



THE KANSAS PADDLER

KCKA WEBSITE

www.kansascanoe.org

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Fall Rendezvous - Excellent!

The 2010 Fall Rendezvous was held at Cross Timbers State Park on October 15 – 17, 2010. We had beautiful weather and a great turnout. Over 30 KCKA members showed up. Saturday was also the state park's 50th anniversary celebration, and the opening of Kansas' first interpretive water trail. The trail includes 15 markers with natural history information that can be found in the trail guide available at the lake. More water trails are planned for the park.



KCKA members prepare to paddle on Toronto Reservoir

On Saturday, KCKA members led tours along the water trail. The lake was low and it was quite windy. Nevertheless, about 50 boats floated the trail on Saturday, including several first-time paddlers. Many members hiked some of the trails and a few rode mountain bikes over the rough rock trails by the lake. In the evening, the park provided dinner of elk or buffalo burgers and hot dogs plus beans and salads. Dessert of cobblers cooked in dutch ovens was really good! Music was provided by a live band.

A Board and general member meeting was also held. See Minutes on the KCKA website soon.

Sunday, KCKA members (13 boats/15 people) floated Toronto Lake, stopping at Duck Island for a break and to find a geocache. The conditions on Sunday couldn't have been better- the sun was out, the water was like glass, and we had the entire lake to ourselves. Our camping area was also very nice. A new, large shower house with plenty of hot water was especially popular. All in all, it was a successful rendezvous. Thanks to everyone for coming! We are planning to hold the 2011 Spring Rendezvous at Wilson Lake.

See more photos next page

Fall Rendezvous Pictures

Photos by Zoe Albers and Tom Grist



Eric Laws retrieving a geocache on Duck Island.



Planning the next activity



Zack Myers (front), Michelle Myers and Holly Alexander riding the trails.



KCKA members preparing to lead a group on the water trail.



One group listening to Eric Laws reading information about one of the stops on the water trail.



KDWP staff discussing safety with water trail group leaders.

Summer Kayaking in Canada's Quetico Provincial Park

Story By Tom Grist

Photos by Zack and Michelle Myers, David Cobb, Tom Grist

As the rain poured down outside I thought to myself “We sure made the right decision months ago”. That decision was to rent a cabin near our entry point for the night before we started a six day kayak trip in Quetico Provincial Park, July 4-9, 2010. There were no camping areas near, and we decided it would be better to start the trip with dry tents and equipment in case it was raining.

Our group, which consisted of myself, David Cobb, and Zack and Michelle Myers, left Wichita Friday, July 2 for Minneapolis, Minnesota. We stayed overnight with David’s relatives, and continued to Bliss Cabins, near Mine Centre, Ontario, Canada, on Saturday.

The trip was uneventful until crossing the U.S.-Canada border. Due to a combination of having to get into my kayak for my passport and David’s acknowledging he had bear spray (illegal to bring into Canada, but OK to buy it there) we were labeled as suspicious and required a closer examination by several armed and body armor-protected Canadian customs agents.

Considering we had a couple of undeclared small bottles of alcohol, we had visions of full body searches and huge fines once

they were

discovered. However, when they found an empty 9mm shell casing in the vehicle and ominously asked “Who owns the (undeclared) weapon”, we knew we would be lucky to get back to the U.S. by the end of the week, when we were supposed to be kayaking and camping through beautiful Canadian lakes.

Fortunately, the weapon was safely back in Kansas and they didn’t seem to care about finding one small bottle of Crown Royal, since it was Canadian-made I guess. So we were allowed to go on our way after they safely confiscated the bear spray from our group of would-be illegal border crashers.

We found our way down the Canadian backroads to our entry point on Beaverhouse Lake. The first thing we had to do was portage all of our equipment three hundred meters through a water-soaked trail (remember, it was raining). This was not fun. But by

the time we were loaded and on the



Relaxing with a view of a glass-like Quetico Lake

lake, it had stopped raining with pleasant weather and a moderate trailing wind.

We checked in at the ranger station and paddled on, with one more portage, to our first campsite seven miles in. The campsite was beautiful, fairly flat with a previously built fire pit and log benches. We set up our tents looking out across Quetico Lake. The campsite was at water’s edge, with large flat rocks leading to the water, great for sunning, swimming, cleaning fish, and beaching our kayaks.

We spent two days there and caught plenty of walleye, northern pike, and smallmouth bass to eat daily. Aside from a nighttime thunderstorm, the weather was great. The water was refreshing to swim in and tasted great after purifying with SteriPens.



Ready to paddle. From left: Tom Grist, Zack Myers, Michelle Myers, David Cobb



Paddling between Quetico and Cirrus lakes



Taking an afternoon swim

this campsite to explore the upper end of Cirrus Lake and fish along the shoreline quite a distance.

After two days on Butthorn Island, we portaged about 150 meters to a small lake. We paddled through this small lake to a very long (850 meter) portage back into Beaverhouse Lake. The long portage was uneventful and entirely forgettable due to the several trips lugging gear and kayaks.

We found another nice campsite near our take-out and spent the afternoon swimming and sunning on the sun-warmed massive rock slabs at our tent doors. We spent the evening catching more walleye and eating what food we had left. Zack and Michelle fought varmints attempting to eat their tent all night and I was sure the noises inches from my tent during the night was Big Foot or his relative. We were ready to leave early and get started back home.

After portaging our gear and kayaks back to our vehicle, we headed to Minneapolis for the night, stopping along the way for a spectacular view of Duluth and Lake Superior from the overlook south of town. We drove on back to Wichita the next day, Saturday, July 10, only stopping for Arthur Bryant's barbecue in Kansas City.



Michelle directing landing traffic

I would highly recommend all kayakers and canoers to make a trip like this to the Boundary Waters (American side) or Quetico Provincial Park (Canadian side) sometime in their paddling lives. The scenery is spectacular, weather usually good, and the rewards great. I would be happy to assist anyone in planning a trip to these areas.

There were higher than normal numbers of black flies this year, and at exactly 9:20 each night swarms of mosquitoes came out and zeroed in on our campsite. We usually went to our tents rather than fight these swarms.

From Quetico Lake, we paddled north through some beautiful high rock bluffs and narrow waterways between points of land into a small lake with rapids at one end. We portaged about a hundred meters along the stream feeding the rapids to Cirrus Lake. With a stiff wind in our face, we did a hard paddle of four more miles to our next campsite on Butthorn Island, so named due to the occasional sounds caused by the high fiber and fish protein diet common to campers in these waters.

This was a small island with good tent spots and a great campfire and eating area. We had one small afternoon rain shower, but otherwise great weather. There was good swimming and beautiful sunsets at this site. We were able to find some areas to catch plenty of walleye to eat. We also paddled out from



What a view out the front door!



Michelle on Quetico Lake



Zack with a big walleye



David, proud of a smallmouth bass



Tom with smallmouth bass and northern pike

More Fall Rendezvous Photos



More Quetico Photos



Boating in Winter

By Mick O'Shea

Now that winter is here, some of us are thinking about winter boating and occasionally actually doing it. The draw is the calm quiet conditions and the lack of crowds out on the water. The danger comes from a combination of coldwater/cold air and, if you happen to be boating alone (not recommended), a lack of immediate help if you need it. Thus the onus is on you to make sure you take all precautions to mitigate the risks associated with such boating.

First a few words about the dangers of taking a cold water dip. If you accidentally capsize your boat, the sudden immersion in cold water can lead to an initial shock and an involuntary gasp. As long as you are wearing a lifejacket you will come to the surface pretty quickly. On the other hand if you are not wearing a lifejacket, i.e. it's lying in the bottom of your boat, this could get serious pretty quickly.

If you are in the water more than a few seconds you'll quickly realize that cold water will sap your strength – this is true for water temperatures of 50 F and happens more quickly at lower water temperatures. The key here is to be wearing a good thermal barrier – a wetsuit or a drysuit. This will significantly increase the survival time in cold water. Immersion in cold water for the unprepared person will quickly lead to hypothermia, a lowering of your core body temperature. Once this occurs the swimmer rapidly loses strength and coordination. Judgment is also impaired and the swimmer has only a very limited ability to help themselves.

Your margin for safety will be further increased if you boat in a group of three or more so that help is quickly available, and if you stick close to a river bank or close to a lakeshore. Internet searches will yield much information on cold water boating and cold water wear.

If you do decide to do some cold water boating, a good place to start reading is: <http://www.enter.net/~skimmer/coldwater.html>.

In addition to the exercise you get with winter paddling, you'll have a better chance of seeing wildlife since there will be fewer people around to frighten it off! Near Manhattan, bald eagles winter around Tuttle Creek and can be seen by paddlers and hikers.

Current River Trip Report

Story and Photo by Angela Laws

Over the weekend of October 21-24, Eric and I spent the weekend on the Current River with 8 others: Chris Collins, Marcia Pike, Will Williams, Mary Beth, Ed, and Patrick Walsh, Fred Graus, and Lucky. We had great weather both days, with just a little rain overnight. We stayed at Cedargrove, a really nice campground with campsites right on the river. Camping at Cedargrove cost \$5/night. It is a primitive site with pit toilets and no running water. On Friday, we floated from our campsites at Cedargrove to Akers Ferry. The float was about 7.7 miles long. Welch spring is also along this stretch of the river at (N37°23.656; W91°34.444). The spring is deep blue and there are some interesting remains. Saturday we floated from Tan Vat to Cedargrove, which is an 8.9 mile float. Tan Vat appeared to be a popular fishing spot. This section of the river was a bit trickier than the Cedargrove to Akers Ferry stretch, but I think it was also prettier. Both days, the "Above Akers Ferry" water gauge was at 231 cfs. This was enough water to float, but there were a few places where we scraped the bottom. Sunday we broke camp and headed for home. It was a great trip!

Floating the current river from Cedargrove to Akers Ferry. From left to right: Marcia Pike, Mary Beth Walsh, Ed Walsh.



River Permits

By Ron Ferris

Printed with permission from Ron Ferris, Riverboat Works, www.riverboatworks.com

Anybody else out there getting excited for boating season? We decided to devote a whole newsletter to permitting. Whether it's wilderness, whitewater or great fishing that you're after, you don't have to wait for invitations to jump on a trip this year. Check out this permitting information and lead your own trip. Remember that most applications are due by Jan. 31st!

Let's start with the **Rio Chama**. We had a piece on the Chama in our very first newsletter last spring. Please e-mail us at info@riverboatworks.com if you would like to see the May newsletter. For Chama permit information, call the BLM @ (505) 758-8851 and ask for a postcard application. Your \$6 application must be submitted by Jan. 31st, 2010, for the lottery for the scheduled summer weekend releases. Keep in mind that it is much easier to get a non-fee weekday permit by telephone application after April 1st, and there is a period before and after the main summer months when you may apply for permitting by phone.

Let's talk **Rio Grande - Taos Box** while we're in New Mexico. This stretch has a short season, from May thru June, and is not for the faint of heart, with class III-V whitewater for a 17 mile day trip. Permits are self-issued and non-fee at the Dunn's bridge put in.

Speaking of short seasons, let's move up to the **Dolores**, where the season is often non-existent. Let's hope that there is enough late-winter El Nino snowfall in the San Juans to allow us to boat this beautiful river in '10! In a year with average snowpack, the BOR regulates dam releases from McPhee Reservoir that allow the Dolores to be floatable from late April into June. Permits are not required on Colorado sections of the river, but overnight trips must register at the put-in. Utah sections of the Dolores must be permitted. Go to www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/sjplc/recreation/sjdolores.htm for more information.

Another great Colorado destination is the **Yampa**. Permitting on the Yampa/Dinosaur Nat. Monument is a bit more difficult though. Applications, along with the \$15 application fee, are due by Jan. 31st. Call (970) 374-2468 between 8am and 12pm for the River Office at Dinosaur. There are separate fees for multi-day and one-day permits, and 300 permits are drawn in a lottery for the "high use season", which runs from the second Monday in May thru the second Friday in July. Cancellations are also available during this season. The 300 permits also include permitting for the Canyon of Lodore on the Green, see below. Cancellations are also available during this season.

You may use the above phone number to access information about the **Green River/Canyon of Lodore**, which will also take you thru Dinosaur. Unfortunately, the lottery application is for both rivers, and you may only apply for one. Tip: there are fewer requests for the Green than the Yampa, during the high season.

Not to worry though, there are plenty of other great sections of the **Green River**. For world class fly fishing, check out the **A, B, and C Sections below Flaming Gorge Dam**. These sections are mostly class II whitewater and Red Creek Rapid which is called a class III. No permitting is required, and camping is only allowed in the B section. While the A section is a beautiful stretch of river, and there are lunkers right below the dam, it gets a lot of pressure, with the B getting a bit less pressure, and it is worth spending a night or two

Moving into Utah on the Green, check out **Desolation/Gray Canyons**. Permits are required year round on this 95 mile section of intermediate whitewater. Call 435-636-0975 to make a reservation. The lottery system has been done away with, and reservations can be made up to 5 months ahead of time. You must have a group size and trip leader information to register, and permits are issued upon receipt of \$20 application fee and \$25 fee per person. An extra \$10 fee will be charged per person if fees are paid after registration. Go to www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price/recreation/riverinf.html for more information.

River Permits (cont'd)

Now that we're in Utah, let's talk big water on the **Colorado**. Why not start with the 17 mi. stretch known as **Westwater** and move downstream from there. Like Deso./Gray, Westwater is permitted with a call in system. You may ask for a launch date up to 2 months from your call in date, with 75 people or 5 permits allowed per day, on a first come first served basis by telephone: (435) 259-7012. Permitting is done thru the BLM in Moab, and trips can be extended by starting in the permit free Ruby/Horsethief sections

Downstream, permitting for **Cataract Canyon** is done thru Canyonlands National Park: (435) 259-4351. Make sure to check water levels in Lake Powell for takeout information. Applications may be mailed or faxed in after January 1st, and at least 2 weeks before trip date along with credit card or check or money order payment of \$30 fee. Permits allow for up to 40 people per trip.

And we get to the big one, **The Grand Canyon of the Colorado**. Grand permitting is by weighted lottery, with a \$25 fee to submit your application. The weighted part involves "preference points" based on number of years since the applicant has last been down this section of river, also PATL's (potential alternate trip leaders) and "extra chances" for those transferred from the old wait list that was done away with in 2006. Needless to say, it is complicated, but you'll want to get your user profile into the system ASAP to be considered for the 2012 first and main lottery taking place Feb. 1st to 24th, 2011. Go to npspermits.us/grandcanyon/river/login.cfm for information and read the very informative FAQ section or call 1-800-959-9164.

Looking for a more mellow trip and permitting process? Check out the **San Juan** river in Utah, permitted by lottery thru the BLM. Call (435) 587-1544. This is a great family stretch of river, with mellow whitewater, fantastic hikes and views, including ruin and petroglyph viewing. Permit applications are due by Jan. 31st, with lottery drawing in the 1st week of February, and notification of launch date by March 1st.

Though we're a bit late, we'd like to mention the **Salt River** in Arizona. Permit applications were due by Jan. 15th, but waiting list applications are taken from the general public from Feb. 16th thru May 15th. Permits are required from March 1st to May 15th, which is pretty much the length of the Salt's short run off season.

We hope this list will help you jump on the permitting bandwagon. Big thanks to rivergeek.com for a wealth of information. Go to this site for these and other rivers not included in this list. Go to www.adventuresportsonline.com/rpermit.htm for another comprehensive site with permitting information for rivers in Idaho, Montana, California, Oregon, and Alaska!

RiverBoat Works
202 Oak Street
Salida, Colorado 719-539-9323 866-539-9323

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KCKA EVENTS CALENDAR

(Visit www.kansascanoe.org for details on these events)

Kayak Chapter Meeting & Party

When: Saturday, January 29, 6:00pm Where: the Hittle/Rawlins house, Manhattan, KS.
Special guest speaker - Dave Murphy, Author: Paddling Kansas

Intermediate Kayak Chapter Workshop #1

Where: Manhattan When: Sunday, January 30 ****No Openings****

Intermediate Kayak Chapter Workshop #2

Where: Manhattan When: Sunday, February 20

KSU Natatorium, Denison Avenue, KSU Campus;

What: Pool session; Roll clinic; Rescue Practice; Paddling Techniques

Cost: \$16/person

Bring: Your boat must be washed & cleaned ahead

TO DO: Enroll through UFM on-line or at (785) 539-8763

KCKA Annual Meeting

Where: Wichita When: Saturday, February 26, 10 AM

To be held at the Wichita Water Center

Ozark Light Whitewater Trip

Where: Missouri-Arkansas TBD When: March 24,25,26

Introduction to Tandem Canoeing

Where: Manhattan When: 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m, Saturday, April 30th, 2011

This class will introduce the novice paddler to basic canoe strokes, maneuvering, trip planning and safety. If you do not have a canoe, the instructor can help you rent one. Location will be at a place near Manhattan to be decided one week before the class when water levels are known. Cost is \$15 to KCKA members (does not include canoe rental if canoe rental is needed). Contact Mick O'Shea, 785-539-2279 for enrollment information.

Arkansas River "River Trash Roundup"

Where: Wichita When: Saturday, May 1

Spring Rendezvous

Where: Tentatively Wilson Reservoir When: To be determined

Welcome - New KCKA Members!

Clark Baldwin	Newton,KS
Marcia Rozell	Manhattan,KS
Zoe & Leisa Albers	Lyndon,KS
Holly & Wayne Alexander	Derby,KS
David Hartnett	Manhattan,KS
Randy Daily	Olathe,KS
Braden Shelman	Wichita,KS

YOU'RE INVITED!!

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

KCKA Annual and Board Meetings

Come join the group to hear and discuss what has been happening with the KCKA over the past year and what events lie ahead for 2011. Bring your photos, videos, ideas, and experiences to share with the group.

Pizza and soft drinks will be provided. If you wish to dazzle us with your talents, bring a side dish, chips, dips, dessert, or other food item.

(Your food items are completely optional. We will have plenty of pizza.)

Wichita Water Center, 101 E. Pawnee , Southwest corner of Broadway and Pawnee.
General Meeting Starts at 10:00 AM. Join Us!



2010 Annual Meeting

Support our Associate Members!



Springfield, Missouri
417-889-6633



KCKA MERCHANDISE FOR SALE

Paddling Kansas

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. 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. **Save shipping charges by purchasing at a Rendezvous.**



KCKA BALL CAPS
Khaki-\$12.00
Kiwi--SOLD OUT!



KCKA DECALS
\$2.00

To order hats or decals, please send an email noting your items and quantity, along with your name and shipping address to the KCKA email address of kcka1975@cox.net. There will be a shipping fee of \$3.00 and tax included in the total bill. Payment instructions will be enclosed with your order.

Pay KCKA Membership Fees with

PayPal

You are now able to pay your KCKA membership fees using PayPal. It is easy if you already have an account. If you don't have an account, you will be given the option to create one during the Checkout procedure.

If you are joining KCKA for the first time, you must complete the Membership Application and fill out and sign the Liability Waiver and mail both pages to KCKA. The address is on the Membership Application. These forms may be printed from the www.kansascanoe.org website. If you wish to pay through PayPal, indicate this preference on the application or send a note with the application. You will be contacted via e-mail once your application and waiver form are received. We would prefer to receive the application and waiver before you send us money via PayPal.

If you are renewing your membership after receiving a renewal reminder, you may return that reminder with a check or pay via PayPal. If the information on your renewal reminder is correct and you wish to pay via PayPal, go to www.kansascanoe.org, and choose the "Click here to Join or Renew Membership" tab on the left side of the home page, select KCKA Membership and add it to your cart. If desired, you may then add Kayak Chapter fees and/or a Conservation/Access Fund donation to your cart.

It's quick and easy. Give it a try!



KCKA - Membership Application / Renewal

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY. Fill out this form completely, even if you are renewing.

Date: _____ Participant Name(s) _____

Participant Name(s) _____

Participant Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ - _____ - _____ E-mail: _____

Renewal adds 12 months to an existing membership. Please check the renewal box if renewing.

SELECT APPROPRIATE KCKA MEMBERSHIP:

- _____ \$15.00 Single/Family KCKA Renewal
- _____ \$85.00 Associate/Business Membership (w/a 6
column inch KCKA Newsletter ad & website ad)
- _____ \$200.00 Life Membership (not including chapter dues)
- _____ My additional contribution to KCKA Conservation-
Access Program

OPTIONAL KCKA CHAPTER AFFILIATIONS

_____ \$5.00 KCKA Kayak Chapter

\$ _____ TOTAL OF ALL KCKA FEES

Make Check Payable to KCKA for this portion.

Please tell us how you heard about the Kansas Canoe & Kayak Association - check all that apply:

- From a friend who boats
- Another KCKA Member
- KansasCanoe.org
- KANSAS PADDLER Home Page
- Information at a business,
name: _____
- Article in News Media
- Other:

My areas of interest include (check all that apply):

- Family/Flatwater Canoeing (Class I-II)
- Kayak Touring (Class I-II)
- Whitewater Canoeing/Kayaking/Rafting
(Class III+)

Send Application and Fee to:

Kansas Canoe & Kayak Association
PO Box 44-2490
Lawrence, KS 66044

KCKA depends upon volunteer efforts. I am willing to help with these activities:

- Marketing/Membership
- Flatwater/Touring Trips
- Whitewater Trips
- Instruction/Safety
- Special Events, Rendezvous, etc
Website

Separate Liability Waiver – REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE

Revised: January 2, 2008

Kansas Canoe & Kayak Association
PO Box 44-2490
Lawrence, KS 66044

KCKA Website
www.kansascanoe.org

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

To continue sending a newsletter listing statewide events, wide-ranging and informative articles on safety, training, classes, paddling tips, trip reports, photos, etc., we need all members to consider sending that information to the KCKA email address of kcka1975@cox.net. The more articles and information we get, the better our newsletter will be.

This year, in addition to this printed newsletter, we plan to send additional electronic updates and a second printed newsletter in November recapping the year's paddling season. Your story/photo/trip report, is needed to provide all KCKA members with timely, usable, interesting information.

Thanks,
Tom Grist, Newsletter Editor