Outfit your boat with bow and stern painters (tie-down lines)
 - Pick the length of your trip: Kersey Bridge (10 miles) or South Kuner Bridge (15 miles)

▣ **April 28: "Fourth Saturday" Paddle and Watch the Mud Hens at Longmont's Lake McIntosh**

- Starting Time: 9:00 in the water and ready to go. (Note the early starting time; the annual *Mud Hen 5K Run* is beginning at 10:00 and unless we go earlier we won't get parking.)
- Ending Time: 12:00 +/-
- Meet on the south side of the lake at the boat launch. If you use MapQuest, it's across the street from approximately 3000 Lake Shore Drive in Longmont.
- RSVP to Coordinator Sue Hughes: suehughes@yahoo.com

▣ **Early May: Introduction to Kayak Camping**

- One "Classroom Session"
- One "Pack and Paddle" shake-down day paddle
- One overnight camping trip TBD
- The intent is to help RMSKC members get the outdoors skills to proceed from beginners to adventurers, and to retain the Club's old-timers as either instructors or participants
- This is not a paddling skills class. You need to be able to paddle 3mph non-stop for at least an hour and be comfortable in wind with one-foot waves to participate in the overnight session.
- Details from Class Coordinator Brian Hunter: oldmanadrift@yahoo.com

STARTING TIME: Remember, "starting time" means the time that the group will be *in the water* starting to paddle. Please 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 (one time only, please) 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 Waiver but do not have to pay the event fee.

MULTI-DAY PADDLES: According to RMSKC policy, overnight and extended trips are open to RMSKC members only.



PADDLING COORDINATOR'S NOTE:

Please remember that details in our Club schedules are *tentative* due to Trip Coordinators' decisions about locations and dates, and the unpredictable Rocky Mountain weather.

To avoid disappointments, always RSVP to the trip leader so you can be kept abreast of any last minute changes.

▣ **May 12: Annual Union Reservoir Spring Paddle and Sub Sandwich Picnic**

- Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 3:00)
- Entrance fees for 2012 have not been posted yet
- Address: 0461 WCR #26, Longmont (http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/parks/park_list/overview/union.htm)
- The Club will provide Subway sandwiches; bring your own plates and beverage
- Contact Lou Ann Hustvedt for details: lahustvedt@gmail.com

▣ **May 19-26: Paddling and Star Gazing at Merritt Reservoir in Nebraska**

- Three days of paddling on Merritt Reservoir, a three-armed lake in the Sand Hills of north central Nebraska. Daily paddles to be approximately 5-10 miles, round trip
- Enjoy the stars in this most spectacular dark sky location at night
- An additional option: float the Middle Loupe river near Mullen, Nebraska in a livestock watering tank. This unusual commercial opportunity costs \$18.00
- Another possibility: Paddle the Dismal River for an overnight at the Nebraska State Forest
- Contact Trip Leader Larry Kline for details and paddling requirements: lkline146@yahoo.com

▣ **June 3: South Platte Moving Water Practice: Brighton to Fort Lupton**

- A car with racks for more than one kayak for the shuttle is required
- Geared to beginners; we'll spend lots of time on moving water practice like ferrying and eddying, so expect a long day
- RSVP to Trip Leader Anne Fiore: anne_fiore@yahoo.com for meeting time and place

▣ **June 13-20 (tentatively): Glacier Bay, Alaska, Multi-day Paddling and Kayak Camping**

- Fly to Gustavus, rent kayaks in Bartlett Cove, and paddle among the Beardslee Island Group in Glacier Bay
- 5 days of paddling with two or three of travel
- See whales, otters, seals, birds and spectacular scenery
- Approximate cost, other than food and gear: \$1000 to \$1200 each
- A similar trip was published in the most recent *Mt. Paddler*, which is on the RMSKC website
- Contact Lou Ann or Dave Hustvedt for more details: lahustvedt@gmail.com

▣ **July 14: Gross Reservoir Day Paddle**

- On the water and ready to paddle at 9:00
- This is a cold water paddle, even in July. Dress for the water, not the weather.
- Bring a lunch
- Contact Kristy or Richard Webber at wearethey@comcast.net or Brian Curtiss at bc@asdi.com for more information

▣ **July 28: PaddleFest at Chatfield Reservoir**

- This is RMSKC's annual summer get-together for games and competitions on the water, instruction, time to chat and try out other members' boats, and have a great lunch of brats, burgers and excellent pot-luck side dishes
- Location: Roxborough Cove at Chatfield Reservoir
- Contact Jud Hurd for details: hurdofcows@q.com

▣ **October 13-18 (tentatively): Lake Powell Paddling and Kayak Camping (no houseboat)**

- Total group size limited to six
- The trip is full at this time. Put your name on the waiting list or work to organize a second trip
- Contact Anne Fiore if you are interested: anne_fiore@yahoo.com

▣ **Fall Trip to Baja**

- Sometime in October or November
- Number of days to be determined
- Contact the Trip Leader Jud Hurd at hurdofcows@q.com

POSSIBLE LOCAL DAY PADDLES

- ▣ If you are interested in leading a day trip, either to one of the suggestions below or to one of your choosing, please contact the paddling coordinator, Deb Jenkins, at debjenkinsart@yahoo.com

- **Lake Estes**
- **Horsetooth Reservoir near Ft. Collins**
- **Rampart Reservoir**
- **Lake Pueblo**
- **Ruedi Reservoir**
- **Green Mountain Reservoir**
- **Cherry Creek Reservoir**
- **Chatfield Reservoir**
- **Dillon Reservoir**
- **Boyd Lake**
- **Jackson Reservoir**
- **Gross Reservoir**
- **Green Mountain Reservoir**

New trips happen when members share information about possible locations, and work on research and planning together.

SUGGESTED LAKE AND RESERVOIR TRIPS

- ▣ **Apostle Islands:** This would be a multi-day boating and kayak camping trip that requires good kayaking skills. Gas prices may make it prohibitive this year. Express interest to Brian Hunter. His email address is: oldmanadrift@yahoo.com

- ▣ **Navajo Reservoir:** Multi-day boating and kayak camping
 - Start at the New Mexico Boat Ramp, paddle up the Los Pinos arm and camp.
 - Second day paddle to the end of Los Pinos and return to camp of previous day.
 - Paddle out and drive home the 3rd day.
 - Alternatively, start at the New Mexico Boat Ramp, paddle up to the Colorado Boat Ramp, which is a minimum of 3 nights and requires a car shuttle.
 - Contact the Trip Leader Jud Hurd at hurdocows@q.com

- ▣ **McPhee (near Cortez) and Vallecito (near Durango) Reservoirs:** Multi-day boating and car and/or kayak camping. This is a possible follow-on to the Navajo Reservoir trip. All details to be determined. Contact the Trip Leader Jud Hurd at hurdocows@q.com

- ▣ **John Martin Reservoir; May 5 or May 4-6:** This paddle has been scheduled for May 5, but people who wish can make a weekend of it. The details about it reached this publication after the deadline but you can find more information on the schedule that is posted on the website. If you have questions, contact the Trip Leader Jud Hurd at hurdocows@q.com

- ▣ **Blue Mesa Reservoir:** The Elk Creek Boat launch is located about 235 miles from Denver. As planned, this trip would require paddle days of approximately 6 to 9 miles with 3 days and 2 nights on the water (5 days and 4 nights total, unless we drive home on the day we paddle back to Elk Creek). The wind can come up suddenly and exceed 20 knots. Often mornings are the best time to paddle as winds tend to start around 1:00. Water is generally cold and warms beginning in July into early September. The chosen campsites are boat-in only and do not require reservations. There is a \$15.00 fee for 7-day pass (or an annual parks pass) into the Curecanti NP. Parking at the Elk Creek boat ramp is good. Reserved tent camp sites are \$15.00 per night (for the night before and possibly after the paddle). When paddling we must be close enough to each other to effect a rescue. You must be comfortable paddling in 12-15mph wind (wind speed may exceed 20mph on this water requiring us to go ashore and wait it out) and be able to paddle 10 miles at 3mph. You must be proficient at getting back into your kayak in deep water. Dressing for immersion in 55 degree F water is required. Contact Brian Hunter: oldmanadrift@yahoo.com

POSSIBLE RIVER TRIPS

- ▣ **Ruby Horsethief Canyon, Fruita to Westwater:** This trip requires a car shuttle with camping on the river. Express interest to Anne Fiore at: anne_fiore@yahoo.com
- ▣ **Gunnison River, with an overnight at Dominguez Canyon**
- ▣ **North Platte, Saratoga to I-80:** Best scheduled for early to mid-June. Contact Trip Leader Brian Curtiss at bc@asdi.com
- ▣ **Colorado River Introduction to White Water Paddling: Dotsero to Hanging Lake** Contact Trip Leader Brian Curtiss at bc@asdi.com
- ▣ **North Platte River from below Glendo Reservoir to Guernsey Reservoir:** This is in July, in eastern Wyoming, about three hours north of Cheyenne. We will try to co-ordinate with Poudre Paddlers for this trip. Contact the Trip Leader, Jud Hurd, for more details: hurdofcows@q.com

Before joining any of our Club paddles or extended trips, please read the Participants' Guidelines on the RMSKC website and contact the Trip Leader to discuss the skill level that is necessary.

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.

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