



## Remembering Brian R. Hammond

[1950-2002]

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913-685-9221 / wlmcclave@yahoo.com

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785-539-7772 / tjhittle@kansas.net

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*If you would prefer to receive a Full Color digital newsletter, send an email to: tjhittle@kansas.net*

On April 29, 2002, the Kansas Canoe Association lost a dear friend and fellow paddler, Brian R. "Boy Wonder" Hammond. The nickname, Boy Wonder, was taken from a humorous home video that Paul Sodamann produced on a KCA trip to the Tellico River, TN. The video was based around a fictitious competition between a TSRA member, Dick Wooten, as the canoeist and "local favorite" with Brian R. Hammond as the "Boy Wonder". Of course the "Boy Wonder" wins the competition. The nickname stuck.

We will always remember the time we spent with Brian. We met him in 1984 on the Yampa River, CO. It was Jackie's first multi-day river trip. Brian was so full of life, so intelligent, so much fun. Whenever someone started playing or singing around the campfire, you could always count on Brian to not only sing but

remember the words to even the most obscure songs.

Brian loved to have in depth conversations, especially politically oriented. If you traveled with Brian, you could always count on him to either drive or talk. Great attributes for traveling companions.

Brian and Reed joined the recent KCA Novice Whitewater trip to Frog Bayou on the weekend of April 27-28 this year. Brian passed away on Monday, April 29. Many of us believe that he came to say goodbye in his own way.



[Above Top: Brian Hammond; Above Bottom: The 1984 Yampa River Expedition group photo. Brian is at the top of the photo.]

We will all miss Brian. Our thoughts and prayers are with his children, Stephanie and Reed and his family. We loved you, Brian. We hope you are at peace.  
by Jackie Rawlings & T.J. Hittle

# KCA Rendezvous Makes History

by Kail Katzenmeier

If there was ever a perfect day for an afternoon on the river with friends, it fell on the Saturday of the Rendezvous. With morning temperatures in the upper sixties and a cool breeze of 3-5mph, we gathered at the Tuttle Creek River Pond Area for a quick meeting about the day's activities. Robin Jennison of "KFRM 550AM - Kansas Outdoor Radio" (a Saturday radio program devoted to highlighting outdoor activities across the state) was there broadcasting live and interviewing KCA members for the show. History was made when KCA received over 1 ½ hours of broadcast time talking about river recreation and access. Another plus is that some of you may recognize his name from his past political life as Speaker of the House in Topeka.

The afternoon was spent on a leisurely paddle down the upper Little Blue River north of Tuttle Creek near Waterville, KS. The water level was healthy from the recent spring rains and kept everyone entertained, especially

Tessie (Dave and Sue Mitchell's dog), who spent the day perched atop the cooler in their canoe when she wasn't chasing animals on the gravel bars.

participate in the river cleanup when they pass by in the future).

The KCA Rendezvous continued that evening back at the Pond Area with an outstanding pot luck and delicious BBQ provided by the KCA from Manhappenin's newest restaurant, Cox Bros. BBQ – MMMMM!! The food was served, a bon fire was made and then at the suggestion of someone, we all decided to go skinny dippin' (not really, just a



[Above: L-R, Larry Storen, Kail & Emily Katzenmeier, Robin Jennison]

little KCA humor for those still reading along :o). All and all, the Rendezvous in 2002 was a worthwhile, fun filled day spent with great



[Above: Tuttle Creek Reservoir River Pond Americorps staff member during a presentation on skinning & tanning.]

Speaking of gravel bars, the group stopped for lunch on a wonderful, brush free, dry bar about half way through the float. After lunch we participated in the National River Cleanup Week event by filling an entire trash bag full of bar debris. (After much debate, we chose to leave the 11 ton pile of old steel bridge beams so that other groups would still have a way to



[Above: Robin Jennison, KFRM 550AM radio - Outdoor News Director]

company, good food, and perfect paddling. What more can you ask for? Hope to see YOU next year for the KCA Rendezvous in 2003!

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)



# 2002 Activities Calendar

"KCA Members - we need your trips & events"



*The KANSAS PADDLER Home Page contains the FULL trip and activities schedule. Some events may not be listed in the KCA Newsletter, so check it out at: [www.kansas.net/~tjhittle/](http://www.kansas.net/~tjhittle/)*

June 22 - June 30 Kansas River Outfitters - OZARK RIVER ROAD TRIP, 785-537-8300, kro@kansasriveroutfitters.com

June 22-23 - "Full Moon Quick Strike (Kaw Overnight) Series" - meet at Lawrence's Kaw River Oak Street put-in at 6:00 p.m. Call or email program leaders Bill McClave (913-685-9221, [wmcclav@yahoo.com](mailto:wmcclav@yahoo.com)), Dave Smith (912-681-1260, [dsmith8879@aol.com](mailto:dsmith8879@aol.com)), or Bill Cutler (785-379-9756, [spudspa@aol.com](mailto:spudspa@aol.com))

June 26 - Clinton Lake - Kids Kayaking 1-hour float: (see June 12<sup>th</sup> information)

June 26-July 2 Hell's Canyon, Snake River, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, 79 miles, class III-IV (two V). Contact Cliff Long, [clong@kscable.com](mailto:clong@kscable.com) or (316) 253-9216.

June 30 - Republican River from Milford Lake to Junction City. 5-6 mile Class I - Call Erlene Slingsby (785) 632-2389 or email: [erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com](mailto:erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com)

July 4 - Join Kansas River Outfitters at the River Pond for a Paddle Jam, Scavenger, Hunt BBQ and the opportunity to win a new Kayak. How: Pre-registration required - \$25.00 per person entry Paddle Jam 11 am to 4 pm - BBQ & Awards 5 pm . Where: Tuttle Creek River Pond, Manhattan, KS - Kansas River Outfitters; e-mail: [kro@kansasriveroutfitters.com](mailto:kro@kansasriveroutfitters.com) or 785-537-8300

July 5-9 Lower Salmon River (White Bird-Hellers Bar, Snake River) Oregon, 74 miles, class III-IV. If there were enough requests I would consider adding time to this and start at Vinegar Creek adding 59 miles of class III-IV. Contact Cliff Long, [clong@kscable.com](mailto:clong@kscable.com) or (316) 253-9216.

July 21 - Republican River from Milford Lake to Junction City. 5-6 mile Class I - Call Erlene Slingsby (785) 632-2389 or email: [erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com](mailto:erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com)

July 27-28 - "Full Moon Quick Strike (Kaw Overnight) Series" - see June 22-23 information

July 28-August 3 Great River Rumble - Minnesota River; 144 river miles; Call Erlene Slingsby (785) 632-2389 or email: [erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com](mailto:erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com) or <http://www.riverrumble.org> or e-mail at: [riverrumble02@yahoo.com](mailto:riverrumble02@yahoo.com)

July 31-August 5 - Desolation and Gray Canyons, Green River, Utah, 84 miles, to class III- ; Contact Cliff Long, [clong@kscable.com](mailto:clong@kscable.com) or (316) 253-9216.

August 5-6 - Gunnison River, near Delta, CO. Approximately 25 miles of easy class II. For directions and details, contact Rex Replogle (970) 856-4393 or email: [replogle@dmea.net](mailto:replogle@dmea.net) See article "CANYON COUNTRY VACATION"

August 7-8 - Colorado River through Ruby and Horseshief Canyons. Approximately 25 miles of easy class II. For directions and details, contact Rex Replogle (970) 856-4393 or [replogle@dmea.net](mailto:replogle@dmea.net) See article "CANYON COUNTRY VACATION".

August 24-25 - "Full Moon Quick Strike (Kaw Overnight) Series" - see June 22-23 information

August 25 - Republican River from Milford Lake to Junction City. 5-6 mile Class I - Call Erlene Slingsby (785) 632-2389 or email: [erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com](mailto:erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com)

September 1 - Deadline for the fall issue of The KANSAS PADDLER Newsletter.

September 21-22 - "Full Moon Quick Strike (Kaw Overnight) Series" - see June 22-23 information

September 29 - Republican River from Milford Lake to Junction City. 5-6 mile Class I - Call Erlene Slingsby (785) 632-2389 or email: [erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com](mailto:erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com)

October 27 - Republican River from Milford Lake to Junction City. 5-6 mile Class I - Call Erlene Slingsby (785) 632-2389 or email: [erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com](mailto:erldorothfrmks@yahoo.com)

November 16-17 - Christmas Wish List Float, Kaw River, Tecumseh to Perry, 13 miles. What could Santa lay under your tree to help make you a 4-season paddler? Canoe/kayak camping on the Kaw. Contact Joe Hyde, [riverat@hotmail.com](mailto:riverat@hotmail.com)

December 31/January 1 - New Year's Eve on the Kaw, Perry to Lawrence 13 miles, camp-on-the-river. A "near New Moon" makes for great star watching. Bald eagles anyone? Contact Joe Hyde, [riverat@hotmail.com](mailto:riverat@hotmail.com)

*The Kansas Canoe Association (KCA), organized April 26, 1975, is a Kansas Not-For-Profit Corporation. KCA is an organization of canoeists, kayakers, and rafters working together to promote river running and related activities. Various Chapters of KCA were established within KCA to help support the specific interests of Chapter members.*

*KCA By-laws and our Outdoor Code can be found on the KANSAS PADDLER Home Page.*

# KCA President-Elect's Column

by Jackie Rawlings

I have six months until I actually take over as President. Even though I may have been a little reluctant to take on this task, I am starting to get excited about the possibilities. I think the potential for the KCA and canoeing in Kansas has not been realized. I am amazed at the number of people who do not know there is a canoeing club in Kansas. I hope we can change that.

Recently at the KCA Rendezvous, I had the opportunity to be interviewed by Robin Jennison (see the article on the Rendezvous). As I was talking with him about how much it means to me to be out on the river, seeing the wildlife, being away from the city, enjoying the scenery,

spending time with people who have like interests, getting exercise, I realized how



[Above: KCA President-Elect Jackie Rawlings - pictured during the KCA Rendezvous]

much it really does mean to me. I have been spending time on the rivers for the past 18 years, thanks to TJ Hittle. He was already an avid boater when we met 19 years ago. I remember telling him that if our relationship was dependant on me being a kayaker or canoeist, then we should just call it quits. Nineteen years later, I actually can get myself down the river in a canoe! My goal is to feel comfortable on class III rivers. Everyone needs a goal. I have to thank Mick O'Shea for his excellent instructions and patience for whatever skills I have in a solo canoe. He has served the KCA as canoe instructor for many years. We are fortunate to have people like Mick.

I want to wish you all the best for the summer. I hope to see you on the river.

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## Help Wanted - KCA Treasurer

My name is Bob Harris. I am the Treasurer for KCA and also serve as Membership Director. Although I have had a great deal of fun performing these duties, I have served in this capacity for the past ten years and now feel the need to step aside and let someone else take the reigns.

This is an important position for the KCA and I can assure you that serving in this capacity will give you a sense of pride in maintaining the Membership Data Base and keeping tabs on the KCA funds. I am appealing to anyone who is interested, to apply for this position.

The job does not require a lot of time. I have developed a database that makes it easy to maintain the membership profiles and other pertinent information. The use of the database makes it easy to maintain these duties. Everything has already been set up so that all that is needed is to use existing tools to perform the job. The following is a description of the duties of this Director:

Membership: All of the data is stored in a Microsoft Access database.

Each month I print out renewal forms to send to the members whose membership is expiring. I then process the renewals as they are returned. I also process new member applications and advise the Newsletter Director of all new memberships. I also provide the Newsletter Director a current Membership Directory and mailing labels for use in the quarterly newsletter.

Treasurer: I deposit all the checks from renewals, new members, and any other special functions. I write checks necessary to pay all expenses incurred from administration of the KCA. These transactions are recorded in an Excel database and hard copy documentation is retained for tax records. I retain a tax consultant to prepare end of year tax returns.

I will work with whom ever elects to take on this very important position, for however long it takes, to make the transition smooth and painless. Please don't hesitate. This job is very important but it is also very easy.

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## Welcome New Members

Browne, David - Wichita, KS  
Fischer, Bill - Wichita, KS  
Hamlin, Jim & Kaye - Wichita, KS

Muder, Joshua - Olathe, KS  
Stamper, Woodie - Lansing, KS  
Venturing - BSA Crew 820 - Wichita, KS

Waugh, Nancy & Bruce - Kansas City, MO

White, Anna Marie - Emporia, KS



# Novice Whitewater Trip - April 27-28 (twice is nice!)

by Jim Johnson

This year's novice trip included 18 paddlers meeting at a very friendly KOA in Alma, Arkansas. The use of the term "novice trip" may be a bit of a stretch- the group represented hundreds of years experience on the river- however there were two real novices and a couple of neophytes. Paddling every kind of craft known to whitewater, except a dory, this gang overlooked lowish water and had a wonderful time introducing members to the experience of running swift water.

So here's the mob:  
Kurtis and Kenny Ritchey (Leavenworth, K-1), Brad Bumgarner (Wichita, K-1), Brian and Reed Hammond (Hesston, K-1), Dave Reid (Tulsa, K-1), Dave Irvin (Ft. Scott, K-1), Bill Pollock (Ft. Scott, K-1), Pat and Mike Jones (Salida, CO - OC2 & OC1, inflatable), Larry Pierce (Ft. Smith, OC-1), Michael and Sally Farmer (Emporia, OC-2), Autumn Hittle (Mission, KS, K-1), Jesse Hart (Mission, KS, OC-2), T.J. Hittle (Manhattan, OC-2), Jackie Rawlings (Manhattan, OC-1), and Jim

Johnson (Wichita, K-1). Whew.....

Frog Bayou has been the site of this club trip for nearly 20 years. It will always hold special meaning for many Kansas Canoe Association members. Special thanks to trip leader T.J. Hittle, who brought together this group of merry pranksters for one more time. Mea Culpa - My apologies to Jackie Rawlings and Pat Jones for complete brain fade, turning an already long shuttle into an afternoon drive on Sunday's Mulberry run.

by Autumn Hittle

Throw in a pinch of experienced boaters and add a few novice kayakers, and what do you have? You have a memorable KCA Novice Whitewater trip to Arkansas on the Frog Bayou & the Mulberry River.

On April 27, Jim Johnson headed up a group of 12 eager boaters to make, for most of the group, the first run of the 2002 boating season. The Frog Bayou was at a low but fun water level, 3.1'. It offered class I-II rapids, one after the other, yet allowed plenty of practice time for the novices to work on entering eddy's, peel-outs, paddling strokes, boulder dodging, reading water, and simply enjoying the beauty all around. The few spots on the river where trees fell across were manageable, there was

only one, close to the takeout, where we had to portage. These spots were good practice for novice kayakers to experience first hand some dangers of the river and how to approach them.

10 year old, **Kenny Ritchey**, who may have a future in kayaking, made the Frog look like it was a backyard swimming pool. I even dared to surf a friendly play hole for the first time. I ended up taking a swim, but what the heck, it was worth it. We were proud to have our Colorado friends, Mike and Pat Jones of Maysville, CO join us for a little campfire talk and boating. They must really like us to come all the way to Arkansas from the whitewater capital, Colorado, just to go canoeing.

The next day, the group traveled to the upper Mulberry River. My boyfriend,

Jesse Hart, and I took off to do a little mountain biking instead.

This group was especially lucky to be on this trip with Brian Hammond, a wonderful man and great kayaker. As many of you know, the Frog Bayou & the Mulberry River would be the last rivers Brian ever floated. One of my last fun moments with Brian would be hooting and hollering for him while he expertly surfed a wave. As a novice kayaker, I marveled and admired the way Brian gracefully braced over and over again, as the current finally took him downstream. We hope to make this trip on the Frog an annual novice event, in memory of Brian. Plus we had an awesome time!

KCA Outdoor Code, adopted April 26, 1975

As a Kansas Canoe Association Member, I profess to the following Code of Conduct:

- I will at all times display respect for the land and water, treating the same as a valuable and finite natural resource
- I am dedicated to the conservation of streams and rivers and to the protection of natural scenic land and water resources
- I respect riparian landowner rights and will abide by the following rules:
  - o I will secure or seek permission before entering private land with wheeled vehicles
  - o I will not chase or harass livestock, leave gates open, cut fences, or in anyway vandalize private property
  - o I will gain access to streams and rivers at public road bridges or will use private access with permission only
- I will carry out and/or properly dispose of all my litter including litter left behind by others when possible
- I will respect all fishing and hunting laws and will not discharge firearms except where permitted by law and then only in a safe manner
- All camp fires will be properly attended and thoroughly extinguished after use

# Cinco de Mayo - Float Trip

by Joe Hyde, Lawrence, KS

The camp-on-river Cinco de Mayo float (May 4-5) was the first KCA trip I've ever led. I was plenty nervous before we launched, but the way things turned out I'll consider myself lucky if future trips I lead go half as good as this one.

I've been a 4-season paddler fifteen years now, and on this trip something happened that I thought I'd never live to see. A fairly sizeable group (one raft, five solo kayaks, a tandem canoe and a solo canoe – 11 people total) paddled the Kaw River and every person went downstream slowly with a minimum of noise.

I'm one of those daydreaming dawdlers who brings up the rear of about every group trip. On this Cinco de Mayo float, I was repeatedly startled when I'd snap out of a reverie, look around and see no boats ahead or alongside. I'd glance back upriver and discover that I was actually *leading* the group by 40 or 50 feet. It wasn't just me; everybody was zoning out watching wildlife, the river and the pretty valley scenery. All of us were drifting along going barely faster than current speed. Nobody wanted to be out front, and anyone who moved out front didn't stay there long. I've never seen anything like it!

People often ask me why I go canoeing alone so much, and why I do

most of my canoe camping trips in late



[Above: Joe Hyde - featured in his Bell canoe on the Upper Blue River, near Blue Rapids, KS]

fall, winter and early spring when it's often quite cold outdoors. One reason is, I don't like tripping with most of the canoeists and kayakers I meet. They're fine people, don't get me wrong. But once they sit down in a boat and head down a river they start talking loud, or they talk too much, or they habitually paddle off and leave me behind.

On almost every group trip I've been on, immediately after launch one or more paddlers will zoom out ahead of the pack and maintain a big lead all day. This, needless to say, robs everyone else of their chance to enjoy those thrilling "first views" of wildlife. (Indeed, if the main group sees any wildlife at all it's usually the rapidly vanishing ass of

whatever animal just got spooked 400 yards ahead by their Type A Pathfinders.) A few minutes of this abuse and the main group picks up the pace. Next thing you know, everybody is paddling hard as they can and the float group is moving downriver so fast it looks like a jailbreak.

Avoiding human crowd hassles is what gives any river trip that special wilderness feel, you know? And I was enjoying this "alone feeling" often during the Cinco de Mayo float. That was because of the people who participated; they're the ones who made the trip good for me. Our group was not silent by any means, but we stayed close and dinked along pretty quiet, especially Saturday. Consequently, everyone was rewarded with seeing some interesting wildlife at very close range.

In only 13 river miles we saw bald eagles (including a baby eagle that looked down at us from its nest, with both parent birds perched nearby standing guard) red-tailed hawks, beaver, vultures, orioles, cardinals, Canada geese, blue-winged teal, crows, turtles, blue jays, a pileated woodpecker, belted kingfishers, cliff swallows, wood ducks, cormorants, fox squirrels, bank swallows, water snakes, mourning doves, red-winged blackbirds, Great Blue herons, leopard frogs, kingbirds, red-headed woodpeckers, wild turkeys, gulls, rock doves, barred owls, goldfinch, and some cool songbird and aquatic wading species none of us could identify.

Saturday night after evening chow we sat visiting on our huge sandbar campsite under a clear sky full of stars, and were soon drugged to sleep one by one by a hypnotic chorus of tree frogs singing in the nearby riparian belt. Nothing unusual here, just another good springtime overnighter on our Kansas River – presently ranked the 4<sup>th</sup> Most Endangered Stream in America, but a river packed with wildlife action and outdoor magic...if you can let yourself go slow enough to see and feel it.

## COMPLETE WILDERNESS OUTFITTERS

- **Tents**
- **Sleeping Bags**
- **Hiking Boots**
- **Backpacks**
- **Climbing**
- **Caving**
- **Canoeing**
- **Kayaking**



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# KCA Photo-Actions n' Captions



*[Above: L-R, Pat Jones & Jackie Rawlings prepare to launch on Frog Bayou. Right: L-R, Jesse Hart & T. J. Hittle team up for a tandem canoe run down Frog Bayou.]*



*[Above: Front Row, L-R: Mike Jones, Bear, & Pat Jones; 2nd Row, L-R: Michael & Sally Farmer, Dave Irvin, Autumn Hittle, T. J. Hittle, Jackie Rawlings, Reed & Brian Hammond; Back Row, L-R: Brad Bumgarner, Jesse Hart, Jim Johnson. For the record, no one has any idea what Michael Farmer is singing to Sally]*

*[Right: After an 11 year absence on the Green River at Jones Hole, the mysterious "Buckethead Rafter" makes a guest appearance on Doug & Kathy Sell's recent Yampal/Green River trip through Dinosaur National Monument.]*



*[Left: Dave Irvin from Ft. Scott, KS (remember the kayaker with the ugly eye wound from the Spring newsletter?), surfing at the Waka-Wave, just below Lake Clinton on the Wakarusa River, Lawrence, KS. Please notice the new helmet and face mask.]*



# Kid's Chapter column

## “Keeping Your Parent/Child Paddling Adventure Moving Along”

by Bill McClave

In our three years of paddling with 5-14 year olds on multiple kayaking outings, the number one thing we leaders discuss is the whole issue of how to keep a paddling outing moving along in a manner that is fun and engaging for our kids while (actually) arriving to our destination approximately when we need to. Here's some of our learning to date:

**1. Pick class I & II rivers with some current.** Kids of almost any age quickly tire of continuous paddling. So pick rivers with 3-5 MPH currents and avoid altogether the non-stop “how long are we going to have to paddle anyway?”

**2. Plan appropriate distances and double your time allocation.** We keep most daylong kids outings to the 4-12 mile range, depending on current. 4 miles is max in low current rivers; up to 12 miles on rivers running 5 mph can be tackled by 8 year olds and up given a whole day. Time needed? Plan twice the time you by yourself would need when paddling with Elementary schoolers and 1.5 times your time needed with Middle schoolers. Another perspective is the “time it usually takes” offered by most outfitters for their runs: the shorter time is a good guess for high schoolers and the longer time is a good

guess for middle schoolers. Add 25% to the long time offered by an outfitter if you are paddling with elementary schoolers.

**3. Break Your Day into Manageable, Shorter Runs.** Elementary school kids can paddle their own kayak for about 30-45 minutes at a stretch, and then they need a short 10-15 minute break outside their boat to stretch and play. Middle schoolers can go up to an hour (no more), and high schoolers can out paddle us adults. So plan your day so that you have 2 runs of river before a good size lunch break, 2 runs before a medium size mid-afternoon break, and 1 run (max 2) from there to take-out.

**4. Set a “Kid Engaging Goal” for each run.** Each time you set off from a break, try setting a fun goal for that leg. This can be as simple as “we’re going to paddle for 30 minutes and then we’ll need you to pick the swimming spot for our next break.”

**5. Feed and hydrate continuously.** Blood sugar and lots of fluids is everything. If your paddle suddenly seems like the “Burma Death March” stop to eat & drink. Pack a “surprise bag” of special treats for the mid-afternoon break.

**6. Take along lots of toys.** Every

child paddler should take a small bag that only they pack to bring along their favorite stuffed animal or toy. In addition, make sure you bring water guns you can haul out when the paddle seems long, and a small net for exploring the shallows together at breaks. Hand each kid in your float a disposable camera and have him or her capture the day.

**7. Lastly: Sometimes they need to work it out.** Sometimes, often near the end of a paddle, your child paddler may temporarily lose their will to live. If this is in response to goal-oriented, no breaks, no fun pushing by you, then lighten up and take a break. If however, your paddler has just decided they simply want the paddle to end short of the takeout, then sometimes the best thing you can do is to distance yourself and let them work it out. Try hitting them with the time-tested “one-two”.....(one) “You know, the fact is our take out is still down river. The only way we’re going to get there is to get ourselves downriver. Actually, it ain’t coming to us.” (two) “I’ll be within sight of you, but you have to paddle your boat yourself to get there.” *Then, pull away a bit from your child and let them work it out themselves with you in sight but not close enough to listen to their protests.*

## KCA Newsletter Deadlines

Winter - January 1st

Spring - March 15th

Summer - June 1st

Fall - September 1st





# Paddling the

## Republican River

by Erlene Slingsby

The staging area for another trip on the Republican River, Sunday April 28, was at the South Outlet Park where a group was meeting to float to Junction City. Ron Bran arrived with his daughter Paula and granddaughter Sierra but had decided they would just turn around and go back to Kansas City since it was so cold in the area. Erlene Slingsby, trip leader, said "Its too bad that you drove so far and are going home without even getting your boat wet. How about coming over by the Milford Nature Center and paddling around the Outlet Ponds. Talk to your girls and we will see what they think."

A short time later we move the trip to the Outlet Pond area. The trip leader promised that it would take an hour to paddle around one pond. The paddlers decided to paddle around both areas. They enjoyed sighting Red Winged Blackbirds and their nests, Blue Heron, Canadian Geese, muskrat activity, a beaver lodge, and numerous species of ducks. The group also spent some time picking up trash which had been lodged among the plants along the shoreline.

# STOP & Check Your

## Directory Listing



The KCA Membership Directory is now being published in each newsletter. Please check your listing and verify that membership information is correct.

Newsletters are sent via automated bulk mail. If your address is not exactly correct, your newsletter may end up in the manual sorted pile and delivery may be delayed a week or more.

Remember that trip updates and other KCA info is often sent to all members with email addresses.

Send your changes to:

**Kansas Canoe Association  
6 Puesta Del Sol  
Hutchinson, Kansas 67502**

## Special Corrections & Notices:

*A CORRECTIONS COLUMN FOR THE KCA NEWSLETTER OR KANSAS PADDLE HOME PAGE (WEBSITE)*

Lawrence KOA & Kansas River Canoe Co news update:

Kim Newell, owner  
"Newell"

<lawrencekoa@ixks.com>

[Webmaster's Note: corrections made 6/09/02]

Please correct the phone number (800) 562-3708 from the one listed in the KANSAS PADDLER Home Page. Our name is Lawrence KOA & Kansas River Canoe Co. We do canoe trips on the Kansas River. We are located in Lawrence Kansas. If you have any questions, please e-mail me back. Thank you



|          |              |            |    |                 |                                |                    |            |
|----------|--------------|------------|----|-----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Wilson   | 316-794-7952 | 67502-9250 | KS | Goddard         | 29 North Beaver Road           | Ronald & Patricia  | 67502-9250 |
| Wise     | 913-648-6709 | 66208      | KS | Prairie Village | 5212 West 76th Street          | Dennis & Christine | 66208      |
| Wood     | 435-259-1614 | 84532      | UT | Moab            | 1780 South Highland Drive      | Charlie & Marcia   | 84532      |
| Younkin  | 785-632-3247 | 67432      | KS | Clay Center     | 428 Webster                    | Barbara & Terry    | 67432      |
| Zastrow  | 316-283-1418 | 67117      | KS | North Newton    | 2514 Rosie Wood Ave, PO Box 23 | Jutta              | 67117      |
| Ziesemer | 402-392-2883 | 68134      | NE | Omaha           | 9368 Ohio Street               | Karla & Allan      | 68134      |

# Westwater Canyon - Colorado River, UT

by Marcia & Charlie Wood

There was a time some years ago when a Labor Day weekend trip on Westwater Canyon on the Colorado could be almost a sure thing. For several years in a row, T. J., or someone else, would have a permit. First choice would be a put—in on Saturday or Sunday. Later, Monday was acceptable. And finally, there were no permits at all for the weekend. This was really too bad because the trips were such fun, beginning with the Shoshone Run in Glenwood Springs, and then traveling down to Westwater.

Now that we live in Moab, we can run Westwater at other times. Charlie had a permit this year for Mother's Day. It didn't seem like an auspicious time, though. The river was lower than we had ever run it (2100—2300cfs), and the weather was cold and windy. Nevertheless, we headed for the Westwater Ranger Station on Saturday.

It was almost deserted in the afternoon, but we met a ranger, Rich, who invited us to join him (We had only the one raft). He was going to camp Saturday night at Cougar Bar and we would meet him on Sunday around noon. He said that he sometimes caught kayakers running illegal trips: They would put—in early, do the run, and

then race back to the put-in for the legal launch. He said that he told them that they could either hike out from Cougar Bar—NOT a good climb, especially with a kayak on your back—or finish the run and be met at the take—out by a deputy sheriff who would cite them, and they would have to pay a \$250.00 fine. Most



*[Above: Marcia & Charlie Wood in the Ruby & Horsethief canyons, overlooking their beloved Colorado River. (Ed. Note: C&M, we miss seeing you on our Kansas Rivers)]*

elected to hike out.

Saturday night was so miserable with the cold and a strong wind, that canceling looked good. But Sunday, after a blustery morning, was beautiful. The raft was ready to go and Charlie had done the car shuttle. Just before we left, one of the local outfitters we know was preparing to leave, and he said that we were welcome to join his party, but we had agreed to meet Rich.

The first 6 or 7 miles of the run are what T. J. calls "onesie"— "twosie." We were surprised that there seemed to be plenty of water. We met up with Rich, who hadn't caught any kayakers this time, and began the fun part of the trip, the 3 miles of III—IV rapids in the Canyon. Funnel Falls is still a challenge even at lower water. I had expected that the drop would be steeper because of low water, but it seemed much the same and had the same wicked cross— waves.

We had been told that Skull could be run on the right at low water, but it was still runnable on the left. The slot was narrow and we had to graze a rock to get through, but it wasn't too bad. The "Room of Doom" was a little slower that we had seen it before. "Sock—It—To—Me" could still do that but we ran it slightly to the right and did not have any trouble.

All too soon the fun was over. However, the last 6 miles of flatwater was not the usual hard work. Rich had an engine on his raft. He hooked us up to his cataraft, and we motored out. What luxury! Anyone who has ever paddled or rowed that last stretch, especially during a strong wind, can appreciate what it meant not to have to work at all! We reached the take-out about 3:45 P.M., which was great! After a nap on the ice chest on the way out, unloading the raft wasn't bad.

The day brought back pleasant memories of previous trips. We hope our friends will be able to join us on future trips on this special canyon on the Colorado River.

## Dagger Kayaks

KCA Activities Calendar for the Demo Day Event

**Store Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00-8:00**

**Saturday 10:00-6:00**

**Sunday 12:00-5:00**



7724 East Central Wichita, KS 67206  
(316) 684-6579 (800) 371-0225 mountainhighinc.com

**KCA Area Representatives - Feel free to call your area KCA contact with questions about the Kansas Canoe Association**

|                          |             |              |                            |               |              |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Gary & Pat Cook          | Salina      | 785-827-6378 | Ron Burkman                | Chanute       | 316-431-3667 |
| Robert & Erlene Slingsby | Clay Center | 785-632-2389 | Brian Dillner              | Beloit        | 785-738-4153 |
| Dave Bohannon            | Louisberg   | 913-837-4662 | Joel Maiorano              | Hays          | 785-355-2460 |
| Craig Thompson           | KC, MO      | 816-421-6510 | Phil Sloderbeck            | Garden City   | 316-276-4130 |
| Brenda Covert            | Topeka      | 785-478-0275 | Randy Benton               | Arkansas City | 316-442-0948 |
| Ray Cowin                | Wichita     | 316-788-4220 | Michael Farmer             | Emporia       | 316-342-3855 |
| Marshall & Kathi White   | Hutchinson  | 316-665-3704 | J. B. Moore                | Shawnee       | 913-422-4713 |
| Dave Redmon              | Manhattan   | 785-776-2480 | Charlie Burgess            | Wamego        | 785-537-8300 |
| Phil Ward                | Manhattan   | 316-755-0607 | Chuck Osborn               | Atchison      | 913-367-2543 |
| Ron Overstreet           | El Dorado   | 316-320-1985 | Bill Harrison              | Lenexa        | 913-888-6709 |
| Gary Brown               | Dodge City  | 316-225-0824 | Mel & Julie Grindol        | Shawnee       | 913-441-3458 |
| Tim Rues                 | Lecompton   | 785-266-3202 | Dick Berry                 | Merriam       | 913-831-0837 |
| Neil & Beth Minter       | Olathe      | 913-782-7547 | Jim Lindley / Tom Reynolds | Winfield      | 316-229-9620 |
| Gary Ficklin             | Tecumseh    | 785-379-9615 | Cliff Long                 | Wichita       | 316-832-0602 |

## KCA Rendezvous - More Photos

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)



*[PHOTO: LEFT: Americorps staff presentation; TOP RIGHT: a group of KCA Rendezvous attendees, L-R, Kay Sinnett, Sue Mitchell, Julie Clark, Bob Sinnett, Larry Storers, Emily & Kail Katzenmeier, BOTTOM RIGHT: Dave and Sue Mitchell (with Tessie navigating from atop her cooler) along a scenic stretch of the Blue River.*

## KCA Accessories

## Kayak Chapter Videos

**T-Shirts - KCA Decals - Ball Caps - Bumper Stickers - Training & Trip Videos**

Contact Pat Cullen  
3424 SE Shorewood Dr  
Topeka, KS 66505

785-266-3929 / bcullen@kscable.com

Need a membership application for you or a friend. Copy this one.

# KCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



revised: 12/26/2001

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Name #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### CHECK ONE TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP

(This section is required. Check only one.)

\$15.00 Single / Family Membership \_\_\_\_\_

\$45.00 Assoc. Membership \_\_\_\_\_

(w/6 col. inch KCA Newsletter ad and KCA website ad)

\$200.00 Life Membership \_\_\_\_\_

(does not include chapter dues)

### OPTIONAL CHAPTER AFFILIATIONS

(Not required and you may check more than one)

\$5.00 Kayak Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\$0.00 8 Ducks Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL OF ALL FEES \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out this form completely, even if you are renewing.  
Send application and your check for TOTAL OF ALL FEES to:

**KANSAS CANOE ASSOCIATION**  
**6 Puesta Del Sol**  
**Hutchinson, Kansas 67502**

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Instruction/Safety |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flatwater Trips      | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whitewater Trips     | <input type="checkbox"/> Website            |

### General Waiver & Liability Release

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT I AM AWARE THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF DANGER INHERENT IN BOATING ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF KANSAS CANOE ASSOCIATION (KCA), ITS TRIP LEADERS, CLUB MEMBERS, CLUB OFFICERS AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND THAT PARTICIPATION IN THESE EVENTS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES SUCH AS FLOAT TRIP AND CAMP OUTINGS, ENTAILS UNAVOIDABLE RISK AND POSSIBLE LOSS OF LIFE AND OR PROPERTY. IN CONSIDERATION OF THE KCA, TRIP LEADERS, OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS OF KCA, I DO HEREBY FOR MYSELF AND FOR ALL WHO MAY HEREAFTER CLAIM THROUGH OR FOR ME, WAIVE AND RELEASE ALL FUTURE CLASSES, RIGHTS AND CAUSES OF ACTION ACCORDED IN MY FAVOR AS A RESULT OF PERSONAL INJURIES, LOSS OF LIFE OR LOSS OF PROPERTY WHICH I MAY SUFFER WHILE PARTICIPATING IN CLUB EVENTS, AGAINST THE PEOPLE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE KCA AS DESCRIBED ABOVE AND I FURTHER HEREBY COVENANT AND AGREE, THAT NO SUIT OR ACTION AT LAW SHALL BE INSTITUTED FOR THE ABOVE REASONS BY ME OR OTHERS IN MY BEHALF OR IN MY RIGHT. HAVING READ AND UNDERSTANDING THE ABOVE, I FREELY SIGN THIS WAIVER AGREEMENT.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Whom to Notify in Emergency \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Address & Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature(s) **X** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian (required if under 21) \_\_\_\_\_

Address & Phone of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

# Editor's Column

As many of you know, this Spring has been a plethora of great paddling opportunities. The rivers in Kansas, Missouri, and Arkansas have been running at good levels nearly all Spring. I've seen a number of you out enjoying the benefits of our wet year in the Midwest. It's always great to see folks get their priorities right. ;-)

There have been a couple inquiries as to the requirements for article and photo submission. Frankly, there are not very many, so don't sweat the details. First, thank you to those that have sent in their trip articles and a photo or two. I can always use more, no matter what.

Some photos are simply prints sent via mail. I scan those. Some have arrived in slide form and I can scan those too and some digital photos have arrived via email, always the easiest to use. When you can, use a high quality setting. But don't worry about the means or

format, just send them any way you have them. My mailing address is on the front cover under the KCA Directors column. Photos with people and/or action shots almost always peak the reader's interest.

I also welcome good typewritten articles or hard copies off any printer. You can send those by mail. In those cases, they are scanned with optical

character recognition (OCR) software and generally require minimal editing. Of course, anything sent via email is nice too.

Almost any trip has points of interest; so don't get too bogged down in the mile-by-mile details. Just hit the highlights and don't make it a novel. It just gets edited down and I don't do a very good job at delicate article shortening. The editing generally gets done by wiping out one paragraph after another, hoping that I don't take out something really important.

See you on a river!



*[Above: The Editor out enjoying the local play spots at Rocky Ford (a KDWP area), Manhattan, KS]*



6 Puesta Del Sol  
Hutchinson, KS 67502

*[KCA & Kayak Chapter logos by Rex Replogle]*

*If you would prefer to receive a Full Color digital newsletter, send an email to: [tjhittle@kansas.net](mailto:tjhittle@kansas.net)*

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