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KCKA - 2008 Fall Rendezvous and Riley County Public Boat Ramp & Kansas River Access Dedication *Sat/Sun - September 20-21, 2008*



KCKA member, Keith Ratzloff - Kayaking the Kansas River in the Fall



New 177 bridge river access and boat ramp

The KCKA 2008 Fall Rendezvous/Kansas River Float Trip will be held in Manhattan, KS. Please RSVP. This will also be the Riley County new Public Boat Ramp & Kansas River Access dedication. Mark your calendars. Special Guests: Riley County Commission, Manhattan City Commission, State Representatives, State Senate, Chamber of Commerce, KDWP officials, Kansas Canoe & Kayak Association, local media, others.

Kansas River Hwy 177 - [Fairmont Park Boat Ramp, aka Public Access Dedication]

Where: Hwy 177 bridge; just south of Manhattan, KS

Date: Saturday, September 20, 2008

Dedication Time: 11:00AM

Paddler Meeting Time: 8:00AM - to unload, pack, & run shuttle to: Hwy 24, Wamego, KS or St. George, KS

Camping will be at the Tuttle Creek Cove area, west of the Tuttle Creek Lake, north of Manhattan, KS. Optional floats to the River float will be Tuttle Creek Lake. Camping fees range from \$12-\$18 per camping unit April 15 - October 31.

(Rendezvous cont.)

This 252-acre park is located approximately 3 miles north of the dam on the west side of the lake. Facilities include 39 sites with water and electric hookups, 17 nonelectric campsites, 2 walk-in campsites, a boat ramp with courtesy dock, shower/toilet building, sanitary dumpstation, swim beach, and playgrounds. Most campsites lack shade. Entrance gates are closed from 10 pm to 6 am daily.

KCKA membership required.

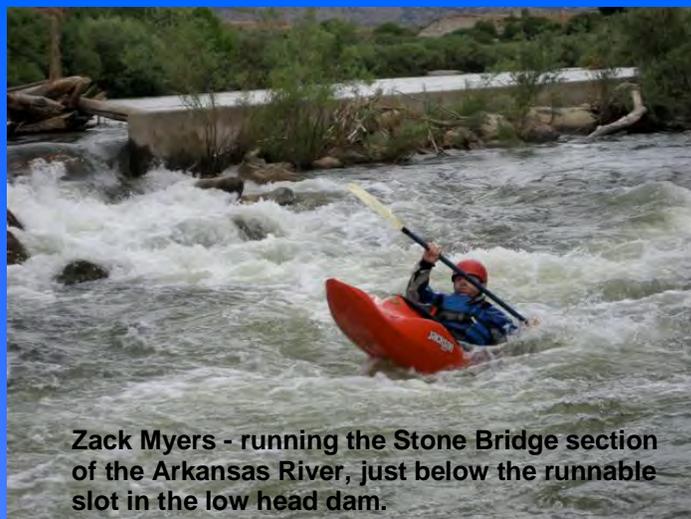
COLORADO WHITEWATER FUN!!

KCKA Colorado Novice Whitewater Trip Report

[Aka, Central Colorado Novice WW Sampler]

Trip: July 25-27

By TJ Hittle



Zack Myers - running the Stone Bridge section of the Arkansas River, just below the runnable slot in the low head dam.

We had another fun group again this year! This was a novice WW trip that was put together for interested members of the Missouri WW Assoc. (MWA), Kansas Canoe & Kayak Association (KCKA), & Kansas Whitewater Association (KWA). The trip was based around the Arkansas River near Salida, CO on some of the easier river Class II-III sections. The trip was limited to 14 trip members plus instructors. We had 5 instructors show up to help, including: Dave Reid, Chris Kelly, Joe Galeazzi, Dave Nanneman, and TJ Hittle.



Phillip Walsh planning his line

The Novice/Intermediate trip designation means you need to be comfortable on Class II-II+, learning to paddle Class III. Comparable runs in Central USA include the St. Francis River Millstream, MO or the Cossatot River, AR. Eastern runs might include: Nantahala River, NC or Hiawasee River, TN. or Lower Youghiogheny River, PA.

Over the 3-day trip, each day we met and broke up into two smaller groups that paddled river sections suitable for the interest and skill level of the group. This year's Arkansas River sections included:

Stone Bridge section - Class II+

Salida East section - Class II+

Vallie Bridge section - Class II-III

Lone Pine section - Class II-III (2 separate runs)

Frog Rock - Class III

On Saturday, we had a Paddler Party at Jackie's & my place west of Salida, CO. The Paddler Parties really help bring the group together. Everyone always comes away having learned a little more about their fellow paddler.

Above Photos by
Michelle Myers

Our trip member groups included:

MWA members:

Don & Nancy DuFaux
Aine Kresheck

KCKA members:

Jackie Rawlings
Jim & Bonnie Sherow
Zack & Michelle Myers
Ed & Phillip Walsh
Gene Bowers
Jim Weaver

KWA members:

Bill Sample
Rick Berckefeldt
Brian Sauer



L to R: Nancy Dufaux, Don Dufaux, Jim Weaver, Zack Myers, Michelle Myers, Chris Kelly, TJ Hittle, Gene Bowers, Jim Sherow, Dave Nanneman, Brian Sowers, Dave Reid, Bill Sample, Patrick Walsh, Rick Berckefeldt, Phillip Walsh, Ed Walsh, Joe Galeazzi—photo by Aine Kresheck

A few awards that the combined instructor group voted to award with comments. A special CONGRATULATIONS to these paddlers.

OUTSTANDING NOVICE PADDLER AWARD - Rick Berckefeldt

Rick: "for smooth controlled paddling for the entire trip"

OUTSTANDING "PLAY-MEISTER" AWARD - (TIE) Phillip Walsh & Rick Berckefeldt

Phillip: "For being play hole monster & Fractions Boof Champ"

Rick: "When he was boating with us, he hit just about every play spot and I was running sweep and watched him play."

MOST IMPROVED NOVICE PADDLER - Gene Bowers

Gene: "went from mostly out-of-control to mostly in-control"; "at end of the day he was hitting a lot of eddies that he was passing by at the start."

OUTSTANDING "ROLLER" AWARD - Bill Sample

Bill: "most rolls and most critically timed rolls, aka in lower Cottonwood rapids"

MOST CONGENIAL NOVICE PADDLER AWARD - (TIE) Jim Sherow & Nancy DuFaux

Jim: "always had something nice to say"

Nancy: "she talked to every one and has never met a stranger"

MOST SAFETY CONSCIOUS NOVICE PADDLER AWARD - Nancy DuFaux

More Trip Photos



Gene Bowers - running a Class II on the Lone Pine section of the Arkansas River, Colorado



Joe Galeazzi - running Tin Cup Rapids (Class III) on the Rincon section of the Arkansas River, Colorado



**Team Ibuprofen, Novice WW Instructors
L-R: Dave Nanneman, TJ Hittle, Dave Reid, Joe Galeazzi**



L-R: Zack Myers & Jim Sherow - running a Class II on the Lone Pine section of the Arkansas River, Colorado

Scenic Missouri Paddling

Current & Jack's Fork River

July 18,19,20

By Tom Grist

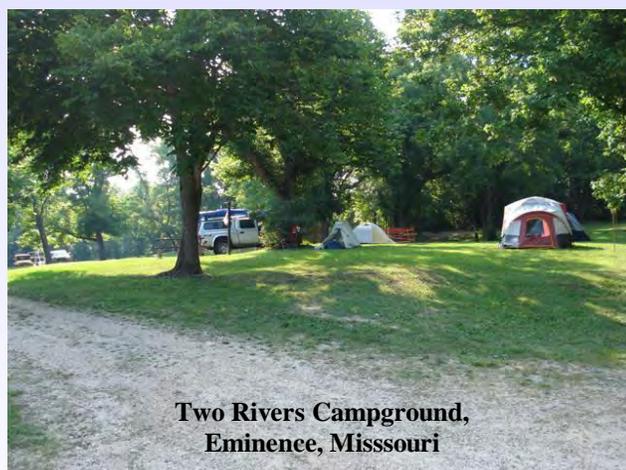
With the weather report looking good, David Cobb and I headed for Two Rivers campground in Missouri. We made it by dark and found plenty of camping spots on a Thursday night. Two Rivers campground is located near Eminence, Missouri, at the confluence of the Current and Jack's Fork rivers. The campground was nicely shaded, somewhat sloped, with campsites very close together (as seems to be typical in Missouri River campgrounds). New bathroom and shower facilities were clean and in excellent condition. Plenty of hot water! Also in the campground were a convenience store and canoe/kayak outfitter.

Camping fees were \$8.00 per night per campsite. Be warned, the tightly packed campgrounds are pretty noisy at night.



Current River, approaching the confluence of the Jack's Fork River near Two Rivers campground.

Our first float went from Round Springs back to the campground. The trip was 18 river miles. We were able to find some nice campers who rode with us to Round Springs and drove our vehicle back to the campground, at no charge! The float was great. Few people on the water, good flow, warm weather. The only downside was the motorboat traffic.



Two Rivers Campground,
Eminence, Missouri

They seem to care very little for kayaks, canoes, or tubes. I enjoyed a previous float from Pulltite to Round Springs much more due to the lack of motorboats and more caves to explore.

Friday night, Zach and Michelle Myers met us at the campground. After a second, and even noisier night, we headed to Alley Springs on the Jack's Fork River for a 15 mile float. Unfortunately, we did not beat the morning rush of partiers and started out right in the middle of a traffic jam of canoes, rafts, tubes, kayaks, and coolers. What a sight to behold!

We paddled quickly to try to get ahead of the crowd, but we seemed to be around boaters the whole way back to our campground. The water was flowing minimally, but still clear. We didn't have to drag at all. We stopped several times to watch the carnage of weekend floaters at tight turns or obstacle-laden passages. Yes, we helped drag boats out of strainers, catch equipment floating by, and being rewarded occasionally with an unopened beverage adrift in the current.

Much of the Jack's Fork was very beautiful, covered by trees, and flowed beside nice bluffs. I would say that at a slightly higher flow and during the mid-week days this would be one of my favorite paddles. The highlight of this float was observing David Cobb's attempt to stand up in his kayak. The footage of his comical, but unsuccessful, try would have gotten a lot of hits on YouTube if only I could have gotten my camera out faster.

Even though water flow was minimal, we decided to make one last short float on Sunday morning before heading back. We started at Bay Creek access and paddled 5 miles to Alley Springs. We had this stretch all to ourselves. There were many places we scraped bottom but few places we had to get out and drag. The water in this stretch was swimming pool clear with many riffles separated by long pools of crystal clear water. Much wildlife and aquatic life was seen.

After a quick shower and clothes change at Alley Spring campground, we were on our way home. It is about a seven hour drive to this area from Andover. I would highly recommend a trip to this area, but do it on non-weekend days.



David, Zack, and Michelle at the Jack's Fork launch site.



(L to R) David Cobb, Zack Myers, Michelle Myers paddle the Jack's Fork River.



David Cobb, Tom Grist, and Zack Myers paddle on a beautiful tree-covered Jack's Fork River.



Don't go on a weekend!



David Cobb taking a break on a hot day on the Current River.

KCKA DONATES TO KANSAS RIVER ACCESS



Looking downstream at the new River Front Park access

KCKA has donated \$500 to help complete the new Kansas River Access at Wamego's River Front Park. The contribution was given in the name of KCKA and was used to pay for additional gravels, seeding, and plants. Money came from the General Fund, the Conservation and Access fund, and the Kayak Chapter.

TJ Hittle and Jackie Rawlings met with Dave Karnowski, a local contractor who is leading and driving the project, to finalize KCKA's involvement.

As these pictures indicate, the access is a great addition to the park and is a nice improvement of access for all boaters and paddlers.



L-R, Dave Karnowski (Wamego River Front Chr) discussing the new River Front Park with Jackie Rawlings

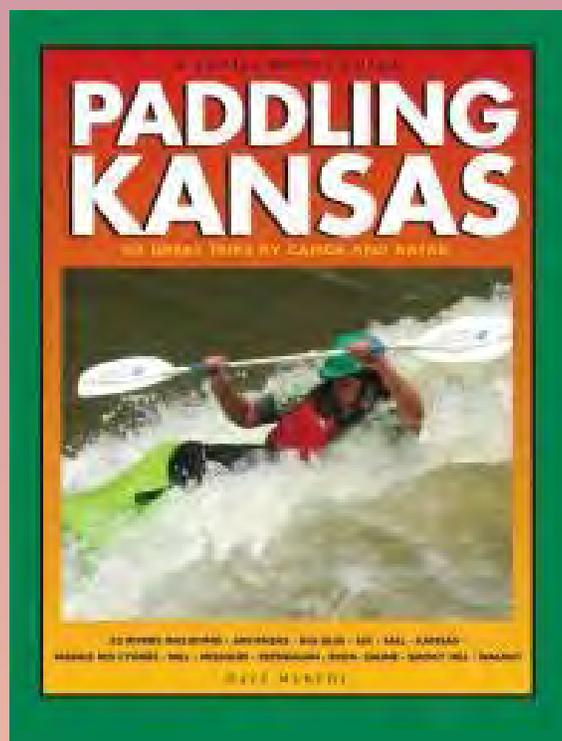


KCKA member, Jackie Rawlings, inspecting the new ramp access

Paddling Kansas Now Available

Five years in the writing, **PADDLING KANSAS**, the long awaited guidebook to the rivers and streams of Kansas has opened a new door to paddling in Kansas. Written by Dave Murphy, the 172 page (8 ½ x 11”) book provides maps, a general description of each river segment, brief narratives, difficulty ratings, estimate of the float times, minimum recommended flows, gradients, gauging stations, access points, shuttle routes, information for anglers and local contact numbers on more than 100 publicly accessible river and stream segments across the state.

Dave Murphy’s book, **PADDLING KANSAS** is now available through KCKA and bookstores. The book cost at the Rendezvous will be \$21.45, which includes tax. You can order the book and help benefit KCKA by sending check or money order to KCKA, P.O. Box 44-2490, Lawrence, KS 66044. The cost, including tax and shipping/handling is \$26.95. Please make checks and money orders payable to KCKA.



Great idea for a Christmas gift!

COMING EVENTS

Joint KCKA & ARC Family Recreational Ozark Adventure.

When: October 18-19, 2008

Joint KCKA & ARC Family Recreational Ozark Adventure. Class I-II. Base Camp Friday and Saturday nights. Expect sections on a river like the North Fork of the White, Current, Niangua, Spring, Eleven Point or Buffalo that will be suitable for recreational kayaks. You might encounter mild whitewater. You will encounter sections with swiftwater, calm water, riffles, hairpin turns, strainers and other obstacles. This weekend should provide us with spectacular fall colors and most likely crystal clear water. Plan for a sunrise launch on Sunday morning with great photo opportunities. Daytime temperatures could be anything from 40-80F and you must be prepared to survive a cold-water swim, cold rain or hot sunshine. Helmets are recommended, especially for kayakers because the riverbed will be rock and gravel. Any sports helmet should work fine. If you have had a kayak/canoe class, or are beyond paddling in unintentional circles and have the proper gear, you are probably skilled enough for this trip. Discuss your skill level with any experienced boater. RSVP and a liability release are required. Contact Chris Collins 316-942-4339.

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