



AMERICAN WHITEWATER

Conservation • Access • Events • Adventure • Safety

BY BOATERS FOR BOATERS

July/August 2009

whitewater WOMEN

Teachings from the River
Profile: Mary DeRiemer
Girls' Trip on the Illinois (WA)
Dam Building in Uganda:
It's Nile or Never!
Whitewater of the Sea
Women's Canoe Headed for
International Competition
..

AW's Annual Report



We make FUN! [We also make Heroes, Rockers, and Stars.]

jacksonkayak.com



AMERICAN WHITewater

A VOLUNTEER PUBLICATION PROMOTING RIVER CONSERVATION, ACCESS AND SAFETY

American Whitewater Journal

July/August 2009 - Volume #49 - Issue #4

COLUMNS

- 3 The Journey Ahead *by Mark Singleton*
- 4 President's Message *by Don Kinser*
- 5 Letters to the Editor
- 6 News & Notes: Grand Canyon Lawsuit Appeal Hearing *by Richard Martin*
- 8 2009 North American Junior Olympic Festival Report *by David Kurtz*
- 12 River Art *by Betsy Hobkirk*
- 44 2008 Annual Report
- 69 A Tribute to Lars Holbeck *by Richard Montgomery*



STEWARDSHIP UPDATES

- 14 Water Politics in Southern California *by Dave Steindorf*
- 16 Flows Return to the North Fork Feather River *by Dave Steindorf*
- 16 New Cresta Flow Schedule
- 17 West River Spring Surprise *by Kevin Colburn*
- 17 Southeastern Dam Relicensings Moving Ahead *by Kevin Colburn*
- 18 Dam Removal on the Snake River (WA) *by Jerry White*
- 19 Funding for River Restoration *by Thomas O'Keefe*
- 19 Another Dam Will Be Removed on a Tributary in the Columbia Gorge *by Thomas O'Keefe*
- 20 Pacific Northwest Rivers to Flow for the First Time in Decades *by Thomas O'Keefe*
- 22 More Wild and Scenic Rivers *by Thomas O'Keefe*
- 23 Wolf Bauer - Green River is Named in his Honor *by Thomas O'Keefe*
- 24 Clean Water Restoration Act *by Thomas O'Keefe*



WOMEN IN WHITewater

- 27 Teachings from the River *by Anna Levesque*
- 32 Profile: Mary DeRiemer *by Lila Marie Thomas*
- 36 It's Nile or Never *by Jessie Stone*
- 38 Girls' Trip on the Illinois *by Gillian Salton*
- 42 W.O.W. *by Linda McLuckie*
- 66 Whitewater by the Sea *by Cate Hawthorne*
- 68 The Value of Whitewater *by Kristen Bierle*
- 70 Women's Canoe Will Shine in 2009 *by Pamela Boteler*



Support American Whitewater through CFC or United Way

All of the Federal CFC campaigns (CFC # 11351) and a few of the local United Way campaigns will allow you to donate through them to AW. Also, check to see if your employer will match your charitable contributions: double your giving ... double your fun!



Anna and Anne Sontheimer enjoying a summer day on the Nantahala
photo by Paul Villecourt



Publication Title: American Whitewater
Issue Date: July/August 2009
Statement of Frequency: Published bimonthly
Authorized Organization's Name and Address:
American Whitewater
P.O. Box 1540
Cullowhee, NC 28723

Purpose American Whitewater

River Stewardship: An Integrated Approach

Our mission: "To conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely," is actively pursued through our conservation, access, safety and education efforts under the umbrella of River Stewardship. The only national organization representing the interest of all whitewater paddlers, American Whitewater is the national voice for thousands of individual whitewater enthusiasts, as well as over 100 local paddling club affiliates.

AW's River Stewardship program adheres to the four tenets of our mission statement:

CONSERVATION: AW's professional staff works closely with volunteers and partner organizations to protect the ecological and scenic values of all whitewater rivers. These goals are accomplished through direct participation in public decision-making

processes, grassroots advocacy, coalition building, empowerment of volunteers, public outreach and education, and, when necessary, legal action.

RIVER ACCESS: To assure public access to whitewater rivers pursuant to the guidelines published in its official Access Policy, AW arranges for river access through private lands by negotiation or purchase, seeks to protect the right of public passage on all rivers and streams navigable by kayak or canoe, encourages equitable and responsible management of whitewater rivers on public lands, and works with government agencies and other river users to achieve these goals.

SAFETY: AW promotes paddling safely, publishes reports on whitewater accidents, maintains a uniform national ranking system for whitewater rivers (the International Scale of Whitewater Difficulty) and publishes and disseminates the internationally-recognized American Whitewater Safety Code.

EDUCATION: AW shares information with the general public and the paddling community regarding whitewater rivers, as well as river recreation, conservation, access, and safety. This is accomplished through our bi-monthly AW Journal, a monthly e-news, americanwhitewater.org, paddling events, educational events, and through direct communication with the press.

Together, AW staff, members, volunteers, and affiliate clubs can achieve our goals of conserving, protecting and restoring America's whitewater resources and enhancing opportunities to safely enjoy these wonderful rivers.

AW was incorporated under Missouri nonprofit corporation laws in 1961 and maintains its principal mailing address at PO Box 1540, Cullowhee, NC 28723; phone 1-866-BOAT-4-AW (1-866-262-8429). AW is tax exempt under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Service.



American Whitewater Journal Staff

Editor

Ambrose Tuscano
P.O. Box 913, Soda Springs, California 95728
e-mail: editor@americanwhitewater.org

Graphic Design/Production/Photo Editor Christie Dobson

Contributing Writers

Don Kinser, Jean Buckley, Ambrose Tuscano, Cari Mackey, Richard Martin, David Kurtz, Betsy Kobkirk, Dave Steindorf, Kevin Colburn, Thomas O'Keefe, Jerry White, Anna Levesque, Lila Marie Thomas, Jessie Stone, Gillian Salton, Linda McLuckie, Cate Hawthorne, Kristen Bierle, Richard Montgomery, Pam Boteler

Photo Contributors

Mari Carlos, Thomas O'Keefe, Jim Webster, Mark Van Horn, Cody Goddard, Betsy Kobkirk, Logan Ross, Kyle Laughlin, Paul Villecourt, Spirit Rafting, Phil DeReimer, Morgan Koons, Gillian Salton, Leah Wilson, Nan Mason, Jeff Laxier, Sam Bierle, Michael Thompson

Events / Advertising Coordinator Jeff Paine

P.O. Box 1540, Cullowhee, NC 28723
phone 828-713-5825
e-mail: jeff@amwhitewater.org

Safety Editor Charlie Walbridge

Route 1, Box 329F, Bruceton Mills, WV 26525
e-mail: ccwalbridge@cs.com

Stewardship Reports Editor

Kevin Colburn, kevin@americanwhitewater.org

American Whitewater Magazine Task Force

Jeff Espy, Dunbar Hardy, Dale-Marie Herring, John Mason, Tanya Shuman, Ambrose Tuscano

Missing Copies and Address Changes

carla@americanwhitewater.org

American Whitewater is printed by
The Printing House in Quincy Florida
All rights reserved.

EDITORIAL DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed in the features and editorials of American Whitewater are those of the individual authors. They do not necessarily represent those of the Directors of American Whitewater or the editors of this publication. On occasion, American Whitewater publishes official organizational policy statements drafted and approved by the Board of Directors. These policy statements will be clearly identified.

Board of Directors & Staff

**TOLL FREE NUMBER
866-BOAT4AW**

Chris Bell
chris@boatingbeta.com
Asheville, NC

Rich Bowers
rich@hydroreform.org
Bellingham, WA

Dave Cernicek
cernicek@clueemail.com
Jackson, WY

Adam Cramer
cramerica@gmail.com
Washington, DC

Leland Davis
leland@brushmountainpubli
shing.com
Swannanoa, NC

Jennie Goldberg
jennie@nwwhitewater.org
Seattle, WA

Kristine Jackson
kristine@jacksonkayak.com
Rock Island, TN

Don Kinser
dkinser@ediltd.com
Marietta, GA

Evie Locke
evelynlocke@verizon.net
Charlottesville, VA

Eric Nies
nies@runbox.com
New Paltz, NY

Aaron Pruzan
aaron@jacksonholekayak.com
Jackson Hole, WY

Norwood Scott
wns111@sbcglobal.com
San Francisco, CA

Charlie Walbridge
ccwalbridge@cs.com
Bruceton Mills, WV

BOARD OFFICERS

President: Don Kinser
Vice President: Norwood Scott
Secretary: Jennie Goldberg
Treasurer: Chris Bell
At Large: Dave Cernicek

AW STAFF

Laura Blalock
Finance Manager
Cullowhee, NC
laura@americanwhitewater.org

Kevin Colburn
National Stewardship Director
Missoula, MT
kevin@americanwhitewater.org

Nathan Fey
Colorado Stewardship Director
Longmont, CO
nathan@americanwhitewater.org

Carla Miner
Membership Manager
West Valley City, UT
carla@americanwhitewater.org

Jeff Paine
Outreach Director
Simsbury, CT
jeff@americanwhitewater.org

Thomas O'Keefe
Pacific NW Stewardship Director
Seattle, WA
okeefe@americanwhitewater.org

Mark Singleton
Executive Director
Cullowhee, NC
mark@americanwhitewater.org

Dave Steindorf
California Stewardship Director
Chico, CA
dave@americanwhitewater.org

The Journey Ahead

With the mid summer boating season upon us, it's a good time to think about where the water that fuels your local river comes from. If you paddle on a dam-released run, chances are good that American Whitewater had a role in shaping the flow schedule or securing downstream water for recreation. Mid summer is also when we release our Annual Report for the prior year. The work chronicled in our Annual Report could not be done without the support of our membership.

As you flip through the following pages please keep in mind that American Whitewater is much more than the organization responsible for the publication you hold in front of you. We are primarily responsible for restoring flows to many of our most highly treasured whitewater rivers! Our regional river stewardship program, an integrated approach to the American Whitewater mission of conservation, access and safety, is racking up on-the-ground achievements.

In the past year, American Whitewater volunteers and staff have participated in numerous hydropower-relicensing meetings, filed comments, provided congressional testimony, advocated for minimum flows, and worked to improve public access to rivers. American Whitewater is the only national organization representing paddlers as these decisions are being made. It may seem obvious that people should have access to rivers; however, dam operators, private landowners, government agencies, and even some conservation groups do not always share this belief. At the core of this philosophical difference is the feeling by others that paddling or other forms of human-powered recreation somehow take something away from the river.

At American Whitewater, we see it differently. Providing opportunities for people to interact with rivers and develop a stewardship ethic through a direct connection to the resource is at the core of our mission. Paddlers know that you can't love what you don't know. And it is this love of whitewater that makes paddlers

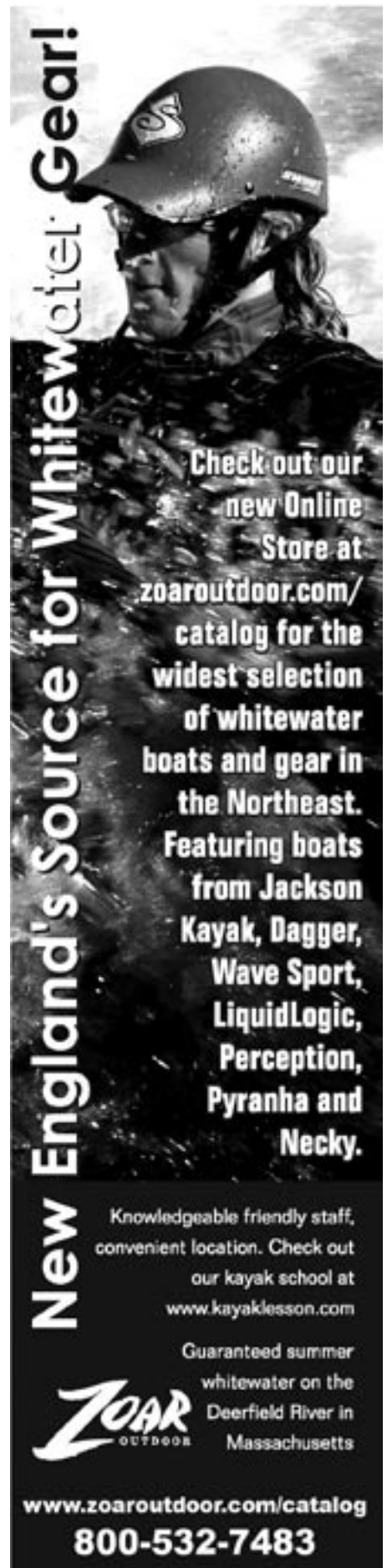
such fierce defenders of rivers. It is this intimate connection to flowing water that has made American Whitewater a force in the river community for over 50 years.

American Whitewater understands that with access comes a responsibility to ensure that our use does not take anything away or leave anything behind. Paddlers have been leaders in developing "Leave no Trace" guidelines for backcountry use. Paddlers developed zero impact principals (pack out your poop) over 30 years ago on river corridors like the Colorado through the Grand Canyon. We are leading the way today as advocates for nationally consistent river management on Wild and Scenic Rivers.

American Whitewater has a great story to tell right now. Our stewardship projects are making a real difference to rivers and local communities while providing flows for recreation and habitat. If you are reading this publication and you are not a member, please consider supporting this work. If you are a member, thanks for your support, pass this issue on to a friend and let them know what we are doing. There has never been a better time to support American Whitewater!



Mark Singleton
Executive Director



New England's Source for Whitewater Gear!

Check out our new Online Store at zoaroutdoor.com/catalog for the widest selection of whitewater boats and gear in the Northeast. Featuring boats from Jackson Kayak, Dagger, Wave Sport, LiquidLogic, Perception, Pyranha and Necky.

Knowledgeable friendly staff, convenient location. Check out our kayak school at www.kayaklesson.com

Guaranteed summer whitewater on the Deerfield River in Massachusetts

ZOAR
OUTDOOR

www.zoaroutdoor.com/catalog
800-532-7483

President's Message

It is early May and I have just returned from a wonderful 10-day paddling vacation in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia, culminating at the Cheat River Festival. This was one of the best paddling adventures I have been on in many years. There was good fellowship, spectacular wilderness rivers, good public access, plenty of rain and warm weather (did I mention we were traveling first class in Milt's RV—so much for reducing our carbon footprint). What is most noteworthy however are the impressive influences American Whitewater and other passionate volunteers working over the years had on our experience.

For example, two of the rivers we paddled included the Russell Fork Gorge and the Upper Gauley. AW has played key roles on both these dam controlled rivers making sure that whitewater enthusiasts' interests are represented and we have that "seat at the table." Both of these rivers have another thing in common—without the passionate efforts of local "grass roots" volunteers, far less would have been accomplished. Leveraging AW's expertise, experience and resources through local volunteers greatly multiplies what we can do. The importance of your efforts on the

ground can not be overstated.

The Cheat River Festival has become one of my favorite river gatherings over the years for a number of reasons. First it is a lot of fun with a great mix of the local community and the paddling community, coming together to protect and celebrate a great river. More importantly, the festival highlights the Friends of the Cheat's fantastic work to save the Cheat River watershed from acid mine drainage and is another great example of what passionate local volunteers can accomplish. We support FOC's efforts and wish them continued success.

Another river we paddled during our trip was the Big Sandy, one more wonderful example of what volunteerism can accomplish. Many volunteers including great folks like Charlie Walbridge (AW Director and current President of FOC) have worked tirelessly to gain better access at both the Rockville and Jenkinsburg (put-in and take-out respectively) making the continued enjoyment of these rivers by all paddlers possible.

Springtime is beautiful in West Virginia and water is plentiful from seasonal rains.

However, as you read this it is mid summer and water isn't quite so plentiful in many parts of the country. The chances are good that you are paddling a dam fed river and the chances are even better that AW played a vital role in putting that water back in that river for you to enjoy.

I encourage you to read AW's Annual Report in this issue because I think that you too will be impressed by what your support of AW has accomplished. Remember that AW and many committed volunteers are working hard to make your next paddling adventure possible.

See You on the River,



Potomac Whitewater Festival
July 11 - 12, 2009

Join the Potomac paddling community for a weekend of river events that include the Great Falls Race for experts, the Community Paddle and on-water clinics for everyone.

AMERICAN WHITewater

New for 2009:
Stations on the feeder Canal Lock & Boat-clocks at Little Falls
Gear Swap at the Saturday party!

Events

Saturday	Sunday
Great Falls Race	Freestone Slalom
Community Paddle	Boat-clocks
Wave Surfing	
Alignment Race	
Sprint Boating	
Clinics	
Potomac Fest Party	
Old Angler's Inn	
Shore Auction	
Gear Swap	

Register early and save \$1!
Early registration deadline: Sunday, July 12 @ midnight.
Online Registration opens: Thursday, July 9, 10am EST.
For more information, visit: www.potomacwhitewater.org
or email: info@potomacwhitewater.org

Letters to the Editor

Dear American Whitewater:

In your upcoming Women in Whitewater edition, I hope that you have a chance to take a look at the U.S.A. Canoe/Kayak (USACK) website (www.usack.org). The International Canoe Federation (ICF) just last month made huge strides in efforts towards gender equity by recognizing Women's Canoe at the World Cup and all ICF races. However, USACK's Whitewater Slalom committee just announced there will be no funding for women's canoeists, even those who make the National team, because Canoeing is an Olympic sport only for men (see: <http://usack.org/news/article/12468>).

I think American Whitewater has an opportunity to make a statement on behalf of all women who paddle canoe: Canoeing should and will be an Olympic Sport for women. Please understand, the movement toward gender equality is important for so many reasons, not just canoeing ... right now, my dear friend is in Pakistan teaching

mid-wifery, so that women can get adequate care before, during and after childbirth. Equality in sports for women may someday give the women of Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Pakistan hope that they too can participate fully in society and sports.

Sincerely,
Jean Buckley

Jean,

Thank you for your pertinent and timely comments. While our nation is experiencing an age of unprecedented social equality, it is important to recognize that there is still work to be done. American Whitewater supports the equal opportunity of men and women to compete in whitewater paddlesports at the highest level, and we applaud your efforts to bring this issue to light.

Respectfully,
Ambrose Tuscano

Dear American Whitewater,

I just wanted to say a HUGE thank you for what you did to get releases on the Bear River (ID). I was just up there on Saturday to run it and it is an amazing run. We went up to the power company and also said thank you to them. I drove a total of 23 hours for that run—and it was totally worth it!

River season is upon us and so is fundraising season. Our club will do the best we can for you in all our events.

Cari Mackey
Jagged Edge Store Manager
Telluride, CO

Come Play With Us!



KAYAK INSTRUCTION • On-Line OUTFITTER STORE

COSTA RICA • ECUADOR

Our advice for winter blues avoidance: A trip to Costa Rica or Ecuador! It's all about warm weather, great rivers to paddle, and good people to paddle with!

Rather than putting your boat away this winter, call us at 800-224-7238 for more information on this year's availability.

We hope you can join us!

Trips for all skill levels: Class II-III, III, III-IV, IV, and IV+

Endless River Adventures • Bryson City, North Carolina



www.endlessriveradventures.com

News & Notes

Grand Canyon Lawsuit Appeal Hearing Scheduled For June 10, 2009

By Richard Martin

A little background

Private boaters have struggled for years to gain parity with the Grand Canyon commercial outfitters in regard to the number of on river opportunities each year.

Commercial rafting companies held the lion's share of trip opportunities up to and even after the great growth of demand for Grand Canyon river trips sprouted in the early 1970s, when the "baby boomers" hit their outdoors stride. As recently as 2005 Canyon outfitters held 68% of the user day allocation for recreational boating.

Demand for the remaining 32% of recreational use was brisk to say the least. A waiting list for trip leaders stretched as far as 25 years into the future.

Repeated efforts for reform of the system had been futile. Arguments continued over the depth of the problem – was private boater demand really that high, should everybody wait the same amount of time, were private boaters less careful with the resource than commercial, should motor boats be allowed, were trips too long, too short, was a waiting list the best way of issuing permits? On and on it went.

Boaters were stuck in a big, re-circulating eddy of divisiveness.

In 1996 Grand Canyon National Park began the process of revising the Colorado River Management Plan. But in 2000 they canceled the effort, ironically citing contention as reason to toss the oars and abandon ship. That year Superintendent Arnberger declared the conflict between boaters irresolvable.

Shortly thereafter the Grand Canyon Private Boaters Association (GCPBA) and American Whitewater (AW) joined forces,



led by GCPBA, in suing the Park Service to reopen the planning process. We hoped to remedy the imbalance, protect the Canyon, and maintain good relations.

In an historic settlement, the Court ruled in favor of private boaters, ordering the GCNP to re-open the planning process.

That order resulted in an enormous planning project, bringing stakeholders interested in river running together, face to face, to develop a plan that addressed the inequities in user allocation and that protected and improved the outstanding environmental qualities that make the Grand Canyon river trip such a sought after experience.

Lee's Ferry Launch - River runners, both commercial and private prepare for launch at Lee's Ferry, Colorado River boat ramp. The 2006 Grand Canyon Colorado River Management Plan provides an equal sharing of user day opportunities between private and commercial river runners.

photo by Mari Carlos

Two series of public meetings were held from coast to coast inviting the participation of all interested parties, including commercial customers, private river runners, Native American Nations, Wilderness advocates, hikers, and more.

Meanwhile, aside from the public meeting process, the private and commercial

SHREDDER The first SELF-BAILING all inflatable cataract NO HARD PARTS!

BUILT SINCE 1986
The SHREDDER easily rolls up to a compact 18"x28"! The cross tubes & raised floor eliminate the need for a bulky frame.

Airtight Inflatables
724-329-8668
P.O. Box 36
Ohiopyle, PA 15470
Ask for Toni

Made in Pennsylvania 98% domestic content

boating stakeholders got together in the hope of overcoming decades of antipathy that had kept them at odds over issues like motors and allocation.

Both sides worked diligently and reached a mutually acceptable compromise that might save the NPS from writing less favorable rules into the new plan. In a four way agreement signed by Grand Canyon River Outfitters Association (GCROA), GCPBA, AW and Grand Canyon River Runners Association (GCRRA), a set of joint recommendations for modifying the GCNP proposed preferred plan was submitted to the NPS. The Park was under no obligation to use our joint proposal but many of our comments were turned to action in the 2006 CRMP. Our agreement is testament to the power of collaboration vs. a unilateral inability to compromise.

The new plan gives private boaters and commercial river runners an equal number of user days, and parity in the number of launches.

Although there are 599 (previously 649) commercial launches, and there are 503 (was 249) private launches parity is achieved because the average length of a private trip is longer than a commercial, therefore using more user days. Trip variety rather than uniformity was the strong preference shown in over 40,000 public comments to the CRMP.



A small trip camp in the Grand Canyon. The 2006 CRMP provided opportunity for low impact small trips of a maximum of eight people per trip. Fifty of these private/non-commercial small trips were added during the summer season. This trip consisted of three participants and two boats.

photo by Mari Carlos

Who is suing the NPS and why?

Inevitably, in such comprehensive processes someone or some group is going to feel they didn't get things the way they wanted them.

Probably not every group got everything it wanted. Here at GCPBA a number of our proposals were rejected, but overall we were very happy with the method and outcome of the planning effort and we support the plan while working with the Park to make incremental improvements.

The group River Runners For Wilderness (RRFW) has rejected the Park effort as poorly conducted, documented, and

researched as well as unfair to private boaters. In 2006 they filed suit against the NPS seeking to have the plan thrown out and to begin anew with the planning process.

On Nov. 27, 2007 Judge David G. Campbell of the 9th United States District Court denied the RRFW motion for a summary Judgment against the NPS and GCNP, ordering the case "terminated" and stating that RRFW "failed to establish that the Park Service acted arbitrarily and capriciously when it adopted the 2006 CRMP."

RRFW disagreed with Judge Campbell's ruling and has appealed the decision to the 9th District Court of Appeals in San Francisco, CA.

A hearing on the case is scheduled for June 10th, 2009 at the District Court, 9 AM.

The outcome of the case will mostly likely be announced this fall or winter.

DIFFERENT BOATS for RIVER FOLKS
FOUR CULEBRA MODELS TO CHOOSE FROM
10 YEAR INFLATABLE WARRANTY!
Jack's Plastic Welding
PAGO PADS
1-800-742-1904
jpwinc.com
DRY BAGS

News & Notes

2009 North American Junior Olympic Festival Report

By David Kurtz, Chairman Junior Olympic
Committee of USA Canoe/Kayak Slalom Committee

Young Willi Wang looked up the river to see what he had just run and exclaimed, "Wow, I made it through all three drops. This is cool!"

"Well done, Willi," said Barb as she ran up to him. "You did exactly what I told you to do in running that hole at the end ... you put your head down and punched it. You'll do just fine next week at the JO Slalom Championships."

Willi is an eleven-year-old newbie from Wilmette, IL. Just last month he completed both runs at a JO qualifier on the Wisconsin River north of his home. An American Canoe Association Chicagoland group had organized the qualifier and he came in second in his age group, the cub cadets (through age 12).

Willi had just finished an hour long practice session on the Minden Ontario Course which will be the site of some of the events in the 2009 North American Junior Olympic Festival races this coming July.

Barb Budaj, a 16-year-old girl from Idaho Springs, CO was primarily interested in freestyle and was scheduled the next hour for her practice at the hole on the Minden course. Let's go over to see how it goes.

There were about a dozen youth gathered at the stream bank, standing by their glistening play boats. Most appeared to be the older juniors, but there were a couple of younger kids. Most were boys so Barb stood out as an exception. A lot of the boats were from Jackson Boats, which were loaned to the JO Festival by Rashid Boats, a local boating business interested in promoting freestyle and promoting

especially junior and cadet paddlers.

"Barb, tell us what routine you are working on," I asked.

"I am working on the front loop," she said. "It's worth 10 points."

"I see a lot of the kids doing surfing and flat spins," I rejoined. "What are they worth?"

"Oh, they're worth only 2 or 4 points," she said. "Strictly beginner's stuff. My goal is to pull off a Space Godzilla that is worth 15 points! EJ has been working on that with me the last two weeks."

Also, here kids had assembled for their practice in both slalom and wildwater events. We pigeonholed Sidney Squire for his comments. Sid is 16 years old and comes from Zoar, Massachusetts.

"Sid, tell us what you're best at?"

"Well, I am not sure if it is slalom or Wildwater. We are doing both at Zoar on the Deerfield River. The Deerfield is best for Wildwater cruising and racing and that is what we do the most of. I heard that we had a Junior Team Trials in slalom at the Zoar Gap rapid a few years ago. The Zoar outdoor group organized a JO qualifier in Wildwater racing this spring and that is why I am here today!"

"Well, done, Sid, let's see some action!"

About 20 kids were squeezing into their sleek kayaks. We saw a few settling into a kneeling position, as evidence of their competing in the Wildwater C-1 class. In this early practice day the kids were spending most of their time getting to know each of the rapids. Later they will define their line more carefully to pick the fastest.

The Wildwater events were placed early in the program this year since wildwater now features both the classic wildwater events and the wildwater sprint events. Some of these kids will be representing the USA as part of the Junior Team and others will be



Cameron Webster a junior paddler

Photo by Jim Webster

wanting to watch the races and cheer time splits from the shore.

The Classic Wildwater race will be held on July 8 on a four-mile Class II-III course on the Madawaska River. Within a day or so the Wildwater Sprint events will also be held at Madawaska. Sprint events are about as long as a slalom course and are frequently held on an existing slalom course.

Back at the Minden Park, Emma Engstrom wipes the water from her face after a dash down the slalom course in her slalom race boat. "Emma, what do you think of the water?"

"Gosh, its fast! In all my 15 years I haven't seen such fast currents. I guess it is the artificial nature, but I think its super!" Emma hails from Atlanta where natural rivers are her training ground. "Even the Water Works drop isn't quite as fast..."

Emma asks, "I am a little confused about this Super Sprint Slalom coming up. What makes a slalom a sprint?"

"A Super Sprint Slalom was first introduced at the 2006 JO events in Alberta, Canada at Kananaskis," I say. "It is a simpler slalom course in that there are only about 11-12 gates in a normal length slalom course. There is more space between the gates so that the slalom is not so technical. This is where it has elements of downriver racing. It turned out to be a lot of fun and yet a challenge last year at Wausau."

One of the features of Junior Olympics is the mentoring. While each of the kids represents a home-team club, there is a strong effort to have the older, experienced kids take on a younger one and help him or her along. Let's see what Sidney and

SINCE 2001 Kayak Session has given AW over \$130,000 to support it's tremendous effort. Let's make it even more this year!

CHANGE THE WORLD WITH YOUR OWN TWO BLADES!!!



35% discount on Kayak Session Subscriptions!
30 USD for one year subscription.
5 dollars back to AW for every subscription purchased



Here's how : As an AW member, you save money when subscribing to Kayak Session. If that's not enough, your purchase awards another 5 bucks back to AW's effort to change the world. If that doesn't change the World, it can at least make it a little sweeter...

SAVE, SUPPORT, ENJOY

100% whitewater more photos
than any other kayaking magazine.
Fresh, powerful, and inspiring...
yep, that's Kayak Session!

*Special offer available only with the use of the present form (photocopy accepted)

Please sign me up for one year (four issues)

Start my subscription with: current : next issue

Visit award winning website
www.kayaksession.com

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

email (for customer service only) _____

Method of payment Mastercard Visa Cheque

Credit card Number Exp.date : _____ / 20 _____

Signature _____

You may fax this form and/or credit card orders to : 828-586-2840

Detach and mail to : American Whitewater / Kayak Session Subscription - Po Box 1540 - Cullowhee, NC 28723
Call toll free : 866-BOAT4AW - info@amwhitewater.org or suscribe online @ www.kayaksession.com

News & Notes

Emma say about mentoring. We cornered them later that day while they were relaxing for an evening social gathering. "Sid, What are you doing with the mentoring program?"

"I'll never forget the help I got back home when the going got tough and I needed some help. A couple of older paddlers gave me some hints and real support. It quieted my nerves and enabled me to go on and run the rivers better. I am now ready to help the younger kids in our JO program here whether it is in wildwater or slalom."

"Have you, Emma, any experience in mentoring?"

"When I was a 12 year old girl, fresh out of the story-book wonders of early girlhood, I was a real scare-d-cat when it came to bigger water. The rapids here at Minden are a blast to me, now, but I could remember times when similar waves seemed humongous. I have heard that the JOs have a tradition amongst the girls that when one of the younger girls shows fear in the river course, a group of older girls gets together to help her. They gather around and in their own girl-way talk this and talk that and then surround the girl as they all make their way down the course. That is true mentoring and I am ready to help out."

Just then Claudia Van Wijk came running up to Emma and hurriedly asked, "Emma, our opening ceremonies will be taking place tomorrow and we need a special flag bearer for the parade of athletes. Can you help us out?"

"Wow," exclaimed Emma, "I sure would. I love parades!"

Sid then popped in with a question: "Sorry to interrupt the conversation, but I am really looking forward to the Boater Cross event scheduled on July 7. What are the rules?"

I replied, "I am not sure of all the details but I do know that only plastic boats will be used (there will be a lot of bumping)! We have the option to make each group

small or as large as the kids want...from 3-8 boats. And then the type of plastic boat is up for grabs. Also, no grabbing spray skirts, clothing, paddles or other personal gear; no hitting with the paddle or making any contact above the shoulders. On the other hand kids may grab boats, boat grab loops, and push and shove with an open hand below the shoulders."

All of these activities bring together kids who have entered the whitewater sport in a variety of ways. Youth can qualify at any number of slalom competitions as well as freestyle events or wildwater races. The focus for the Festival will be, as usual, a Junior Olympic Slalom Championships. July 11-12 is the scheduled time. We hope to have a second day for doubles canoe classes in order to emphasize the doubles class, which is so hard to get organized amongst the kids. The exact schedule will be determined closer to the event.

In addition to the individual awards there will be team/club awards. There is a team award to the three American teams that score the most points in the slalom. In the past this was the Chuck Hines Award, but not it has become the Hines-Dickert-Kurtz Award. We are hoping to continue in that fashion. In each of the classes (boat or age group) the winner scores 5 points and second-fourth place 3,2 or 1 points. Then there is also the McLain Team Award going to the best Canadian or American team scoring points in all the events. With the McLain, the points are 5,4,3,2, and 1 point for each participant. The Wildwater points are earned by summing the scores between the classic and sprint races such that there is roughly equal value for each type.

Ray McLain, junior coaching great from Green Bay, WI has introduced slalom paddling to many kids, predominantly girls. Every year we had seen him with a different girl partner in big slaloms. Some of his kids later became medalists in world competition. The McLain trophy was created in his memory.

There are also the Rivermeister awards. Earning the most points for his team got Tyler Hinton, a Junior 16 paddler from



Danny Warner (black PFD) and Graham Bell (red PFD) discussing slalom art

Photo by Mark Van Horn

Boulder, CO, the Rivermeister Award in 2008. The Rivermeisterin Award in 2008 went to Hailey Thompson a cadet paddler out of Stevens Point, WI for all her activity. The highest prestige award for the Festival week will be the presentation of the Olympic Spirit Award to the one kid exemplifying the Olympic ideals of participation and helping others to participate. Last year Hailey Thompson took that award home with her.

"Willi, how have the clinics and free training opportunities working out for you this week?"

"This single pole gate is strange when you first see it, but with a little practice, I worked it well."

"We had some super guys working with us in slalom yesterday. They were good at explaining the latest gate moves," said Willi. "I am not sure if these kids were junior paddlers or older."

"You wouldn't know," I rejoined. "They could be Junior 16 kids, regular juniors, or even those over 18 who are here to help run the clinics and program. Is your boat holding up OK; I noticed some duck tape on the seams?"

"Yea, the course here is pretty easy on boats," said Willi. "Some of my friends here appreciate that you folks have loaned a few boats to them. I liked that idea."

"Right, the Front Range Paddling Association of the Denver, CO area has made available a number of canoes and kayaks, particularly doubles canoes for those in need of a boat. Also the Mach

Qualifying for the 2009 Junior Olympics

The Junior Olympics are events for aspiring cadet and promising junior paddlers. Races are needed throughout the country to qualify young athletes for the various Junior Olympic Events. These can be in slalom, wildwater, downriver, or freestyle. The qualifying races and events are intended to indicate that the youth are trained well enough for participation in the Junior Olympics, and that they have experience at least in one of these types of activities. Youth who qualify in one, can participate in all at the North American Junior Olympics (JO) Festival being held in 2009 in Ontario, Canada. For example, a kid qualifying in slalom can compete in wildwater or freestyle. Similarly, a kid qualifying in freestyle, can compete in wildwater and slalom. The Junior Olympics Festival will be held from July 4-12, 2009.

Qualifying events can be organized by clubs who are affiliated with USA C/K, the American Canoe Association, The U.S. Canoe Association, or be unaffiliated with any of these. However, those youth who qualify and wish to go to Ontario for the JO Festival must at that point be individual members of USACK. See the following web site for information to list your event as a qualifying event:
<http://jo.mach1team.org>

Youth qualify in one of 4 age group categories using the ICF/USACK age group definitions. For 2009 the age groups are, according to birth years:
Cub Cadet: (BD 1997-1999) (three years in the grouping, the others are 2-year groupings)
Cadet: (BD 1995-1996)
Junior 15-16: (BD 1993-1994)
Junior: (BD 1991-1992)

They also qualify in any one or more of the classes, which include singles kayak for men or women, singles canoe for men or women, and doubles canoe for men, women, or mixed gender.

Qualification is for a specific boat class, kayak or canoe, and will apply for any or all of the events in slalom, wildwater, or freestyle. To encourage more doubles

canoe participation, we will allow make up teams to form from youth who have qualified in a singles kayak or canoe class. If a doubles team has a mixed age, the competition will be in the older age group of the two persons involved.

The present system used for qualifying is as follows:

In the kayak classes, the top four not previously qualified will qualify. In singles canoe the top three will qualify and in doubles canoe the top two.

The following athletes are pre-qualified: the 2008 cadet team in Slalom, Freestyle, or Wildwater, the 2008 Junior Team, the 2008 Development Cadets and Juniors, and the medal winners (first through third places) in the respective events at the 2008 Junior Olympic Festival held at Wausau, Wisconsin.

Canadian youth will qualify according to methods designed by the Canadian organizations.

Youth who live greater than 150 miles from a qualifying event may qualify by letter indicating they have had experience in 4 events prior to the 2009 Junior Olympics.

There is a drastic need to have more – indeed many more – qualifying events than what we have been having in the past. Paddlers should make strong efforts to create new qualifying events. Enter information at the web site listed above and promote it locally, regionally, and nationally!

All in all we are looking forward to the final events in wildwater, freestyle, and slalom at this the 2009 version of the North American Junior Olympics in Whitewater paddling.



Coach Kurtz at Christmas Camp, 2005

Photo by Cody Goddard

David A. Kurtz, PhD from Penn State University, started working with youth as a Scoutmaster while an undergraduate student at Knox College in 1953. Introduced to whitewater paddling with an Explorer Post in Midland, MI in 1954, he continued paddling immediately upon arrival at State College for graduate work at Penn State and has never stopped. There he worked with Explorer Post 32, Post 101, and then the Wildwater Boating Club. Since 1999, he has been president of the Mach One Slalom Team. Kurtz was a member of four USA Slalom Teams in the 1960s as a singles canoe paddler and winner of 3 National Doubles canoe Slalom Championships, also in the 1960s. An International Canoe Federation Slalom Expert since 1965, he has been an At Large member of the USA Canoe/Kayak Whitewater Slalom Committee since 2003. He was appointed Chairman, Junior Olympics Slalom Committee for the 2006 and later seasons.

The North American Junior Olympics reaches out to you to feed the needs of national youth paddling for the 2009 Ray McLain JO Paddlers Fund. The 2008 campaign received \$1320, paid out \$1178 but still owes \$2000 for medals and costs related to the 2008 Festival in Wausau, WI. The new Festival scheduled for July 4-12 in upper Ontario, Canada will have similar expenses. In addition we would like to help out the 2009 National Junior Slalom Team for individual expenses to Foix, France for the Junior Pre-World Championships. Details can be found at <http://jo.mach1team.org>

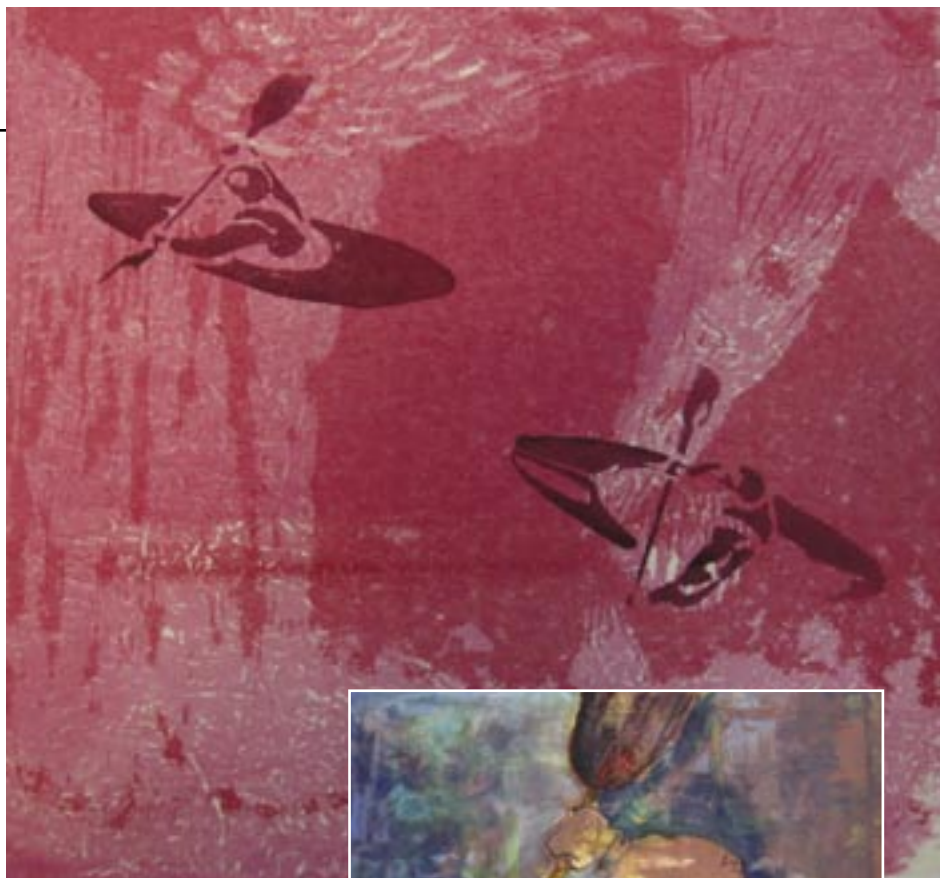
River Art

Whitewater Art

By Betsy Hobkirk

I've been paddling for about ten years. Last year I decided to create a body of artwork about women and whitewater kayaking. I used images from newspapers, magazines and my imagination to make drawings, paintings, and prints. My rule was that any photo images I used had to be of women paddlers. At first this worked, but later as I got into the project I ended up drawing from a few male images because I ran out of images of women.

My artwork is about gender and risk taking. Most women have had negative experiences connected to physical strength, size, and appearance. Taking on a sport, especially whitewater kayaking, is a powerful contradiction to the



Top: Double Trouble

Bottom: Paddler

All photos and artwork by Betsy Hobkirk



CAMP MOR
WWW.CAMP MOR.COM
CANOE AND KAYAK OUTFITTERS
DRY BAGS • PFDs • INFLATABLES
• NEOPRENE CLOTHING
• CAR RACKS • ACCESSORIES
PLUS:
• BACKPACKING
• CLIMBING
• FAMILY CAMPING
• RUGGED CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR
NAME BRANDS AT THE LOWEST PRICES
AOL keyword: CAMP MOR
CALL FOR OUR FREE CATALOG
1-(800) 230-2151
Or Write to Us at:
PO BOX 700-AWO,
SADDLE RIVER, N.J.
07458-0700

misinformation that was directed our way while growing up. I use whitewater kayaking in my artwork as a metaphor for facing challenges. Paddling can be thrilling and liberating but the sexism that women grow up with can sometimes undermine confidence. When I was learning to paddle one of my instructors commented that it wasn't unusual for some men to overestimate their ability and for women to underestimate theirs. Over the years I've thought about what she said and can recognize that I struggle with underestimating my paddling ability. The reality is we get to be female and we also get to be tough. I have tried to express this idea in my artwork by making images on different fabrics and paper and by being deliberate about color choices. Paddling and making art are both ongoing projects for me. I'm looking forward to where I go next with them.

Antidote to Urban Living

By Barbara Wiedemann


The Middle Fork American River from Greenwood Bridge site to Mammoth Bar flows deep in a ravine but still is an easy river to kayak. Paddlers enter into the world of the canyon but few others breach its rock walls. Undisturbed are deer at the water's edge and a duck family in an eddy and the raptors overhead. Swimming in unison two river otters look at the kayakers then dive, resurface and look again. Four more are stacked on a rock warming in the sun.

Isn't this reason enough to paddle?



19th Annual Chico Paddleheads
Benefit for
**AMERICAN
AW
WHITEWATER**

Feather River Festival

Permitted by 

North Fork Feather River, CA - Hwy. 70

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2009

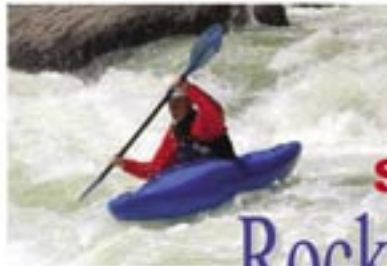
Rock Creek - Tobin Release

AT INDIAN JIM SCHOOL/CAMPGROUND, 1 MILE UPSTREAM OF TOBIN RESORT

River Races

(12noon to 4 pm)

Prizes



Live Music

Food & Beer



Free Camping

Raffle

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

Rock Creek - Tobin Release



Come Show Your Support for American Whitewater & Restoration of NF Feather Releases!

Stewardship Updates

Water Politics in Southern California

By Dave Steindorf

If you ever saw the movie Chinatown with Jack Nicholson as the LA private detective, you may have some appreciation for American Whitewater's role in the Borel Project on the Kern River in California. What started as a very standard hydro relicensing, where we work to get whitewater releases, has turned into a complex case of California water law jurisdiction involving several State and Federal agencies. Like Jack, we may get our nose bloodied but we are equally determined to get our questions answered.

The Borel hydroelectric project is located

on the Kern River, near Bakersfield in Southern California. The project consists of a small, 12 megawatt powerhouse, located seven miles down stream from Lake Isabella. This project is somewhat unique in that the water for the powerhouse comes from a dam that is not owned by the utility. Lake Isabella is operated by the Army Corps of Engineers, and more importantly the flow through the powerhouse and releases from the dam are actually controlled by the Kern Water Master. The Kern Water Master represents five water districts in the Bakersfield that have water rights to the Kern River. They divert water from the Kern River at several locations from 40 to 60 miles down stream from Lake Isabella. Past the last diversion, the river is left completely dry.

The Borel project came up for relicensing in 2000. American Whitewater spent over six years negotiating the new license. Along with our partners, who include the Sierra Club, Friends of the River, the State Water Resources Control Board, and others, we fought to get whitewater releases on this reach of the Kern River. When we reached agreement with Southern California Edison (SCE) and FERC issued the new license that included whitewater releases, we felt that our hard work had paid off and that the boaters of the Kernville area, and more broadly Southern California, would have great boating for years to come on this section of river. Unfortunately, that is not the end of the story. After

the license was issued, the Kern Water Master representing the Kern Water Users protested to FERC about the whitewater releases. They claimed that these releases would affect their ability to divert water over fifty miles down stream. Their claim was that releasing water through dam to the river rather than the powerhouse would change the timing of the water delivery downstream. No evidence was presented other than the claim of the Water Master that their diversion would be impacted. They also did not present any alternative solutions. FERC responded by directing SCE and the Water Master to find a way to make the whitewater releases and "...to minimize the disruption of flow to downstream water users and water rights holders." Normally this would have been the end of the issue: we would have all moved forward and found a way for the releases to happen and minimize any flow disruptions downstream. However, because the Water Master actually controls the flow through the powerhouse and the dam, SCE could not comply with FERC's directive. This situation has resulted in the Water Master effectively telling FERC that as far as whitewater releases go, "You can't make me."

Rather than resolve this jurisdictional question, SCE attempted to find a suitable substitute for the whitewater releases. Their initial suggestion was to do some improvement to the Democrat take-out, downstream of the project. For American Whitewater and the Sierra Club this trading river releases for some paving and bathrooms was totally unacceptable. At the suggestion of some folks from Kernville, SCE offered the possibility of doing improvements to the whitewater park in Kernville. While not perfect, this option was more palatable because it at least could provide some improvements to water recreation. Unfortunately, SCE's offer did not include any money to actually construct the improvements to the whitewater park, only a limited amount of money for design and an agreement to do the environmental permitting when, and if, money was raised to pay for the improvements. From American Whitewater's perspective, it was not acceptable to trade the recreation



releases that we had rights to in the new license for possible improvements to the whitewater-park, with no guarantee that it would actually happen.

The deal breaker happened when SCE informed us that in order for them to agree to do the permitting on the whitewater-park at some point in the future, we would need to write a letter to FERC supporting the elimination of the whitewater releases and agreeing to improve the Democrat take-out instead. They were also very explicit that we could not mention the improvements to the Whitewater Park in our letter. This would be a 180 degree turn from what we had spent six years advocating. FERC would wonder why we were now changing our position on the importance of whitewater recreation on this project. Looking back at the record they would see that first, we insisted that a whitewater flow study be done on this project. In addition, they would see that after completing the flow study we filed numerous comments insisting that whitewater releases be a part of the license. FERC's review would then reveal that they had listened to our request and included releases in the license and then supported us when the Water Master filed a protest. The logical question would be after all of this effort why would we be willing to then say that it is ok to take the releases out of the license in order to do some access improvements. Again, from FERC's perspective they would have to wonder why we bothered to waste their time and SCE's money during the relicensing process. We feel that this would seriously damage AW's credibility with FERC.

Protecting AW's credibility is important, but it is by no means the most important reason why we could not sign onto the deal proposed by SCE. The primary issue involves the Water Master's challenge to FERC's authority. The Water Master's refusal to comply with the FERC license has created a huge jurisdictional issue. The Water Master has claimed that the whitewater releases will interfere with their water rights. No documentation has been presented showing that it is impossible to do the releases and meet

the diversion needs downstream. In fact, it is not only the whitewater releases that are in question. Under the original license, SCE argued to FERC that because the Water Master actually controls the flows through the powerhouse and dam, they should not have minimum flows as a requirement in the FERC license. This potential precedent has the possibility to impact any FERC project that we work on that has downstream water rights, which is just about every project. It is because of the possible precedent setting nature of this project that Trout Unlimited and the California Sportfishing Protection Alliance signed on to our filing. Having angling organizations supporting whitewater releases is unusual to say the least. However, their support underscores the importance of what is at stake.

We also believe that the best solution to resolve the jurisdictional question would be to require the Kern Water Users to be co-licensees on the project. We believe that since they control the flows of the river below Lake Isabella, they should be subject to the terms of the FERC license. More importantly this will be a shot across the bow of every water district in the country that attempts to impose their will on FERC's jurisdiction. FERC is required to balance all of the public values in issuing a new license, which is why relicensing a project such as this one takes so much time and effort. It is important for all water users to recognize that no one should be able to circumvent this process that is designed to find balance in the use of the river.

American Whitewater believes that the following points must be addressed:

- The Kern Water Users need to provide documentation, in the form of test releases or modeling, that demonstrate that it is infeasible to provide whitewater releases.
- SCE should be required to get a 401 certification and approval from the State Water Resources Control Board in order to amend the license and remove whitewater releases. In this certification process the State Board could require SCE to provide the releases or to fully fund the

improvements to the Whitewater Park.

- FERC should require that the Kern Water Users, represented by the Water Master, be co-licensees on the project. This would make the Kern Water Users subject to the terms of the FERC license. If they can demonstrate that it is in fact impossible to provide the whitewater releases without impacting their diversion rights, they could be required by FERC to fully fund the improvements to the Whitewater Park. The goal here is not to deny them the water to which they have a legal rights, but rather, make them recognize that they have public trust responsibilities, despite the fact that the public has given them the right to use this water

American Whitewater is willing to have discussions with all of the stakeholders to reach an acceptable resolution on this project. This resolution would have to include actually improving a water recreation, either going forward with the whitewater release schedule or constructing the improvements to the Whitewater Park in Kernville. We believe that SCE and the Kern Water Users have a public responsibility to all of the beneficial uses of the river. American Whitewater is committed to seeing that they live up to that responsibility.

Moving forward we will be requesting that the State Water Resources Control Board review the water rights of the Kern Water Users and to insure that they are in compliance with the Clean Water Act and protecting all of the beneficial uses of the Kern River. We will also be waiting for FERC's response that will hopefully resolve the issue of who ultimately has control over the flows through this project. Again, it is our hope that we can resolve this issue in a way that meets everyone's needs.

This is one of fifteen FERC projects that American Whitewater is actively working on in California. If you are interested in learning more about this project we can use your help. If you are interested please contact Dave Steindorf at (530) 343-1871.

Stewardship Updates

Flows Return to the North Fork Feather River

By Dave Steindorf

After several years of intense debate, negotiation and collaboration, the Cresta reach will see boatable flows again this year. Working with the Forest Service, Department of Fish and Game, California State Water Resources Control Board, California Sport Fishing Protection Alliance, and PG&E, we were able to craft this new flow schedule that is more protective of frogs, mimics the natural flows of the river, and provides for whitewater recreation. Flows will not be in the same form as releases that occurred in years past, but rather a single pulse that will increase base flows starting on May 1st and continuing through July in a normal

water year and through June in a dry year (see below for full flow schedule).

The new flow regime was designed largely to be more protective of Foothill Yellow-Legged Frogs, whose numbers in the Cresta reach have grown very low over the last several years. While some parties have attributed this decline to mid and late summer boating releases, the largest demonstrated impact to the frogs on the North Fork Feather came on the Poe reach in 2006, when spill conditions were followed by an abrupt drop to low base flows. Forty frog egg masses were left high and dry in this drop, and thus perished. Higher base flows, such as those in the new flow schedule for Cresta, would have kept the river higher coming off of spill conditions, drying out fewer egg masses and improving chances of frog survival.

Debates over the science associated with the claim that whitewater releases impacted frogs was leading us down a road of possible litigation. Then, in 2008, PG&E opened the door to the possibility of reworking the flow schedule to provide boating opportunities in the spring. Dave Steindorf, working with Bob Center, developed a flow schedule that restored the natural snowmelt pulse that should naturally occur in the spring. By placing this pulse during the frog breeding season, frog eggs will be buffered from late spill events. Because we also designed these flows to follow a natural rate of decline, frog egg masses are also protected from rapid dewatering.

While we recognize that we are giving up very high value summer whitewater recreation, we feel that it is worth it to create a far more natural flow regime that will benefit frogs, fish, bugs, and help maintain the river channel. Restoring more natural flows in rivers is one of American Whitewater's top river priorities of 2009 (see American Whitewater January/February 2009). Getting this new flow schedule approved and in place is an important milestone in achieving this goal, not only for the Feather River but rivers across California and across the country.

New Cresta Flow Schedule

Wet and Normal Water Years

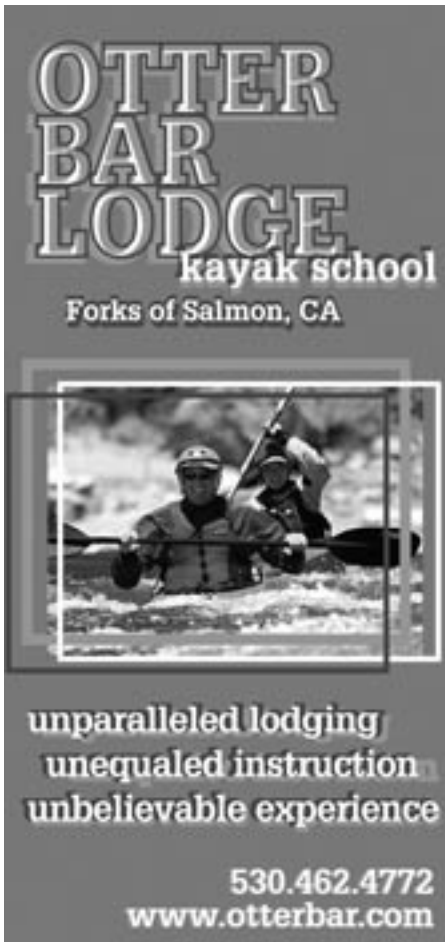
In May, flows shall increase to 800 cfs from May 1 through May 7 with an additional increase to 1200 cfs for 24 hours the first weekend in May from noon Saturday until noon Sunday. If May 1 is a Sunday the 1200 cfs flow shall take place starting May 7 with flows reduced to 600 cfs after noon on May 8. Flows will remain at 600 cfs until May 31st. Flows will be at 500 cfs for the month of June and 400 cfs for the July.

Dry Water years

In May, flows shall increase to 750 cfs from May 1 through May 7 with an additional increase to 1200 cfs for 24 hours the first weekend in May from noon Saturday until noon Sunday. If May 1 is a Sunday the 1200 cfs flow shall take place starting May 7 with flows reduced to 500 cfs after noon on May 8. Flows will remain at 500 cfs until May 31st. Flows will be at 400 cfs for the month of June.

Critically Dry Water Years

In April, a boating flow of 600 cfs shall be provided on the third Saturday in April (from 8am Saturday morning until 5pm Sunday evening).



OTTER
BAR
LODGE
kayak school
Forks of Salmon, CA

unparalleled lodging
unequaled instruction
unbelievable experience

530.462.4772
www.otterbar.com

West River Spring Surprise

By Kevin Colburn

This year the Army Corps of Engineers decided to cancel the spring release on the West River. At first they decided to reschedule the release from late April to mid April. Paddlers protested this move and sought a mutually agreeable solution. Instead, without notice, the Corps released the water on April 1, after publicly stating they would release the water April 6-10. Calls to the Corps from AW and other organizations were not returned.

The issue driving the changes involves poor communication, and Atlantic Salmon. Several agencies and organizations are seeking to restore salmon to the Connecticut River system (including the West River), which is the southernmost historic salmon run on the Atlantic coast. Obviously, American Whitewater and other paddling organizations are supportive of these goals. The Vermont agencies believe that the Ball Mountain Reservoir must be drawn down in order for out-migrating salmon smolt to pass through the dam. As there is no upstream fish passage at the dam, salmon fry are stocked upstream. The agencies have no data on survival of these fry, when they migrate, if they reach the dam, or if they have historically had problems passing the dam. If this basic information were known then dam releases could be scheduled in a way that benefits both salmon recovery and recreation. AW is pushing for a higher level of information, collaboration, and communication on the West River. The fall releases will proceed as planned.

Southeastern Dam Relicensings Moving Ahead

By Kevin Colburn

Granting a new 30-50 year license to operate a dam is no simple matter and the process takes at least five and a half years. In the past couple of months a handful of such projects in the southeastern US saw significant steps forward.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued their final assessment of the issues on Alabama's Coosa River, and a license can be expected in the near future. FERC has ordered a flow study on the Coosa and a process to explore the feasibility of enhancing releases. FERC hosted scoping meetings and accepted scoping comments on South Carolina's Saluda River. At this stage, interest groups tell FERC what their interests are, and what topics FERC should explore in FERC's analysis of the new proposed management of the river. AW Regional Coordinator Charlene Coleman spoke on our behalf at the meeting. FERC

also published their draft environmental impact statement regarding the proposed management of the Catawba River (NC/SC). FERC generally has supported the settlement agreement that AW signed with the dam owner and many other groups. AW filed comments in support of our settlement agreement. Lastly, the county that is opposing the removal of Dillsboro Dam on the Tuckasegee (NC), and thus holding up the releases on the West Fork of the Tuck, lost the first of three pending court challenges.

Mike Lawrence surfing Moccasin gap on the Coosa River, AL at 9,000 cfs

Photo by Logan Ross



Stewardship Updates

Dam Removal on the Snake River (WA)

By Jerry White

The Working Snake River (WSR) is a project promoting a thoughtful, comprehensive solution to restore wild Snake River salmon that benefits farmers, fishermen, local communities and the Inland Northwest economy. The project reaches out to businesses, sportsmen, farmers, conservationists, and citizens committed to restoring eastern Washington's lower Snake River corridor and endangered wild salmon by replacing four aging and costly dams with modern transportation and clean energy alternatives.

Removing the four lower Snake River dams will restore more than 60 rapids and 30,000 acres of parklands, wildlife habitat and public access. In particular, the opportunity to paddle along a free flowing, 140-mile corridor would make this an amazing resource to those who appreciate the large river experience. Deeply incised canyons and over 50 river islands would make the lower river a draw for those who wanted to enjoy watching wildlife, fishing, or just sightseeing as they

made their way along boat trails on single or multi-day trips.

The Working Snake River Project features a set of photographs of the free flowing lower Snake River that were taken between 1905 and 1970. The photos document the dramatic landscape of the lower Snake River canyons and provide a powerful visual reminder of what we can have once again if the lower Snake River is restored to free flowing status. To see the full galleries visit www.workingsnakeriver.org.

Now is the time to act. Join us in supporting a solution to salmon recovery that benefits farmers, fishermen, local communities and the regional economy. Please write the Obama administration

and your legislators and ask for their help in creating a solutions table where stakeholders might come together to solve this crisis. For more information on what you can do, please visit: www.wildsalmon.org and visit the "Take Action" page for list of helpful options.



Photos by Kyle Laughlin



Funding for River Restoration

By Thomas O'Keefe

After years of delays, the project to remove two dams and restore the Elwha River will get a major boost this summer as funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will be used to accelerate the project. Interior Secretary Salazar announced that \$54 million of the \$750 dedicated to projects in our National Parks will be directed towards restoration of the Elwha River. Removal of the dams was approved by Congress in 1993 and work finally got underway last summer with preliminary construction projects in anticipation of dam removal. With this funding removal of the dams should be underway by 2011.

In addition to our longstanding support for this project, American Whitewater has also joined in supporting a request by the local county to seek federal funds for removal of Gold Ray Dam on the Rogue River. With removal of Gold Hill Dam last summer and removal of Savage Rapids Dam well underway, Gold Ray Dam remains the last barrier to a free-flowing Rogue River from Lost Creek Reservoir to the Pacific Ocean.



Elwha Dam (WA) could be removed in the next few years

Photo by Thomas O'Keefe

Action Item: You can write to President Obama thanking his administration for making river restoration a priority in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Paddlers in Washington and Oregon can also write their Congressional representatives.

Elwha River (WA)

Photo by Thomas O'Keefe



Another Dam Will Be Removed on a Tributary in the Columbia Gorge

By Thomas O'Keefe

We continue our work to restore the major rivers that flow into the Columbia Gorge with the removal of Hemlock Dam on Trout Creek scheduled for this summer. Trout Creek is a major tributary of the Wind River and both the creek and the river are well known whitewater runs. The 26-foot high concrete arch dam on Trout Creek was constructed in 1935 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and provided hydropower through the 1950s. The dam's hydropower generator has not been operational for decades, the dam is a barrier to fish migration, and the reservoir has silted in significantly impacting water quality. With removal of the dam, water quality and habitat will improve, as well as fish passage for steelhead.

American Whitewater worked with the Gifford Pinchot Task Force and CRAG Law Center and provided expert testimony on the recreational benefits of restored rivers. While the local county originally challenged the removal, they dropped their appeal this spring and dam removal will soon be underway.

Dams on the Hood River and White Salmon are scheduled to be removed soon, which will complete a major restoration effort on all of the rivers that flow into the Columbia Gorge, at the heart of some world-class whitewater. We are currently exploring opportunities to protect these rivers long term through Wild and Scenic designations.

Stewardship Updates



Pacific Northwest Rivers to Flow for the First Time in Decades

By Thomas O'Keefe

This summer the Chelan River and North Fork Rogue will flow for the first time in decades. Aside from occasional “spill events” when flows exceeded the capacity of pipes to the powerhouse and some leakage, these rivers have been dry. In July of 2009 both rivers will see restored flows that will provide new whitewater boating opportunities. American Whitewater has worked on these projects for several years and we are excited to see that flows will be provided to restore recreation and fishery resources on both of these spectacular rivers.

Action Item: If you enjoy your experience on a river restored through the FERC relicensing process you can always document that through a letter to the Secretary at FERC. These letters become



part of the public record and can help us make the case that the resources are being enjoyed by the public. To make sure your letter is filed properly it helps to reference the project number and you can contact us if you have trouble finding it.

A dewatered Chelan Gorge awaiting restoration flows with implementation of a new hydropower license

Photos by Thomas O'Keefe

HybridLife™

CREATE, PLAY AND CARE. IT'S A WAY OF LIFE. WE CALL IT HYBRIDLIFE.™

CREATE TO RAISE AWARENESS. CREATE TO INSPIRE CHANGE. CREATE TO EXPRESS YOURSELF. CREATE A REACTION. CREATE WITH AN OPEN MIND. CREATE CHANGE.

EXPRESS YOUR VISION OF WHAT IS POSSIBLE. ON THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN. PLAY OUTSIDE YOUR DOOR. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD. CARE ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENGAGE WITH CAUSES THAT MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.

PLAY IN THE CITY. CARE ABOUT THE PRODUCTS YOU BUY. CARE ABOUT YOUR CITY. CARE JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN.

THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENGAGE WITH CAUSES THAT MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.

PLAY OUTSIDE AND CARE ABOUT THE PRODUCTS YOU BUY. CARE ABOUT YOUR CITY. CARE JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN.

THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENGAGE WITH CAUSES THAT MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.

PLAY OUTSIDE AND CARE ABOUT THE PRODUCTS YOU BUY. CARE ABOUT YOUR CITY. CARE JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN.

THE ENVIRONMENT AND ENGAGE WITH CAUSES THAT MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE.



JASON LEWIS ★ EXPEDITION 360 ★ LONDON



★ NEWPORT H2



Making Waves

The fact that something has never been done before is the perfect reason to give it a try. It's why Jason chose to travel the world on a pedal-powered, zero emissions boat. And it's why KEEN created the Newport H2—a waterproof sandal that protects your toes. With its EVA footbed, multi-directional traction lugs and an odor-resistant Aegis® Microbe Shield, the Newport H2 is always at home in uncharted waters.

Hybrid.Footwear.™ Designed for your HybridLife.

Tell us how you're living a HybridLife.



KEENFOOTWEAR.COM

Stewardship Updates

More Wild and Scenic Rivers

By Thomas O'Keefe

At the end of March, President Barack Obama signed into law the second largest Wild and Scenic Rivers package in history with the addition of 86 new Wild and Scenic Rivers, totaling over 1,100 miles in Oregon, Idaho, Arizona, Wyoming, Utah, California, and Massachusetts. These rivers include Fossil Creek in Arizona, rivers in the Eastern Sierra and Northern San Gabriel Wilderness, the Owyhee River and tributaries including the Jarbidge and Bruneau, Taunton River in Massachusetts, more than half a dozen rivers flowing off Oregon's Mt. Hood, the North and South Fork Elk in Oregon's Copper Salmon Wilderness, rivers of Zion National Park including the North Fork Virgin, and the Snake River headwaters including Alpine Canyon on the Snake and a number of spectacular tributaries.

While this bill managed to clear the final procedural hurdles in Congress we were already hard at work on the next round of river protection legislation.

In March Congressman Rick Larsen

(WA-2) and Senator Patty Murray (WA) introduced legislation to designate Washington State's Illabot Creek as a Wild and Scenic River (H.R. 1593 / S. 635). Illabot Creek is a tributary of the Skagit River, which supports one of the largest concentrations of wintering bald eagles in the lower 48 States, and is a popular attraction for paddlers. Because of the abundance of salmon and the high quality of habitat, Illabot Creek is the center of foraging activity and supports two communal night roosts.

Just a couple weeks later Senator Murray and Congressman Reichert introduced the Alpine Lakes Wilderness Additions and Pratt and Middle Fork Snoqualmie Rivers Protection Act (H.R. 1769 and S. 721). The legislation will help ensure the future of some of Washington's most popular backcountry recreation areas by designating more than 22,000 acres of wilderness adjacent to the existing Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area. The legislation will also protect nearly 30 miles of the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River and 10 miles of the Pratt River as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

Wolf Bauer, one of American Whitewater's founders was active in efforts in the 1950s to protect the Middle Fork Snoqualmie, which has been one of the most

popular and scenic whitewater paddling destinations for generations of Seattle-area paddlers. Upon hearing the news that the Senator and the Congressman were sponsoring this legislation to protect this spectacular paddling destination, the 97 year old Wolf exclaimed, "It's about time!"

Action Item: Paddlers in Washington State can help support this legislation by writing to their Senators and Representative and highlighting their enthusiasm for Wild and Scenic Rivers and support for these bills. With strong support and interest from the paddling community we hope to introduce additional legislation.

Below: Dramatic scenery along the base of Mt. Garfield on the two mil section just above the Taylor River confluence on the Snoqualmie, Middle Fork, WA

Left: Looking down the Middle Fork Snoqualmie Valley from the Garfield Ledges. The Middle Fork comes in from the left and the Taylor comes in from the right. Where these two rivers join is commonly referred to as the start of the "Upper Middle" which continues on down the valley

Photos by Thomas O'Keefe



Wolf Bauer Recognized As The State Park Lodge On The Green River Is Named In His Honor

By Thomas O'Keefe

Shortly after exploring the Cowlitz River Canyons, which were destined to be flooded by the construction of hydropower projects, Wolf Bauer set out to explore another river in Washington State—the Green River Gorge. In the 1950s Wolf made the first descent with a group of paddlers who took 2 days to carefully scout and run the rapids in the gorge, a trip that now takes paddlers less than 4 hours. In the years following that first descent, Wolf set out to protect the river canyons and soon after legislation was enacted recognizing the beauty and natural features of the gorge including the biological and geological features which collectively represent a unique recreational attraction with well over a million people living within hour's drive. The state legislature set a goal of acquiring lands along the twelve-mile gorge for conservation and recreation.

On the occasion of this spring's Green River Cleanup, a few hundred paddlers, local residents, state park staff, elected officials, and many of his old paddling buddies all came out to honor Wolf. Recognizing Wolf's contributions to the creation of a series of State Parks along the gorge and a river corridor that is largely in public ownership, Washington State Parks recognized Wolf in a ceremony where the park lodge was named in his honor. Still excited to tell stories of paddling in the early days of whitewater, Wolf gave a slide show of his early days of exploring the river and learning to run whitewater.

Wolf was the founder of the Washington Kayak Club and also one of American Whitewater's original founders. He published the first guide to whitewater runs in Washington State, which consisted of a large format map with recommended flow ranges for rivers around the state.

As one of the original river conservation voices in the region, Wolf deserves to be recognized for all his years of work enjoying and protecting rivers.

American Whitewater is continuing efforts to build on Wolf's legacy and is working with the National Parks Service Rivers and Trails Program and the Middle Green River Coalition to fill in the missing gaps along the Green River Gorge to create a continuous corridor of protected public land. We are also working at the federal level to restore funding to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a critical federal program that derives its revenue from offshore oil and gas leases. Unfortunately, much of the revenue from this program has been diverted to the general fund in recent years but we are working as members of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Coalition to change that.

Action Item: All paddlers can support our efforts of protecting and enhancing recreational opportunities on rivers and providing public access by writing your member of Congress and asking them to support two important programs: The National Park Service Rivers and Trails Conservation Assistance Program and full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.



Wolf Bauer, who recorded the first descent of the Green River Gorge in the 1950's and led efforts to protect the gorge is recognized for his efforts as the lodge at Flaming Geyser State Park is named in his honor. Wolf was founder the Washington Kayak Club and one off American Whitewater's founders.

Photo by Thomas O'Keefe

Jay Cohen on the Grand Canyon of the Green River, WA

Photo by Thomas O'Keefe



Stewardship Updates

Clean Water Restoration Act

By Thomas O'Keefe

Senator Feingold (D-WI) has reintroduced the Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA), S. 787. This bill responds to Supreme Court decisions that have weakened the protections of the Clean Water Act by excluding many headwater streams. Paddlers know first hand the value of protecting the water quality of our nation's headwaters where we typically recreate.


CWRA would: (1) reaffirm the original intent of Congress in enacting the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the waters of the United States; (2) clearly define the waters of the United States that are subject to the

Federal Water Pollution Control Act; and (3) provide protection to the waters of the United States to the maximum extent of the legislative authority of Congress under the Constitution.

To paddlers this means several things. First and most importantly it means that the rivers you know and love will not be polluted based on the recent court cases that would allow new pollution sources in headwater streams. CWRA ensures that the massive progress made in the health of our nation's rivers since the passage of the Clean Water Act will not backslide. Second, it means that your drinking water will be protected from new pollution inputs that are costly to treat. Lastly, it may benefit the enjoyment of rivers in cases where recreation is a beneficial use protected under the Clean Water Act.

Action Item: CWRA will maintain the basic

protection for rivers that we all appreciate and likely take for granted. Watch our website for opportunities to weigh in on this important legislation or check the bill status on the Take Action page of the Outdoor Alliance website where you can see if your Senator has signed on in support and send a letter thanking them or urging them to sign on as appropriate. We would like to thank Senator Feingold for looking out for one of our most basic human needs: clean water.



What's current, progressive & innovative in whitewater today?

October 2 - 4, 2009

- ▶ On-water & off-water clinics & seminars
- ▶ Networking with other whitewater paddlers
- ▶ Whitewater Exhibitors Hall
- ▶ Open to all whitewater fanatics

Promoting The Spirit of Whitewater

WHITEWATER SYMPOSIUM

Zoar Outdoor, Charlemont, MA
www.wwsymposium.com
800 532-7483

Membership Drive

Summer 2009



May 1 - Oct. 1

Save Rivers, Win Stuff.

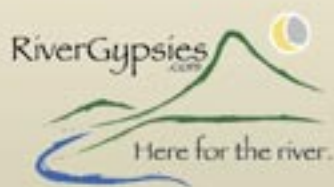
This summer, everyone who joins AW or makes a \$10+ donation between May 1 - October 1 will be entered into a nation-wide raffle.

Monthly drawings will be held throughout the drive, and on October 15th we will be announcing the winners of not one but two *grand prizes*: paddling trips to Mexico and Ecuador!

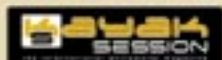
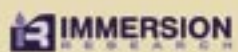
How it works:

- Must be an American Whitewater member
- Join or renew and get one chance to win
- Each \$10 member donation gets another chance to win (i.e. \$100 = 10 chances)
- More info: americanwhitewater.org

Grand Prizes:



Monthly Drawings:



Women in Whitewater

Anna feeling good on the Cascades of the Nantahala

Photo by Paul Villecourt



Teachings from the River

By Anna Levesque

Kayaking has directed and influenced the course of my life for many years because I love the way kayaking makes me feel: happy, exhilarated, and passionate. In the beginning my happiness lay in learning new moves and being challenged by bigger rapids and better paddlers. Getting good and being sponsored were my goals. I was focused on spending as much time on the water as possible. I never imagined the lessons that rivers and kayaking had in store for me and how much they would impact my path through life and my personal growth.

I love the physicality of kayaking. The adrenaline rush, being outside and being active is really fun, but it wasn't the physicality that really hooked me to the sport. It was, and is, an intense feeling of happiness and fulfillment that comes with focusing on and enjoying the present moment. I remember one of the first times that I experienced this feeling and it wasn't on a hard run, or doing a cool move, or anything like that.

It was late afternoon and I wanted to go kayaking, but couldn't find anyone to go with me. I was so fanatical about getting

to the river that I paid a friend to drive me to the put-in of the New River Gorge, drop me off and then pick me up at the take-out. At that time Ender Waves was a popular surfing spot and I knew there would be others out there. I paddled down to Ender Waves, surfed for a while and then headed down the river behind another group. I lingered just far enough behind so that it felt as though I was the only one on the river.

The sun was low and the whole Gorge was bathed in beautiful golden light that brought out the pink hues in the cliff walls. It was a gorgeous evening and as I approached Double Z and looked up at Ramshead cliff a feeling of deep gratitude and beauty swept over me. I felt a joyful connection with the river, the gorge, the trees, the stones. It was a feeling of oneness, a merging with the natural world around me. I felt in that moment I had everything I needed in life and that I didn't want to be anywhere else but right here, right now.

Yeah, I know that may sound cheesy to some of you, but what I've come to know for myself is that living in the present moment and feeling that sense of connection and happiness is what life is all about. That's why I didn't follow the path of 'responsibility' after college and instead became a raft guide so I could paddle all

the time. Kayaking has been a significant teacher in helping me understand how to create a happy, fun, successful and adventurous life for myself no matter what others think or what society tries to dictate that I should do instead. I decided to let the river and kayaking be my guides and I have learned a lot of amazing things!

The river is a teacher with many faces: Soft, easy, playful, and gentle, as well as scary, pushy, powerful, and intimidating. We as kayakers have the unique opportunity to receive the rivers' teachings in a way that few others can because we have a deeper understanding of how current works. We learn the subtleties of the currents in order to do the dance of successful maneuvering. What's really cool is that we can use the lessons that we learn on the river to assist us in navigating our lives off the river too.

It's worked for me and I know it can work for anyone who takes the time to practice. I'd like to share with you my favorite five teachings from kayaking and the river that have had a positive influence in my life. You already practice these when you're paddling so why not try them in other parts of your life too?

Pay Attention

On the river the number one rule is pay attention! It's easy to pay attention when we're paddling because, when we don't, we usually end up getting trashed. I've heard many paddlers tell me that they love kayaking because it forces them to focus on the present moment and everything else fades away. That feeling of focusing on what's in front of you and what you need to do to make it through the rapid is very freeing. In that moment there is nothing but you, the river, and your goal.

If you misjudge the timing, read the water wrong or make a bad move, the river will



Women facing their fears while scouting on the Antiqua River, Mexico

Photo by Esprit Rafting

Women in Whitewater

let you know immediately. When we get trashed on the river, or miss a wave or mess up a move it's not because the river is out to get us. We can't blame the river for our mistakes, lack of focus or bad timing. We have to take responsibility for our actions and our thoughts that may have caused us to mess up. I've heard paddlers try to blame the river before. It makes them feel better, but it doesn't fool anyone else!

Paying attention and taking responsibility for our words, actions and thoughts isn't always easy because it means that we have to look at ourselves and admit that we make mistakes. In our daily lives there may not be an immediate physical trashing when we don't pay attention like there is in kayaking, but there are consequences to careless actions and words that can include drama, anger and unhappiness.

On the river, if we make a wrong move once and get trashed we're going to do it differently the next time. I haven't met very many paddlers who continue to mess up because they like getting their butts kicked, but I have experienced people who get addicted to drama and laying blame in their lives.

Being truthful with yourself about your behavior is an opportunity to change

course. It's also an opportunity to practice compassion and forgiveness toward yourself and others. Remember that no one is perfect and that we all make mistakes. Even the best paddlers in the world mess up and swim.

At first you may only become aware of a pattern after it's happened and you feel bad. The next time you may have more awareness and you'll notice that you're doing it in the moment. Eventually you'll notice your pattern before you even speak and you'll be able to choose to act differently. It's just like learning to read water and anticipate on the river. It may not feel like it at the time, in the heat of the moment, but we always have a choice between reacting and responding to a situation.

Look at where you want to go

Once you become aware of that point of choice, how do you choose what route to take? You can start by looking at where you want to go. Most paddlers have experienced what happens when they stare at that big rock that they're trying to avoid. It never fails that every time you stare at a rock you paddle right into it. On the other

hand, if you focus on the current that leads you beside the rock you'll probably make it around the obstacle. In kayaking, looking where you want to go is key to making it down a rapid successfully. The same technique can be used in everyday life, especially when setting goals.

It doesn't matter where you are now, that doesn't have to define where you'll be one week, two months or three years from now. It's just like when you're on the river and you're in an eddy. You know where you are and by looking to where you want to go you find out what moves you need to make to get there. You don't sit in the eddy all day feeling sorry for yourself because you're not at the bottom of the rapid already. You take action to get out of the eddy and head down the rapid. You don't always know if your moves will work out exactly how you thought, but one way or the other you'll make it to the bottom of the rapid and learn something along the way.

If you're feeling like you're in a rut in your life, think of it as though you're caught in an eddy. You have the skills to get out and you have the vision to see where you want to go. Keep your eyes on your goal as you make that first move of peeling out. To help with building up the courage to break out you can practice using affirmations. Affirmations are positive statements that assert our goal (even if we haven't met it yet) or assert how we want to feel. They are statements that we use to replace the negative voices and feelings that come up when we're challenging ourselves.

Affirmations are useful in those times when you're looking to where you want to go and your mind starts going wild with stories about why and how you're not good enough, too scared and so on... An example would be "I feel relaxed, confident and focused." When we repeat



The joy of kayaking! Women on the Girls at Play Beginner trip in Mexico celebrate the end of their adventure on the Actopan River

Photo by Esprit Rafting

affirmations to ourselves we feel good and that helps to overpower the negative voices and thoughts.

This takes practice. The affirmations we use need to be believable for us or have the possibility of being believable. It's important to repeat them to yourself often and over and over again. When you wake up, before you go to bed and when you feel calm and quiet. Writing them in a journal 10 to 20 times is also a good practice. It's like practicing those hard moves in easy water first. The more you repeat them to yourself when you're calm, the more natural it will become to call on them in situations when you're challenged and really need them to help you keep your eyes on where you want to go.

Be Grateful to overpower your fears. Another tool I use to work through fear and intimidation on the river and to keep

good things flowing in my life is gratitude. It's impossible to feel badly when you express gratitude for something and the more you express gratitude the more you'll have to be grateful for. Just try it and see what happens.

When I'm paddling a tough river I take the time at the beginning of the run to express gratitude for the river, for my paddling friends, for my skills, for the sunshine and for whatever else comes to mind. Doing this gets me into a positive mindset, immediately replaces any negativity, and takes power away from my fears. Off the water I continue this gratitude work by thinking of five things that I'm grateful for when I wake up in the morning and five things I'm grateful for when I got to bed at night. I start with simple things like how grateful I am for my comfy bed. From there more and more things pop-up. Being grateful for what we have is the first step in

creating more happiness in our lives. Just like in kayaking when you practice the good basic skills that you know you build a strong foundation upon which you can easily and quickly progress.

Build a supportive team

The paddlers you surround yourself with are an integral part of how comfortable, confident and happy you feel on the river. In my experience as a paddling instructor, women thrive and progress much faster when they feel supported and trust those around them.

I'm picky about who I paddle with, especially when I'm paddling a river that challenges me. I like to feel safe with and supported by my fellow paddlers. I don't like to paddle with people who are overly aggressive, who put their needs before the

Support AW by Joining Anna Levesque for
Ladies on the Lower G
SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

Awesome Ladies
+
Lower Gauley
+
Delicious Lunch
+
Complimentary Shuttle
=
Amazing Day on the River
Raising Money for AW!

Only \$40 per person which includes shuttle and lunch. All proceeds go to AW.

GIRLS at PLAY AMERICAN AW WHITEWATER

Show your support and call North American River Runners to reserve your spot. 800.950.2585

www.watergirlsatplay.com

Women in Whitewater

group or who get frustrated if the group isn't moving at their pace. I don't have fun in this type of environment and the point of paddling is to have fun.

The same is true for me in my life in general. I surround myself with friends and family who accept and love me for who I am and who support my endeavors in a good way. That doesn't mean that they always tell me what I want to hear. I count on my good friends to call me out on behavior that isn't productive. The key is to not take things personally.

My students like to joke about my 'tough love' method of teaching. I definitely make them do things that they don't want to do like run a rapid without a paddle, practice their roll or practice back ferries. I don't do it to make them suffer I do it because I know it will help them get better. They know me so they recognize my intention and they don't take it personally. In this way they feel good about pushing their limits because they know they are supported.

Another requirement of a good paddling buddy is that they're willing to fish your gear out of the river and give you words of encouragement when you swim. Same goes for your friends off the river. It's easy to feel good, to have fun and to let yourself shine when you're surrounded by people who support, encourage and inspire you.

Surrounding yourself with a supportive team on and off the river helps you flourish as a paddler and as a person.

If you flip over roll up and keep going

Imagine giving up kayaking after your first swim. I'm sure it's happened to someone, but for most of us we didn't let a swim discourage us into giving up. It's important to learn from the swim, but not to internalize it as an indication of your self-worth.

This is a big one for women. In my own kayaking I have allowed myself to equate the results of a tough competition or a bad line or a swim with my self-worth. This wasn't productive at all because it led to me feeling sorry for myself and feeling like a bad person. This was especially true for me if I felt that others were judging me. Really, no one was judging me but myself. We are our own worst critics. Most people want to see us succeed at what we do.

Setbacks like swims can enhance our knowledge and experience. We stand to learn a lot when things don't work out the way we want. Sometimes it takes four or five times of flipping over on an eddy line because we had the wrong edge lifted before we understand what we're suppose to do. When we figure it out we don't

forget it.

I read recently in a small business magazine that venture capitalists like to invest in someone who has failed in business ventures before because it shows them that the entrepreneur isn't afraid to push the innovation envelope. The investors see this as a good quality. Playing it safe all the time keeps us comfortable, but doesn't help us progress. Facing challenges can be uncomfortable and rewarding at the same time. That's why most of us love kayaking so much! That rush of satisfaction, accomplishment and joy that we feel at the bottom of a scary rapid that we just ran is addicting. And if there were no chance of messing up it wouldn't be that exhilarating.

So don't let fear of failure or setbacks get you down or stop you. There is opportunity in every experience so when you flip over, roll up and keep paddling!

Learning these five lessons on the river and then applying them to my kayaking and to my life in general has helped me live a happy, successful life. They assist me in living in the moment. Just like there are infinite possibilities of paths that current can take down a river, there are also infinite possibilities of how our lives can look and feel. The next time you meet a challenge or come up on an obstacle in your life just imagine what you would do on the river and you'll discover that you already have all that you need to get through it!

Anna Levesque is an accomplished world-class kayaker who offers diverse growth and learning opportunities for women including women's kayaking retreats, classes, paddling trips in Mexico and instructional DVDs and books. For more information please visit www.watergirlsatplay.com



Jenn Dolch-Martin having fun on the Actopan Rier in Mexico

Photo by Esprit Rafting

Festivals 2009



Gauley Fest: Sept 18-20



Summersville, WV

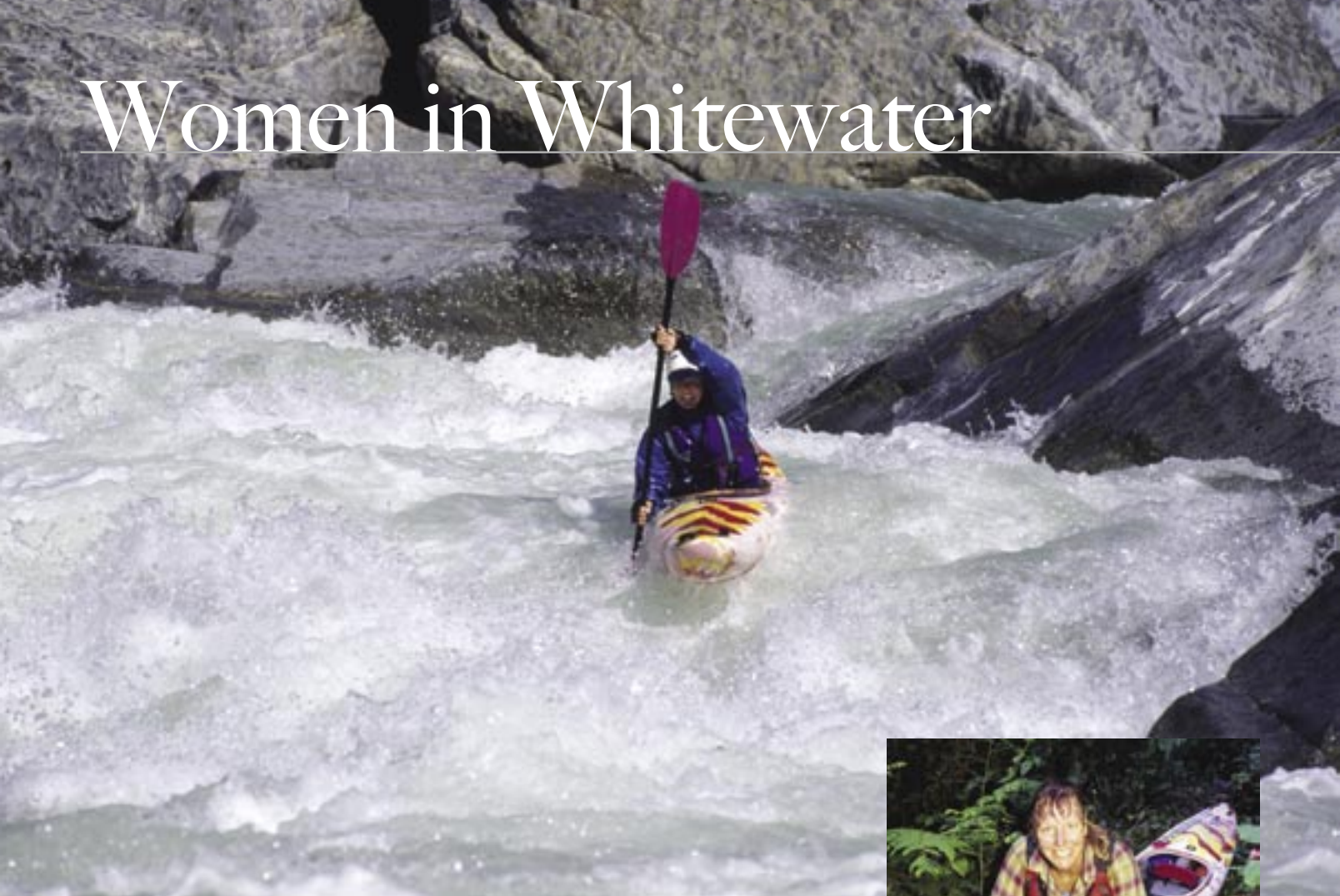
**2nd Gauley release
weekend in September!**

Deerfield Fest: July 25



Charlemont, MA

Women in Whitewater



Profile: Mary DeReimer

By Lila Marie Thomas

All photos by Phil DeReimer

Mary DeReimer has always been a dreamer. She kicked off her epic kayaking career over twenty years ago at a time when there were only a handful of women on the water. After gaining experience with the biggest and best outfitters in the country, she launched her own kayak school, DeReimer Adventure Kayaking, with her husband Phil. She's no slouch on the water, holding two US National Wildwater Championships and pioneering some of the toughest first descents throughout the U.S. and around the world. Despite her many achievements on the water, DeReimer is quiet and humble, preferring to discuss the accomplishments of her students rather than her own.

In the Beginning

The country of Panama was DeReimer's

first home. Her father was a policeman and her mother was a nurse. They were civilians working and living by the Canal in an isolated American community. She remembers having free reign as a child. DeReimer and her friends often rode their bikes down to the huge mud flats created by the extreme tides of the Pacific Ocean. They used flattened cardboard boxes to slide down the muddy hillsides and chased fiddler crabs along salty shores.

DeReimer went on to graduate from Florida State and started a career in nursing in Birmingham, AL. There, she worked in labor and delivery and took pride in helping women push through perceived fears of childbirth. When she was just 22, two doctor friends convinced her to give kayaking a shot and six months later she quit nursing and was living in a tent along the Nantahala River. When asked what got her hooked on whitewater DeReimer recalls, "It was a love/hate relationship at first. I remember being so happy on the river and also feeling so afraid. The fun was just a step ahead of fear."



Top: On the South Fork of the Yuba River near her home in California

Inset: Taking a break during a two hour hike in to the Rio Coca for a self contained trip, Ecuador

DeReimer lived and worked at the Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC) from 1982 to 1993. For over a decade she developed her own kayaking abilities, learned to teach kayaking from world-renowned instructors and developed the NOC's Costa Rica Adventure Travel program. While there she met Bunny

Johns who at that time ran NOC's instruction program. Bunny had a smooth technical approach to kayaking that greatly influenced DeReimer's paddling style. "They [Bunny Johns and other women kayakers] opened the door for me," DeReimer says. "They made me realize I could do anything I wanted on the water."

Leading Ladies of Whitewater

Eric Nies, American Whitewater board member and old-school boater, recalls how women have always shaped the sport of kayaking:

There have always been strong women boaters, and the best women today, like Nikki Kelly, continue to move the bar higher and higher. I don't know if the current generation knows the stories of the women from the '70s and '80s who pushed onto hard Class V—I'm thinking of Carrie Ashton, who ran the Niagara gorge in the early '80s, or KB (Kathy Bolyn), who ran Throne and Zeta on the Fu very early on. Becky Weiss was another extraordinary boater from my part of the world—20 years ago, she cleaned the Nantahala Cascades at 800 cfs, in a Sabre and by herself, because nobody of either sex would go with her. I'm sure the boaters out West have stories about their heroes as well, whether it's Nancy Wiley or Beth Rypins, or some pre-Youtube local ninja that nobody else has ever heard of.

During the late 1980s, there was an accomplished and eager group of wildwater racers at NOC who met during their breaks to train on the Nantahala River. It was a relaxed social atmosphere that eventually gave DeReimer the confidence to start competing. She won two National Wildwater Championships, but humbly recalls the fastest women at the time were competing in the slalom competition. Although she wouldn't admit it, her water reading abilities coupled with the amount of time she spent on the water made Mary DeReimer one of the fastest females on the water.

Around the same time period DeReimer, Kathy Bolyn and Cat Potts were the first women who scouted and successfully ran the Green Narrows. Eric Nies, who was also on the trip recalls that day:

It raised no eyebrows at all. Nantahala has always had a community of super-solid women boaters, and that was certainly true in the '80s. When Mary called me up and said we were hitting the Narrows, I didn't think twice, I just loaded my stuff and drove. That was the trip that started the modern era of Green boating. Before that, the Narrows had been done a few times in long boats, and the report was: "Don't go—too much portaging, too much poison ivy, too much pain." When we hit the take-out that day, it was clear that we'd stumbled onto a classic.

Mary met her future husband, Phil, in the spring of 1992 while they were working on a Kent Ford instructional video together. After hitting it off they booked a trip to Chile and spent a month traveling and paddling together. Three years later they were married on a 15-foot bluff overlooking a small pool brimming with salmon at the Otter Bar Lodge.

DeReimer Adventure Kayaking

After teaching for so many years with NOC and Otter Bar, repeat students started seeking out Mary and Phil specifically for instruction. DeReimer Adventure Kayaking was a natural progression for them. The first trip they offered through the school was on the Middle Fork of the Salmon River. They have now expanded their operations to Ecuador, Bhutan, the Grand Canyon and the Rogue. Students travel from as far as England and Germany to participate in DeReimer Adventure Kayaking clinics and adventure kayaking programs. The school is unique due to its size and philosophy. Phil and Mary offer individual instruction and teach all the classes themselves. An average clinic can range from 1 to 4 students. Their goal is to provide the best in whitewater guiding and instruction and also to have FUN!



> T3 Meridian Dry Suit with relief zipper and socks (TMER)

Modeled after our GORE-TEX® Meridian dry suit, the TROPOS T3 Meridian also incorporates an overskirt to layer with your spray skirt and keep water out of your boat. Two of our most popular options (relief zipper and T3 socks) complete the suit. The Meridian dry suit (TME) is special order only. Our new TROPOS 3-layer fabric, known as T3, adds a protective polyester tricot lining to the inside of the fabric. Without adding much weight, durability is greatly increased. The movement of moisture vapor (also known as perspiration) is also improved for better comfort as the temperature or your activity level increases. Two year warranty on TROPOS and T3 suits. Made in the USA.



> Seeker

An ultra light, flexible and low profile shoe designed to fit well in low volume whitewater and touring boats. The fit can be adjusted with the shock-cord lacing system using one hand, and the lacing system is covered to eliminate snag hazards in or out of the boat. Made from 3mm double-lined neoprene with a vulcanized rubber sole, toe cap and heel counter.



Kōkātāt
watersports wear

www.kokatat.com

Women in Whitewater

Women and Whitewater

Although Mary and Phil have successfully built a career out of kayaking together, she feels it is more effective for women to start paddling on their own. "It's easy for us women to limit ourselves if we start with a man and allow them to make all the decisions. I knew what my limits were before I met Phil," she says. "I could lead until I didn't feel comfortable. It allowed our relationship to be unaffected." DeReimer feels women have several advantages over men on the water. Women tend to read water better and be more technically precise because they don't have the same amount of strength as men. "Women don't want to throw themselves out there. They want to stay on line and be in control," she says.

Overcoming Fears on the Water

A question Mary often asks her students is, "Can you endure the worst possible thing?" She sees the greatest challenge students face is the fear of being out of control and dying. She encourages them

to become logical about the emotional reaction the fear is causing, to put it into perspective and to get it out in the open. "If the desire is there," says DeReimer, "then patience and setting realistic goals can be the vehicle to get them where they want to go."

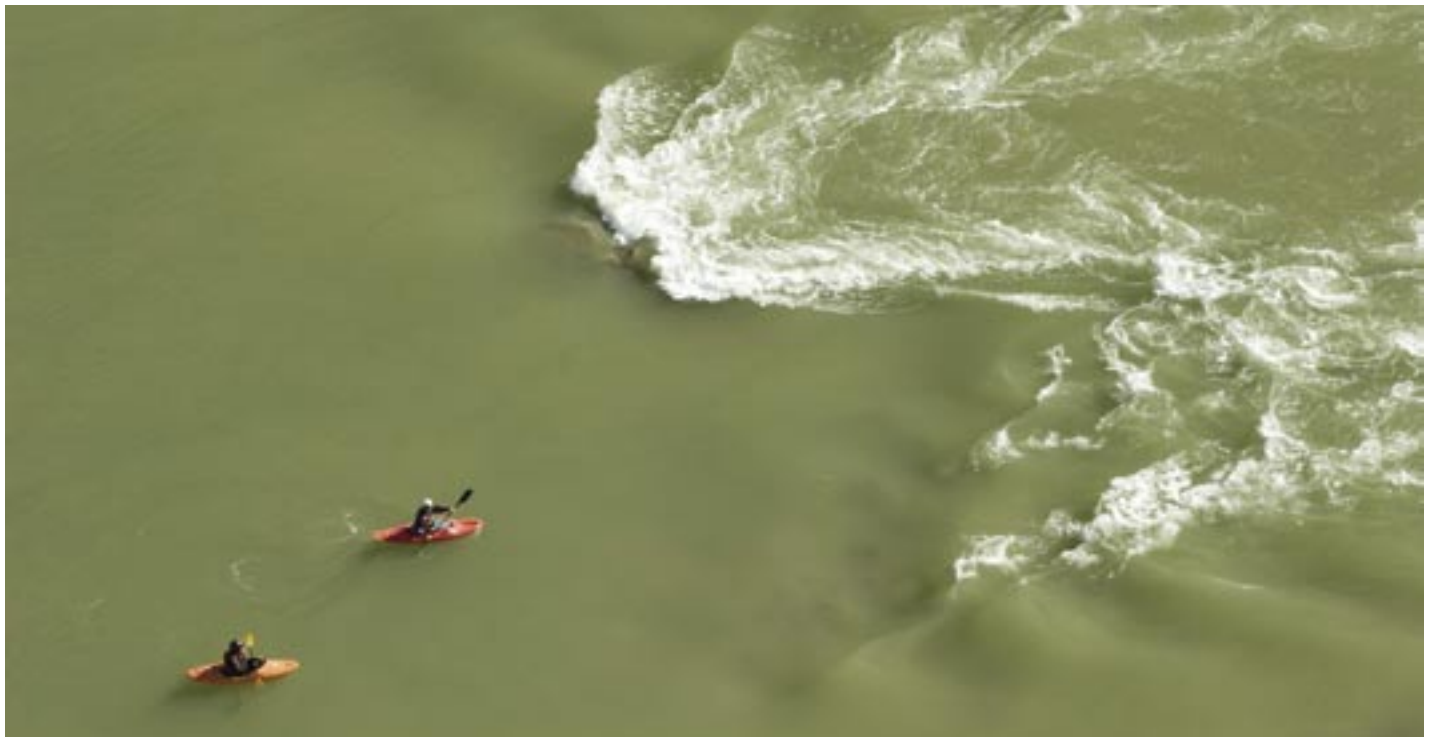
In her travels she's learned Americans often have an "all or nothing" attitude that can hinder their progress on the water. "Often students want to attain a certain level of expertise in a certain time frame and if they don't, they give up," says DeReimer. Eastern cultures like Bhutan, where she leads trips each year have a different view of success. "In Bhutan they believe you are where you are and you might as well have fun along the journey." She often asks her students, "What did the water teach you?" and believes failure on the water is only an opportunity to learn.

Says Eric Nies, "Simply put, Mary is a really solid teacher. She loves to paddle, she loves to teach, and she makes people feel good on the river."

Call of the River Wild

Mary DeReimer has helped countless women and men find their own rhythm and confidence on the river. Her dream is simple to be on the water sharing what gives her happiness with others. DeReimer's favorite aspect of kayaking is participating in self-contained whitewater overnights. She feels overnights not only challenge your kayak skills but also your wilderness survival skills. The longest trip she's done in a kayak was six nights. She and Phil worked their way from an Argentinean mountain stream to the wide mouth of a crystal clear lake, back to a natural flowing river and finally to the fiord of Reloncavi in Chile. She also recalls a three day trip on the Middle Feather in California as one of the best trips she's ever experienced. "The river can take a person to places otherwise inaccessible," says DeReimer, "into the beauty and magic of nature. What a place of worship! My goal is to continue to do overnights for as long as I can."

Mary leads a guest into the top of a rapid on the Grand Canyon





Oceans need rivers. Rivers need advocates. Advocates need victories.

Congratulations to the Surfrider Foundation who overcame the latest concrete conspiracy to pave over San Mateo Creek, the temporal river that creates the legendary Trestles surf break.

Skippy Dips
all around!
more revealed
at NewBelgium.com



FOLLOW YOUR FOLLY. OURS IS BEER.

Women in Whitewater



It's Nile or Never

By Jessie Stone

During my first trip to the Nile in 2003, while filming EJ's early playboating videos, I had to treat two members of our team for malaria (EJ and Steve Fisher). Their illness, despite having good prophylaxis and at least intermittent bed net use, caused me to ask the larger question of what happened to all the locals who live in this malaria endemic zone. Did they have malaria all the time? Were they sick all the time? Answering these questions, led to the formation of the Ugandan branch of Soft Power Health, the non-profit I run.

One of the best benefits of working in this part of Uganda is that I live next to the Nile, and I get to paddle everyday. It's been very easy to fall in love with the Nile and its environs. In fact, I think I have gotten pretty spoiled living where I do. After a long day in the field, I can go surf a big beautiful wave or do a quick run down Silverback. Not that I take the river for granted, but for a long time, there was

talk of a dam being built at the famous Silverback rapid and nothing happened. All of sudden heavy machinery moved in and within a few months, the Ugly Sisters were gone!

This was the first real wake up call that the dam was happening. Now, with almost daily blasting and the landscape at Silverback vastly changed, there is no question that it's just a question of time until this free flowing top section of the Nile becomes a lake. Total Gunga is nothing like it used to be and Silverback itself is very different, but at least, they are still there! Within eight months, assuming things stay on schedule, the dam should be complete. It is really difficult to even contemplate how different the river will be after the dam is finished.

If you haven't been to the Nile, now is definitely the time to go. Words do not do this river justice. You must experience it for yourself. Whatever level of paddler you are, there is something for you, so don't let

too much river lore scare you away. And for heavens' sake, don't let deepest, darkest Africa or the threat of getting malaria keep you away either. While there will still be good paddling downstream of Silverback dam, there is nothing quite like being able to kayak this river uninterrupted. Not only is the Nile a spectacularly beautiful river, but it also holds so much life! Like many other incredible rivers before it, progress trumps beauty and uniqueness, though you wonder on seeing Bujagali Falls how UNESCO did not declare it a world heritage site.

Maybe saddest of all is that the hydropower that will be generated from this new dam will not benefit the local Ugandans, the vast majority of whom have no electricity. The new energy generated will command a very high price abroad (that's where most of Uganda's current power is sold now) and where the new power will go. In addition, it is very expensive to deliver power locally; just the cost of putting in poles and wire will stop it from happening.

Polly Green and Jessie Stone across from the Dam

Photo by Morgan Koons

In that sense in particular, the dam seems like such a waste to me.

I sometimes imagine in the future people saying to me, "Tell me about the Nile! What was it like?" I would like to be able to say back, "I can tell you a little but really you should talk to all these other people, they know it better than me!" Right now, that number is pretty small but everyone who is reading this and wants to experience something really special has the power to make it happen! I hope to see you soon running Bujagali Falls or surfing Super Hole or Nile Special. Don't miss this amazing river; you won't regret it and you'll have something great to share with your grandkids.



Polly Green on approach to the meat of Silverback

Photo by Morgan Koons



Women in Whitewater

Girls' Trip on the Illinois

By Gillian Salton

Sometime on day two, one of the women said, "I think Gillian needs to write the trip report for this one." I said, "Um," thereby confirming my fluency in the English language.

Maybe I should have taken notes. On the other hand, paddling keeps me in the moment like nothing else, and there is something about milking the moment that prevents you from actually laying down memories properly, but here are my recollections.

The images stick. Clear green water, countless waterfalls, beautiful women in rubber suits—sounds like a tropical James Bond setting, but it's the Illinois River.

A relatively short river, it is free-flowing from its source in the coast ranges on the California-Oregon border to its confluence with the Rogue about 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean. The paddling season is short, as with most undammed rivers, and the shuttle is long. It is a river of renown here in Oregon, for its remoteness and beauty, and for having enough challenging whitewater to keep it entertaining. In a state with more Wild and Scenic Rivers than any other, the Illinois tops the list.

Joyce had called sometime in the middle of ski season. Was I interested in coming on a girls' trip down the Illinois? It would be the two of us and some friends of hers from out of town; three days of self-support whitewater kayaking. I called back at once to say yes. Then I hung up the phone and promptly had second thoughts. I'd heard about the Illinois, but wasn't so sure where it was, or what I was getting myself into. Joyce is a fantastically skilled boater, and I worried she was projecting her skill onto me. My husband no sooner had asked if he could come if he wore a wig and falsies, than he said "I hear that's Class V."

I got caught up in ski season and forgot all about it. By the last weekend of March, I had finally taken my first run of the spring. Suddenly the Illinois trip was right around the corner. I pulled open the boat shed and looked at a large pile of fiberglass in various states of disrepair, my little plastic boat, and the stalwart of my creeking days, the Freefall (dating myself). After examining the pillar that had been shredded by an ex-roommate's cat some years ago, I decided to borrow a boat from our local shop. One obstacle down.

A week or so later I returned from a few days out of town to 18 emails in the inbox. As I read I began to get a sense of these women I didn't know. There seemed to be Jennie, the organized spirit ("I packed tonight" – a week before leaving! I wasn't



Megi Morishita and a waterfall

Photo by Gillian Salton

even sure if I could find my ancient stowfloat!); Megi, the enthusiastic spirit (“I think I might do Opal this weekend for my final warmup!”); and Leah, the starving artist (“I will sleep in the van.”) And of course Joyce, who can paddle drops that angels and strong men fear to tread (Benham Falls, anyone?) I wasn’t sure what I was getting myself into! But a few days later, after packing and shopping, and adjusting the seat on the borrowed boat a few times, and stuffing everything in, nothing was left to do but wait around the house for Joyce to come pick me up.

Joyce pulled up an hour late, which by any expedition standard is right on time. Turns out she got tied up squeezing limes for the margaritas. We pulled into a motel in Grant’s Pass; the other 3 arrived a few hours later, and next thing I knew it was 7 am, Jennie’s alarm beeped, and we rallied.

We arrived at put-in about the same time as a group from Portland. We had a few discussions about where we were all camping, and to our embarrassment, the rafters were ready to put on before we were. Somehow the mechanics of getting all our gear into the boats’ backs and fronts (yank bulkhead out, mash stuff in, wiggle bulkhead back in, push with all your quads to get it back to length, then quickly attach thumb screws), seemed to take awhile. The quick break for mimosas (Jennie: “This OJ has gone bad” – clearly not a breakfast cocktail aficionado), didn’t slow us down much.

I slid into the water, ferried across the glassy river to an eddy on the far side. To my surprise and joy, the boat seemed to handle well full, and Joyce confirmed that I looked well-balanced. I spent a moment looking through the water at the outline of every cobble on the riverbed. The overcast

sky heightened the clarity of the water, and suddenly the stress of work, mild carsickness, and tension of setting out with an unknown group vanished. Peace of the river. Leah had come over my direction and I saw the same transformation in her. Within a moment we all headed downstream.

To my delight, the trees were wearing my favorite color, the green of new leaves just barely out. A waterfall came in one side, then another. Jennie was the only one of us with a sense of the rapids. Joyce had been here once, 15 years ago, the rest of us not at all. Jennie said today was the “moderate” day, tomorrow the hard stuff, then day three was easy.

The Illinois has plenty of rapids, mostly Class III, some IV, one V, all in pool-drop style. The water for this trip was low; we could still see snow on the peaks and

In a nutshell, here is what we offer... Custom trips, single day adventures, multi day adventures, whitewater kayaking, flat water kayaking, ocean kayaking, bus tours, shuttles, mountain biking, volcano tours, surfing, sea kayaking, inflatable kayaking, rafting, stunning sailboat tours, amazing wildlife viewing, Kayak and full gear rental. We also have a 30 passenger bus along with a sweet truck for smaller trips. You name it and we will make it happen!!!

"siMPLY AmAZing"
Another satisfied client... Pascal Schaffner, Switzerland

Paradise 10 Day Trip - \$2495 CAD
Turn your brain off and enjoy the trip, everything is taken care of on this surreal adventure (4 star accommodation, meals, transport included)
*Flight not included - Based on double occupancy

Easy Go 8 Day Trip - \$1895 CAD
Go with the flow on this trip, and live life like a local. Pura Vida!
(2-3 star accommodation, transport included)
*Flight not included - Based on double occupancy

Liquid Skills

Come to Costa Rica with Liquid Skills!
www.liquidskills.com - 613-582-3340
Group Discounts Available

Women in Whitewater

hoped for a little rise in flows with the warm weather forecast for the weekend. As we slid through the boulder piles of the first rapids, we agreed that it would be easier with a bit more water. Megi and Leah both had packed all their gear in the stern. At times their boats looked like Weebles with the fronts wobbling in the air as they pulled out of eddies. They both felt a little off kilter, though they both looked strong. As we came through one steep drop Megi hit the hole at the bottom and stood on her tail. The next morning we stuffed rocks in Leah's bow for balance

It rained lightly, more of a heavy mist than actual drops. I guess this was our 30% chance of rain. Joyce wiggled in her seat a bit, feeling sciatica. I suspected it was the ice for the margaritas that she had packed in a drybag right behind her back!

We had decided to go to Klondike Creek at mile 9 as the other group wanted Pine Flat at mile 6, for a few more miles under our belts today, and fewer before the "hard

stuff" tomorrow. As I look back now, the rapids blend together. Though Jennie had been down before, the rapids are numerous and the levels were different. Also, she has enough rivers in her log that keeping them all in her head would be impossible. So it was boat scout and run, taking turns to go first, as we settled into the rhythm of the day. In between rapids, we chatted in groups of 2,3,5, sending out feelers of conversation. Who wants to talk about work and outside life too much on the river? But I wanted to know who these women were, as I sensed the fullness of years of river and life experience. Again we represented 3 decades: Megi and Leah for the 30s, Joyce and I in our 40s, Jennie the Zen Master in life years as well as river years. I discovered Leah's soy allergy does not require an epi-pen, Jennie describes her job title as "bureaucrat," Megi has a dog called Belle, and Joyce now has a horse as well chickens.

As the day wound down, Jennie pulled into an eddy and stopped us. "I think this is Klondike." We ferried across the tailwaves of a little drop split by a big rock that then pillowed into a long wall. Pulling out on the cobbles on river left, we walked up to a mossy bench that overlooked a hairpin

bend in the river where a creek flowed in from a long open valley. Just then the sun came out, and a bare peak came into sight upstream. Home for the night.

We sat on the rocks in the sun, dried out our gear, and discovered that Joyce's back pain had not been for naught—we had enough ice for all the margaritas! We followed the arc of the setting sun across the rocky bar, then extracted our bivy sacs, sleeping bags, hats, and pads, and set about making burritos. Several days of planning, travel, late nights, and driving caught up with us and we were in bed before the stars emerged. I woke at night to see the sky alight as only a western sky can be, in the midst of a wilderness, miles from roads or towns. Later I woke to cloud cover and fog.

The next morning saw wisps of fog slowly clearing from among the wooded hills. We dallied over breakfast and packing. The rafters eventually came by, looking surprised (again) that they had gotten on the river before us. We were 10 minutes shy of earning the "Crack of Noon Boating Club" title when we put on the river. A glorious sunny day brought us past more waterfalls, and some more Class III rocky rapids. We pulled over for lunch on some high rocks across from a steep hillside. Someone discovered a bear print in the wet sand, perfectly outlined complete with nail marks. It dwarfed the adjacent deer print. We took pictures with Jennie's hand for scale.

As we floated on we began to develop some tension about the impending Green Wall, or at least Megi, Leah, and I did. Nobody was quite sure where it was. The waiting for it to arrive seemed to stretch on as we floated through relatively calm water, one bend to another. Joyce said, "This could be Green Wall," as we came around another corner to see more green rocks, looking a little like a wall. "Why?" asked Leah abruptly. I burst out laughing, as I felt the same—why should this be it, and why can't it wait as this is so peaceful, and why can't we be there already, as the rapid you don't know is more scary than

continued on page 43

Camp at Klondike

Photo by Leah Wilson



**Your style.
Your destination. Your creeker.**



**THE
PROGRESSER**



The Karnali's balanced volume distribution, softer / rounder edge profile and generous rocker make it an ideal kayak to take all paddlers from that first local grade 3 river through to their first Alpine trip or that big volume mission they've always aspired to.

- High volume hull with softer rounded edge profile make for a forgiving and predictable ride
- Softer edges, lower back cockpit and smoother hull cross section increases ease of rolling
- Large rocker and v shaped deck give increased lift and controlled resurfacing in big volume water



	LENGTH	WIDTH	VOLUME	WEIGHT
M	8' 4"	25 1/2"	74gal	46lbs
L	8' 5"	26"	80gal	48lbs

PADDLER WEIGHT RANGE

00	110	132	154	176	198	220	243	264	286 lbs
----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---------

M	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----								
L	----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- ----- -----								

“ Wayne Dickert - Paddling School Director at Nantahala Outdoor Centre

One of the greatest things you can give a paddler of any skill level is confidence. When you give them a Karnali, you give them confidence.

”

Get in touch with your local dealer to arrange a demo

pyranha
.com

Women in Whitewater

W.O.W.

By Linda McLuckie

In the past I always made sure I had strong male paddlers around me whenever I was on the river. Then one day I thought the time had come for me to prove to myself that I could handle things on the river without depending on men, and the W.O.W. (Women on Water) trip was born. On July 4th of 2008, I ran an all women's paddling trip on the Lackawaxen in Pennsylvania, through the KCCNY (The Kayak and Canoe Club of NY, www.kccny.com). It was one of the best trips I've ever been on. I invited women of all skills to join me on this wonderful journey of empowerment. The energy and excitement among the women was electrifying. You could hear us coming down the river a mile away (well, maybe not that far, but you get the picture.) It was so uplifting to watch the more experienced women sharing their skills and talent with the novice paddlers, encouraging them to practice their skills and applauding them when they hit their roll.

It quickly became apparent how alike we were in our paddling lives. I think women share a special bond on the river, because a lot of us have had to overcome the same fears or anxieties when learning to kayak. I've talked to some of the men I've paddled with about my fears and lots of times they've talked about pushing through your fear to the next level. As I progressed, I would be told, "Now we just got to get you on 'bigger' water." That seems to work for a lot of men, but I've noticed that women want to take a little longer to get to that 'bigger' water. To me it's not a race to the finish line, but an opportunity to enjoy the scenery and the camaraderie of fellow paddlers along the way. It's taking a newbie under your wing and giving her that gentle encouragement: that they will make it, that they're not alone, they're part of a sisterhood. Women are wonderful at paying forward the support they receive from other paddlers.

Bigger rivers will always be waiting for us around the next bend. So for now, enjoy

the ride, no matter what Class you are paddling. And when you see a women take her first swim on a river, give her a round of applause and say congratulations ... you're one of us now! You're a Woman on Water!!

P.S. Last year's trip was such a success, we'll be doing the 2nd Annual W.O.W. trip this year on July 3rd.

Paddling and playing on the Lackawaxen

Some of the women celebrating after the trip

Photo by Nan Mason



the one you can see.

In the end we arrived. The lead in showed up suddenly, and Jennie started in before I could see where she was going. Joyce followed, but lost sight of Jennie and disappeared behind a large rock on the left. I quickly turned to Leah, said, "I'm following Joyce's line, it looked clean, watch me," and headed down. It was clean, left to right, then back left behind the big rock. I thought I saw Jennie a little higher in an eddy on the left as I passed. Leah pulled in behind me just as Joyce yelled from shore downstream, "I don't see Jennie!" I hopped out with throwbag, Leah stayed in the water. A quick scramble over boulders confirmed that Jennie was sitting in an eddy just upstream, now with Megi with her. I waved at Joyce, all OK.

We scouted for what seemed like forever. The top of the drop has 3 slots, more like 2.5 at this level, then some waves, a hole, and another drop landing in some rocks. Eventually we took the "wet rocks" route down the left side of the top half, and then got out to scout the lower half. Leah and Megi decided to portage. Joyce, Jennie, and I looked at options. The right boof looked possible, as long as you were on the line. Jennie said, "I don't boof"; she had the left line in her sights. I could see the line, start right, move around two rocks to the left, down the tongue, through the hole backed by a rock, then through the next hole backed by two more rocks. I looked and looked some more. I thought about how much time I'd spent in my boat recently (three two-hour runs this season) and time to evacuate an injury (days). I walked up, picked up my boat, and carried.

Joyce and Jennie decided to run it. I sat in my boat just below, the chase boat, and Leah and Megi carried their throwbags upstream to set shore safety. As I watched, Megi straddled a river channel and did some sketchy rock climbing so she could position herself just above the first hole with a throwbag. I thought how glad I was to be on the river with someone determined to set safety seriously. Eventually Joyce came through, sideways at first but then straightening just in time. Then Jennie came through the hole almost too strongly, into the backup rock and coasting its pillow down.

As we carried on downstream I beat myself

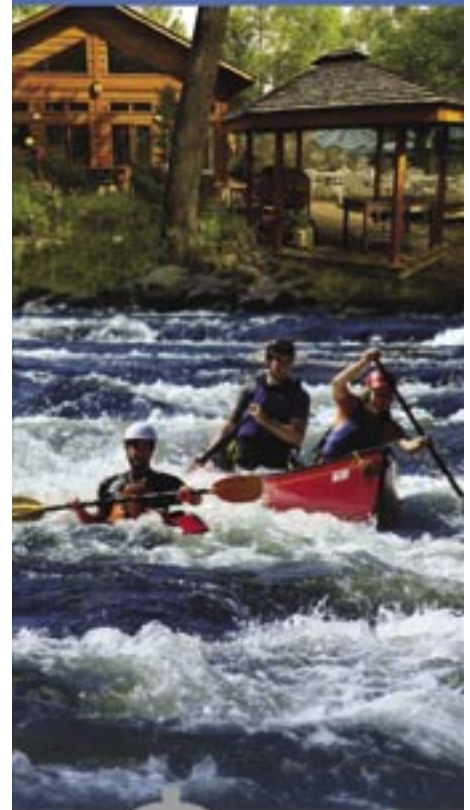
up for awhile for walking, then got over it. Too beautiful a place. A few more rapids followed before we got to the only other rapid with a name we knew. Submarine Hole was Submarine Rock at this level, with a slot around it on either side; we could see neither runout from our boats. Fortunately the rafters were standing on shore, having done a partial portage of a cataraft, as the slots were too narrow for them to get through. Following their waved directions, we ran right to left, then through the left slot. From downstream we could see the sieve in the right slot.

Now we began to look for a camp. The canyon is tight here, and the river low. We found lots of rocky bars, but no flat spots. Around another corner, and another. And another. We each got out to look at sites. Nothing. We had a snack and carried on. Eventually, achy and a little cold (on my part) we found a beautiful sheltered beachy spot. After a 3-woman effort to get the fuel canister out of the front of Jennie's boat, where it had become firmly wedged under the grab-loop bolt, we got pasta underway.

We were up later that evening, lying on our Thermarests, watching the satellites, picking out the few constellations we knew, and wishing the trip wasn't ending so soon.

Morning brought more sunshine, and the rafters floating by (again). After the skinny dip for tradition's sake, we finally launched, eight minutes earlier than the day before. As promised, the last day was the "easy" day—a few rapids, more waterfalls, and brilliant sunshine. Too soon came take-out, where a 4-foot sturgeon basked in the shallows to wish us a safe road trip home.

MADAWASKA KANU CENTRE



Save \$ in Canada!

It's a RAPID EDUCATION

Weekend and 5-Day Courses

Since 1972, MADAWASKA KANU CENTRE'S combination of outstanding instruction, delicious meals and a stunning location with guaranteed warm water, is a formula that has Beginner to Expert paddlers return each summer. Located on the Madawaska River and Bark Lake, in the Ottawa Valley, MKC offers Weekend and 5-Day Courses for whitewater paddlers and sea kayakers.

888.652.5268 **MKC.ca**

2008 Annual Report

Dear Members,

American Whitewater has a great story to tell, 2008 was an outstanding year for your river stewardship organization. Your membership support allowed American Whitewater's River Stewardship Team to work on important projects in their respective regions. The River Stewardship Team consists of professional staff, board members and volunteers from communities across the country. This regional approach to project work is focused on the American Whitewater mission, "To conserve and restore America's whitewater resources and to enhance opportunities to enjoy them safely." Staying true to the mission, this Annual Report highlights stewardship projects taking place around the country.

As good as 2008 was for American Whitewater, we cannot look backwards. The winds of an economic downturn are blowing hard and non-profit organizations are being forced to examine their business models. Fortunately, the American Whitewater board and staff have been creative in finding ways to live within the means of the organization. New technologies have assisted; board meetings are done as a conference call with a web-enabled presentation tool rather than having face-to-face meetings that require flying folks in from around the country. Additionally, our reserve fund was invested very conservatively and as a result American Whitewater did not incur financial loss due to the market downturn in 2008.

With economic adversity comes opportunity, and this recession will be no different. As we all adjust to fundamental

shifts in our national economy, flowing rivers provide a welcome and affordable refuge. Whitewater paddling provides many outlets to the stresses of daily life and deepens our relationships with paddling friends, family and the places that are most important to us. Protecting treasured whitewater assets for future generations takes on new meaning and significance in troubled times.

As we move through the coming year we will be taking the long view, looking for ways to work smarter and continuing to be a leader in advocating on behalf of whitewater rivers and the appropriate management of public lands. Taking the long view means that you, the American Whitewater member, are the key to future success. Without your membership support the American Whitewater River Stewardship Team could not do the work reflected in the following pages. There has never been a better time to support these projects through American Whitewater membership.

Sincerely,



Don Kinser
President



Mark Singleton
Executive Director



North Fork San Joaquin, CA ©Darin Mcquoid

2008 River Stewardship Report

Our River Stewardship Program is lead by a small diverse staff that spends their time in the complex world of negotiations and legal wrangling. The fuel to our fire though is time spent on the water, with the paddling community. The passion that we share for exploring rivers, our technical expertise, and the incredible volunteerism and activism of the paddling community allow us to be effective river advocates on the local and national scale. We would like to share a few detailed examples of the work

that we conducted in 2008, along with a list of the projects in our work plan. Our goal is always to do the most good for rivers and paddlers that we can, and to seek a good geographical mix of projects. We prioritize projects that have strong local support from paddlers, that are winnable, and that we can play a vital role in. On many of our projects, if paddlers were not there, the river would fail to be protected or restored. Thank you for your support of these efforts!



© Doug Vanhouten

Flow Restoration Below Dams

Spotlight: Bear River (ID)

On its way from the Caribbean blue depths of Bear Lake to the pelicans and brine shrimp of the Great Salt Lake, the Bear River flows through a patchwork of Idaho potato fields. Once a dynamic and wild river, the Bear has been tamed and put to work as an irrigation conveyance system and a generator of power.

For decades the Black Canyon of the Bear was tamed: dewatered by massive pipes that diverted water around the Canyon to a powerhouse at the canyon mouth. Except for a miniscule base flow and an occasional accidental spill of water, the Canyon was left essentially dry. Sediment built up in the channel, vegetation took root, species changed, and fish were blocked by a downstream dam.

Enter American Whitewater. As we have done on dozens of other rivers across the country, we got involved when the federal license for the dams was being reconsidered. Working closely with local volunteers to represent paddlers and the dynamic nature of rivers that we love, we advocated for restoration of water to the Black Canyon and for the removal of the downstream dam. In 2002, after several years of conflict and negotiations, American Whitewater and other stakeholders signed a settlement agreement with the power company. The Federal



Grace Dam on the Bear

Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license in 2004 and river restoration began. The downstream dam was removed, land was protected, base flows were instituted, and studies begun that would prepare for pulse flows. American Whitewater has attended regular planning meetings since the settlement was signed to support restoration, and continues this role. American Whitewater recognized our Regional Coordinator Charlie Vincent as the 2008 River Steward of the Year for his tireless work on this project.

On April 20, 2008, the Bear River was treated to its first ever planned pulse flow. Paddlers came from around the region to enjoy the Bear River, despite the sub-freezing temperatures, howling winds, and snow. That release, and four others in 2008, marked the beginning of decades of releases to come and restored a more natural river channel. The releases were carefully monitored to assure that no significant environmental impacts were caused. While monitoring will continue for two more years, so far it appears that the flows are providing vital ecosystem maintenance while not having any unintended or unacceptable impacts. American Whitewater attended regular meetings in 2008, analyzed data, negotiated study protocols, and pushed for river restoration. Through our stewardship program American Whitewater is on the cutting edge of the science of river restoration, and is able to restore rivers while reconnecting people with long forgotten and special places like the Black Canyon of the Bear River.

Protecting the Last Great Rivers

Spotlight: Skagit River (WA)

In 2008 we celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Throughout the year, we worked on projects to designate additional rivers while advocating for responsible management of those rivers that have been designated. We also celebrated the introduction of the Omnibus Public Lands Act of 2009 which resulted in the designation of 86 new Wild and Scenic Rivers. American Whitewater participated in the creation and passage of the Act, widely recognized as the most significant environmental legislation in decades.

On the Skagit River in Washington State, we requested that the National Park Service conduct an eligibility and suitability review of the most popular whitewater section of the river. While the downstream section of the Skagit, which is popular for eagle floats, is designated as Wild and Scenic, what many paddlers do not know is that the well-known whitewater run upstream through the S Bends has no such protection. In fact, this section was originally the site of a massive dam and hydropower project proposal in the 1970's, which would have inundated this run. Whitewater paddlers were well represented in the public scoping meetings and we will continue to push for long-term protection of this great river.

In 2008, we worked on several Wild and Scenic River bills. Our members were actively working to designate the Snake River and tributaries in Wyoming, the Owyhee River in Idaho including key tributaries popular for whitewater paddling, and the rivers of Mount Hood in Oregon. Through our partnerships with organizations like Idaho Rivers United, American Rivers, and local paddling clubs and businesses we proved to be an effective force for river protection. As several bills moved to completion towards the end of 2008 we were hard at work identifying key opportunities for more Wild and Scenic designations. Among these opportunities was the bill to expand the Alpine Lakes Wilderness that focused on the Pratt River valley. While this bill did not receive a hearing, we will be working hard to build support for this legislation.

In addition to our Wild and Scenic work, American Whitewater also works to remove dams that are outdated, unsafe, or impose significant environmental or economic costs. These projects represent significant river restoration opportunities as well as unprecedented scientific opportunities to investigate how rivers respond to restoration of flows. Through 2008, we worked to keep two important projects in the Pacific Northwest moving forward including efforts to remove two dams on the Elwha River, and Condit Dam on the White Salmon. During 2008, more dams on the Rogue River were removed including Gold Hill Dam on the Nugget Falls run and Elk Creek Dam on Elk Creek which is a major tributary.



Eric Myren on the Skagit, WA



Chattooga Headwaters. Flight courtesy of South Wings.

Engaging in River Management Decisions

Spotlight: Chattooga River (NC/SC/GA)

When rivers are managed right you don't even know they are managed. There just happens to be good river access, water quality, and plenty of water and native wildlife. In reality, all of these are the result of decisions made by landowners and government agencies. American Whitewater works with these landowners and agencies to influence these decisions and to assure that rivers are protected and enjoyed by the public. Perhaps the most iconic recent example of our river management work is that southeastern gem, the Chattooga River.

For over 30 years the US Forest Service has banned boating on the upper 21 miles of the Wild and Scenic Chattooga. At the same time the US Forest Service have artificially increased angling use through stocking 50,000 exotic trout each year and have allowed all non-boating uses unlimited and unmeasured access. At American Whitewater, we think Wilderness Areas and Wild and Scenic Rivers deserve careful management to protect the landscape from recreational overuse or maintenance neglect, while equitably supporting diverse and appropriate uses. Lastly, we believe that the public should have the right to float down public rivers through private lands. This is something that the owners of a private land parcel on the Chattooga are currently forbidding with the Forest

Service's support.

2008 marked the thirteenth year that American Whitewater sought responsible management for the Upper Chattooga River. This year we maintained continuous pressure on the Forest Service to release their long overdue analysis of the issue. In the fall, they finally released their analysis and proposal complete with many critical flaws. We drafted lengthy critical comments and encouraged paddlers to submit comments of their own. Roughly 1,500 paddlers sent in comments requesting responsible and rational river management. We expect that our 2008 technical analysis and grassroots advocacy on the Chattooga will help us secure protective and nationally consistent management for this very special river, and hopefully many others.



Our work on the Chattooga is an important and nationally precedent setting project. At American Whitewater, we pride ourselves on working collaboratively with managers ranging from private landowners to the National Park Service, with which we co-manage access on the Gauley River. In 2008, we also successfully advocated for adequate funding for the federal agencies responsible for managing rivers. We share a belief with the federal land and river management agencies that paddling rivers is a societal benefit that should be supported. In 2008, we crafted a Memorandum of Agreement with several federal agencies recognizing that shared belief. Through active participation in river management, AW helps connect people to rivers and ensure that connection is mutually beneficial – and fun!

Driving Cutting Edge Science and Policies for River Restoration

Spotlight: California

American Whitewater has consistently been transforming the way we restore ecological and recreational values on rivers impacted by dams through our work in California. Ten years ago we were fighting for a seat at the table. Through persistence and collaboration we have been able to gain credibility and recognition. Today, whitewater recreation flow studies are considered standard as part of any dam relicensing process. Armed with these studies, AW has been able to restore whitewater recreation on over one hundred rivers around the country. In fact, American Whitewater probably works on more rivers across the country than just about any other organization or agency.

Working on so many rivers has given us a unique perspective on what is happening on rivers across the country. Because of this perspective, American Whitewater staff are often looked upon as valuable resources that can bring in examples and information from other projects. In 2008, our California Stewardship Director, Dave Steindorf, became the Steering Committee Chairman of the California Hydropower Reform Coalition. This coalition is made up of the largest state and national river conservation organizations that work in California.

As whitewater paddlers we understand that healthy rivers have seasonal flow patterns like gradually decreasing flows following the spring snowmelt peak. Dammed rivers often lack these patterns and this can cause problems for their ecosystems. Frogs lay their eggs during high spring flows, only to have these flows cut off and their eggs left high and dry on the exposed cobble bars. Vegetation often encroaches into the river channel because there are no high flow events to keep them at bay. Impacts abound. American Whitewater has recognized this problem and has been at the forefront of restoring more natural flow regimes in California for the past decade. In 2008, we partnered with the Department of Watershed Sciences at University California Davis to scientifically explore and document the important seasonal flow patterns in California's rivers.

In 2008, American Whitewater crafted a new flow schedule on the Cresta reach of the North Fork Feather River. This flow schedule represents the best available science which we have helped to hone over the past decade through our advocacy work. The flow schedule has been accepted by the resource agencies, Pacific Gas & Electric, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. This new flow schedule has peak spring flows that are twenty times higher than what Pacific Gas & Electric had released previously. These flows will gradually taper off into the summer, giving a much more predictable flow pattern: good for paddlers, fish, and frogs. American Whitewater hopes to see the pattern replicated on rivers across California and across the West.



Ryan Knight, South Branch Feather, CA ©Darin Mcquoid

Protecting Flows in Iconic Rivers

Spotlight: Colorado

American Whitewater had a meaningful impact in how Colorado shapes water policy in 2008. Our Colorado Stewardship Program introduced new strategies in the fight to protect wild rivers from a massive water development process that threatens some of the great river canyons in the Southern Rockies. In the Yampa, Dolores and Upper Colorado River watersheds, American Whitewater has used the Hydropower Reform Coalition's methodology for recreational flow studies to identify flows that are optimal for kayaking and rafting, and that enhance critical aquatic habitat. Recreational flows are not protected under Colorado water law on most rivers. American Whitewater's strategy will include ensuring that resource management plans offer the highest protection for flows that sustain the state's whitewater rivers and opportunities for their enjoyment.

In 2008, the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management began evaluating the eligibility of Colorado's most iconic rivers for protection as Wild and Scenic Rivers. Water providers and others have mounted an aggressive response to

the threat of Federal protection of Colorado's river flows. They are attempting to negotiate local alternatives to Wild and Scenic river management that would allow water providers flexibility in how they capture and manage water in the Upper Colorado River, Yampa, and Dolores River basins. While supportive of flexibility, American Whitewater is fighting to protect the nationally significant values of these rivers to an extent consistent with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. American Whitewater has served as the only recreation representative in these negotiations, and has fought to protect what little water remains in Colorado's River systems. To form a basis for our negotiations, American Whitewater worked with private and commercial recreational interests to scientifically quantify the range of flows necessary to support paddling on Gore Canyon, Glenwood Springs, Yampa River Canyon, and the Dolores River.



American Whitewater not only established recreational flow targets for Colorado's rivers in 2008, but also our staff and partners have defended these dynamic spring flows in nearly 100 stakeholder meetings and negotiations. American Whitewater has created a compelling case for maintaining dynamic flows that are vital for recreation and the environment alike.

Regional government councils, water conservation districts, watershed scientists, and conservation groups support our ongoing efforts. Without American Whitewater's participation, Colorado's water development policies would fail to account for recreational and environmental water needs, and state and federal resource management planning would leave our rivers shorthanded.



Green River, Lodore Canyon, CO © Stuart Perillo

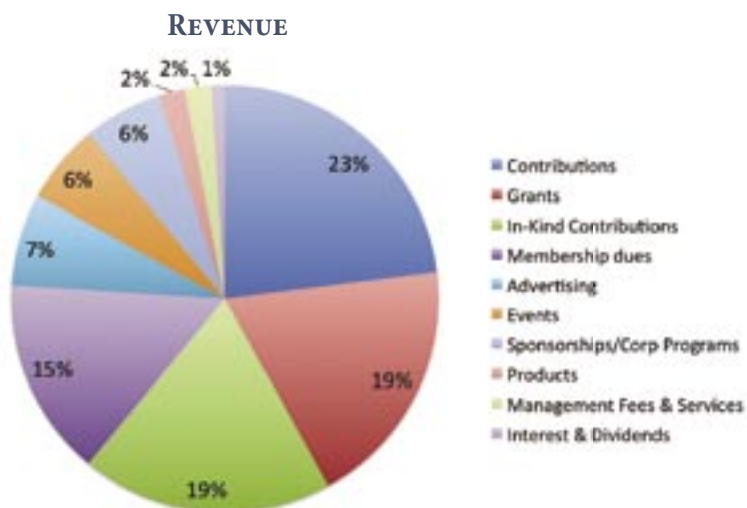
2008 Statement of Activities

REVENUE AND SUPPORT	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL FUNDS
Contributions	\$251,947	\$21,213	\$273,160
Membership Dues	\$180,494		\$180,494
Advertising	\$84,560		\$84,560
Grants	\$20,582	\$206,216	\$226,798
Events	\$77,568		\$77,568
Sponsorship/Corp. Programs	\$67,076		\$67,076
Products	\$27,071		\$27,071
Management Fees & Services	\$30,008		\$30,008
In-Kind Contributions	\$224,618		\$224,618
Interests & Dividends	\$6,164		\$6,164
Misc. Income	\$3,241		\$3,241
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$173,198	\$(173,198)	
Total Revenue	\$1,146,527	\$54,231	\$1,200,758

STEWARDSHIP EXPENSES	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL
Access & Conservation	\$420,318		\$420,318
Public Education	\$464,361		\$464,361
Total Stewardship Expenses	\$884,679		\$884,679

SUPPORT EXPENSES	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL
General & Administration	\$97,606		\$97,606
Fundraising	\$95,517		\$95,517
Total Supporting Services	\$193,123		\$193,123
Total Expenses	\$1,077,802		\$1,077,802

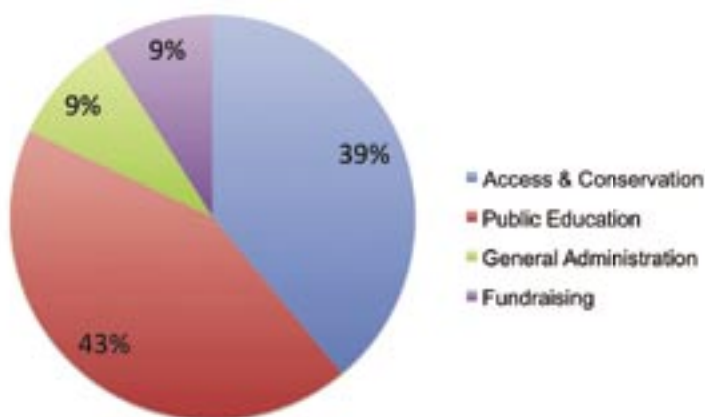
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL
	\$68,725	\$54,231	\$122,956



2008 Assets and Liabilities

ASSETS	2008	2007	+ / -
Cash	260,442	160,594	99,848
Accounts Receivable	20,333	39,435	-19,102
Grants Receivable	31,087	26,699	4,388
Investments	243,593	188,848	54,745
Prepaid Expenses	13,221	19,127	-5,906
Other Prepaid Assets	15,949		15,949
Inventory	5,714	11,844	-6,130
Total Current Assets	590,339	446,547	143,792
LONG TERM ASSETS			
	2008	2007	+ / -
Lands Held for protection	63,256	63,256	0
Computer Equipment, net	8,086	10,093	-2,007
Total Long Term Assets	71,342	73,349	-2,007
Total Assets	661,681	519,896	141,785
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
	2008	2007	+ / -
Accounts Payable	37,733	16,592	21,141
Other Liabilities	6,343	8,288	-1,945
Payroll Liabilities	15,947	16,314	-367
Total Current Liabilities	60,023	41,194	18,829
NET ASSETS			
Unrestricted Net Assets	396,975	328,250	68,725
Restricted Net Assets	204,683	150,452	54,231
Total Net Assets	601,658	478,702	122,956
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	661,681	519,896	141,785

EXPENSES



*American Whitewater is a registered charitable corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code. Financial statements are audited by Corliss & Solomon, PLLC. You can receive a copy of AW's 2008 audit by emailing your request to mark@americanwhitewater.org.

2008 Honor Roll

Industry Partners

Class V - \$20,000

KEEN

Class IV - \$15,000

NOC

Class III - \$10,000

Jackson Kayaks
Kayak Session
Kokatat
Patagonia

Class II - \$7,500

Aire
Clif Bar
Confluence
Exact Target
Subaru

Boof - \$5,000

Immersion Research
Liquidlogic
LVM
NRS
Pyranha Kayaks
Watershed
Werner
Yakima

Wave - \$2,500

Astral
Colorado Kayak Supply
Smith Glasses
Waldies
WorldKayak.com

Eddy - \$1,000

Blue Sky Outfitters
Diamond Brand
Gaia
Girls at Play
Outdoor Play
Palm USA
Sawyer Paddles
Southern Explorations
Wakawai.com

\$750

GAIA Paddlesports

\$500

Snap Dragon Design
Zoar Outdoor

In-Kind Donations

\$50,000+

Patton Boggs

\$10,000+

Confluence Holdings
Crane Associates, LLC
Kayak Session
Penstock Productions
Groth Consulting, Inc.
Young Gun Productions, LLC

\$5,000+

ExactTarget, Inc.
Smith Sport Optics

\$1,000+

Barry Adams
Bliss-Stick
Bob Center
Colorado Kayak Supply
David Steindorf
Diamond Brand Outdoors

Immersion Research
Jackson Kayak
Kokatat
Nathan Fey
Outdoor Retailer Summer Market
Outdoorplay
Pyranha US, Inc.
Thomas O'Keefe
Yakima

\$500+

Jennie Goldberg
Mark Singleton
Merrell - Wolverine
Ohiopyle Falls
Pelican Products
Providence Marketing
Seattle Raft & Kayak
SnapDragon Design
Snewsnet
Space Bag



Go to americanwhitewater.org > **Community > Industry Partners** to see AW's current list of industry supporters. We hope you'll consider a company's commitment to river stewardship when making your next purchase.

2008 Honor Roll

Donations

\$5,000+

Anonymous Donor
Yvon and Melinda Chouinard
Michael D. Crane
Mort Fuller and Sue Langfit Fuller
Boyce Greer
Joseph Greiner
Patricia Schifferle

\$2,500+

Anonymous Donor
Curtis and Buffy Burge
Bill Parks/NRS

\$1,000+

Glenn August
Rich and Stephanie Bowers
Carolina Canoe Club
Clint Edwards
Sybille Fleischmann
Bob Forster
Garden Homes Fund
Bruce M. and Olivia J. Genereaux
Jennie Goldberg
John Harvey
Todd Hoffman
Les Hurrelbrink
Kevin St John
KCCNY
Victor Kress and Dawn Meekhof
Tony Lunt
Tom O'Keefe and Rie Yamazaki
Nicholas B. Paumgarten
Justin Rae
Ken Ransford
Lee Rust
Alan Salomon
Mark Singleton
Roger L. Starring
Edward Stockman
TransCanada PipeLines Ltd
Barry and Kitty Tuscano
Candice Clark Wozniak

\$500+

David Ackerman
Richard Ernie Anderson
Brian M. Aubin
Robert Baca
Scott P. Barnes
Kemper Begley
Elliot Beinfest
Dave Bowman
Alan and Suzanne Bressler
Ed Clark
Kenneth Cofer
Rebecca Dameron
Jeffrey J. Dean
Ken Frederick
Sean Gallivan
Holley and Brian Gardel
Ross George
Karl and JoAnn Gordon
Luke Hanson
Robert W. Harris
Brian Jacobson
Ezra Thomas Jones
Keith Kishiyama
Kelly Kraus
Kevin L. Lewis
Douglas Liu
Evelyn Locke
Greg Mallory
Ruth Martin
Robert and Debora Martz
Megi Morishita
Gilberto Robles
Norwood Scott
Amy Shipman
Matt Solomon
Space Bag
Loren Starcher
Gordon Steindorf
Joyce Stuart
Team Friendsville
Jim and Julia Tibbetts
Eric Tollefson
Christopher Tulley
Dane Tullock
Charlie Vincent
Josh Von Szalatnay

Scott Weems
When It Rains Inc.
David J. H. Wilson
John D. Wolken
Dave Zinn

\$250+

Jeffrey Abel
Scott Adams
Russell Adams
Mike Aronoff
Eric Arons
John Arthur
David M. Ashley
Martin Bay and Nancy Anderson
Lee Belknap
Peter R. Bernstein
Eric Besette
Boater Chick Festival
David Brauer
Anne Brindle
Allen Brown
Robert (Mike) Brown
Ian Buckley
Macy Burnham and Amanda Marusich
Ed Callahan
Mark Canada
Daniel E. Carlson
Ryan Casey
Ross and Tara Cherry
Thomas J. Christopher
Andrew J. Cole
Gretchen Cornell
Adam Cramer
Erik Dalton
Brent and Dawn Davis
Jeff DeMaine
Richard Dechant
Gerald Delong
Development Services Ltd.
Chris Dickens
Jim Dobbins
Robert Douglas
Susan Eckerly and Terry O'Donnell
Don Edmonds
Brandon and Tara Engler

2008 Honor Roll

Donna K. Ennis
Cindy and Stacey Fornstrom
Gary Franks
Tom Franks
George and Leslie Fuller
Gaia Sports
John Garcia
Edward Gertler
Rob Gibbert
George and Clarice Gordon
Thomas Gottwald
Dan Gray
Michael Harvey
Ron Healy
George Hedrick
Paul Holmes
Robert Howell
John Jacoby
Peter Juhnke
Tim J. Kelley
Patrick Kessler
Dave Kessmann
Cameron Klinger
Jay Koontz
Jack Krupnick
David and Angie Kuklinski
Corey Largman
Emile J. LeDonne
Mike Lee
Frank Lorch
Brooks Lutterloh
Mimi Margulies
Tom McCloud
Joanne and Dan McGrew
David McIlwaine
Thomas McKibbin
Kurt McKissick
McNeal Graphics, Inc.
Robert Merriman
Kevin and Michelle Miller
Steven D. Mills
Kevin Mitchell
Gibson Mokler
Richard Montgomery
Bryan and Patty Morrison
Michael Mullin
Network for Good

John O'Leary
Andrew Oberhardt
Paul Padyk
Tom Quarles
Johnson Rice
Matt Rodgers
Crissa Rodrigue
Dale Rogerson and Sarah Stanley
Mark Rollins
Ross Romer
Julie Scott Rowland
Mike Ryan and Linda Joyce
Steve Scarborough Family
Bill and Maryl Sedivy
Jack Shuler
Norman Sims
Skirtworks
Ellis B. Smith
Peter F. Smith
Chris Sneed
Steve Stohlman
Joe Stubbs
Douglas Swartz
Michael and Caroline Tanksley
Matt Terry
Pam Todd
Marc Tohir
Jacob Treadwell
Chris Voegele
Christopher W. Walker
Gary and Joan Warner
William E. Weddle
Kirk Weir
Tom and Suzanne Welander
James C. Westfall
Collin Whitehead
Julianna Wilson
Ethan Winter
Andrew Wise
Tom Wittekind
Carter Wray
Fred Young Family

\$100+
Kim Abney
Michele Adams
Marty Aiken

Robert Allegrucci
John Allen
Thomas Allen
Jon Almquist
Holly and Chase Ambler
Jay Anderson
Terrell and Michelle Anderson
Henry C. Annable
Paul F. Araujo
Mary Arman
Jacob Armstrong
David Asbell
Ann Griffith Ash
William S. Atkins
Brent Austin
Linda Austin
Jeffrey S. Auxier, Esq.
Mark E. Baier
Gary Bailey
Bess and Rod Baird
Balance Point Health
David Baldovin
Gordon Bare
Kerrie Lee Barloga
Steve Barnett
Jocelyn Barrett
Christopher Barry
Kim Battle
Jim Beall
Brian Bearss
Craig Beasley
Beaver Creek Wildlife Education
Center
Les and Susan Bechdel
Frederick W. Beck
Dan Becker
Jon Becker
Kevin Belew
Rick Bellows
Roger E. Belson, MD
Harold Bencowitz
Shane Benedict
Suzanne Benson
Julia Bent
Douglas Benton
Tom and Doris Berdeen
Susan and William Beresford

2008 Honor Roll

David J. Berg	Andy Brown	Russ Condrey
Julie Berg	Charles Brown	Robert Connelly
Paul Bergquist	Courtney Brown and Scott Fogarty	Anne Connolly
Edward Berry	Gordon Brown, Jr	Max Connolly
Andy Berry	Stephen O. Bruno	Andrew Cook
Stephanie and Travis Bertram	Ian Brunton	Ted Cookson
Robin Betz	Eric Bryant	Bob and Linda Cooley
Kevin Billingslea	Dennis and Karen Buccella	Maryrita Cooper
Brent Binge	Eric Buer	Mike Corum
Alden Bird	Jeff Bullis	Jesse Costello-Good
Lisa Birkovich	Kyle Bullis	Gary Coultas
Craig Bishop	Paul Bunce	John Cowan
William J. Bishop	Scott Burke	William F. Crimmins IV
Eric Bloland	Deborah and Christopher Burt	Bill Crockett
Harlan Blynn	Tripp Burwell	Vance Cross
Clif Bobinski	Terry Busch	Shelaine Curd-Hetrick
Ron Bodinson	Matt Butcher and Liz Pennisi	Brendan Curran
Ed Bogush	Robert Butera	Michael Cyrus
David Bohannon	Christopher Caffrey	Rex Dalrymple
Darin Bohm	Joe Cahalan	Das Rad Haus
Steven W. Booth	Woody Callaway	Sandra K. David
Nick Borelli	Bernard Y. Calvert, III	Linda and David Davidson
Scott Bortree	Camp Carolina	Louise F. Davis
Tor Boschen	Craig Campbell	Phil and Mary DeRiemer
Michael Boudoucies	Bob Card	James Deehan
Phil Boudreau	Bozo Cardozo	Brad Defrates
Barbara Bowen	Burgess Carey	Al Dembeck
Arthur F. Bowie	Daniel Carroll	Edward Dery
Norman Bowles	Rebecca Carter	Polk Deters
Phil Boyer	Ben Carter	Jerry Diamondstein
Charles and Nancy Brabec	Paul D. Castille	Tom Diegel
Raymond Bragar and Robin Hertz	James Castro	David Dinan
Paul and Laurie Brager	Zachary Cates	Scott Dishman
Garth Brantley	Gardner Catsman	Dixie Division
Mike Brayton	William Center	Keith Doherty
Devon Brecke	Matt Cheadle	Stephen Dorick
Patrick Brennan	Helen Chernaick and Mike Shafer	David Dorsch
Bob Brewer and Jonna Hussey	Andy and Diane Cheshier	Michael P. Dowling
Andy R. Bridge	Brian Chisholm	Michael Doyle
Bill Bridger	Joe Cholka	Dress Well Outdoors
Scott Bridgham	Kathy Clark	Frances Duggan
John T. Britton, M.D.	Keith Clausen	EPIC Adventures
Christopher Brobin	Alex Clayden	Jared Ebelhar
Bradley T. Brooks	Steve Codey	Randy Ebersole
Richard Brooks	Scott Cole	Michael Elovitz
John Brower	Justin Collins	Curtis Elwood
Dave W. Brown	Richard Collins	Richard Elwyn

2008 Honor Roll

Xavier Engle
Chris Enlow
Carl J. Erb
Alex Eschenbaum
Chuck and Lola Estes
Daniel Evans
Constance Farley
Cathie and Davis Farrar
Chris and Shellie Feather
Herman Feineis
Richard Fernald
Chad S. Finch
Phil Fisher
George L.P. Fitz
Mitchell Fitzgibbon
Seth Fitzsimmons
Ryan Flax
Kevin Foley
David Fosdick
John Fralick
Michelle R. Francesco
Ross Frank
Kevin Frankosky
Stuart Fraser
Bob Frater
David and Jennifer Frierson
David Fulle
Ric and Ann Fullerton
Funhog Press
Mark A. Gabel
Marie Gaither
Allen Gaither
Ryan Galway
Bob Gedekoh
Ann Gerhardt
Hans and Gail Geyer
Susan and Robert Glanville
Timothy Glaser
Dave J. Glickerman
Scott Glisson
Brent and Jeannie Glover
Roger Gocking
Steven Goldstein
Katherine Goode
Nick Gottlieb
Denise and Scott Gravatt
Mayo Gravatt

Cecil Greck
Lee Green
David Greenwald
John Greer
Richard S. Griffith
Dale Griffiths
Cynthia and Barry Grimes
Bill Grist
Debbie Grooman
Michael Gross, MD
John Guarino
Andrew Goldman and Cathy Howard
Josh Guske
Carl and Anita Gutschick
Mark Guttadauro
David Hablewitz
Jeannine Hagan
Richard R. and Julie A. Haick
Ann Halverson and Harvey Harris
Hansel Halverson
Robert and Brian Hamill
Daniel Hammes
Dave Hammond
Tracy Hancock
J. Kevin Hannon
Edward and Ann Hanrahan
James A. Hardee
Dunbar Hardy
Jonathan Hare
Cody Harris
Paul Harrison
Brenda Harrower
John Hart
Eric Hartman
Alex Harvey
Jeffrey Hatcher
Charlotte Hathaway
Carter Hearn
David Carter Hearn
Oliver Heim
Andy Held
John Herman
Peter Herndon
Henry J. Herrmann
David A. Herron
Andy Hertz
Christopher Hest

George Hicks
Don Hillmuth
Chuck Hines
Darrin Hines
Kevin Hisel
Edward Ho
Susan Hockenberry
Michael Hodge
Mike J. Hodgman
Ken Hoeve
Lynne and Charles Hoffmann
Ted Hofmann
Andrew Holcombe
Ed Holladay
J Elmore Holmes
Tyler Holt
Marge and Bill Hone
Richard L. Hopley
Greg Horton
Peter Hubbard and Allison McCrory
Roger S. Huff
Randy Humble
Paul R. Hummel
Chuck Hunley
Andrew P. Hunter
Craig D. Irwin
Jarred Jackman
Link Jackson
Kenneth Jackson
Robert and Charlotte Jackson
Jagged Edge
Ennis James
Melody and Scott Jamieson
John Jamnback
Joey Jarrell
Jerry Jascomb
Jimmy Jehle
Andrew Jillings
Elizabeth B. Johns
Amy Johnson
Douglas Johnson
Eric Johnson
Jan Johnson
Michael Johnson
Stacey Johnson
Daniel G. Jones
Wayne Jones

2008 Honor Roll

David K. Joyce
Ed and Grace Kane
Stacy and Dale Karacostas
Norm Karasa
Ilona Karow
Hollis and Stanley Kaskey
Jonathan Katz
Mike Kaufman
Laura Kay
Robert Kearse
James Keese
Charles Keller
Nancy Kemp
Sue Kennedy
Robert and Ann Kennedy
Wilson Kern
Chris Kiehl
Don Kiely
Britan A. Kilbourne
Paul Killian
Dieter King
Trip D. Kinney
Ben Kinsella
Don and Nanci Kinser
Edward A. Kirkwood
Daniel and Laura Kirsch
Stephen Klaeren
Hank M. Klausman
Rusty D. Klein
Helge Klockow
David and Phyllis Knight
Bill Knowlton
Kurt Knuth
Charles D. Koteen
Nick Kowalski
Robert Krase
David Krewson
Bill Krissoff
Brock Krizan
Ken Krome
Brian Krueger
Ken Kyser
Phil LaMarche
Mark and Sharon Lacroix
Fran Lane
Michelle Lapin
Brent Laubaugh and Kelly Miller

Brian LeDoux and Krysten Econome
Robert Leayman
Kendall Lee
Todd Leigh and Linda Savage
Ben Levy
Craig M. Lewis
Theodore Lewis
Kevin W. Lindberg
David Lipski
Todd Locker
Colleen and Fred Lockwood
Ron Ladders
Tony and Ursula Long
Robert Lord
Eric Lovejoy and Kris Moller
Jim Low
Timothy Luce
Bryan Lusk
Scott Lyden
Mark Lyon
MTI Adventurewear
Bill MacFarlane
Brian Madsen
Erica Madsen
Peggy and David Mainer
Dionigi Maladoro
Bill Mandler
Russ Mapes
Alejandro Marangoni
Diane M. Markoff
Thomas Marley
Kathleen Mason
Mark Mastalski
Joe Bill and Kathy Mathews
Matt Mattson
Peter Mattson
Ben R. Maxwell, Jr.
Jade Mayer
Jamie McAdams
Neville McCaghren
Bill McCanless
Steve McClelland
John McClester
James E. McComb, MD
Ryan McCrea
Mark McCrocklin
Beth McDonald

Jay McDonnell
Kevin and Patrick McDonnell
David A. McGovern
Tom McGregor
Scott F. McIntyre
Samuel B. McLamb
Lizabeth McNamara
Steve McWilliams
Chuck Meakin
John Mello
Sarah Mello
Gerald H. Meral
Gregg and Karen Merchen
William P. Merrick
Sam, Mark and Emily Mershon
Bob Metzger
Chuck Meyer
John Michnick
Stuart, Liz and Fishburn Miles
Donald S. Millard, Jr.
Jim Miller
Brad Milner
Carla Miner
Jesse Mitchell
Richard Modglin and Susan Hinchey
Robert and Elizab Molyneaux
Phil Montgomery
Ryan Moore
John Moran
Charles E. Morgan
Jack Morisey
David Morring
Robert Morton
Jon Moseley
Robert Moses
Matt Muir
John Munnell
Caleb Murray
Logan Murray
Britta and Denis Nayden
Robert Neily
Carol Nelson
David Nelson
David R. Nelson
Steven E. Nelson
Hannah Nesbeda
Alex Nichols

2008 Honor Roll

Rick Norman
Allen Northcutt
Nova Riverrunners Inc.
Ronald S. Novak
Cliff O'Connor
Brian O'Meara
Frank Ohrt
Tom Omiatek
Robert Orbelo
Jess Ordower
Chris Osborne
Rob and Susan Osborne
Darryl D. Ott
Dennis and Molly Overly
Lee A. Owen
Tom Pace
Jennifer Padberg
Jeffrey Paine
Catherine Painter and Christopher
Brandely
Thomas Palka
Palmetto Paddlers
Bill and Donna Holmes Parks
Charles Parrish
Jennifer Pascoe
Alan Pasnik
Jesse Patterson
Russell H. Patterson
Dan and Amy Pearse
Warren Pechan
Cliff and Marilyn Peery
Chad Penley
Dan Perka
Kurt Perkins
Stephen Perkins
Lance Petrack-Zunich
Edward Pettus and Amy Stout
Robert Hans Pfister
Evans Phelps
Nonny Phillips
Randolph Pierce
Craig Piercy
Brad C. Piske
Dennis J. Pistoll
David Plott
Todd Plum
Jennifer Plyler and Paula Sorensen

Beth E. Price
Dixie Marree Prickett
Meg and Coulee Prince
Wes Prince
Robert Pritchard
Jim Privette
James Proctor
Tim Propes
Leonard Prosnitz
Chris Puchner
Robert Pugh
Joe Pulliam
Scott Puthoff
Andrew Quinn
Annalee Quist
Jennifer Raber
Paul and Sarah Raffaeli
Doug and Allison Ragan
Jeffrey J. Rahuba
Judith Ranelli
Mark Rasmus
Brett Redfearn
Mark Reed
Travis A. Reeder
Patrick E. Reilly
Paul Reilly and Cathy Murphy
Terry Reilly
Pierre de Rham
Ian Rice
Sue Richardson
Jeff Richman
Mark and Carol Jean Rickman
Shaun Riedinger
Patrick Rivers
Le Roy Robbins
Chris L. Roberts
Kenneth Robinson, Jr.
Michael Rock
Matt Rockett
Rockin 'R' River Rides
Mack L. Roebuck
Edward Rohrbach
Robert G. Rohwer
Philip Rosbottom
Steve Ruhle
Greg Runyon
Christopher Russell

Janet Russell
Kurt Sable
Karl Sackinger
Scott Sailor
Jeffrey Sailus
John Samora
Susan Sams
Gary and Belinda Sanda
Jeff Sandefur
Philip Sapala
Richard Scafidi
Chris Scalisi
Scenic River Tours
Greg and Dawn Schackel
Steve Schaefer
Paul Schelp
Todd Scheuer
Rolf Schindler
Steve Schmitt
Mike Schmitz
Bruce Schnapp
Johanna Schneider
Eric and Tera Schreiber
Kathrin Schumacher and Chad
Culbertson
Timothy W. Scofield
John Scott
Erica Seaver-Engel
JB Seay
Kurt Seckington
Lynn Seigerman
Ryan Shackleton
Richard Shands
Donald E. Shelters
John Sherman
Rebecca Sherman
Hank Sherrod
Candy Shirey
Mike Shook
Daniel D. Short
Donna Shriner
Brett Shumaker
Thomas Siddall
John Sills
Roger M. Singer
Anne Singleton
Dick Sisson

2008 Honor Roll

Skagit Watershed Council
Lyle Slaughter
Kent Slawson
Sleeping Lady Mountain Resort
Mark Smail
David Smalley
Craig Smith
David Smith and Joy Gaddis
Michael Smith
Ralph and Kathy Smith
Randy K. Smith
Terry Smith
Wilson Smith
Susan Snider and Pete Gutillo
Chris Sorauf
John Spencer
Kendall Springer
Robert W. Springman
Jerry Stankunas
Mike Stanley
Kathy Stege
John Steimke
Craig Steury
John Stewart
Larry Stewart
Larry and Leslie Stewart
Charles Still
Mark Stivers
Jessie Stone
John Stormon
Sue Strang and Paul Carlile
Ken and Fran Strickland
Mark Stuber
Carl W. Suchovsky
Doug Sughrue
Whitney and Kate Sunderland
William Szymanski
Tara Tanaka and Jim Stevenson
Justin Tatosian
Bruce Taylor
Rick Tegethoff
Richard Thayer
Karrie Thomas
Jeremy Thomas
Scott Thomas
Reed D. Thompson
Rod Thompson

Axel and Alex Thomsen
David Thornton
Mac and Molly Thornton
Kevin Tice
Ann and Cecil Tickamyer
Newton Tilson
David and Maureen Timm
Karen and Malcolm Tobias
Dooley Tombras
Peter Towey
Town Tinker Tube Rental
Jacque R. Townsend
Christopher Tracy
Martha Truninger and Michael
Jacob
Glen Tsapas
Carrington Tutwiler
Robert C. Tyler
Chloa Ulrich
Dan M. Valens
Gary and Terry Valle
Ben VanCamp
Kathy and Paul VanCamp
Derek and Amy Varble
Thomas Verratti
David Vican
Yury Voronov
Mike Ward
Rich Ward
Richard Warner
Chris Washnock
Wendy Watson
Bucknell C. Webb
Jack Weems
Greg Weeter
Patricia Ann Wehrle
Grant Weidenbach
Roy Weil and Mary Shaw
Peter Weisenburger
Joan Werleman
Michael Werner
Michele Westermeyer
Wet Planet Rafting Inc.
Whitewater Technology Associates
Bree Wientjes
Susan and Karl Wigdal
Nick Wigston

Spence Wike
David Wilcox
Steve Wilcox
Wilderness Medicine
Winston Wiley
Bill Williams
Sherman Williamson
Ed and Sondra Willobee
Chad Wilson
T Douglas Wilson, Jr
Michael D. Wilson
Paul D. Wilson
Graham Winkelman
Joanna Wolf
Larry Wolff
Jessica Wood
Scott Wood
David Wood
Denny Woods
Jeff Wormald
Patrick A. Wright
Jim and Patty Young
Robert D. Young
Pat Younger
Brian Zabel
Sarah Zapolsky and David Williams
Chrissy Zeltner
Dave Zischke

Lifetime Members

David Ackerman
Milt Aitken
Charlie Albright
Walt Andry
Brian M. Aubin
Sutton Bacon, Jr
Chris Baggott
Scott P. Barnes
Pope Barrow
Keith Beck
Chris Bell and Beth Maczka
Suzanne Benson
William J. Bishop
Rich and Stephanie Bowers
Dave Bowman
Larry Brammer
Alan and Suzanne Bressler

2008 Honor Roll

Charles and Virginia Brewer
Brian Briant
Peter Bross
Alex Brown
David Brown
Curtis and Buffy Burge
Victoria Butler
Margaret R. Caldwell
Yvon and Melinda Chouinard
Thomas J. Christopher
Emerson J. Clauss, III
Jeff Clewell
Cal Coetzee
Trey Coleman
Hope Concannon
Kevin B. Coyne
Adam Cramer
Joshua Crossman
Rebecca Dameron
Brent and Dawn Davis
Paul and Downing Denison
Stratford Douglas
Chip Duckett
Phil Duff
Scott P. and Lori Duffens
Kenneth H. Duncan
Ben Edson and Emily Mahowald
Anthony D. Edwards
Clint Edwards
David Elliott
Vann and Laura Evans
George M. Feinberg
Charles Fiveash
Jacob Fleisher
Kent Ford
Bob Forster
David Fosdick
Gary Franks
Ken Frederick
Joel E. Freedman
Michael French
Mort Fuller and Sue Langfitt Fuller
Nathan Galbreath
John Gangemi
Holley and Brian Gardel
Bruce M. and Olivia J. Genereaux
Ross George

Keith Gershon
Claire Gesalman
Ken Gfroerer and Lisa Smith
Nancy Gilbert
Jennie Goldberg
George and Clarice Gordon
Karl and JoAnn Gordon
Boyce Greer
Joseph Greiner
Robbie Griffith and Jeff Redding
H. H. Hancock
Robby G. Hansen
Alex and Christie Hanzlik-Green
Charles L. Harris
John Harvey
David Carter Hearn
Rob Heineman
Eric Henrickson
Hermann Family
Todd Hoffman
Dan Hoheim
Tamara Howard
Werner Rod Huck
Les Hurrelbrink
Kristine and Eric Jackson
John Jamnback
John Jerger
Charlotte T. Jones
Stacy and Dale Karacostas
Jeff Keim
Charles Keller
Chris Kelly and Nanette Laughrey
Jay P.K. Kenney
Patrick Kessler
Don and Nanci Kinser
Keith Kishiyama
Mike Klaiber
Scott and Devan Koehn
Chris and Caron Koll
Victor Kress and Dawn Meekhof
Bill Krissoff
Ken Kyser
Andy and Wendy Laakmann
Troy Langley
Jeffrey R. Leighton
Douglas Liu
Frank Lorch

Tony Lunt
Robert and Debora Martz
David Mason
Bill and Anne Masters
Graham Matthews
David Z. May
James and Sandra McEwan
Scott McKay
Robert Mingus
Phil Montgomery
Joshua C. Moore
Pete Morey
Megi Morishita
Eric Nies
Laura Nugent and Ian Bailey
Tom O'Keefe and Rie Yamazaki
Philip O'Rourke
Keith T. Oldham
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club
George Orr
Aida M. Parkinson
Nicholas B. Paumgarten
Stephen Perkins
Aaron Pruzan
Peter Quayle
Justin Rae
Ken Ransford
Sara Ransford, The Arches
Foundation
Brett Redfearn
Robert Reiterman
Timothy Reynolds
Dave Robey
Karl Rogers
Lawton Salley
Patricia Schifferle
Tom Schneller
Rick Schoen
Norwood Scott
Mark Scriver
Roberta A. Scull
Ed Sherwood
Jim Sindelar
Tom Sitz
Peter N. Skinner
Edwin Smalley
Mike A. Smith

2008 Honor Roll

Stephen L. Smith
Matt Solomon
David Spiegel
Eli Spiegel
Joel Spiegel
Kevin St. John
Mary E. Starzinski
Chris Stec
Dave Steindorf
Gordon Steindorf
Peter Stekel
Sarah Stephenson
Bryan and Michelle Stewart
Jason Stingl
Mark Sullivan
Jeffrey Taschler
Charles E. Taylor
Eric Tollefson
Barry and Kitty Tuscano
Jim Veltrop
Charlie Vincent
Josh Von Szalatnay
Charlie and Sandy Walbridge
Scott Weems
Kate Wempe
Werner Paddles
Natalie Whiteman
Martin Wick
Greg Widroe
Kurt Williams
John R. Wilson
John D. Wolken
Brandon Woods
Candice Clark Wozniak

Contributions in Memory Of

Steve Barron
Larry Berg
Daniel DeLaVergne
Lee Harrison Hart
Randy Kennedy
Chuck Kern
Isaac Ludwig
John Schneller
Bob Scull
Gordon Taylor

Foundations

Ajax Foundation
Bailey Family Foundation
Bank of America Foundation
BP Fabric of America Fund
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
Cherokee Preservation Foundation,
Inc.
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Cloud Mountain Foundation
CLSJ Foundation, Inc.
Community Foundation of WNC
Conservation Alliance
ExxonMobil Foundation
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Garden Homes Fund
GE Foundation
George & Miriam Martin
Foundation
Goldman Foundation
Hope Foundation
Hydropower Reform Coalition
Keen Foundation
Kenney Brothers Foundation
Murray Foundation
NC Community Foundation
Nantahala Outdoor Center
Environmental & Humanitarian Gift
Fund
Osilas Foundation
Patagonia Environmental Grants
Program
Pfizer Foundation
Pruzan Foundation
Resources Legacy Fund Foundation
Richard & Robert Goldman Fund
River Management Society
The Stanley Family Fund
State of Colorado: Colorado Water
Conservation Board
SVB Foundation
The Arches Foundation
The Ironman Foundation, Inc.
The Oregon Community Foundation

CFC and Workplace Giving

Mark T. Adams

Mehdi Akacem
Brooks R. Alldredge
Sarah B. Anderson
Steve Austin
David C. Baker
Bank of America
Kirk T. Barley
Jeff Boord
Derek C. Bristol
Brian D. Buckley
George Bullen
Jim and Lisa Burton
Michael M. Carroll
Jim Cavo
Joe Cholka
Seth Cooper
Mark D'Agostino
John Daffron
Nancy and Joe Damboise
Quincy Dan
Jason Darby
Daniel J. Deptula
David Dooley
William Duffy
Larry and Christine Dunn
Daniel W. Dutton
Don Ellis
James Ellis
ExxonMobil
Susan A Fialkowski
Robert Fisher
William O. Fisher
Claude Frank
Ken Frederick
Brian and Carrie Freeman
Jeffrey B. Gartman
GE Foundation
Edward J. George
Claire Gesalman
Richard Gibson
Kelly Gillespie
Ed Goufas
William Griffin
Cynthia Grimes
Barbara K. Hall
Ronn E. Harding
Andrew Harrell

2008 Honor Roll

James Harris
Oliver Heim
Brian Henderson
Neil Hermansdorfer
Richard Hicks
Jeffrey Holdsworth
Frank W. Hughto-Delzer
Jeffrey Hunt
IBM Corporation
Andris Ikstrums
Intuit
Robert A. Johnson
Eric Jones
Seth Kaufman and Susanne Rublein
Chris Kelly and Nanette Laughrey
Lark A. Lambert
Glenn Lamson
Brian and Mari Little
Major Mather Little
Brad Love
Jerry Malloy
Barry Martin
Robert J. Mascio
Timothy McGinty
Scott McKay
Microsoft
Marin Millar
Henry Miller
Daniel P. Molnar
Christian Morath
Robert Moses
Andrew Nix
Jennifer Paisner
Irov R. Pardee
Bruce A. Patton
Darrell Penn
Jessica L. Presqueira
Alan Pettingill
Zachary Ramsey
Robert Ratcliffe
Jennifer Raymond
Eric D. Roush
Sharon Sahrie
Daniel R. Sanborn
Eric and Tera Schreiber
Charles Scroggins
Billy Simmons

Scott Slayton
Jesse Smith
James Sprouffske
Bryan and Michelle Stewart
Robert Stiles
Tracy Tackett
Grace Thompson
Linda Tulaba
Christopher Tulley
Laura J. Ulibarri
United eWay
United Way Silicon Valley
Mile High United Way
United Way Special Distribution
United Way of Virginia Peninsula
United Way of National Capital Area
Lorn VanSteenbergh
Verizon
Stephen D. Vitale
Matthew Wallace
Wells Fargo
Sue Whitney
Rich Wiegand
Carol Wilson
Howard Wolosky

Affiliate Clubs

ADK Schenectady
Adobe Whitewater Club
AMC - New Hampshire Paddlers
AMC Delaware Valley Chapter
Arkansas Canoe Club
Atlanta Whitewater Club
Avid4Adventure Inc.
Bardstown Boaters
Base Camp Cullowhee
Beartooth Paddlers Society
Benscreek Canoe Club
Big Thompson Watershed Forum
Birmingham Canoe Club
Blue Ridge River Runners
Blue Ridge Voyageurs
Bluegrass Wildwater Association
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club
Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg
Canoe Cruisers Association

Carolina Canoe Club
Chicago Whitewater Association
Chico Paddleheads
Coastal Canoeists
Colgate University
Colorado Whitewater Association
Columbus Outdoor Pursuits
Conewago Canoe Club
Coosa Paddling Club
East Tennessee Whitewater Club
Eastman Hiking and Canoeing
Easton Whitewater Parks
Commission
EPIC Outdoor Adventures
Face Level Industries
Fairbanks Paddlers
Float Fishermen of Virginia
FLOW Paddlers Club
Foothills Paddling Club
FORVA
Front Range Paddle Association
Georgia Canoeing Association
Georgia Tech Outdoor Recreation
Grand Canyon Private Boaters
Association
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club
Hamilton College
Holtwood Hooligans
Hoofers Outing Club
Hoosier Canoe Club
Housatonic Canoe & Kayak Squad
Houston Canoe Club
Huntsville Canoe Club
Idaho Whitewater Association
Iowa Whitewater Coalition
Jackson Hole Kayak Club
Kansas City Whitewater Club
Kansas Whitewater Association
KCCNY
Keel Haulers Canoe Club
Ledyard Canoe Club
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Club
Lower Columbia Canoe Club
Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers
Mecklenburg Regional Paddlers
Memphis Whitewater

2008 Honor Roll

Merrimack Valley Paddlers
Missouri Whitewater Association
Mt Washington Valley Paddlers
NE Wisconsin Paddlers Inc.
Northwest Rafters Association
Oregon Kayak and Canoe Club
Oregon Whitewater Association
Otter Bar Lodge Kayak School
Outdoor Adventure Club
Outing Club at North Carolina State
Outward Bound
Ozark Mountain Paddlers
Ozark Wilderness Waterways
PA Organization for Watersheds & Rivers
Paddle Trails Canoe Club
Paddlers4Christ
Palmetto Paddlers
Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society
Philadelphia Canoe Club
Pikes Peak Whitewater Club
Pueblo Paddlers
River Touring Section Sierra Club
San Miguel Whitewater Association
SCSU Outdoor Endeavors
Sequoia Paddling Club
Sierra Club John Muir Chapter
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
Sierra Club San Francisco Chapter
Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club
Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club
St Lawrence University
Team SICK
Tennessee Scenic River Association
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club
Three Rivers Paddling Club
Toledo River Gang
Town Tinker Tube Rentals
Triad River Runners
University Kayak Club
University of Colorado Kayak Club
University of Tennessee Knoxville
USU Kayak Club
Utah Whitewater Club
Vancouver Kayak Club
Venturing Crew 360

Viking Canoe Club
Washington Kayak Club
Washington Recreational River Runners
Watauga Paddlers
West Virginia Wildwater Association
Western Carolina Paddlers
Whitman College Whitewater Club
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club
Zoar Valley Paddling Club

Events and Festivals

American River Festival
Deerfield River Festival
Feather River Festival
French Broad River Festival
Gauley Festival
Moose River Festival
National Paddling Film Festival
Ohiopyle Over the Falls Festival
Potomac River Festival
Wenatchee River Festival

Active Projects

Southeast

Cheoah River (NC)
Chattooga River (NC, SC, GA)
Nantahala and Tuckasegee rivers (NC)
Catawba River (NC, SC)
Saluda River (SC)
Wilson Creek (NC)

Mid Atlantic

Susquehanna River (PA)
Ohiopyle Falls (PA)
Savage & NB Potomac Rivers (MD)
Gauley River (WV)
Lehigh River (PA)

Northeast

Ausable River (NY)
Saranac River (NY)
Otter Creek (NH)
West River (VT)
Blackwater, etc (VT, NH)

Midwest

Fox River (WI)

Northern Rockies

West Rosebud Creek (MT)
Bear River (ID)
Milltown Dam (MT)

Southern Rockies

Colorado's Water Supply Future (CO)
Upper Colorado River (CO)
South Platte River (CO)
Yampa River (CO)
Colorado River (CO)
Green River (WY, CO, UT)
Dolores River (CO)
Blue River (CO)
South Boulder Creek (CO)
Rio Grande River (CO)
Animas River (CO)
San Miguel River (CO)
Uncompahgre River (CO)
Ojo Caliente River (NM)
Rio Grande River (NM)

Pacific Northwest

Sultan River (WA)
McKenzie River (OR)
Sullivan Creek (WA)
Klamath (OR/CA)
Crooked River (OR)
White Salmon (WA)
Snake River Dams (WA)
Sandy River (WA)
Green River (WA)
Pratt River (WA)
Forest Service Roads

California

Feather River (CA), Rock Creek/Cresta
Feather River (CA), Poe
Feather River (CA), Oroville/ Feather River (CA)
McCloud River (CA)
Yuba/Bear Rivers (CA)

2008 Honor Roll

Butte Creek (CA)
Kern River (CA)
Middle Fork American/ Rubicon River (CA)
California Hydropower Reform Coalition (CA)

Board of Directors

Don Kinser, President
Marietta, GA
Norwood Scott, Vice President
San Francisco, CA
Chris Bell, Treasurer
Asheville, NC
Jennie Goldberg, Secretary
Seattle, WA
Rich Bowers
Bellingham, WA
Dave Cernicek
Jackson, WY
Adam Cramer
Washington, DC
Kristine Jackson
Rock Island, TN
Evie Locke
Charlemont, MA
Eric Nies
New Paltz, NY
Aaron Pruzan
Wilson, WY
Charlie Walbridge
Bruceeton Mills, WV

Staff

Laura Blalock, Finance Director
Cullowhee, NC
Kevin Coluburn, National Stewardship Director
Missoula, MT
Nathan Fey, Colorado Stewardship
Longmont, CO
Carla Miner, Membership Manager
West Valley City, UT
Thomas O'Keefe, PNW Stewardship
Seattle, WA
Jeff Paine, Outreach Director
Asheville, NC
Mark Singleton, Executive Director
Cullowhee, NC
Dave Steindorf, California Stewardship
Chico, CA

Women in Whitewater

Whitewater of the Sea

by Cate Hawthorne

A five-foot wall of rock looms directly in front of me. I am preparing to paddle straight at it. I see a set of waves rolling in on the horizon and re-check my position. Timing is everything, they say, which I find to be especially true in whitewater kayaking. The wave comes in and is directly behind me. I take three strong forward strokes and feel its power pick me up and hurl me toward the rock. In a whoosh of whitewater, I am carried up, over the rock and am now carving an eight-foot wave down its backside. I start to the right and then cut back to the left in a spray of saltwater and finish in a deep pool. Grinning from ear to ear, I paddle around the rock to line up for another one, and another one, and . . .

California's Mendocino Coast is our favorite playground for whitewater adventure. The Pacific Ocean has worked for millions of years to carve out rock reefs, sea stacks, and sea caves that are an awe-inspiring wonderment to many. For us, they are a paddling playground. Surfing the swells and waves of the ocean over, through, and around these geological features in the ocean is referred to as "rock gardening" and is my favorite form of whitewater kayaking.

The Noyo Bay in Fort Bragg, California is one of our favorite rock gardening spots because it is close to home, our dogs love the leash-free beach, good food and beverages are nearby, and it is an aquatic playground full of features. One day we counted 30 different play spots within the Noyo Bay. Angie's Angst, Brindle's Bash, The Sound Cave, The Keyhole Cave,

Nick's Nightmare, The Gauntlet, Deer Rock, and Chicken Point are just a few of our favorites. Like rapids on a river, some are named for carnage and others for unique features.

We compare ocean rock gardening to a park and play wave. Like playboaters, we rally our friends, don our paddling gear, and seek to perfect our moves and create new ones as we play and interact with waves and rocks. Creativity is a large part of ocean rock gardening. It is fun to experience with friends as each has their own paddling style and interpretation of the features. My girlfriend Angie is a playboater and spins about on the features whereas I like to carve and

Cate riding the ocean swell

Photo by Jeff Laxier



surf the waves. Different features offer beginners the opportunity to give it a try while advanced paddlers can “Go Big” on larger sets or take more technical routes. Many play spots spill over into deep water pools that allow for scouting, spectating, and photography.

The ocean is a different animal than the river. Lack of rainfall and snowmelt don't keep us high and dry as there is never a shortage of whitewater on the Mendocino Coast. Some days are bigger than others depending upon the tide and size and direction of the swell. Just like on the river, water reading is an important skill that takes time and experience to develop. It is always helpful to go with an experienced

rock gardener who understands the flow and timing of the ocean and can point out buffer zones (like eddies) as well as play features like pour-overs, surge channels, elevator rooms, waves, and sea caves.

We prefer rock gardening in the faster, older-style, river runner kayaks (think Whiplash, ARC, Jive, and RPM). We will also use sit-on-top kayaks with thigh straps to make rock gardening accessible to those without a roll. Rock gardening is a lot of fun in our sea kayaks because we can paddle into more remote areas. Our multi-boat approach to rock gardening has inspired both our sea kayak and whitewater paddling friends to venture into new kayaking disciplines. Either

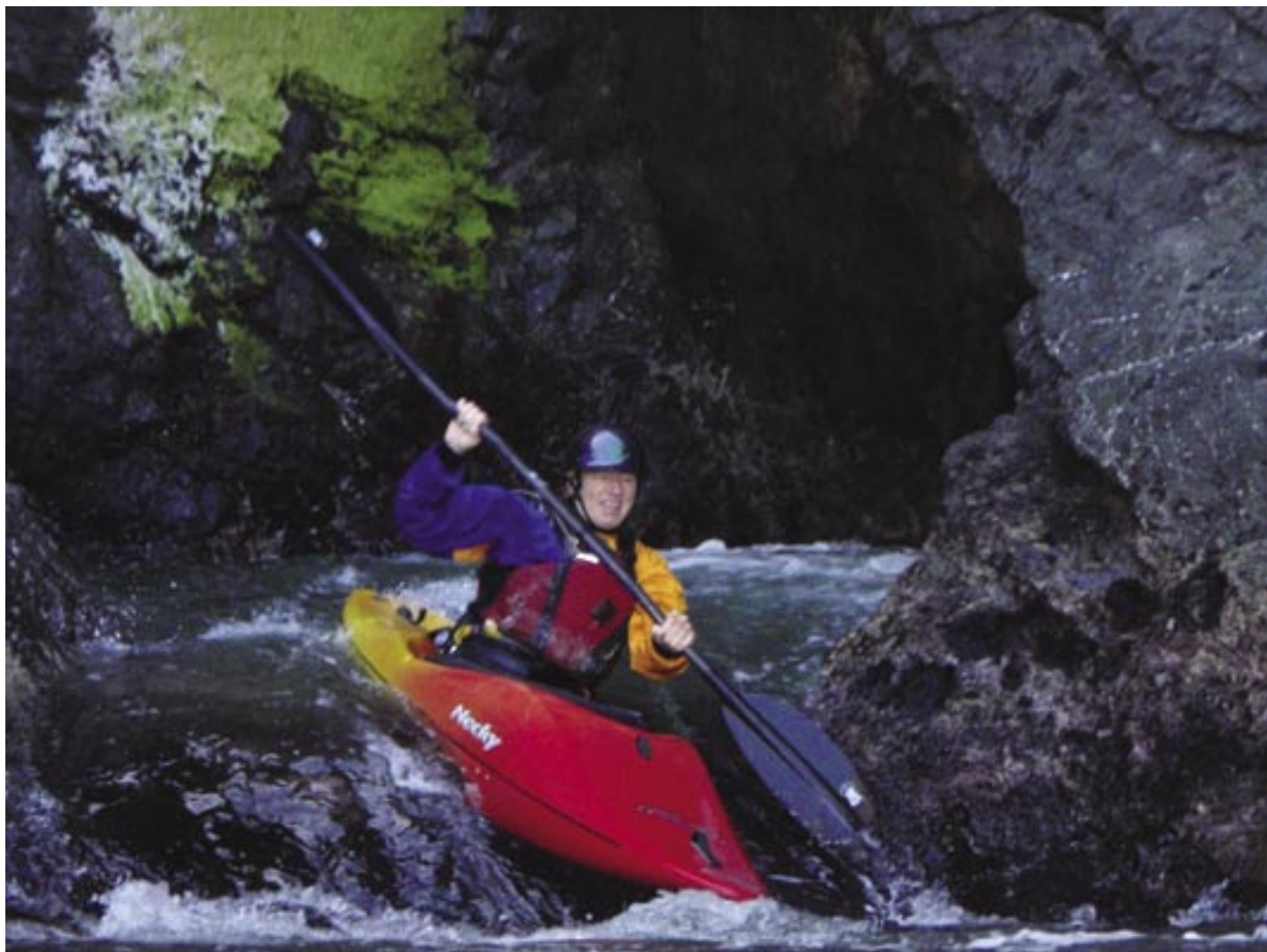
way—in the long or short—it is a lot of FUN!!!

My mother says that saltwater is good for the sinuses. My heart says that it is good for the soul.

For more info, check out: <http://www.liquidfusionkayak.com> and <http://www.womanonwater.blogspot.com>

Peggy Peattie rides a pour over

Photo by Jeff Laxier



Women in Whitewater

The Value of Whitewater

By Kristin Bierle

I was raised by a somewhat eccentric father whose greatest gift was instilling in me the belief that I am capable of doing whatever I want. He did this not just by telling me so, but also by showing me. He got me and my two sisters involved in the outdoors—paddling specifically—and that forever changed my life.

My childhood was spent crawling through caves with my two sisters, before we were even old enough to walk. Later, we canoed on rivers and lakes as a family, and then I followed my older sister off to summer camp where I became hooked on whitewater. Thirteen was important milestone in our family. It wasn't the year we were able to get our ears pierced, or go to the movies with boys—it was the year we were allowed to get our very own kayak.

Looking back now, I see that high school is a ridiculous time for most teenage girls. Consumed by the perceptions of others and the intense need for validation, otherwise interesting and intelligent girls attempt to hide those aspects that make them unique. Surviving my teenage years was the result of lessons I learned about myself before I got there. I knew what it was like to sit above a rapid terrified, 90% of me wanting to get out of the water, but

finding the inner courage to go for it. I knew what it feels like to look back up at Nantahala Falls and know that I alone got myself down it. I knew I was strong enough to portage a canoe down to the Chattooga Section III put-in.

I moved to Idaho to finish college. I ran the big rapids on the North Fork of the Payette; I paddled Brush Creek during spring break, and ran Big Falls on the Canyon. I continued to find myself in really uncomfortable situations where 90% (or sometimes 99%) of me wanted off the water. I kept stretching my comfort zone, learning more about who I was as a person.

I went to Chile, I worked in Costa Rica, went back to Chile, rode a motorcycle around Mexico looking for rivers; I went back to Chile, kayak always in tow. River chasing taught me to trust my skills, my training, and myself. It taught me that you have to deal with, and eventually embrace, a degree of uncertainty. It showed me that I am tough, not because I have run big rapids, but because I'm out there doing it and doing it for myself. It taught me how to be a leader, first by leading myself, and then by leading others.

In 2004, because we wanted to give other teens the same chance to find themselves and avoid the perils of adolescence, my husband and I started the Alzar School (www.AlzarSchool.com), a nontraditional school that takes highly motivated students on expeditions around the world. Our programs combine the best of experiential education and outdoor adventure. Students go through a rigorous leadership curriculum, complete meaningful service projects; some trips even offer college credit. We are passionate about education, and understand how the lessons learned on the water can help create global citizens.

On these expeditions I've found my passion in life. I had a thirteen-year-old

female turn to me after the last challenging rapid of the day and in a whisper—as if she just realized it—say, “I feel like I can do anything.” Another time, a group of all female students ran the Cascadas Micos Section in Mexico. Just as the first students was about to run the last 25-foot waterfall, her best friend turned to me and said, “I'm just so proud of us.”

Experiences like these remind me of why paddling and the outdoors are so important to me. The Alzar School's Jean Bierle Scholarship Initiative, which is dedicated to developing female outdoor leaders from developing countries, sponsored two females from the town of Jalcomulco, Mexico to participate in our expedition. One of the two students, Mayan, was the first female to learn to roll a kayak from her town (which has countless outfitters and is surrounded by world class whitewater). Through my butchered Spanish, and countless analogies to Shakira while trying to convey the hipsnap, Mayan and I practiced and persevered and she rolled. She rolled, and before you knew it guides from outfitters all around town were coming to the pool to see this fifteen-year-old, 4'10" female roll a kayak.

To me this is what it means to be a female paddler. It isn't what class whitewater you run ... it's about sharing the sense of empowerment. As the Alzar School students go on to some of the top colleges in the nation, I know they bring with them the knowledge that they are capable of doing whatever they want in life. This confidence will carry over to all aspects of their life. It's the same confidence my dad instilled in me, and it's why I continue to paddle and try to get as many teens as possible paddling.



Kristin Bierle teaching Mayan how to roll

Photo by Sam Bierle

News & Notes



A Tribute to Lars Holbeck

By Richard Montgomery

Lars grew up in Santa Rosa California. He started climbing at 13, and paddling a year or two later. Every summer from age 16 to 19 he and his older classmate Michael Schlax would leave Santa Rosa and head to Idaho for extended paddling trips. Their paddling mentor was Jim Smith, then in his early thirties. Jim got started with the Sierra Club River Touring Section based out of Oakland, and the paddling center of Northern California in the 60s up through the mid 70s.

I met Lars through my future wife Judith who had befriended Michael in elementary school. Judith and I were students at Sonoma State University, 10 miles south of Santa Rosa. My main paddling partner was slalom champion Chuck Stanley, who was then living and working in Oregon. Chuck soon transferred to Sonoma State. Chuck and Judith and I, with an assortment of others, lived in a field, sublet from a farmer. We called the place Protein Farms.

Lars would visit us there often in his VW van, parking just outside the wood-and-tin carport which doubled as our kitchen, sometimes living there for weeks on end, cooking with us, making gear, pouring over topo maps in the library, planning trips, doing automotive repairs, and training slalom gates with Chuck in the duck pond just across the creek.

For a brief period from 1978-1980 Protein Farms became the whitewater paddling capital of California. Chuck and Lars trained and on long weekends, spring, and winter breaks they would drag me out of my math and physics books for exploratory or flood runs. John and Eric Magnusson also attended Sonoma State and competition with them, and with the "Billy Goat Boys": Reg Lake, Royal Robbins, and Doug Tompkins based out of San Francisco helped spur Chuck, Lars, Michael and I on as a group. First descent fever took over. In the winters we paddled the flooding rivers and creeks an hour or so North of Santa Rosa—Sulphur Creek at 7,000 and the Russian at 50,000 sticks in my mind. In the spring we went up to the Trinity Alps or the Sierras. Our big record 1st descent safari happened during Spring Break, 1980. In one three day period we made the first descent of the Golden Gate (on the South American), and of Bald Rock on the Middle Feather, which have since become standards. In between the two we got skunked on the Bear River. We bivouacked twice. And somewhere in there

Lars put a new clutch in his van while I finished a take-home midterm in the Foster Freeze parking lot in Placerville. (I'm not sure what Chuck was doing.)

Those two years based out of Protein Farms laid the foundations of Stanley and Holbeck's guidebook, *The Best Whitewater in California*, published first in 1984 and on its 3rd edition. It is still referred to as 'the bible' by many California paddlers. Friend Dave Steindorf who works with AW to secure guaranteed water flows from dam operators had sent a letter to Lars recently, one which unfortunately Lars never got to read. Dave wrote: "There is no hydro relicensing in the State in which your book is not referenced. PG&E, Southern California Edison, and every other dam operator in California owns a copy of your guide book. This might be a surprise but I would venture to say that *The Best Whitewater in California* may be the single most owned book by dam operators in California. I have watched them pull their pristine copies out of their brief cases, not a smudge on the cover, not a smear on a page. Certainly not the well tattered copy that sits on most of our bookshelves or on the dash of our cars as we drive to a new run."

Lars went on to first descents all over the world. He ran the Stikine in Alaska, the Pacartambo in Peru, and numerous first descents in Chile. He started teaching himself Spanish by sneaking in to the language lab at Sonoma State, and was fluent after his 3rd or 4th extended trip. With Eric Magnusson he did exploratory adventures in Costa Rica. He wrote a guidebook to Chilean whitewater. He made whitewater videos including 'The Wild Americans' where he reveled in the boyhood style- humor of the videos he had made with his brother Suren while growing up in Santa Rosa.

From the late 80s to the mid 90s he and well-known paddler Beth Rypins became partners and paddled throughout California, Chile, and took one long trip to paddle in Siberia.

In the early 90s he and Mark Kocina got into speed descents, redoing many of the runs in "the bible" in hours when the first runs had taken a full day, or even multiple days. The standard Middle Fork of the Feather run is usually done in three days. Lars and Mark did it in eight hours.

He helped numerous young boaters, including Charlie Center, get to their cutting edge. Up until the end of the 90s he continued to keep up with the young guns of the up-and-coming generation, being part of first or second descents

on the highest reaches of the American River in the Sierra, including the Royal Gorge.

Lars's name is also well-known in climbing circles and is attributed first ascents in Yosemite and at Joshua Tree.

In the mid 1990s he took up paragliding and converted a number of friends to this sport. He flew in California, Mexico, Peru, and Brazil. In the spring of 1999 he reconnected with Nancy Wiley a well-known paddler from Durango, Colorado. The two became partners for life. In the early part of the current decade he and Nancy were on an extended paddling and flying trip to Peru. A freak downdraft folded Nancy's wing and sent her for an 80-foot fall. She broke several vertebrae and shattered an ankle. Doctors told her she would never walk again. We all got to see another side of Lars emerge: a nurturing, caring side, which worked in concert with his persistence, humor, and can-do-attitude, and aimed towards Nancy and her healing. Coupling Lars' nurturing with Nancy's indomitable spirit, somehow it did not seem like a miracle that within a year and a half of the accident Nancy was again mountain biking, skiing and paddling. (The couple did quit paragliding.)

Over the last few years Nancy and Lars built an off-the-grid passive solar house on property they had bought outside of Durango. He continued to get out on the water, but his passion turned more towards living off the grid and converting cars to run on vegetable oil. He had, with Nancy, a small fleet of vegetable oil powered cars. For months ever spring and some summers for the last 6 years the couple had walked parts of the California, Nevada, and Arizona deserts looking for desert tortoises as part of EPA-funded endangered species remediation projects. Through that, they developed a whole tortoise community, which folded in with their paddling and flying communities.

Lars died the night March 13, 2009, after a four and half month battle with an aggressive lymphoma that settled in his abdomen. He is survived by brother Suren, mother Mimi, father Erik, partner Nancy, together with hundreds of friends scattered all over both Americas.

He was one of the smartest people I've known, one of the most persistent, and one of the most self-sufficient. He loved being on the learning curve, or "being a gooner" as he put it. He had an indefatigable sense of humor. He kept it to the end.

Women in Whitewater



Women's Canoe Will Shine in 2009: Sisters of the Single Blade and the Fight for Olympic Inclusion

By Pamela Boteler, President, USA WomenCAN

So many of our dreams at first seem impossible, then they seem improbable, and finally, when we summon the will, they become inevitable.

Christopher Reeve

The year 2009 will go down in history as the most exciting and most pivotal, as women in canoe continue paddling their way toward Olympic inclusion. This group of serious and competitive athletes has, over the decades, shown incredible courage, taken considerable risks, and has the vision, perseverance and persistence to hold steadfast and strong to a Dream. The "Sisters of the Single Blade" are committed to both Sprint (flatwater) and Slalom (whitewater) canoeing. We paddle in different boats and on different water, but we share a single blade and a single dream: the Olympics.

Men's sprint canoe has been in the Olympics since 1936. Slalom canoe/kayak had its Olympic debut in 1972 (men's women's kayak, and men's canoe), only to be dropped until it was reinstated in 1992.

For some reason, we are still talking today about women being excluded from doing something they love just because they are women. Women canoeists are still excluded from the grandest stage of all: the Olympics, and in over 95% of the countries around the world, they are excluded from the National Championships. We can play around on our local pond or river, but we are not allowed to live out the same Olympic dream that men have for decades.

In many countries, yes, including the United States, women are directly discouraged from paddling in Olympic-style canoes. Many coaches outright refuse to put females (kids or adults) in canoes because there is no path to the Olympics and no money for development. In their view athletes should "Go where the money and the glory are."

Still, in spite of all odds, the women who have been on the water in the past and

Jen Singletary of Nantahala, NC at the US Open on the Nantahala, NC in March 2009, where she won 3rd place

Photo by Michael Thompson

who are on the water now would rather be a part of creating the opportunity and living the dream, rather than waiting for others to do the hard work.

It is shocking to me that the Olympics still do not give women canoeists equal opportunities ... I thought those days were over. We have not come as far as we thought we have.

Nancy Kalafus, sprint kayak racer in the 1960s, still a budding canoeist, and currently District Director of Physical Education and Athletics, Garden City School District, Garden City, Long Island, NY

Flatwater

In March 2009, under the direction of new leadership, the ICF issued its boldest statement of support for the cause of women's canoeing to date, announcing women's canoe to be added to the 2010

World Championships as a full medal event—but only the C1 200 meter event (and only C1 for Slalom). In addition, women's canoe events will gain "exhibition" status at the 2009 World Championships in Nova Scotia, Canada (August 12-16), and there will be an historic Pre-worlds Development Camp for women's canoe, fully funded by the ICF and CKC and the host organizing committee, Canoe '09. Over 16 countries across all five continents submitted applications for 40 athletes, and more are expressing interest in sending athletes and coaches. We also anticipate up to 18 countries will send women to the Sprint Worlds exhibition, an overwhelming response that has shocked and enthralled all involved in making this historic event a reality. Also, the 2009 Sprint Pan American Championships will include women's canoe as full medal events for the first time ever.

2009 National Team for Women's Sprint Canoe

Hannah Menke (Rockaway, NY), Kaitlyn McKelroy (San Diego, CA), Anna Crawford (Lanier Canoe/Kayak Club, Gainesville, GA) and Pam Boteler (WCC) all qualified to compete at the World

Championships in Nova Scotia in August 2009. Hannah will race the C1 500 and 200-meter events, Hannah and Kaitlyn will compete in the C2 500 and Anna and Pam will race the C2 200-meter. Anna and Pam will also compete at the Pan American Championships in July 2009 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Hannah and Kaitlyn will remain in the U.S. and compete at the Lake Placid International Regatta the same weekend. We expect Team USA to train hard and vie for medals at all of these major events.

With all of our recent advancement toward gaining the right to compete, we need to acknowledge those who championed our cause for years. Thank you to women warriors like Elizabeth Smith, Debby Page, and Francine Fox, the women war canoe paddlers in the 1950s-1970s in New York, Sue "Canoe" Wolpert (WCC), Nancy Kalafus, and so many others. And thanks to Sheila Kuyper who began the Sprint Canoe revolution in Canada. You all were shunned and in many cases scorned and ridiculed for "doing a man's sport." Your presence on the water were the tiny drops of water that are now tipping the bucket in favor of a new generation of both paddlers and leaders.

Slalom

On the whitewater side, things have really been rolling since 2008, when the ICF added women's canoe as exhibition to the Slalom World Championships in Seu d'Urgell, Spain. In addition, the highly successful Slalom Canoe "World Series" events added women's canoe, but only Slovakia and the US had participants. In 2009, all World Series events will have women's canoe AND prize money. Women's Canoe will be full medal events at all three World Cup events, and exhibition at the World Championships. It is anticipated that over 10 countries will send athletes to the Worlds. And in 2010, C1W will be a full-medal event at the World Championships.

2009 National Team for Women's Slalom Canoe

The U.S. has an incredibly talented group of Junior and Senior women in canoe.

The 2009 U.S. team trials just wrapped up in mid-May on the Animas in Colorado. The results from that competition determined the women's World Cup team for the upcoming year. The C1 women's team will be Carolyn Peterson (a true leader for a young and vibrant Slalom World Cup and World Championships Team), Micki Reeves, and Hailey Thompson (a fantastic junior from Wisconsin who won the 2008 American Open World Series event—the first slalom event anywhere in the world to offer women prize money, thanks to generous donations to USA WomenCAN; finally, "Equal Pay for Equal Work"—the 2009 U.S. Open, and the C1W Junior National Team Trials).

The practice of sport is a human right. Every individual must have the possibility



Hailey Thompson of Stevens Point, WI at the US Open on the Nantahala, NC, in March 2009 where she won 1st place

Photo by Michael Thompson

Women in Whitewater

of practicing sport, without discrimination of any kind and in the Olympic spirit, which requires mutual understanding with a spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play.

The Olympic Charter

Without Olympic status, our sport loses a large population of promising paddlers and incredible athletes, many of whom leave the sport completely because of lack of opportunities and support. For women training in canoes, this is not a “build it and they will come” dream, though certainly that is a part of this “chicken and egg” game (“show us the paddlers, we’ll give you events”). Female paddlers are on the water, and they want only for doors to be opened so they can paddle through and compete for the same Olympic glory and respect as their male counterparts. Women canoeists want to enhance the excitement and popularity of our great sport around the world, and they support balance across all disciplines in the Olympics.

WomenCAN is grateful for the opportunities offered to women in 2009 and beyond, and will continue to work with local, National and International Federations to advance canoe for women, too. We still have hopes for exhibition events in 2012, but the target for full inclusion on the Olympic program is 2016. For now, we will see you on the line in 2009!

What Can You do to Help?

By Pam Boteler, President, USA WomenCAN

1. Contact the International Canoe Federation (ICF) to show your support for Women’s Canoe and thank them for continuing to “do the right thing.” The ICF is our voice to the International Olympic Committee. They want to hear from you! Brandi Derksen, ICF Media/Public Relations Director Brandi.Derksen@canoeicf.com

2. Email the London 2012 Olympics Organizing Committee at either blog@london2012.com or <http://www.london2012.com>. Tell them you support the addition of Women’s Canoe C1 & C2 as exhibition in 2012.

“London 2012’s ambition is to create a Games for everyone, where everyone is invited to take part, join in and enjoy the most exciting event in the world...Our emblem [represents that we are]...not afraid to shake things up, to challenge the accepted. To change things.”

- from London2012.com’s Brand Description

3. Encourage and support women who wish to take up the single blade or who already do. Support the coaches. Volunteer for events. Offer to house athletes traveling to competitions to reduce costs. Offer to take in international athletes coming to the U.S. to train.

4. Email USA Canoe/Kayak to show your support for the inclusion of Women’s Canoe at all local and national events and to include women’s canoe in all funding decisions. http://usack.org/contact_us/ngb or info@usack.org

5. Join the Face Book Group “Women in Canoe – International.”

6. Make a tax-deductible donation. Women’s Canoe remains a self-funded venture...

Donations can be sent to:

USA Canoe/Kayak
c/o Fund for USA WomenCAN/Just Canoe It!
330 South Tryon Street, Lower Level
Charlotte, NC 28282

In the memo line of the check, write “WomenCAN/Just Canoe It!” 2009 donations support women canoeists competing at the Pan American Championships, World Championships, and World Cup events.

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Meade

Affiliate Clubs

Affiliate Club Spotlight

The Bluegrass Wildwater Association has been an American Whitewater Affiliate Club member since before super markets had bar codes. American Whitewater would like to take this opportunity to thank the BWA for their continued support and their stewardship efforts.

The objectives of the Bluegrass Wildwater Association are to encourage enjoyment, preservation, and exploration of American waterways for self-powered craft; to protect the wilderness character of these waterways through conservation of water, wildlife, and parks; to promote safety and proficiency in all aspects of wildwater activities; to promote appreciation for the recreational value of wilderness waterways and wildwater sports; to chart and preserve wilderness waterways in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and throughout the southeast/mid Atlantic. BWA members play a critical role in hosting the National Paddling Film Festival each year.

Members of BWA support an active organization that is a major contributor to such whitewater related causes as, American Whitewater, the West Virginia Rivers Coalition, the Russell Fork Rendezvous, and many other causes. BWA yearly dues are an affordable \$20 for an Individual and \$25 for a Family and entitle you to receive the newsletter, discounts at many local and out of state outfitter shops, use of club equipment, discount at pool rolling sessions, a listing in the BWA handbook, a stream gauge guide, and web site with a list serve for members' messages, plus lots of other fun activities and good friends to do them with.

The BWA gets together at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. To learn more about the BWA or to join their club, check out their website at <http://www.surfky-bwa.org/>. And remember, current members of the BWA receive a \$10 discount off their AW membership.

Thanks again BWA for your support of American Whitewater!

It's Easy to Support AW!

American Whitewater is proud of the work we have accomplished in our stewardship program but we need your help to sustain our success. Your support through membership and donations enables our staff to be active and engaged in the process of river stewardship. Donations don't have to be large; each person doing a small part makes a noticeable difference. Many donors fail to take full advantage of federal tax incentives specifically intended to encourage charitable contributions. Such incentives often enable a donor to make a larger gift to AW at little or no additional cost. For more information about maximizing your gift visit the IRS website dedicated to charitable organizations.

American Whitewater is a national non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, EIN# 23-7083760. To learn more about the Giving Options below, contact us at 866-BOAT4AW or visit the "Donate" link under "Support AW" on our website at www.americanwhitewater.org.

- Donate online today!
- Monthly Giving: Contribute a minimum of \$10 via credit card or electronic transfer from your bank account.
- Bequests: Include AW in your will or living trust. Bequests to AW are generally exempt from federal or state inheritance taxes, and subject to an unlimited deduction.
- Combined Federal Campaign: Federal employees including federal civilians, military personnel and U.S. Postal Workers can donate to AW through the CFC a once a year charitable fund raising program. Look for AW (Agency #11351) in the official CFC listing of eligible donors.
- Charitable Remainder Trusts: Convert a highly appreciated asset (such as real estate or stocks) into a lifetime income while minimizing income and estate taxes.
- Employer Matching: Many employers will match your donations to non-profit organizations. This includes membership payments, as well as additional contributions. Check to see if your employer has a matching program.
- MissionFish: Sell your items through the MissionFish program on eBay and the proceeds come directly to AW.
- Other Assets: A gift of real estate to AW qualifies you for a tax deduction based on the property's fair market value. If it is not a river access point, AW will sell the property and use the proceeds to protect access and restore rivers. Acceptance of property is subject to certain conditions. You may also be eligible to receive tax benefits for gifts of real property. Art and jewelry are examples of personal property items that may be eligible. Interested donors should check with your financial and tax advisors and AW on the feasibility and tax considerations of such gifts.
- Securities: Donating appreciated stock to AW benefits both the donor and whitewater rivers. The donor receives two tax-related benefits. First, the gain on the stock is not subject to capital gains taxes. Second, the donor can deduct the value of the stock as a charitable contribution.
- United Way: All federal campaigns, and a few of the local campaigns will allow you to donate to AW. AW's UNITED WAY member # is 2302.
- Vehicle Donations: Turn that extra car, truck, or RV into a tax deductible donation benefiting AW.

AW Corporate Partners

Class V Sponsor



In 2006, Keen's contributions will aid American Whitewater's projects in the Southeast, and the Pacific Northwest. In the Southeast Keen's support will help American Whitewater's work restoring the Catawba watershed. Additional funding from Keen will support AW's projects on the Columbia River Basin and the Cascade range in the Pacific Northwest.

Class IV Sponsors



Class III Sponsor



Class II Sponsor



SUBARU



Boof Sponsors



Wave Sponsors



Each day American Whitewater faces new challenges that threaten our whitewater rivers. To aid us in this fight, we rely on support from members, donors, foundations, and partners in the industry. Companies throughout the whitewater and outdoor industries are stepping forward to support AW's River Stewardship work. American Whitewater urges you not to make purchase decisions blindly. When you buy your next piece of outdoor gear there are many factors to consider: quality, dependability, comfort, safety, and fashion. American Whitewater hopes you will add one more consideration to this list: corporate responsibility. Support companies that support your rivers



Clif Bar & Company was founded on the principle of sustaining the individual, the community and the planet. Since its inception, the company has supported non-profit organizations and events nationwide that focus on health, community, and environmental issues.

At the heart of Clif Bar's community efforts is the 2080 Program, Making Community Service Part of Our Workday. As an employee-run program, 2080 makes it easy for employees to identify, organize and participate in community volunteer efforts on company time. The 2080 Program name refers to the program's original goal of committing at least 2,080 hours to community service each year—the equivalent of having one full-time employee dedicated exclusively to volunteer work. Habitat for Humanity, Big City Mountaineers, the Santa Clara Diabetes Camp, Meals on Wheels and impoverished communities in emerging countries are some of the main beneficiaries of this program.

In addition to local and grassroots organizations, Clif Bar supports a number of national non-profit organizations. Committed to preserving the environment and the places that inspire adventure, Clif Bar has partnered with a variety of outdoor advocacy programs, including American Whitewater since 2002. Each year Clif Bar provides financial support and bar donations for American Whitewater and its members. Because Clif Bar knows that support on the grassroots level is so important, they've worked with AW to create the annual Flowing Rivers Grant Program, which promotes river stewardship and safety efforts in AW's Affiliate Clubs. We are honored to partner with American Whitewater and appreciate the strength and enthusiasm of its members.

Join



AMERICAN WHITEWATER Today!

American Whitewater has been extraordinarily fortunate in our ability to leverage a strong grassroots base—members and other volunteers—to assist our limited staff with many whitewater river conservation and restoration efforts.



Over the years, American Whitewater volunteers have participated in numerous hydropower meetings as well as instream and recreational flow studies; filed comments and assisted with an uncountable number of filings; appeared as expert witnesses; lobbied; worked to fight new dams, remove existing dams, deny licenses, and improve public access to rivers and streams. In nearly every river stewardship issue AW has been involved with, the outcome has been favorable to paddlers. Not only has AW secured favorable decisions for the paddling community, but we are the only national organization representing paddlers as these decisions are being made.

A growing membership base is crucial to our ability to continue with our work. Some studies show that there are currently over 100,000 whitewater paddlers in the U.S. American Whitewater currently has 6,300 active members. When considering the amount of whitewater river miles that AW has had a direct impact on, this membership number is unimpressive. We need all paddlers to join American Whitewater. If you are a member, please

be sure that everyone you paddle with understands the work AW does, and how you, as an AW member, value that work.

Membership support is what will determine our ability to continue our river stewardship work in the years to come. Individual Annual Memberships are only \$35. If you are a member of your local paddling club and your club is an Affiliate Club member of AW, join as a Club Affiliate Individual for \$25. This is less than a tank of gas or an inexpensive night out. This is certainly not too much to pay to have a national organization representing your paddling interests all across the country.

Join on-line today at <http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/>, call 1-866-BOAT4AW (866-262-8429), or fill out the form on the back of this page and mail it to:

Membership
P.O. Box 1540
Cullowhee, NC 28723

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

New Member Renewing Member

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Telephone () _____ e-mail _____
Club Affiliation _____
(if claiming club discount)

*Note: American Whitewater will never share your information with others

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

- \$25 Junior (*Under the age of 18*)
- \$25 Individual for Affiliate Club Members (*SAVE \$10 if you are also a member of an AW Affiliate Club*)
- \$35 Individual One Year
- \$50 Family (*Immediate family members excluding children over the age of 18*)
- \$65 (2) Year Membership
- \$75 Affiliate Club Membership
- \$100 Ender Club (*Receive AW's annual Ender Club T-Shirt FREE Circle Size: S M L XL XXL*)
- \$250 Platinum Paddler (*Receive Immersion Research's "Creek Bag" FREE*)
- \$500 Explorer Membership (*Receive a Dry Bag from Watershed FREE*)
- \$750 Lifetime Membership (*Receive AW's Lifetime Membership NRS Paddlers Duffle FREE*)
- \$1000 Legacy Membership (*Receive AW's exclusive Kokatat Knappster Shorty Top FREE*)
- \$2500 Steward Membership (*Thank you items will be arranged on an individual basis*)

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT OR SUBSCRIPTIONS

- \$5.00 \$10.00 \$25.00 Other \$ _____
- \$30.00 Kayak Session Subscription (*Includes a \$5 donation to AW*)
- \$40.00 LVM Subscription (*includes a \$8 donation to AW*)

JOURNAL OPTIONS

- Yes, mail me the AW Journal
- Do NOT mail me the AW journal, I will read it online (*saves paper and saves AW money!*)

PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Cash
- Check # _____
- Credit Card MC Visa Disc AMEX
- Card Number: _____ Exp Date: _____
- Name as it appears on card: _____
- Signature: _____

Affiliate Clubs

AW's Original Purpose

by Carla Miner

The Affiliate Club Program lies at the very heart of AW's existence. AW's original purpose since 1957 has been to distribute information among its Affiliate Clubs. AW's relationships with local clubs have provided the backbone for the river conservation and access work it accomplishes. Over 100 clubs are now AW Club Affiliates and they are all doing great work on your behalf. If you don't belong to a club consider joining one.

American Whitewater is pleased to introduce a new position in 2009. Barry Adams from the Three Rivers Paddling Club has taken on the responsibilities of AW's Affiliate Club Liaison. Barry will be working with Affiliate Clubs to distribute information and promote AW membership. You may recognize Barry's name as the Ohio Pyle Over the Falls Festival Coordinator. We are pleased to have Barry working with our Affiliate Clubs this year.

AFFILIATE CLUBS, we want to know what you are doing. Send your events to us at carla@americanwhitewater.org and we will include them in the Journal. Deadline for submissions to the bi-monthly Journal are the 1st of February, April, June, August, October, December.

The AW Journal Club Affiliates by state:

Alaska

Fairbanks Paddlers, Fairbanks
Nova Riverrunners Inc., Chickaloon

Alabama

Birmingham Canoe Club, Birmingham
Huntsville Canoe Club, Huntsville

Arkansas

Arkansas Canoe Club, Little Rock

California

Chico Paddleheads, Chico
Gold Country Paddlers, Lotus
Sequoia Paddling Club, Forestville
Sierra Club Loma Prieta Ch., San Jose
Sierra Club SF Chapter, Livermore

Colorado

Colorado Whitewater Assn, Englewood
Pikes Peak Whitewater Club, Colorado Springs
San Miguel Whitewater Asso, Telluride
University of Colorado Kayak Club, Boulder

Delaware

Wilmington Trail Club Paddlers, Wilmington

Georgia

Atlanta Whitewater Club, Atlanta
Georgia Canoeing Assoc, Atlanta
Georgia Tech Outdoor Recreation, Atlanta
Paddlers4Christ, Ellijay

Idaho

Idaho Whitewater Assoc., Boise

Illinois

Chicago Whitewater Assoc., Chicago
Team SICK, Carbondale

Indiana

Hoosier Canoe Club, Indianapolis
Ohio Valley Paddlers, Evansville

Iowa

Iowa Whitewater Coalition, W. Des Moines

Kentucky

Bardstown Boaters, Frankfort
Bluegrass Wildwater Association, Lexington
Elkhorn Paddlers, Lexington
Viking Canoe Club, Louisville

Maine

Penobscot Paddle & Chowder Society, Topsham

Maryland

Blue Ridge Voyageurs, Silver Spring
Greater Baltimore Canoe Club, Baltimore
Mason Dixon Canoe Cruisers, Smithsburg

Massachusetts

AMC - New Hampshire Paddlers, Honover

Michigan

Club Sport: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Minnesota

SCSU Outdoor Endeavors, Saint Cloud

Mississippi

Mississippi Outdoor Club, Clinton

Missouri

Ozark Mountain Paddlers, Springfield
Ozark Wilderness Waterways, Kansas City

Montana

Beartooth Paddlers Society, Billings

Nevada

Sierra Nevada Whitewater Club, Reno

New Hampshire

Ledyard Canoe Club, Hanover
Mt. Washington Valley Paddlers, Franconia

New Jersey

KCCNY, Flauders

New Mexico

Adobe Whitewater Club, Albuquerque

New York

ADK Schenectady, Schenectady
AMC NY-NJ Chapter, New York
Colgate University, Hamilton
Flow Paddlers' Club, Ontario
Hamilton College, Clinton
Housatonic Canoe & Kayak Squad, Ossining
St Lawrence University, Canton
Town Tinker Tube Rentals, Phoenicia
USA Paddling, West Falls
Zoar Valley Paddling Club, Buffalo

N. Carolina

Base Camp Cullowhee, Cullowhee
Carolina Canoe Club, Raleigh
Mecklenburg Regional Paddlers, Indian Trail
NCSU Outing Club, Raleigh
Triad River Runners, Winston, Salem
Watauga Paddlers, Boone

Ohio

Columbus Outdoor Pursuits, Columbus
Keel Haulers Canoe Club, Westlake
Outdoor Adventure Club, Dayton
Toledo River Gang, Waterville

Oregon

Face Level Industries LLC, Portland
Lower Columbia Canoe Club, Portland

Northwest Rafters Assoc, Portland
Oregon Canoe and Kayak, Portland
Oregon Whitewater Association, Beaverton
Willamette Kayak & Canoe Club, Corvallis

Pennsylvania

AMC Delaware Valley Chapter, Sugarloaf
Benscreek Canoe Club, Johnstown
Bradford County Canoe and Kayak Club, Sayre
Canoe Club of Greater Harrisburg, Mechanicsburg
Conewago Canoe Club, York
Holtwood Hooligans, Lititz
Lehigh Valley Canoe Club, Lehigh Valley
Lehigh Valley Whitewater Inc., Lehigh Valley
Philadelphia Canoe Club, Philadelphia
Three Rivers Paddling Club, Pittsburgh

S. Carolina

Foothills Paddling Club, Greenville
Palmetto Paddlers, Columbia

Tennessee

Appalachian Paddling Enthusiasts, Kingsport
Chota Canoe Club
East Tennessee Whitewater Club, Oak Ridge
Memphis Whitewater, Memphis
Tennessee Scenic River Assoc., Nashville
Tennessee Valley Canoe Club, Chattanooga
University of Tennessee Knoxville, Knoxville

Texas

Houston Canoe Club, Houston

Vermont

Vermont Paddlers Club, Essex Junction

Virginia

Blue Ridge River Runners, Lynch Station
Canoe Cruisers Assn, Arlington
Coastal Canoeists, Blacksburg
Float Fishermen of Virginia, Richmond

Washington

BEWET, Bellevue
Paddle Trails Canoe Clube, Seattle
Spokane Canoe & Kayak Club, Spokane
The Mountaineers, Seattle
University Kayak Club, Seattle
Venturing Crew 360, Snohomish
Washington Kayak Club, Seattle
Washington Recreational River Runners, Renton
Whitman College Whiteater Club, Walla Walla

West Virginia

West VA Wildwater Association, S. Charleston

Wisconsin

Hoofers Outing Club, Madison
NE Wisconsin Paddlers Inc. Appleton
Sierra Club / John Muir Chapter, Madison

Discounted AW Membership for Affiliate Club Members

By Carla Miner, Membership Manager

AW offers a discounted Affiliate Club membership of \$25, a \$10 savings. If you are renewing your AW membership or joining as a new member, select the Affiliate Club Discounted Personal Membership online at <http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/>. Or, if you are renewing or joining by mail or telephone just mention the name of the Affiliate Club you belong to and you can take advantage of the \$25 membership.

A list of AW Affiliate Clubs can be found on our website at <http://americanwhitewater.org/content/Membership/join-AW/>. If you do not see your Club listed here please encourage them to renew their Club membership or to join AW as a new Affiliate Club. Your Club's membership and your personal membership enable our staff to be active and engaged in the process of river stewardship. When you join or renew your membership your support is helping to meet the many challenges whitewater rivers face.

If you have any questions about the Affiliate Club membership, please contact me. I can be reached at 866_BOAT-4AW or membership@americanwhitewater.org.

Join American Whitewater as a Club Affiliate!

10 Reasons to Join AW as an Affiliate Club

1. Receive the *American Whitewater Journal*, the oldest continually published whitewater magazine.
2. Join the list of Affiliate Clubs noted in each bi-monthly *AW Journal*.
3. List club events in the *AW Journal*.
4. Your Club's members can become AW members for \$25. A \$10 savings!
5. Have technical expertise for your Club conservation and access committees 'on tap.'
6. Have access to technical and onsite assistance for your Club's event planning.
7. Enjoy VIP benefits for "Joint Members" at AW events.
8. Participate in exclusive AW Affiliate Club promotions.
9. Post Club information on the AW Website to help paddlers find you.
10. Eligible to apply for the 2009 Clif Bar Flowing Rivers grant

For more information,
contact Carla Miner at
membership@americanwhitewater.org
or sign-up on-line at:
www.americanwhitewater.org/membership

Guidelines for Contributors



Please read this carefully before sending us your articles and photos! This is a volunteer publication, please cooperate and help us out. Do not send us your material without a release – signed by all authors and photographers (attached).

If possible, articles should be submitted on a 3-1/2-inch computer disk. (Microsoft Word if possible – others accepted.) Please do not alter the margins or spacing parameters; use the standard default settings. Send a printed copy of the article as well.

Those without access to a word processor may submit their articles typed. Please double space.

Photos may be submitted as slides, black or white prints, or color prints or electronic, digital photos, 300 dpi tiffs, Photoshop or high res jpegs minimum 3"x5." Keep your originals and send us duplicates if possible; we cannot guarantee the safe return of your pictures. If you want us to return your pictures, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your submission. The better the photos the better the reproduction.

American Whitewater feature articles should relate to some aspect of whitewater boating. Please do not submit articles pertaining to sea kayaking or flat water.

If you are writing about a commonly paddled river, your story should be told from a unique perspective. Articles about difficult, infrequently paddled, or exotic rivers are given special consideration. But we are also interested in well written, unusual articles pertaining to Class II, III & IV rivers as well. Feature stories do not have to be about a specific river. Articles about paddling techniques, the river environment and river personalities are also accepted. Pieces that incorporate humor are especially welcome. Open boating and rafting stories are welcome.

Profanity should be used only when it is absolutely necessary to effectively tell a story; it is not our intent to offend our more sensitive members and readers.

Please check all facts carefully, particularly those regarding individuals, government agencies, and corporations involved in river access and environmental matters. You are legally responsible for the accuracy of such material. Make sure names are spelled correctly and river gradients and distances are correctly calculated.

Articles will be edited at the discretion of the editors to fit our format, length, and style. Expect to see changes in your article. If you don't want us to edit your article, please don't send it in! Because of our deadlines you will not be able to review the editorial changes made prior to publication.

American Whitewater is a nonprofit; the editors and contributors to American Whitewater are not reimbursed. On rare occasions, by prearrangement, professional writers receive a small honorarium when they submit stories at our request. Generally, our contributors do not expect payment, since most are members of AW, which is a volunteer conservation and safety organization.

Send your material to:
Journal Editor
P.O. Box 1540
Cullowhee, NC 28723
E-mail: editor@americanwhitewater.org



PO Box 1540 Cullowhee, NC 28723

www.americanwhitewater.org

Release for publication

I hereby release my work (literary, graphic or photographic) for publication in American Whitewater magazine

- I understand that my work may be edited or cropped at the editors' discretion.
- I understand that I will not be paid for my work.
- I accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information included in my submission. I have not libeled or slandered any individual, corporation, or agency in this work.
- I understand that all or some of my work may be reprinted at some future date in an American Whitewater publication
- I promise that this material has not been and will not soon be published by another magazine or publication and the rights to this material are clear and unrestricted.
- I understand that once this material is printed in American Whitewater it may be reprinted or reproduced in other publications if I wish, providing I notify them that it has already appeared in American Whitewater.
- I understand that the contents of American Whitewater Magazine, including my contribution will be archived on the American Whitewater website.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

This release must be signed by the contributing author(s), photographers(s), and graphic artist(s).

Send your material to:

American Whitewater Journal PO Box 1540 Cullowhee, NC 28723 or via email to editor@americanwhitewater.org

Px MY PADDLE PRESCRIPTION

PADDLER: JOHN GRACE

I'M A: WERNER SHO-GUN

TYPE: STRAIGHT

DIAMETER: STANDARD

LENGTH: 200 cm

HEIGHT: 5'11"

OCCUPATION: VIDEO GURU

LOVES PADDLING:

BECAUSE IT FORCES ME TO FOCUS - AND THE CONFUSION OF LIFE SUBSIDES FOR A BIT.



I choose to support American Whitewater through the Healthy Waters Program.

First descent Petite Mecatina, North Quebec

WHAT'S YOUR PADDLE PRESCRIPTION?

Discover your custom fit paddle

- < increase your performance
- < reduce your fatigue
- < and have more fun on the water

Werner offers advanced design features with a variety of fit options to help you choose a truly custom fit paddle. Your custom fit paddle is waiting for you.

Our web site has more for you.



Fit Guide: Answer a few questions and discover your custom fit Werner paddle.



WERNERTV: Hear what real people are saying about their love for Werner paddles.



HealthyWaters:

Buy a Werner paddle and you choose which of our non-profit partners you would like to support. We'll make a donation in your name.



WERNER

Ultimate Paddle Performance

1.800.275.3311
www.wernerpaddles.com



SHO-GUN / RENAISSANCE SHAPES



JOHN GRACE

School's **IN** for Summer.

Featured Courses:

- Sizzling 4th of July Sales Days – **July 4-5, 2009**
- Kids & Teens Week Kayak Camp – **July 12-17, 2009**
- NOC/Dagger Freestyle Shootout – **August 1-2, 2009**

**“Nation’s Premier
Paddling School”**
– *The New York Times*

**Pourover Pub
Now Open**



888.879.7238 • noc.com