



FOUNDED 1989
ACA PADDLE AMERICA CLUB

SPRING, 2016
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THE RMSKC NEWS

INFORMATION ABOUT THE CLUB

OVER THE FOREDECK

By President Clark Strickland

Our paddle season
is well under way!

Check the RMSKC calendar at our website (and pp. 17-18 of this issue) to see the offerings, make your plans and let the trip coordinators know so that they can contact you as more detailed plans develop.

Many of the multi-day trips, particularly old favorites like the Lake Powell houseboat and Green River trips, filled up very quickly. If there's a paddle that you'd like to suggest to the club, use the Google Group to do so, or ask a Steering Committee member to post a request to the membership to see if others share your interest.

If you don't have experience being a trip leader, ask for someone to volunteer to do that, and plan the trip together. There's usually a group of folks who are up for almost any paddle that one can imagine.

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We're also working to extend and expand our instruction and safety program. Brian Hunter is trying to identify a cost-effective way of having the American Canoe Association's training and testing available for those RMSKC members with the requisite skills who would like to be certified to teach them.

If you would like to work toward becoming an ACA certified instructor at some time in the future, please let Brian know so that you're in the loop when the RMSKC plans training sessions.

RMSKC members continue, of course, to share their skills with one another in pool practice and open water. This is one of the many benefits of RMSKC membership—the chance to learn new skills and paddle with safety-minded friends.

Make sure that PaddleFest on Saturday, June 25 at 10:00AM at Chatfield State Park is on your calendar. See you on the water then, if not before!

Clark

RMSKC STEERING COMMITTEE 2016

PRESIDENT:	Clark Strickland	720-300-7789	clark.strickland@msn.com
TREASURER:	Dave Hustvedt	303-442-2814	davidhustvedt@hotmail.com
SECRETARY:	George Ottenhoff	970-351-6968	gho@what-wire.com
MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR:	Marlene Pakish	303-619-4661	mjoycep@yahoo.com
PADDLE COORDINATOR:	Jud Hurd	970-377-9277	hurdofoats@gmail.com
INSTRUCTION AND SAFETY:	Brian Hunter	303-748-6776	oldmanadrift@yahoo.com
ONSHORE EVENTS:	Tim Fletcher	303-726-1549	timfletcher5583@comcast.net
PUBLICATIONS EDITOR:	Sue Hughes	303-776-4541	suehughes@yahoo.com
WEBMASTER:	Bernie Dahlen	720-289-8151	berniedahl@mac.com



Check out Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club's page on Facebook. It isn't always up-to-date, but it has some of the most spectacular photos taken on our trips. It's a good way to share the fun with your younger friends.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES



DECEMBER: Several SC members met for dinner with Greg Skomp, the American Canoe Association's volunteer State Director for Colorado. At that meeting Clark noted that RMSKC contributes policy positions to the state, in particular to the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan and the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife plan, and that that would be an excellent entry point for national advocacy activities. [SCORP, the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, is a planning document that states complete in order to receive funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund administered by the Department of the Interior.] Another desired activity that ACA could work on would be getting river access and parking for South Platte sites.

We had not known that Greg's background is white water paddling and rafting, and that his position is voluntary. Some of us wondered if we might have unloaded on him unfairly with the following list of points about **RMSKC's RELATIONSHIP WITH ACA**. We hope not; he was a good listener and we were happy to see him at the Winter Party.

- RMSKC uses the event insurance benefit from ACA. However, records are only updated two times a year and we need current expiration dates of the waiver for each member more frequently than that.
- Waivers: RMSKC has problems using the waivers that are part of the event insurance benefit. For ACA members, their membership is renewed annually and they have to sign a new on-line waiver. Signing the waiver is a complicated process. Instructions aren't clear and after signing electronically, it is difficult to print the waiver. Responding to a confirmation email is also required and many miss this step. Another problem is that the waiver expiration date doesn't appear on the membership record so there is no way to determine who has current waivers on file. An on-demand list of people's waiver status should be available.
- RMSKC would like to see more support from ACA for trainer certification. ACA instructors and instructor/trainers are all excellent, and the instructor training is excellent. However, RMSKC has several trainers who are certified and they are letting their certifications lapse. RMSKC would like to get more trainers certified, but the cost to a trainer for two trips (initial training/testing) is prohibitive. Financial assistance or some way to keep the costs affordable would be helpful.
- Perhaps ACA could help RMSKC connect with university paddling clubs to help encourage younger members and help facilitate getting local clubs together for cooperation on common concerns.

APRIL: The whole Steering Committee, with our new members, met at Meyers Pool in Arvada. Here and on the next page are the highlights of that meeting:

- **2016's PADDLES:** Paddle Coordinator Jud Hurd distributed a list of scheduled trips, and noted that we need to plan more local paddles during July and August when several of our long distance trips are happening. He reported that the *ACA Trip Report Form* has been simplified. It will be sent to trip leaders along with an up-to-date Membership Roster to assure our compliance with ACA insurance requirements. Trip leaders will also be provided with *ACA Waiver Forms* for guests or other non-members who might show up for trips.

Continued



Standing: Tim, Dave, Jud, Sue, Bernie, Marlene
Kneeling: George, Brian, Clark



STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES, CONT.

While talking about paddles for 2016, Clark mentioned that he had met with the president of the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club about coordinating and publicizing trips between the two Colorado ACA Paddle America clubs.

- Our new Onshore Coordinator, Tim Fletcher, led a discussion of **PADDLEFEST ON JUNE 25**. We decided there will be grills available to cook food that people will bring. He asked what kinds of activities people would enjoy. Some of the suggestions were: demonstrations and participation in wet exits and rescues, and paddling each other's boats. Tim will meet with Clark and Brian to discuss activities.
- Brian Hunter, RMSKC's new **INSTRUCTION AND SAFETY** Coordinator, said that he will be investigating having instructor recertification made available in our area.

He also expressed a concern that any insurance claims that we might submit on our ACA insurance will be denied if we have not followed the **ACA PROCEDURES** exactly. Therefore he proposed that trip leaders be provided and carry an *ACA Incident Report Form* on all trips, and that they be reminded that they are to complete the form immediately in the event of any injury or incident on a trip.

He raised a question about trip leaders setting requirements regarding **EQUIPMENT AND CLOTHING FOR TRIPS**, for example, dry suits vs. wet suits. The consensus was that the requirement should be reasonable relative to the expected conditions, based on generally accepted research, and should be applied consistently within the Club. The SC reaffirmed the right and duty of trip leaders to set and enforce reasonable and appropriate requirements.

Brian mentioned that Colorado law requires boat **OWNERS' NAMES AND ADDRESSES** be displayed in their boats. He noted that the stickers provided by ACA and the Coast Guard do not provide space for all that information. Dave will investigate the cost of having stickers made that have the Club logo and space for a name, address and other contact information. It was noted that trip leaders need to remind trip participants of this requirement.

- Bits of **OTHER CLUB BUSINESS** relating to membership, finances, publications and the website were discussed. Updates from several of these SC members are in this issue.

BEHIND THE SCENE

RMSKC isn't a meeting-intensive group, but you might not have known that if you'd been at Meyers Pool in Arvada on April 3rd when the Steering Committee was meeting. Here's what else was going on:

- The *Alaska 2016* paddlers needed a pre-trip pool practice to get ready for their July trip around Annette Island.
- When Sue Hughes, trip leader of *Powell Houseboat IV*, realized that some of the people coming the farthest to work on rescue skills would be house-boating together later in the summer, she scheduled a meeting for the houseboaters after the Alaska paddlers' morning in the water.
- Lots of the same people were also on the *RMSKC Steering Committee*, so President Clark Strickland added an SC meeting.
- Then, because of a similar overlap of participants, Tim Fletcher's *Green River Trip* gathered for their organizational meeting.

Since there were so many meetings, in a small room right at the edge of the pool, we put up the Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club banner [seen in the picture of the Steering Committee on the previous page] to advertise our activities. We wonder what the white water kayakers paddling after us thought, especially with the non-stop howls of laughter coming from the house boat group's meeting. It meant a long afternoon for many, but it cut the travel time for members who came from miles away.



POWELL HOUSEBOAT, 2016

Starting at the lower left, clockwise around the table: Anna Troth, Gregg Goodrich's hands, Dave Hustvedt, Brian Hunter, Jen and George Ottenhoff, Marsha Dougherty, Clark and Marty Strickland, and Jud Hurd



BIOGRAPHIES OF OUR NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

When you want something done, ask a busy person...but sometimes they get too busy and have to drop back to handle other tasks.

That's happened on the RMSKC Steering Committee this winter, as two of our members have resigned due to other commitments. We will miss **ANNE FIORE**, who has held several positions, most recently Webmaster. **HAROLD STURGIS**, our Treasurer for the last couple of years will also be missed. Both of these positions have been filled by people already on the SC.

Here are biographies of our new SC members: Tim Fletcher (Onshore Coordinator), Marlene Pakish (Membership) and Bernie Dahlen, our new Webmaster. Brian Hunter has been Onshore Coordinator in the past; he's now coordinating Safety and Instruction; Dave Hustvedt is our new Treasurer; previously he was Onshore Coordinator.

TIM FLETCHER, ONSHORE COORDINATOR: I worked for the Union Pacific railroad for 38 years. My wife, Kathy and I retired last summer. We have one son, Ben, who just graduated from college. I have been canoeing since I was 14 when I bought a wood and canvas canoe kit for \$29 from the classified ads in an *Outdoor Life* magazine. My dad and I had a good time building it, and I have lots of happy memories of paddling it with my brothers and sisters, mostly out at Cherry Creek reservoir. I have been canoeing ever since and I still enjoy it.

Somewhere along the way, my wife and I acquired some recreational kayaks and I really started getting interested in kayaking. I joined RMSKC several years ago, but really didn't get to do much with the club until recently. I now paddle a *Delta 17*. I have paddled with the club at Lake Mead, the Grand Teton area, Lake Powell, and several day trips.

I am looking forward to going to Alaska with Jud and Dave this summer. I would also like to paddle in Mexico, the Boundary Waters, Apostle Islands, and Yellowstone again. I consider myself fortunate to have found a club like the RMSKC. There are a lot of very experienced people in the club, and everybody is always willing to help each other out. I really like the emphasis on safety and learning the proper techniques. I have learned a lot and am looking forward to learning more, like how to roll, and to many more trips and experiences with the club.



Tim on Lake Jackson, Grand Teton National Park 2015



Defiance House,
Forgotten Canyon; Lake Powell 2015

MORE NEW MEMBERS ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE

BERNIE DAHLEN, WEBMASTER: My parents were mid-westerners who moved the family to Southern California in the 1950s. After high school and a B.A. from California Western University, I joined the Air Force, completed pilot training and spent two of the next four years in Southeast Asia. Later I was assigned to F.E. Warren AFB in Cheyenne, Wyoming, as a missile launch officer.



In 1979 I separated from the Air Force and joined United Airlines where I spent 25 years as a flight officer. During a furlough (1981 through 1984) I spent three years working as a computer programmer.

After retiring from United, and wanting an activity that provides upper body exercise to compliment my hiking and alpine skiing, I decided to try kayaking. I joined RMSKC and have participated mostly in the multi-day kayak camping trips with the club.

I have been married for 45 years, and my wife Marcie and I have lived in the Evergreen area for 34 years. We have two daughters and recently added a granddaughter. Since they all live in California we purchased a home there in 2009 and visit two months in the spring and again in the fall.

*New Steering Committee Bios
continue on the next page*

These people on the Steering Committee, and others in the club, put in hours of their time to help RMSKC meet its objectives of providing kayaking opportunities; instruction in paddling, safety and kayak camping; and the opportunity to meet new friends.

In addition to serving on the Steering Committee, RMSKC always needs short-term volunteers. Here are some suggestions, but feel free to propose something else that better aligns with your interests, talents and time:

- Contact Brian Hunter to explore the possibility of becoming an ACA Certified Instructor.
- Work with Tim Fletcher and Jud Hurd to increase media publicity of our club events. In the past we've had a Publicity Coordinator; we need one again.
- Write nationally known instructors to propose they stop through the Denver area on their cross-country trips to give a workshop here. We've advertised for paying students and provided housing and brewery tours for instructors of classes like these in the past. [See the *Mountain Paddler* issue 19-1b, which is archived on our website.]
- Contact local college sports clubs to see if they are interested in sea kayaking with us.
- As always, research and lead new trips or day paddles.

MORE NEW MEMBERS ON THE STEERING COMMITTEE

MARLENE PAKISH, MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR: I'm from Caughdenoy, New York, a small town north of Syracuse. I moved to Colorado in 1990 and have no desire to leave this beautiful state.

I'm a Finance Manager at a 501 (c)(6) professional membership society for dentists. I have worked in non-profits and small businesses my entire career. I live in Golden with my partner, Julie Rekart; we have a dog and a cat to keep us entertained.

My dad taught me and my two older siblings how to paddle a canoe and love the outdoors. As a family, we would go camping, hiking and canoeing in the Adirondacks. I even took an advanced canoeing class in college for PE credit.



Years after moving to Colorado, my ex and I bought a couple of Perception kayaks but never took them anywhere exciting. When we broke up, the only thing I wanted were the kayaks and the carrying rack for the car.

After meeting Julie, we joined RMSKC to help us with our paddling form and to find different places to paddle. So far we've been to Yellowstone Lake, Lewis and Shoshone Lakes, Voyagers Lake in Northern Minnesota—all back country kayak camping. Last year we went to Maine for an east coast adventure and have done river trips with the club and also some great day outings. [Marlene led the Lewis and Shoshone trip and wrote the article on the club's trip to Maine.]

I'm not sure where we'll paddle next; we have time limitations since we are still both employed. This means our vacation time needs to be split between family and kayak trips. But no matter where it is, I'm sure it will be a great adventure.

FYI: Marlene wrote the report for the August 2014 trip to paddle on the coast of Maine with former RMSKC president and instructor Matt Lutkus. Her account of that wonderful trip from the 23-1b Early Spring 2015 issue of RMSKC's *Mountain Paddler* was republished by MITA, the Maine Island Trail Association.

Here's how they introduced her article, which they titled, *Muscongus Bay and Stonington From A Western Perspective*. "The Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club was kind enough to share this account of a paddling pilgrimage to Maine by some of their club. Yes, there are sea kayak clubs out west, and they look pretty fun too! It's exciting to see some of our most familiar Trail regions through fresh eyes, thanks RMSKC."

Here's the link to read Marlene's article again; it is definitely worth enjoying a second time: <https://talesofthetrail.wordpress.com/2015/09/>

CURRENT SC MEMBERS



Brian with his first sea kayak

BRIAN HUNTER, SAFETY AND INSTRUCTION COORDINATOR: This is a new position for Brian, but he's been on the Steering Committee as Onshore Coordinator in the past.

Kayaking began for him as a way to get to where the fish were. He had fished from a small homemade boat and then from a pontoon float tube, both of which were easy for one man to handle but no good in wind or waves.

After reading that the Inuit and Aleuts hunted and fished from kayaks, he purchased a recreation style boat and found it handled well in all conditions and was stealthy enough to fish from. He soon progressed to a longer, sleeker sea kayak and began enjoying kayaking for its own sake.

He took the RMSKC Kayak Camping Class in 2008 and realized that he really liked camping from a kayak, too. For Brian, kayaks are extremely versatile craft; they are great for fishing, photography, camping or just enjoying a nice sunny day with some friends on the water.

Check the *RMSKC Index of Publications* in the Publications section of the website to learn more about Brian; he has written articles about making Greenland paddles, edging a kayak, tying knots, comparing rudders and skegs, adding his boat modifications, sewing dry bags, learning to roll, teaching kayaking with the Girl Scouts and lots of other things, and many paddle reports.

The rest of the folks on the Steering Committee are long-term SC members; some have held multiple positions and all have had their biographies in earlier club publications. For those of you who are new to RMSKC, here and on the next page are their photos with notes about finding their paddling history in previous issues.

Like Brian, most of them have written interesting trip reports or other articles that can be located in earlier publications by searching the RMSKC's *Publications Index*.

All the issues are on the "Current Publications" page of the "Club Publications and Index" section on the website.



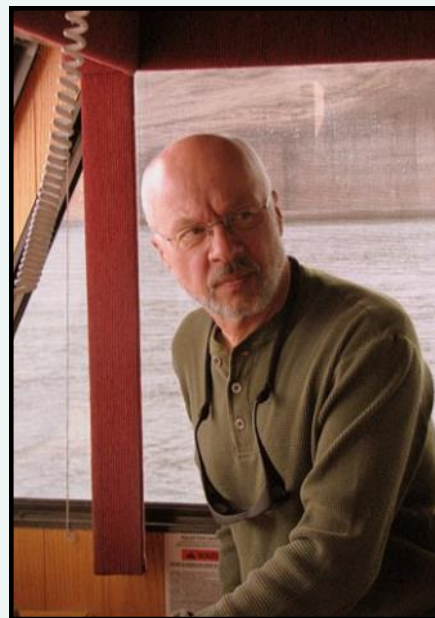
GEORGE OTTENHOFF, SECRETARY: Page 5 in *The NEWS*, Early Spring 2015 (23-1a)

Continued

THE REST OF THE CURRENT STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS



CLARK STRICKLAND, PRESIDENT: Page 10
in *The NEWS*, Fall 2009 (19-2a)



DAVE HUSTVEDT, TREASURER:
Page 6 in *The NEWS*, Fall 2011
(19-2a)



JUD HURD, PADDLE COORDINATOR: Page 7 in *The NEWS*,
Fall 2009 (19-2a)



SUE HUGHES, EDITOR:
Page 5 in *The NEWS*,
Winter 2009-2010 (18-1a)

END OF THE YEAR FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2015

Harold Sturgis,
Former Treasurer

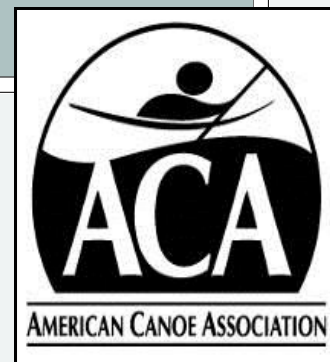


ITEM	TOTAL
BEGINNING BALANCE, January 2015	\$3,968
REVENUE	
Members' dues	\$540
Sale of donated equipment	\$105
TOTAL REVENUE	\$645
EXPENSES	
Publicity (business cards)	\$57
Events (venue rental, etc.)	\$135
Colorado State non-profit fee	\$10
Instructor annual certification	\$25
Steering Committee expenses	\$27
Memorial Donation	\$100
Supplies, postage, misc.	\$1
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$355
ENDING BALANCE, December 2015	\$4258



RMSKC AND ACA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DETAILS

Marlene Pakish,
Membership Coordinator



Your annual Rocky Mountain Sea Kayak Club membership expired on March 31, 2016. If you haven't already, please follow the renewal procedures on the "Membership" page of the RMSKC website, mail or email the necessary documents, and snail-mail your \$10 check to Marlene Pakish immediately.

To be a member of RMSKC you must also be an up-to-date member of the American Canoe Association. ACA membership can be renewed on their website, where you will designate RMSKC as your Paddle America Club affiliate which entitles you to membership at a reduced rate. Look for the further reduction offered to seniors, if that applies to you. After the ACA has processed your renewal you will receive an email from them with your new ACA card and a link to sign your annual PAC waiver, a three-page form. ACA's website makes it look like they will send that signed waiver to RMSKC, so that we will have a copy too, but that doesn't happen. You will need to electronically sign the waiver and email or snail mail it along with your RMSKC renewal paperwork and dues check.

Online waivers for the ACA can be found at <http://www.americancanoe.org/>. On the left side, click on *Paddling Clubs* and then on the drop-down *Paddle America Clubs* and then on *Online waivers*.

If you are having trouble with the ACA renewal or the PAC waiver, email or call Marlene with the particulars and she'll help sort it out with ACA:

mjoycep@yahoo.com
303-619-4661

Mail your check and paperwork to:

Marlene Pakish
1719 Utah Street
Golden, CO 80401

If you haven't already, send
these **THREE THINGS** to Marlene:

1. Your RMSKC renewal form
2. A signed ACA waiver for us
3. A \$10 check made out to RMSKC

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

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

- **JAY BAILEY FROM PUEBLO:** First trip ever: Loreto to La Paz, Baja, Mexico. It nearly killed me. I was hooked. That was in the year 2000. Since then I've owned a Prijon *SeaYak*, a Prijon *Yukon Expedition*, a Dagger *GT Plus*, a *Discovery* kayak that was not a great boat but I had lots of fun in it, a Valley *Aquanaut* (which I recently sold) that was and is a great boat, and now Valley's *Étaín 17.5*.

I have paddled the Arkansas River above and below Buena Vista and Salida and could negotiate class III water that was flowing to about 600 cfs or less. The last time I did Fractions (a section of the Arkansas above Buena Vista) I swam most of it at a higher flow than 600 cfs. We sold our white water boats a couple summers ago. We just didn't use them enough. The plan was to use moving water to develop reliable paddle skills. White water paddling accomplished that for me. I spent a lot of time on the white water park in Pueblo.

We have paddled in British Columbia multiple years, on both coasts of Vancouver Island. We have also been to Desolation Sound on the Sunshine Coast of mainland British Columbia. I have paddled in the San Juan Islands in Washington state twice. We spent a month driving and paddling around Lake Superior one summer. I developed an infected elbow and didn't get to paddle as much as I wanted that trip. We have done a few Lake Powell trips over the years. Twice we paddled the Green River, Utah, once from Green River, Utah to Spanish Bottom and once from Mineral Bottom to Spanish Bottom.

I got my BCU 3-star award from Ginni Callahan a few years ago. Since that time I have participated in 4-star training events at Neah Bay, Washington, on the Olympic Peninsula, Isla Todos Santos on the west coast of Baja, Mexico, and on the Columbia River Sound where the river enters the Pacific Ocean. All that said, I consider myself an intermediate paddler; to become good would require living on the coast.

My future plans are to dedicate myself to stroke review and practice this summer. Last summer I spent a month paddling but little time practicing skills. Paddling is much more than the forward stroke. I would also like to paddle the Portland to Lake Pueblo Arkansas River section a couple of times this spring before the water level falls too much. Otherwise this summer is a backpacking and home improvement summer. Perhaps next summer we can do another 4 to 5 week paddle excursion.



Jay's boats, but no picture of Jay

MORE NEW MEMBERS

- **GAIL DENTON AND DAN DOWNS OF BOULDER:** My husband Dan Downs and I initially got into kayaking in anticipation of a long trip to Alaska. In 2008 we bought an RV and a kayak on Craigslist, then looked around for lessons on what to do! Members of the club came out and gave a group of us fledgling kayakers some lessons in wet exits, in a cold lake on a chilly day. Perfect conditions to practice. We bought a few things from Ray Van Dusen at River Mouse, especially the Chota boots. They were the best purchase ever! Then off we went to Kachemak Bay, and beyond.

Since then, we have paddled other places in Alaska, Puget Sound, Columbia Lake (the headwaters of the Columbia River in British Columbia), Flaming Gorge Reservoir, the Everglades, Hampton, VA, Chesapeake Bay, and Lake Champlain. Locally we've paddled Lake Dillon, Union and Lonetree Reservoirs, Carter Lake and a few smaller lakes like McIntosh in north Longmont. Lovely paddles all.

We paddle a tandem 21' *Seascope* by Northwest, and my husband also paddles a Pygmy. Just last weekend we dragged the *Seascope* through the snow to put in on Lake McIntosh, which was finally clear of ice. Great view of Longs Peak from the cockpit!

Future trips include a Valdez to Cordova run on Prince William Sound, Alaska, and the Inside Passage. We also dream about shooting the Stikine River in British Columbia.

**We're looking forward to paddling with these people
and our other new members at PaddleFest in June, if not before.**

- **OTHER NEW MEMBERS:** We hope to publish introductory bits about these members in the next issue of *The RMSKC's NEWS*: David Anderson and Susan O'Shields (Brighton), John Anderson and Annabel Saunders (Bennett), Annie and Bill Bashaw (Parker), Jim and Joy Bauman (Golden), Chris Davenport (Colorado Springs), Craig Godbout (Bellvue), Dan and Sheryl Hunter (Boulder), Ken Kloppenborg (Lakewood), The Mohlenkamp Family (Westminster), Joseph Passalacqua (Louisville), and Sheila White (Westminster).



PaddleFest; Roxborough Cove at Chatfield Reservoir

WINTER PARTY 2016

We kept the early afternoon time, which seemed to work for most people and, unlike last year, the annual get-together wasn't postponed two or three times because of the weather. The day was a bit snowy but it didn't trouble the more than 30 members and guests who gathered at Tammy Haven's clubhouse in the thirty-one hundred block of South Wadsworth.

As always, the food was varied and tasty. Someone made a delicious Chicken Marsala. Potential members, Larry and Lori Flint, came with a parsley-heavy salad that was a standout, as was an avocado salad. George and Gen Ottenhoff brought frozen Grasshopper Pie which was yummy, and arrived all the way from Windsor still frozen. Everything was so good there was talk that maybe we should have an offshoot devoted to gourmet cooking.

President Clark Strickland introduced the people who had been elected to the Steering Committee, and each spoke for a few minutes about their part in the Club's organization. He reminded people about the new t-shirts and how to get one, and he and Dave Hustvedt passed out more business cards to the people who wanted to help distribute them. [See them on the next page.]

Greg Skomp, our region's ACA coordinator, spoke for a few minutes about ACA's direction.

There was a discussion about the need for certified instructors; then we brainstormed almost a full season of ideas for the 2016 club schedule.



Hostess Tammy
with Yoda (retired) and Mica,
her Guide Dogs for the Blind



Greg Skomp (center) visits with Pam Noe,
Gary McIntosh (hidden), Ray Van Dusen and John Ruger



Harold and Brian,
with Marsha and Jen in the background

The paddling suggestions seemed to click with lots of people because most of the trips already have leaders and are posted on the website. [Check the list on pp. 17-18.]

There was also a good selection of gear, both new and second-hand, for sale; remember to send Dave Hustvedt, our new Treasurer, the money if you bought something.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SEA KAYAK CLUB



rmskc.org

- Kayaking...along the Front Range or far beyond
- Classes in boat handling, safety and kayak camping

Contact Tim Fletcher, our new Onshore Coordinator, if you'd like a handful of these **BUSINESS CARDS** to give to people who ask about RMSKC.



MODELING THE NEW T-SHIRTS:

Marsha Dougherty, Jud Hurd, George and Jen Ottenhoff, Clark Strickland, Julie Rekert, Gregg Goodrich and Tim Fletcher

Contact Clark if you're interested in ordering a **CLUB T-SHIRT**.

They are poly-pro athletic wear; they come in these colors, in men's and women's models and with long or short sleeves. If you'd like to try one on for size, most of us would lend you the shirt off our backs; just ask.

MEMBERS WHO ENJOYED THE CAMARADERIE AND GOOD FOOD:

Gary Cage and Anne Fiore, Sandy Carlsen and Harold Christopher, Bernie and Marcie Dahlen, Dick Dieckman, Marsha Dougherty, Dan Downs, Tim Fletcher, Gregg Goodrich and Anna Troth, Tammy Haven, Sue Hughes, Brian Hunter, Jud Hurd, Dave Hustvedt, Gary McIntosh, Pamela Noe, George and Jen Ottenhoff, Marlene Pakish and Julie Rekart, Stacy Rezak, John Ruger, Clark Strickland, Ray Van Dusen, Rich Webber, Stan White, and ACA Volunteer Regional Coordinator, Greg Skomp.



Stan White and Rich Webber

PADDLING POSSIBILITIES, 2016

Here's the list of paddling suggestions generated at the Winter Party. Many of these already have trip leaders and are

on the calendar on the website. Check it for more details and to RSVP to the trip leader so you can be kept abreast of any changes.

We're off to a good start for 2016 but there are lots more locations and times to fill, especially in July and August, so consider adding, and leading, another trip that especially interests you.

Over the years RMSKC members have written a good series of **INSTRUCTIONS FOR TRIP LEADERS** which are on the website [Trips and Day Paddles].

There is also a tutorial for **POST-TRIP REPORTING** required by the ACA [*The NEWS*, 20-2a]. Our Paddle Coordinator, Jud Hurd, is a master at "Jud-Led" trips and will be happy to help you get started.

- **POOL PRACTICE AT MEYERS POOL:** The last two sessions for 2016 are April 17 and 24
- **Mid-week AFTER-WORK AT CHERRY CREEK RES;** with margaritas and dinner later at near-by Casa Vallarta; check with Clark for the dates of these weekly evening events
- **LONETREE RESERVOIR** to see the heron rookery on April 16; RSVP to Sue Hughes
- Our first **EARTH DAY CLEANUP AT CHATFIELD RESERVOIR** is April 23; RSVP to Clark Strickland
- The 9th Annual **LAKE MCINTOSH MUD HEN PADDLE**, traditionally held the 4th Saturday in April, will be moved to the next week, April 30; RSVP to Sue Hughes
- **BARR LAKE BIRDING** on May 14; RSVP to Gregg Goodrich
- **LAKE PUEBLO** on May 21; RSVP to Jud Hurd
- **ANNUAL OPENING DAY AT GROSS RESERVOIR** (the Monday of Memorial Day weekend); as he has in the past, Dave Hustvedt will be the trip leader for this mountain paddle.
- **ALASKA SHAKE-DOWN CAMPING AT GRAND LAKE**, June 11-12; for Alaska trip paddlers only
- **HORSETOOTH RESERVOIR**, June 18; RSVP to Jud Hurd
- **PADDLEFEST AT CHATFIELD RESERVOIR'S ROXBOROUGH COVE**, June 25
- **DILLON LAKE**, June 29; RSVP to Stan White
- **GREEN RIVER**, Green River Wyoming to Flaming Gorge, July 2-4; RSVP to Anne Fiore
- **ANNETTE ISLAND, ALASKA**, July 13-31; this trip is full; email Dave Hustvedt about the waiting list
- **FULL MOON ON MCINTOSH**, 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm on August 18; RSVP to Sue Hughes



Gross Reservoir

Continued

PADDLING POSSIBILITIES 2016, CONT.

- **GREEN RIVER, MINERAL BOTTOM TO THE CONFLUENCE**, August 28 to September 2; contact Tim Fletcher to be put on the waiting list for this trip
- **LAKE POWELL HOUSEBOAT IV**, September 10-18; there were only 12 spots on the boat and they filled instantly, but email Sue Hughes to get added to the waiting list
- **LAKE POWELL: DIRTY DEVIL TO BULLFROG MARINA**, October 1-8; RSVP to Anne Fiore for this self-supported camping trip to a new area of Lake Powell. You will need to have a vehicle that can help with the shuttle.
- **SUPPORT SWIMMERS IN TRIATHLONS**, or swimmers or kayakers in other events, at local lakes and reservoirs; you'll get emails about these fun service opportunities.

NOTES FOR PARTICIPANTS

by Jud Hurd, Paddle Coordinator

Before joining any RMSKC day paddles or longer trips, please read the *Participants' Guidelines* in the FOR PARTICIPANTS section of TRIPS AND DAY PADDLES on the Club's website, and contact the Trip Leader to discuss the necessary skill level and other requirements.

It's a fact of life: sometimes trips get relocated, postponed or cancelled. In addition to learning important details about an outing, contacting the Trip Leader to RSVP will also keep you abreast of any last minute changes due to our famously unpredictable Rocky Mountain weather.



Jud, paddling toward Bullfrog Marina with bags of garbage the group had collected

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

DAY PADDLES: Non-member guests may paddle with the Club on day paddles (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.



THE CALENDAR ON THE WEBSITE

Click here on the HOME PAGE to get to the Calendar PAGE

Then SCROLL down to see the interactive CALENDAR itself

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Membership
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Trips and Day Paddles
Sites of Interest
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Calendar

The Club Calendar provides dates for all RMSKC trips and events currently scheduled, basic details about them that participants will need to know, and the Trip Leader contact information for each trip. Review the calendar below, select the trip in which you want to participate and RSVP to the Trip Leader to let him or her know you want to join that trip. Please remember that details in the Club Calendar are tentative as the Trip Leader may change the location and date due to unpredictable weather or adverse paddling conditions. Signing up with the Trip Leader is important so you can be kept informed of any last minute changes.

Who Can Go on an RMSKC Trip?

RMSKC members may attend all events and trips (subject to the Trip Leader's approval) and they must present their current ACA membership card at the launch. Club membership is required for participation on multi-day trips; people who are not RMSKC members may paddle only on day trips. A person who is not an ACA member will be required to purchase an ACA event membership for \$5.00 and to complete an ACA Waiver & Release of Liability form (adult or minor). All trip participants are expected to abide by the RMSKC Participant Guidelines.

Important Times

- **Meeting Time:** Approximate time the leader will be arriving in the parking/launch area.
- **Starting Time:** The time 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.



RMSKC

Today February 2014

Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Feb 1
Pool Session							
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14		
Pool Session							
16	17	18	19	20	21		
23	24	25	26	27	28		
Pool Session	Late Winter Trip to Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada						

Click AGENDA to locate a chronological list of all the events that have been put on our GOOGLE CALENDAR

Double click on the name of any event in a BLUE BAR to find more information about it. YOU will get a box that looks like this, with an option for even MORE DETAILS

Late Winter Trip to Lake Mead National Recreation Area, Nevada

When Feb 24 – 28, 2014
Where Lake Mead ([map](#))
Description Contact Jud Hurd at hurdfcows@q.com

This is an ACA/ RMSKC event. Participants must be an ACA member. According to RMSKC policy, overnight and extended trips are open to RMSKC members only.

Drive to the Lake Mead Area on Feb 24th (750 miles, 12 hours), paddle on the 25th-27th, then drive home on Feb 28th

We may also explore Lake Mojave, a river lake just south of Mead dam

<http://www.nps.gov/lake/planyourvisit/canoekayak.htm>

[more details»](#) [copy to my calendar»](#)

THE NEXT MOUNTAIN PADDLER

We don't have many longer articles promised for the upcoming issue. If you are thinking about or working on something, now's the time to get it finished and email it to the Publications Editor at suehughes@yahoo.com.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE
OF THE *MOUNTAIN PADDLER* IS MAY 15, 2016.

Almost any topic of interest to kayakers is fine; in addition to RMSKC doings, we publish reports of non-Club activities and even commercial trips. Longer articles tend to run about 3,000 words, but any length is also fine. It works best if you send the photos separate from the text, with captions to identify where they fit.

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

We're hoping to have the following articles, many of which are only brief reports, and perhaps a few more:

- *Paddling in Oregon* by Anne Fiore
- *Baja Kayak Classes* by Kristy Webber
- *Lake Powell Self-Supported, 2015*
- *The History of RMSKC* by Sue Hughes
- *Water Flocculation* by Brian Hunter
- *Confluence Kayak's Swap Meet Coverage*
- *Thoughts on Doug Thompson's Death*
- *Lake Pueblo Notes from Jay Bailey*
- *Trash Haulers at Lake Powell*
- *Human Waste in the Arid West, II*
- *Spring 2016 Paddles*



Brian Curtiss at an instructors' training with Roger Schumann

All outdoors activities carry risks, and it's for you to understand those risks and decide whether you personally are prepared to accept them before undertaking any activity.

Kayaking is no different. Kayaking can be dangerous if not undertaken in a safe manner and should never be done without proper training 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 any articles, advice or images published in its publications or on its website.

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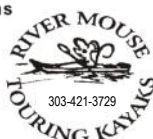
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10% Discount for RMSKC Members. 17 years experience.