



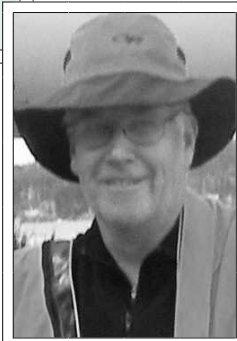
FOUNDED 1989  
ACA PADDLE AMERICA CLUB

# The MOUNTAIN PADDLER

NEWS FOR OUR PADDLING COMMUNITY

## FROM THE COCKPIT

By Larry Kline, President



WELCOME BACK, and thanks for renewing early this year. Only our new and renewed members are reading this newsletter. So far 86% of our individual members and 45% of family memberships have renewed for a total of 53 returning members from 2008. On the new member ledger we have 16 new members since January, 2009. Thus our total membership to date is a robust 69. All of you will get an updated roster very soon.

We have already had two RMSKC paddles this year, although usually we haven't started until May, and I know many of you have been paddling with friends in pools and on nearby rivers and lakes...and, as this newsletter goes to press, I will be on the Green River in Canyonlands National Park with fellow Club member Frank Bering. So it looks like a good year ahead for all of us, with lots of both Club sponsored and spontaneous paddling.

Check the Calendar [p. 25-28] to see which RMSKC paddles fit your schedule, and sign up for events that

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## A MESSAGE from our PADDLING COORDINATOR, JANET SCERVINO

When you see geese flying along in "V" formation, you might consider the reason they fly that way. Scientists tell us as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in "V" formation, the whole flock adds at least 70 percent greater flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going more quickly and easily because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to go it alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird in front.

If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with people who are headed the same way we are.

When the head goose gets tired, it rotates back in the wing and another goose flies point.

It is sensible to take turns doing demanding jobs, whether with friends or as geese flying south.

Over the past few years, as long as I have been a member of the Club, there have been incredible people who have stepped forward to do what needed to be done to get the job finished. I believe the best tribute for these heroes, as I would like to call them, is a bit of my time to pitch in and continue their work. That is why I volunteered to become part of the RMSKC Steering Committee. I have no vast experience in either running a club or paddling, but I figured there must be something I could do to give back to the club that has given me so many good times. So here I am, your Paddle Coordinator, working with the Steering Committee which has lined up a great list of events for this season.

- What we need now is for a few more members to step forward and become heroes. I'm looking for members willing to step forward and give back by leading a day paddle or a multi-day paddle.
- You have a Steering Committee that is willing to teach you what you need to do as well as a lot of experienced people who will be happy to assist you with any questions you may have.
- *Can* you move to the front of our flock? *Will* you move to the front of our flock?

Please call me as soon as possible (970-485-9493) so we can get the rest of the season's calendar finalized; you can pick your own location and date, or we have dates and locations tentatively on the schedule that still need Trip Leaders.

## HELPFUL INFORMATION and GOOD DEALS from our ONSHORE EVENTS COORDINATOR, BRIAN HUNTER

**INFO ON VARIOUS TYPES OF BATTERIES:** When we are on extended paddles and need reliable power for lights and safety equipment, using the best battery matters. Find thorough, well organized information about batteries at REI's website: <http://www.rei.com/expertadvice/articles/batteries.html>

**GROUP PURCHASE OF A SPOT MESSENGER:** The SPOT is a personal locator beacon that sends a satellite message to tell select people you are OK by cell phone or online, tell select people you need help by cell phone or online, allow select people to track your whereabouts online, or request official rescue in a life threatening emergency. The unit costs \$150.00 with a \$99.00 or more annual fee for the service. Brian is investigating the possibility of discount prices if we buy ten or more of these expensive but life-saving devices. If you are interested, SPOT's website is <http://www.findmespot.com/en/> Contact Brian at: [silversage@peoplepc.com](mailto:silversage@peoplepc.com)

**DISCOUNTS FOR CLUB MEMBERS:** Brian has spoken with the following merchants in our area who are offering 10% discounts to RMSKC members; remember to take your ACA card to verify your Club membership. He also suggests that you put your name on their mailing lists, as they often send out attractive promotions by email.

- Alpenglow Mountain Sports; 393-A Washington Avenue, Golden; 303-279-1398
- Alpine Sports; 2419 - 47<sup>th</sup> Street, #A1, Boulder; 303-325-3231 (15% discount)
- Confluence Kayaks; 1615 Platte Street, Denver; 303-433-3676
- Golden River Sports; 806 Washington Avenue, Golden; 303-215-9386 (Specializing in fishing gear)
- River Mouse Kayaks, by appointment: [ray@rivermousekayaks.com](mailto:ray@rivermousekayaks.com) (10% on gear; 5% on your 2<sup>nd</sup> kayak)

**PUBLICITY FOR SEA KAYAKING AND RMSKC:** REI is having their big Anniversary Sale on Sunday, May 3, in front of the Boulder store with a 10 x 10 awning and tables for us to use. From 10:00 to 2:00 they will be presenting half hour mini-clinics on a variety of topics; they are hoping a few RMSKC members will give introductions to sea kayaking, kayak safety and kayak camping, maybe with some boats and gear on hand for show and tell. Don't forget, people who have REI cards will get 20% off of one regularly priced item. Contact Brian Hunter if you can help with this: [silversage@peoplepc.com](mailto:silversage@peoplepc.com)

**INFO ON SWAP MEETS AT GEAR STORES:** Many local merchants have swap meets at the beginning of paddling season. They're a good place to get rid of gear you are no longer using—one paddler's trash is another paddler's treasure! If you take a store credit when your item sells you get 100% of its selling price, or 80% if you want cash. Brian recommends pricing your gear at half the MSRP if it's reasonably new and in good condition. Many of the local swap meets are already over, but Alpenglow in Golden is planning theirs for May 23-24. Call them to confirm the date because it has been changed several times: 303-279-1398.

**SUBARU'S DISCOUNTS FOR ACA MEMBERS:** Be sure to check the flier that comes with your ACA card and membership letter for the details about getting hundreds of dollars off a new Subaru if you've been an ACA member for six months.

# SIGNALS ON THE WATER

BRIAN CURTISS, SAFETY COORDINATOR

There is a section on the RMSKC website called *On Water Signals - Safety*, with links

to three documents describing signals for use when it's hard to hear shouts or see hand motions. ACA's Wall Charts call them "universal signals" but Wayne Horodowich, founder of the University of Sea Kayaking and author of the other link called *Signaling*, says we shouldn't assume they are universally known, although they have do common threads from whitewater paddling, rafting and diving. The "Emergency!" and "OK?" signals are widely accepted, but for effective communication they all need to be reviewed and agreed upon before each paddle. Here are the four signals we use most, with pictures by special permission from Wayne Horodowich of the University of Sea Kayaking.



## STOP:

Horizontal paddle, extended overhead



## GO THIS WAY:

Vertical paddle, pointing right or left



## ARE YOU OK ?

Point to the person you are asking and slap the top of your head with your palm three times. They repeat the motion to respond that they are OK; no head taps means assistance is needed.



## HELP:

Vertical paddle, waved in a circular motion and/or three long blasts on a whistle

Check out the University of Sea Kayaking's website: [www.useakayak.org](http://www.useakayak.org). Wayne Horodowich has been living his dream job for decades: teaching and making sea kayak videos with Derek Hutchinson, author of the first book on sea kayaking education and designer of more than a dozen kayaks, including the Gulfstream, Slipstream and Sirocco that some of our members rave about.

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

DICK DIECKMAN, MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

NAMES	LOCATION	NAMES	LOCATION
Bela & Martine Amade; Emeshe	Jamestown	Renata Gallagher	Denver
Richard Bacon	Golden	Maria Jaramillo & Edward Wuensch	Denver
Frosty & Chrys Claypool	Wheatridge	Greg Kramer	Ft. Collins
Dean Conway	Denver	Jan May	Boulder
Brookie Gallagher & Lindsay Meeks	Boulder	Mark and Suzanne Willey	Lyons

### RMSKC STEERING COMMITTEE 2009

President:	Larry Kline	303-988-4822	lkline146@yahoo.com
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Paddle Report:  
Evans to Kersey on the South Platte; March, 2009

Worried that the event's popularity might make it a floating zoo, many RMSKC regulars bowed out of this year's 8th Annual So. Platte Multi-Club paddle, but the nine Club members there—Gary Cage, Anne Fiori, Sue Hughes, Brian Hunter, Jud Hurd, Eric Niles, Pam Noe, and Kristy and Rich Webber—had a wonderful time. The scene with 60 or more canoes, sea kayaks, rec boats and sit-on-tops at the put-in near Evans *was* wild but the multitude of people and variety of boats didn't bother anyone. It was Kristy's first time on moving water and she says the crowd in the parking lot actually added to her confidence. She realized, "If all those people, from kids to the elderly and even some dogs, in all those different kinds of boats, dressed in all different levels of 'preparedness' could do this, so can I."

The first challenge was climbing down a steep embankment through thickets of weeds, chunks of concrete and a carpet of goat head stickers. By the time the boats were to the water's edge, some people had completely "spiked" tennis shoes; the rest were scraping off gobs of mud. It was astonishing to see the number of people with big canoes willing to make the unwieldy scramble.

Everyone was eager to get on the water, but river trips require shuttle arrangements. Promptly at ten, Eric Nyre of Canoe Colorado whistled attention, outlined the plans and people took off for Kersey (nine miles downriver) or the south Kuner bridge (14 river-miles away); no one reported any problems finding the take-outs, parking, or scrunching together to ride back in as few vehicles as possible. Those left behind used the time to chat, read, sketch, stretch and munch, or look for a bit of shade as it was an astonishingly warm, sunny spring day.

With all the boats that needed to launch, Kristy thought it might be wise to get out in front so she embarked and headed off on her own.

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Photo by Eric Niles

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Once she realized that she wasn't too adept at waiting for Richard, her husband, she decided that he would eventually find her and she turned her attention downriver. Moving water fulfilled its promise to be a little spooky and a lot of fun all at the same time.

The river did not seem to have much water, and our first-time river paddler assumed that to be a good thing, but coming around a curve she heard a loud noise...a scraping-on-rocks kind of sound. Up ahead she noticed someone had grounded mid-river on the shallows and it was their *boat* being pushed over the gravel making the unnatural noise. Unfortunately, she reports, by the time she had clarity on the source of the commotion she too was sideways to the current and making her own unpleasant screech on the stones. About then Richard caught up, and as he paddled by she asked, "Now what do I do?" As he smilingly drifted down river she heard him say, "I don't know."

One obvious solution was to stand up and move her boat to deeper water, but another was that gorilla-knuckle move on the gravel, along with the scoot-your-bottom-while-in-the-kayak maneuver that Sue perfected as a newbie the previous year. "Oh, yes, those sandbars! I finally ran out of sandbar busting energy and paid VERY close attention to the bottom," Anne said later. Sue only got caught, twirled around and really stuck a couple of times this trip; they all agreed that reading the river gets easier with practice.



Kristy's Sandbar?

Photo: Eric Niles



Pam Noe in her Tempest 170 by Wilderness

Photo: Brian Hunter

Sue reported the same: the group quickly spread out and she paddled by herself or with Brian Hunter or Jud Hurd for most of the day, practicing her sand bar locating and having a lovely time on the water as it passed through the cottonwood groves. There were only a couple of places where the river was near enough to a road to see or hear traffic, the old cars used as river bank erosion prevention were pretty interesting, and neither the old cars nor the feedlots were nearly as intrusive as expected. The blue skies and sunshine contributed to an outstanding day; the very best weather in the history of the Multi-Club Spring South Platte Paddle.

It didn't take Kristy long to get the boat off the strand, and then she was really having fun. The river had her attention and she said it was a hoot working to avoid objects and shallows. She never did get to paddle with her husband, but she was surrounded by people having a great time, just like she was.



Sue Hughes in the USS Orca

Photo: Brian Hunter

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Second portage

Photo: Eric Niles

There were two dams of built up concrete chunks to portage, but they were easy to see ahead of time and the landings were easy at both. As always with group paddles, others were there to lend a hand. It was so warm at the lunch stop that many were trying to find a hint of shade in the weeds; some of the open boat people had coolers and chairs, but sitting on a fallen log under the semi-shade of bare branches still had the rest in smiles. "It feels like the beach," was the consensus.

Most of the RMSKC members choose to get out at Kersey, but other paddlers continued down river. After another scramble with the boats to higher ground and exchanges of help loading and tying down, people headed home, tired and dirty but glad they'd done the paddle. The weather made it a perfect introduction to river paddling and many are looking forward to developing the skills and confidence to take on moving water that's bigger and deeper.

Paddle Report by Kristy Webber,  
with Anne Fiori, and Sue Hughes



Back on the water after lunch on the beach

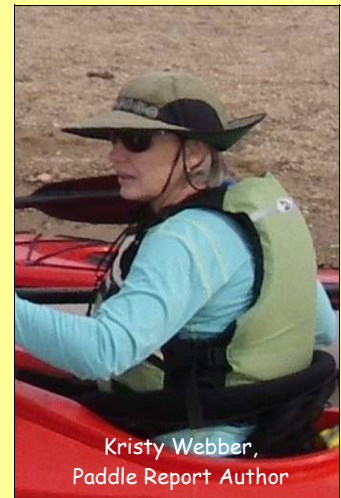
Photo: Eric Niles

FYI: In the past, this event has been hosted by Rocky Mountain Canoe Club, Poudre Paddlers Club, RMSKC, Canoe Colorado, Colorado Whitewater Association and High Country River Rafters. This year, due to ACA insurance constraints, both RMSKC and RMCC said it was a non-sanctioned event, while the Poudre Paddlers had everyone sign their waivers.

Brian Hunter reports: If you go to: <http://maps.google.com/> and copy the coordinates below, paste them one at a time into the "search maps" window, and click the "search maps" button you will see the launch, dams and take-out we used on this trip. The satellite views work best. The Evans to Kersey coordinates are:

Launch site:	40.37133, -104.68074
First dam:	40.38966, -104.66011
Second site:	40.40092, -104.61958
Kersey take-out:	40.41250, -104.56350

Email Sue Hughes at [suehughes@yahoo.com](mailto:suehughes@yahoo.com) if you'd like a scan of the directions from the put-in to Kersey so you and friends can run this section yourselves...if it ever stops snowing.



Kristy Webber,  
Paddle Report Author



Lunch spot, with Rich's teal Folbot in the center

MORE PICTURES FROM THE SO. PLATTE



Pictures on this page by Brian Hunter



Jerry Nyre, Eric Nyre, Pam Noe and Eric Niles at lunch



Jud, in the foreground, helping at the second portage



## Paddle Report:

### “Second Saturday” Paddle on Chatfield Reservoir; 4-11-09

NEW MEMBER RENATA GALLAGHER REPORTS: Before I moved to Denver from the San Francisco Bay Area three years ago I searched for information regarding sea kayaking in Colorado. Would I be able to pursue my passion here in this land-locked state? I found RMSKC and was reassured, but the pressures of a new job and young children kept me from joining, and from paddling. This fall I made a renewed commitment to make time to paddle and I joined the Club. I scoured the newsletter for information on meetings, roll sessions and paddles, and I considered attending the holiday party to meet folks, but didn't.

So when Larry Kline announced the paddle at Chatfield Reservoir I had to go. It was the first RMSKC paddle of the year, my first RMSKC paddle, and my first paddle in Colorado. First I had to find my equipment. I undid layers of bubble wrap and tape that had protected my prized wing paddle in the move. I found my pump, paddle float, float bag and wetsuit. I squeezed into my wetsuit and my spray skirt, all purchased about 15 years, and ten pounds, ago when I was an active member of Bay Area Sea Kayakers (BASK). I found booties, croakies, saddles and rope. I put my dusty kayak on my car, hoping wind and water would wash it. I was ready, or so I hoped. I was nervous about the water temperature, afternoon winds, and my endurance. Oh, and whether my boat would float.

Larry e-mailed the week before that twelve paddlers had signed up, so even though the day was cold and cloudy I figured odds were I wouldn't be the only one there. I got to Chatfield and asked at the gate for directions to Swim Beach. "It's closed," I was told; I guess she's missed the boat on top of my car. There were boats and boaters in the parking lot—I had found the right place. I introduced myself to the other paddlers and with help my kayak was where it hadn't been for years, near the water. We took a pre-trip photo, and got started. The weather was the way some like it, a bit overcast and a bit cold so we had the reservoir almost to ourselves. The water was flat, like glass, and we paddled south past coots and toward pelicans, magnificent white birds that took little notice of us, though they flew away when we got too close.

I paddled with Dick into one arm of the south part of the reservoir; no river there, our destination. I felt bad leading others astray, caught up in talking and paddling, but no one was worried. We explored another arm, then

another and found the river. There was little current in the river and we paddled as far as we could; some played in the waves.

We passed fisherman and encountered another group of kayakers on our way back: Club members Gary McIntosh, Ray "River Mouse" Van Dusen, and two others. Ray eyed my boat with amusement, "That boat's old enough to vote!" he said. I thought a moment: purchased in '94, a demo from the year (or two?) before...almost sixteen years ago, I guess he was right! He told me when they stopped making forward hatch covers like the one I had; this guy knows boats! Then he teased me about my wing paddle. "I like it," I said, "but it's hard to brace with." We paddled on up the eastern shore and stopped for a snack and a stretch, and the sun appeared briefly. While there, Janet encouraged us to sign up as trip leaders. The plan, to have a paddle every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday, meant leaders are needed. Julie and I both volunteered; now that it's in print, we'll be held to that.

As we got back in to our boats, Janet and I discussed the fact that afternoon winds had been forecast; we shouldn't have said anything! We were the last in the water and we paddled toward the others, who turned around and paddled toward us like an advancing flotilla. "Pirates!" Janet yelled. The wind had picked up from the south and there were scattered white-caps, so we headed back across the reservoir into the wind for safety. Predictably, it was hard to stay together on the crossing; the wind grew more and more fierce.

We all made it across, but then had to paddle with the wind at our backs north to Swim Beach. Marsha was in a river boat with no rudder and found it hard to fight the wind. There were one half to one foot swells, and white-caps across the entire reservoir; I enjoyed a bit of surfing, but struggled to keep from getting blown into shore. Dick stayed with me, encouraging and coaching me. "Right," I had just said to Ray, "the wing paddle is not great for bracing." "Yeah, you can catch the water funny and go over," he had said. Uh, oh.

The wind seemed to pick-up even more; I reminded myself this was why I had my pump and paddle float on my deck, and that I could do a wet-exit if needed. I was getting tired; we hadn't gone far, but I am out of shape. Most of the group rounded a point, and were no longer visible. Were we close? Marsha had been blown into a small cove, just before the point; John had followed her and Dick and I joined them. It was calm in the cove, but it would be difficult to launch into the swells. We were close to the beach, 50 - 100 yards, and I considered walking my boat in the water, and even started to do so but Dick wisely encouraged me not to. Bernie and Janet came over from the beach to help. I felt too tired to paddle against the wind and waves, and Bernie offered to help me carry the boat back to Swim Beach. We maneuvered it through the dense trees and made it and Marlene brought her wheels to help get it the rest of the way up the beach. Meanwhile, Marsha, Dick and John had all paddled back. Everyone was safe and fairly dry.

I returned a pair of borrowed gloves to Rick, wiped the last trace of garage dust off my boat, and again accepted help from my new paddling friends as we got my kayak back on to my car.

I'm sure all of the participants will agree, it was a great first paddle!



FRONT ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Marlene Pakish, Julie Reckart, Kristy Webber, Renata Gallagher, Larry Kline

BACK ROW: David and Lou Ann Hustvedt, Bernie Dahlen, John Figoski, Richard Webber, Dick Dieckman, Janet Scervino, Marsha Dougherty



Paddle Report:  
"Fourth Saturday" Paddle on McIntosh Lake; April 25, 2009

It was a cold and dreary day. No, it's not the opening to a Peanuts novel...it *was* a cold and dreary day. None-the-less, eight hearty souls showed up in full cold water gear and had a fun morning on the water. Mostly the participants paddled in small groups where they chatted and caught up on the small-talk that has waited for most of the winter. They spotted avocets on the north shore with their chests salmon-colored for breeding season and several other birds including a great blue heron, also in full breeding plumage. It must be spring time in the Rockies!

Brian, the trip's leader, had his trailer at the lake so Gary and Ray stuck around for a lunch of grilled brats, hot German potato salad and green beans. Gary had hot tea, Ray chose strong coffee, Brian had wine, and they sat inside in the warmth and more small talk ensued: a friendly ending to a nice paddle. Brian says there was nothing to leading the trip, but if you are unsure of how to set one up, contact Janet at [jscervino@gmail.com](mailto:jscervino@gmail.com); she will be thrilled to help you.

Pictured above, after two laps around the lake are, left to right: Rich Webber, Gary Cage, Anne Fiori, Gary McIntosh, Sue Hughes, Ray Van Dusen and Kristy Webber; photos by the trip leader, Brian Hunter.



Gary Cage and Anne Fiori

FYI: Don't worry; trip leaders are *not* expected to take pictures, provide food or write trip reports!

Editor's Note: Paddle reports don't appear every time Club members paddle together, but since it's nice to know what fun others are having, please do send in your news and pictures when you can.

## INTRODUCING OUR INSTRUCTORS



Matt Lutkus, Dan Bell, Brian Curtiss and Gary McIntosh

According to their membership applications, both new and renewing RMSKC members value the Club's classes as one of the main benefits of membership. How lucky we are to have six talented teachers.

During the fall of 2005, four of our instructors took a rigorous weekend training session with an ACA Instructor Trainer from Grand Junction. They practiced all winter to learn the skills she taught and then had another killer weekend in the spring to demonstrate that they had mastered them. Their hours of work and continued practice show, for sure.

In addition to the four who took the ACA class, we also are fortunate to have Club members Larry Kline, who teaches an *Introduction to White Water* at Union Chutes [see page 19] and the *Pack and Paddle Kayak Camping Class* [page 20], and Ray Van Dusen who runs classes with the others, teaches private lessons, and is always willing to offer pointers or pull an errant boat out of the bushes. To get to know these fellows better, here is some information about their kayaking backgrounds:



Ray Van Dusen helping new member Bela Amade get his roll



Dan Bell

**DAN BELL:** In the fall of 1996 Dan and a friend were doing the Horsethief/Ruby Canyon float trip in his canoe when they were passed by someone in the first sea kayak he had ever seen. He says it immediately became obvious that his life would be incomplete until he had acquired one; he enjoys hiking the canyons around Lake Powell, and the prospect of being able to haul his gear in a boat instead of on his back had a LOT of appeal.

About three years later, on an over-the-weekend business trip to the Bay Area, Dan drove to Tomales Bay (a bit north of San Francisco) and signed up for a half-day beginners' trip. He loved it. Then, between jobs, he booked a week-long commercial tour in the Sea of Cortez with Sea Kayak Adventures. That pretty well set the hook—he *had* to get himself a kayak.

In other sports he had taken up as a kid—primarily tennis and golf—he reports his approach had been to learn by doing and, after his bad habits had been carved in stone over the course of years, finally take some lessons to try (unsuccessfully) to undo those habits. He decided on a different tactic for sea kayaking: take lessons from the onset. In the spring of 2002 he drove to Seattle for a week-long training session with Kayak Academy, bought a boat and hauled it home, joined the RMSKC, and began to enjoy life as a paddler.

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Following the lead of a couple of other RMSKC members, he took the ACA training to get certified as a Basic Coastal Kayaking instructor. He says his goal was pretty selfish; he wanted to improve his paddling skills, and from his days as a teacher he knew that the best way to improve your own skills is to teach them to others.

His favorite place for a quick paddle is Big Soda Lake in Bear Creek Lake Park, mainly because it's conveniently about ten minutes from his house and no motorized boats are allowed. He likes to do a couple of laps, practice his strokes, try some rolls, do a self rescue or two (generally, he says, in conjunction with the "try some rolls" part), and call it a day. For extended trips he likes the Green River from Crystal Geysers to the confluence because there's good hiking in the canyons, absolutely gorgeous country and very few people.

**BRIAN CURTISS:** Brian's first on the water experience as a kid was paddling the rivers and creeks of eastern Tennessee in an 18' fiberglass tandem canoe. When his family moved to eastern Florida, he and his brother added a 7.5 HP outboard to the back of that same canoe and explored the Caloosahatchee River. After several high-speed tip-overs, they moved the engine to a small john boat and his paddling career was put on hold.



Fifteen years later, in the early 90's, he began paddling again. First it was only on sit-on-tops during family vacations to the North Carolina coast, but in 2002 he decided that he wanted to do more open water paddling and that he needed to improve his skills. He joined RMSKC that spring, bought his first sea kayak and took several lessons from Ray Van Dusen. Since that time he has taken every opportunity to improve his skills by taking classes and by going on trips that push his abilities.



**RAY VAN DUSEN:** 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 they 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 in 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.

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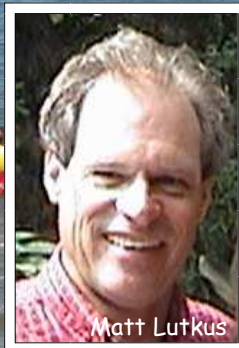
About that same time his wrist started hurting so much he thought it was time to quit or try a bent shaft paddle. His paddle manufacturer told him they could install their blades on Lendal shafts or they would sell him blades and he could buy shafts and put them together himself; that's what he has done. 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 North 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.

With the RMSKC, Ray plans to give a roll class and tie a video in with it, but of course that will wait until warm water time. 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.



Brian Curtiss, Matt Lutkus and Gary McIntosh at PaddleFest, 2008



Matt Lutkus

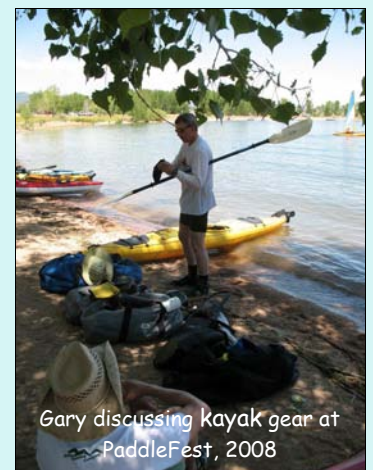
**MATT LUTKUS:** Matt's paddled for many years, but really started in earnest in 2003 when he was able to take six weeks off from his job and with his kayak and mountain bike loaded on a borrowed minivan, drove to the east coast and then back through Canada, seeking out places to launch his Northwest Pursuit. He paddled in all of the Great Lakes except Erie, paddled various locations in New England and concluded the trip with a group of fellow Club members in Voyageur National Park in Minnesota.

Over the years, he has taken a number of whitewater and rolling classes, spent a week at the Kayak Academy outside of Seattle, and has acquired a library of books and DVDs that keep

him connected with the sport when he can't get out on the water. He credits most of his skill-building with hanging out on the water with his fellow instructors. He says he loves providing sea kayak instruction and believes that he is successful at it because he remembers the apprehensions that he had as a novice kayaker and the learning process that he went through to develop various skills. His long-term goal is to retire to the Maine coast and continue to offer sea kayak instruction on a part-time paid basis.

**GARY MCINTOSH:** Gary started kayaking about six years ago when Larry Kline asked him if he wanted to paddle with him. His first time was great, although he worried that in a skinny boat with a skirt wrapped around both him and the cockpit coaming that if he were to tip over, there would be no way out! But the first few trips with Larry were uneventful —no tipping over—and very enjoyable.

After that, he got videos and books on sea kayaking, and watched and read them all. But he still didn't own a kayak, so he went to an REI paddle event at Chatfield Reservoir to try a bunch of boats. That's where he got to practice his first wet exit and assisted rescue: he was out paddling in a sea of beginners when one of them rammed him from the side, and over he went! His wife was on shore watching



Gary discussing kayak gear at PaddleFest, 2008

*(Continued on page 17)*



(Continued from page 16)

and heard REI's man in charge say, "He'll never get back in his boat!" But he remembered all the videos and books he had studied and instructed one of the beginners to hold on to his cockpit coaming while he climbed onto the back deck and slowly twisted himself into the boat. Not bad for a first time, although he forgot the part about emptying the kayak of water and had to paddle to shore and empty it there. The next week he went to REI and became a proud owner of a Wilderness System Tempest 170 sea kayak.

That first year he took a kayak class and a rolling class, and learned to roll in two sessions. However, he says, over the next few years his technique worsened and it wasn't until Ray Van Dusen helped by critiquing him that his roll got better.

Then Gary decided that he had to have a fast kayak, so he talked to Ray and they went to Chatfield with three kayaks...and he came home with a Current Designs Extreme—a 19-foot long, 21-inch wide Kevlar kayak that cruises easily at 5 mph. But the thing he forgot was that the captain of the boat needs to be able to get it to that speed and keep it there. With the arm paddling he was using at the time he says he couldn't go more than an hour before he was hurting between his shoulder blades. Then Ray taught him how to use torso rotation in his forward stroke so attaining speed and going longer distances became much easier, and there was no more pain in his back.



Gary doing a sculling brace in his Gulfstream

It wasn't long before he talked to Ray again, about a composite kayak that would maneuver better than the Extreme, and he got his third boat, a Current Designs' Gulfstream. This is the one that he *really* loves to paddle. As Club members who have paddled it know, it has a "playful bottom." This means that the primary stability of the boat is "loose," although when loaded it's less so. He remembers during one trip when they were paddling the plastic version, the Sirocco, a person on the trip loved the boat until he paddled it unloaded; then its playful bottom turned him off. But for Gary it's the secondary stability that makes the boat stand out: he can put

the boat on edge, turn sharply, and not worry about going over. In heavy water the boat is easy to paddle and maneuver because that secondary stability handles big waves nicely.

Gary's first real sea kayaking experience was on Penobscot Bay in Maine, which was wonderful. For rivers, he says the San Juan from Bluff to Clay Hills Crossing, Utah, is hard to beat. Other good river trips he's taken are the Green from the town of Green River to Mineral Bottoms, Utah, and the Yellowstone River in eastern Montana, where sheep walked through their camp at night.

Gary says he loves kayaking because he gets to view the world from the water perspective rather than only from the land, and in a very quiet, calm way.

Find out more about the ACA Basic Coastal Sea Kayak Instructors Training that four of our trainers took on the next page.

The two pages after that feature Larry Kline's biography and descriptions of the classes he will be teaching this year.

*(Continued from page 17)*

## The American Canoe Association's BASIC COASTAL SEA KAYAK INSTRUCTORS TRAINING

In 2005, Matt Lutkus, RMSKC Treasurer at the time, proposed the idea of having ACA-certified instructors in the Club, found a certified instructor trainer in Colorado, recruited the necessary five trainees, and coordinated the sessions. He says the reason that this had so much appeal is that the Club hadn't had a consistent, organized curriculum for our classes and many of the members who were called upon to be instructors had never received any formal training themselves.

The ACA training was a two-part series: intensive fall workshops with more classes and the certification testing in the spring. Both parts had been designed as 3-day sessions but were compressed into 2-day weekends, resulting in long, tiring days at Big Soda Lake and Chatfield Reservoir. They were taught by Rachel Smith, an ACA Instructor Trainer who moved from the coast of California to Grand Junction and came to the Denver area especially to teach this course. Rachel had been a member of the Tsunami Ranger kayaking group; her skills and professionalism were amazing.

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Dan reports, "The training was much more thorough than I anticipated. The fall session consisted of an intense weekend during which the skills we needed to nail down were taught to us. The spring session was another intense weekend when we attempted to demonstrate that we had, over the course of many practice sessions, mastered the skills from the workshop. I figured it would be along the lines of other, non-kayaking, seminars and training sessions I had attended - you show up, you listen, you pass. It wasn't. You really did have to demonstrate that you knew the skills and could teach them to others."

### THE TRAINEES STUDIED:

- PADDLING AND BOAT HANDLING SKILLS, which included correct hand positioning on the paddle, the paddler's box, forward stroke, reverse stroke, forward sweep, reverse sweep, standard draw, sculling draw, low brace, high brace, paddle float self-rescues, assisted T-rescues, and other skills. Gary remembers, "During one session, we went out for a paddle with a trainee in charge. Of course our instructor had plans for something other than a quiet tour. She fell out of her kayak and acted as though she has lost consciousness. We did a scoop rescue by turning her kayak on its side, pushing her into the boat, and righting it. We then attached a tow line to her kayak and, while I stayed rafted with her to keep her from tipping over again, the others towed us to shore. I must say that Matt is great at towing!" A bomb-proof roll wasn't required for this certification, but the class members did have to demonstrate how much they knew about rolling and whether they could do one at all.
- ISSUES RELATED TO KAYAKING such as safety, weather, signaling devices, charts, kayak design, hypothermia and much, much more.
- TECHNIQUES FOR MANAGING A GROUP AND TEACHING PADDLING SKILLS like how to demonstrate strokes, which is different than simply doing the strokes, ACA expectations and, again, much more.

The participants paid \$480 for the workshop and certification sessions. Following certification, RMSKC reimbursed each of them \$100 with the understanding that they would teach a few all-day classes under the Club's auspices. They continue to teach classes for RMSKC members; the Club pays their yearly ACA SEIC Certification fees and Club dues.

## INSTRUCTOR LARRY KLINE AND HIS CLASSES FOR 2009



LARRY KLINE: Back in college Larry built a fiberglass whitewater kayak from a kit and had fun paddling for a few years. When he was 50 and taking on a new persona as a bicycle racer he became overwhelmed by the constant training and the record keeping for each training ride. A friend told him about his new sea kayak and he thought that might be just the thing: he could paddle on quiet water, view wildlife from the boat and chill out from all the stress of race training. Although he still rides, now he says that the sea kayak was a keeper and bike racing was not.

### CLASS DESCRIPTION:

#### UNION CHUTES CLASS II WHITE WATER TRAINING

Come learn to paddle in moving water with eddies and easy Class II chutes in a very controlled environment. We'll be paddling at the foot of an easily maneuvered 3-foot water drop on the South Platte south of Hampden, with no down river paddling involved. We'll spend about four hours getting acquainted with eddy turns and feeling comfortable in moving water...after which you will be in excellent shape to take on a real river trip.

This class is dependent on river flows being within acceptable ranges of 400 to 800 cfs. Because the flow is regulated by Chatfield Reservoir and is not predictable from day to day, participants will need to sign up in advance and wait for a call to know when the water is within range. There are no guarantees when this will be, either on a weekend or a week day, but it will most likely occur in August. The very tentative dates are Sunday, July 19 or Saturday, August 15.

If you would like to be on the list for notification, call Larry at 303-988-4822. The class is limited to six paddlers as that is the maximum he can keep track of and give good support to at one time.

As specified in the *RMSKC Participant Guidelines*, river helmets must be worn on Class II rapids to meet ACA insurance requirements.



The South Platte near Union Avenue

Photo courtesy of Eric Nyre

(Continued on page 20)

(Continued from page 19)

## KAYAK CAMPING CLASS

This class was organized by Larry last year and got lots of interest; unfortunately many were not able to participate because the class size was limited. The class will again be capped at seven paddlers if we have three instructors, with a possibility of more members being accommodated if additional instructors can be found. If you are interested, email Larry (lkline146@yahoo.com) to sign up soon! The dates are listed in the August and September Calendars on pages 27 and 28 of this issue.

The class will have three parts: one "classroom" session, one day on the water learning how to pack your gear and paddle a loaded boat, and an overnight trip using your skills to pull off your first kayak camping trip.

You will need to have the following equipment:

- Kayak with bulkheads or internal flotation
- Tent - can be rented
- Sleeping bag - can be rented
- Camp stove - can be share with others
- Dry bags (flexible, smallish ones are best)
- Solid waste disposal system

Topics which will be covered:

- Boat features needed for overnight trips - bow lines, life lines, flotation.
- Backpacking vs. kayak camping vs. car camping
- Camping equipment - sleeping and cooking
- Clothing
- Hydration
- Food
- Loading it all in the boat
- Navigation
- Safety equipment in the "outback"
- Choosing camping sites
- Group dynamics - agreeing on trip speed and intensity
- Setting a trip agenda
- Human solid waste disposal in the wilds



Packing practice proved to be more vital than the class members first realized



Dinner under the rain fly at Granby, 2008

Read Larry's account of the 2008 camp-out at Granby in the next issue of the Mt. Paddler.

Articles about the class by last year's participants can be found in the Fall '08 Newsletter on the RMSKC website; the exact link is on the next page.

## RELATED WEBSITES

Read lots more about ACA's instructor courses and requirements:

[http://www.americancanoe.org/site/c.lvIZIKNZJuE/b.4486093/k.98B2/For\\_Instructors.htm](http://www.americancanoe.org/site/c.lvIZIKNZJuE/b.4486093/k.98B2/For_Instructors.htm)

Dan Bell and Matt Lutkus took classes from George Gronseth's Kayak Academy in Seattle; Ted Wang, who wrote *Lessons Being Learned in the Pacific Northwest* in this issue, just took a class there a few weekends ago that he says was wonderful: <http://www.kayakacademy.com/>

Dan's SKA expedition in Baja was guided by Ginni Callahan, who now has her own Baja company with fine NDK singles, BCU 4\* instruction and excellent cooking. Don't forget she offers RMSKC members a 10% discount! Her website is: <http://www.columbiariverkayaking.com/>

For a review of one of Sea Kayak Baja's recent expedition classes see pp. 5-6 of Ted Wang's new club's newsletter: <http://www.wakekayak.org/docs/newsletters/Wake0109.pdf>

Sea Kayak Adventures, with whom many Club members have enjoyed kayaking near Loreto, Mexico: [www.seakayakadventures.com/](http://www.seakayakadventures.com/)

Brian Curtiss took BCU classes in Cornwall, UK last fall:

<http://www.seakayakingcornwall.com/courses.html>

Ray Van Dusen's business, River Mouse Kayaks: <http://rivermousekayaks.com/>

Read an old snippet about Rachel Smith:

[http://www.asudoit.com/kayak\\_fest/archive/2003/players.html](http://www.asudoit.com/kayak_fest/archive/2003/players.html)

Check out Rachel's Tsunami Ranger kayaking group:

<http://site/netopia.com/tsunami/door/>

Two accounts of last year's Kayak Camping Class can be found in the Fall, 2008, Newsletter on the RMSKC website:

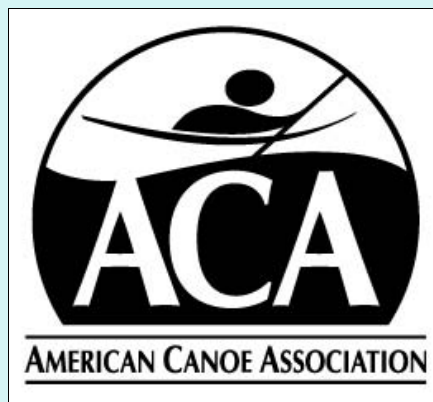
[http://www.rmskc.org/Newsletters/RMSCK\\_NL\\_Fal\\_08\\_.pdf](http://www.rmskc.org/Newsletters/RMSCK_NL_Fal_08_.pdf)

RMSKC's Human Waste Disposal Guidelines:

[http://www.rmskc.org/info/Human\\_Waste\\_Disposal.pdf](http://www.rmskc.org/info/Human_Waste_Disposal.pdf)

RMSKC's Participant Guidelines:

[Http://www.rmskc.org/info/Participant\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.rmskc.org/info/Participant_Guidelines.pdf)



EDITOR'S NOTE: While living in Granby, Ted Wang was an active member of RMSKC. He participated in club events on the Colorado River, Lake Dillon, the Three Lakes (Granby and Shadow Mountain Reservoirs and Grand Lake), Boulder Reservoir and other locations along the Front Range.

In October, 2008, he moved to Bellingham, Washington, where he has easy access to Puget Sound, the San Juan Islands, and the waters of British Columbia. He is active in the Whatcom Association of Kayak Enthusiasts [known as WAKE], serving on their new Safety Committee, and tries to paddle at least once a week, rain or shine.

## LESSONS BEING LEARNED IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

By Ted Wang

Since my arrival in Washington state in late October, I've been gaining an appreciation of the differences not only between Colorado and the Pacific Northwest



but also between the occasional vacation trip and regular paddling in this kayakers' Mecca. In the following article, I'm hoping to pass along some of the lessons I've been learning so that RMSKC members considering paddle trips in this region may be better prepared for the conditions they'll find here.

Club members who've paddled on the Grand or Summit County lakes and reservoirs are familiar with rapidly changing weather conditions and cold water, familiarity that is valuable in adjusting to the Pacific Northwest environment. Having the appropriate personal gear and a correctly outfitted kayak takes on added importance when the weather is fickle and the water is frigid. Having a clear realization of the risks involved and the skills to manage the conditions is essential. Yet, as the sign to the right illustrates, even experienced paddlers can meet with disaster.

### CLOTHING

Water temperatures in Puget Sound and around much of British Columbia tend to be in the mid-40s F in winter and only slightly higher in summer. Rain, as everyone knows, is frequent, and I have already had two paddles where rain turned to snow in mid-trip. Virtually no one paddles here in anything other than a full dry suit, with plenty of synthetic or wool layers underneath, with a strong, neoprene spray deck for a tight cockpit seal. It's better to be a bit too warm than not warm enough! People plan clothing for the atmospheric conditions in addition to possible immersion. Wind chill is frequent, with the higher humidity in maritime environments adding to the discomfort. Gloves are essential; ten minutes in water at these temperatures can completely destroy the dexterity needed to re-enter a boat or hold onto deck lines. A waterproof hat or hood is required, given that a very high amount of body heat is lost through the head. Extra clothing should also be carried in dry bags "just in case."



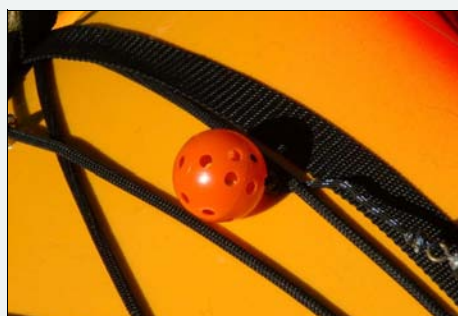
**"FOLLOWING SOME OF THESE STEPS MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE AS IT WOULD HAVE SAVED JIM & BRANDEN'S LIVES. PLEASE DO NOT PUT YOUR FAMILY THROUGH OUR NIGHTMARE."**

MARY JO & MIKE GRAN  
BRENT ROBINSON  
VICKI TALBOTT & PETE WOLFF

(Continued from page 22)

## BOAT OUTFITTING

A spare paddle is always carried. Mounting 2 1.5" x 15" waste tubes (available from plumbing or comprehensive building suppliers) on the bow to accept the shafts of a two-piece paddle will protect the joints and also aid in preventing the paddles from being torn away from the boat in heavy seas. These waste tubes have an elbow on one end, which can be cut to size so that the tubes lay flat on the deck. Rescue gear, such as a pump and paddle float and any deck bag are also carried on the bow. In cold water, you don't want clutter on the rear deck should you have to re-enter while on the water!

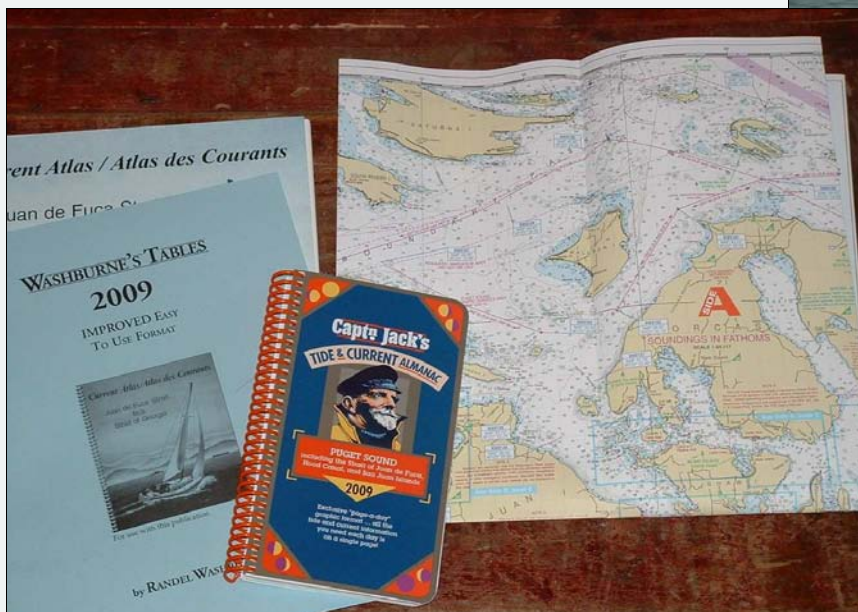


I like to have a paddle leash, but launchings and landings may occur on steep beaches and/or in surf and the risk of entrapment or getting entangled in a leash is very real. To avoid serious problems or the indignity of falling into the drink while landing, I have removed the clip that attached the free end of my leash to the deck bungies and replaced it with a practice golf ball (the "wiffle ball" type works well). Now I just slip the ball under the bungee cord so a quick jerk will pull both the ball and leash free.

Fog is common and can arise quickly. Therefore, having a deck compass and the knowledge to use it can be important when crossing a channel or otherwise out of sight of land. Getting a bearing to your destination (or where you've been) before the fog socks in is vital. Many paddlers here affix reflective tape to their paddles and boats to aid in rescue after dark. DOT (Department of Transportation) tape is good, although not inexpensive, and there are other options available.



Fog on Birch Bay; January, 2009



## PLANNING

Tidal exchange, currents, wind speed and direction, shipping channels or other constricted traffic areas, and shoals, reefs and rocks along the route are all factors that must be taken account of before getting on the water. There's no real substitute for local knowledge, but looking over charts, tide tables, and a tides and currents atlas (if available) provides a great deal of very important

information. Fortunately, the San Juan and Gulf Islands are covered by an excellent atlas, and an annual tide table is published that integrates with the atlas.

Understanding the relationship between currents and wind direction/velocity is an important safety consideration. For example, an ebb tide meeting an opposing wind can cause large breaking waves to form rapidly. The amount of fetch, the distance of open water across which wind is blowing, will have much to do with how rough conditions are or will become. If you've paddled in Baja, you probably have encountered katabatic winds that sweep down canyons; we have similar downslope winds. These are all things to consider when planning an outing in the Pacific Northwest.

#### A FINAL WORD FOR THIS ARTICLE

None of these considerations is intended to discourage anyone from paddling in this spectacular and wonderful area. The ever-changing conditions, coasts that range from rugged cliffs to sandy beaches to estuaries, and the salt air combine to make paddling here sublime. However, thorough preparation is important, for safety's sake as well as simply to enhance the experience by eliminating worries.

Our boats, after all, are called "sea" kayaks. They were designed and built for exactly the sorts of conditions found in this area. In the future, I hope to pass along some additional "lessons learned" and some trip reports. If you have questions, you can email me through the members' forum or directly at: [tedwang@comcast.net](mailto:tedwang@comcast.net).



Burrows Bay, with kelp in the water and Mt. Baker in the background



Winter paddling: Lake Whatcom in the snow; February, 2009

#### RELATED WEBSITE

Ted's new paddle club, *Whatcom Association of Kayak Enthusiasts*, known as WAKE in northwest Washington, organizes incredible opportunities for its members. You will be in awe of their skills and the happenings they enjoy.

Check out their website:  
<http://www.wakekayak.org/>



## DATES OF INTEREST, I

**MAY**

- ▣ **May 3: Publicity for RMSKC at REI in Boulder**
  - Time: 10:00 - 2:00; RMSKC will be there to talk about kayaking and Club membership
  - Club members who have REI cards will be offered a one-day discount of 20%
  - Contact Brian Hunter if you can help: [silversage@peoplepc.com](mailto:silversage@peoplepc.com)
  
- ▣ **May 9: Annual Union Reservoir Spring Paddle and Picnic Lunch**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 3:00)
  - \$8.00 (\$55/\$65 season pass for residents/non-residents; \$35/\$40 for over age 55)
  - Address: 461 WCR #26, Longmont
  - Map and Information: [http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/parks/park\\_list/overview/union.htm](http://www.ci.longmont.co.us/parks/park_list/overview/union.htm)
  - Event Coordinator: Jud Hurd (970-377-9277; [hurdofcows@q.com](mailto:hurdofcows@q.com))
  - Lunch arrangements will be announced by email
  
- ▣ **May 16: Cherry Creek Reservoir Paddle**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 12:30)
  - Location: East boat ramp opposite the marina and dam; use the Parker Road entrance
  - Maps and directions: <http://parks.state.co.us/NR/rdonlyres/4B7C97BD-71F4-4638-873A-B674A4ECA0CF/0/CherryCreekAreaBro1107.pdf>
  - Annual pass or \$8.00 a day; bring exact change or a check for the self-serve day pass
  - Trip Leader: Brian Hunter; email for more details: [silversage@peoplepc.com](mailto:silversage@peoplepc.com)
  
- ▣ **May 23: "Fourth Saturday" Paddle at Lake McIntosh in Longmont**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 12:30)
  - Meet at the boat launch across the street from 3000 Lake Shore Drive, Longmont
  - Trip Leader: Sue Hughes (303-776-4541; [suehughes@yahoo.com](mailto:suehughes@yahoo.com))
  
- ▣ **May 30: Annual Gross Reservoir Paddle**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go
  - Ending Time: The length of the paddle is dependent on the water level and participants' wishes
  - Directions and site information: <http://www.rmskc.org/places/gross-res.html>
  - This is a COLD WATER paddle; dress for the water, not the weather!
  - Bring a sack lunch to eat at a stop on the route
  - Parking is limited; carpool if possible and be sure to bring your kayak wheels
  - Trip Leader: Lou Ann and David Hustvedt (home phone: 303-442-2814, David's cell for problems the day of the paddle: 303-819-3090; [lahustvedt@gmail.com](mailto:lahustvedt@gmail.com))

**STARTING TIME:** Remember, "starting time" means the time that the group will be *in the water* starting to paddle. Always 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.



## DATES OF INTEREST, II

### JUNE

- ▣ June 6: North Platte River Paddle from Saratoga, WY (Class II)
  - 7:00 am Saturday to Sunday afternoon
  - Meet at: To be announced
  - **This trip does not yet have a Trip Leader; it will be cancelled if no one volunteers**
  - According to RMSKC guidelines, overnight trips are open only to Club members
  - According to ACA requirements, helmets are to be carried for wear on Class II rapids
  
- ▣ June 13: "Second Saturday" Paddle at Chatfield Reservoir
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - Meeting place to be announced by email
  - Maps and park information: <http://parks.state.co.us/Parks/Chatfield?MapsandDirections/>
  - Daily pass \$7.00; annual pass \$60.00
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ June 27: "Fourth Saturday" Paddle at Lake McIntosh in Longmont
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 12:30)
  - Meet at the boat launch across the street from 3000 Lake Shore Drive, Longmont
  - Free
  - Trip Leader: Sue Hughes (303-776-4541; suehughes@yahoo.com)

### JULY

- ▣ July 11: "Second Saturday" Paddle in the South Metro Area
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - Meeting place: At Chatfield or a new venue to be decided upon by the "Second Saturday" regulars
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ July 18: RMSKC's Annual PADDLEFEST: Demonstrations! Mini-classes! Races! Good food! A paddle with friends! Try out other members' boats! Time to visit! Sell your extra gear!
  - Help set-up, enjoy Brian's excellent coffee and time to visit, sign in: 9:00 - 10:00
  - Starting Time: 10:00 to approximated 3:00 or 4:00
  - Meeting Place: South shore of Roxborough Cove in the shade like last year!
  - Daily pass \$7.00; annual pass \$60.00
  - Maps and park information: <http://parks.state.co.us/Parks/Chatfield?MapsandDirections/>
  - Hamburgers, brats, buns and condiments will be provided (but NOT bottled water or pop this year)
  - Bring a dish to share with a serving spoon if needed, and your own plates, utensils, and cold drinks
  - Event Coordinator: Brian Hunter (303-321-4243; silversage@peoplepc.com)

## DATES OF INTEREST, III

### JULY, CONT.

- ▣ July 19: Union Chutes White Water Instruction (tentative date)
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 2:00)
  - This class is dependent on water flow; the alternate date is August 15
  - Instructor: Larry Kline
  - This class is limited to six students; email Larry if you want to participate: lkline146@yahoo.com
  
- ▣ July 25: Summer Dillon Paddle and BBQ at Jan Faulkner and Mike Anson's condo in Dillon
  - Time: 10:00 to approximated 3:00 or 4:00
  - RSVP to Mike (michaeldanson@comcast.net) or Jan (h\_jan\_faulkner@hotmail.com,)
  - Meeting Place: directions and BBQ arrangements will be emailed to you when you RSVP
  - Bring your swimming suit to enjoy the hot-tub
  
- ▣ July 27 - August 2: Club-Sponsored Yellowstone Paddle Trip
  - Details: This trip was publicized by email and is full, with a waiting list
  - Trip Leader: Larry Kline

### AUGUST

- ▣ August 8: "Second Saturday" Paddle at Soda Lake in Bear Creek Lake Park
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - Location: 15600 West Morrison Road, Morrison, CO 80465
  - Park info and map: <http://www.lakewood.org/comres/page.cfm?ID=43&BearCreekLakePark/>
  - Daily pass \$5.00/\$4.00 for seniors; annual pass \$45.00/35.00
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ August 13: Kayak Camping: Introductory Classroom Session
  - Time: 6:00 to 9:00 pm
  - Location: Lakewood; directions will be emailed to participants
  - Bring a pencil and paper to take notes
  
- ▣ August 15: Union Chutes White Water Instruction (alternate date)
  
- ▣ August 22: "Fourth Saturday" Paddle at Union Reservoir
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - Location: 461 WCR #26, Longmont
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ August 22: Kayak Camping: Shake-down Pack and Paddle Session
  - Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
  - Location: Chatfield or Union Reservoir

## DATES OF INTEREST, IV

- ▣ **September 4-6: Twin Lakes Full Moon Camp, Paddle, Bike & Hike Weekend Extravaganza**
  - Location: Twin Lakes, near Leadville, at 9,500' elevation
  - Trip leader: Janet Scervino (970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com); email her for more details and to sign up
  
- ▣ **September 12: "Second Saturday" Paddle at Soda Lake in Bear Creek Lake Park**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - Location: 15600 West Morrison Road, Morrison, CO 80465
  - Park info and map: <http://www.lakewood.org/comres/page.cfm?ID=43&BearCreekLakePark/>
  - Daily pass \$5.00/\$4.00 for seniors; annual pass \$45.00/35.00
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ **September 12 - 13: Kayak Camping's Overnight Trip**
  - Meeting time: 10:00
  - Location: Granby Reservoir
  
- ▣ **September 26: "Fourth Saturday" Paddle at Union Reservoir**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - Location: 461 WCR #26, Longmont
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ **September ?? : Ruby-Horsethief section of the Colorado from Loma to Westwater**
  - Details: TBA, if we get a trip leader
  - **Trip Leader needed!** Sue Hughes will handle all the ACA insurance procedures but we need someone who's paddled this stretch to lead it. Email Sue to decide a date: suehughes@yahoo.com

## THE REST OF 2009

- ▣ **October 10: "Second Saturday" Paddle at Soda Lake**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ **October 24: "Fourth Saturday" Paddle at Union Reservoir**
  - Starting Time: 10:00 in the water and ready to go (to approximately 1:00)
  - **Trip leader needed!** Contact Janet if you can lead this paddle: 970-485-9493; jscervino@gmail.com
  
- ▣ **October ???: Tentative Paddle and Camp or House Boat at Lake Powell**
  - Dates to be decided
  - Trip Leader: Dan Bell
  - Email Dan for more details and to express interest: dbell12345@msn.com
  
- ▣ **October**
  - Call for nominations for Steering Committee openings
  
- ▣ **November:**
  - Elections
  - Penguin Paddle: November 7th or November 14th; date to be announced

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