



ROCKY MOUNTAIN SEA KAYAK CLUB
 Founded 1989

WE WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS;
 LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

10360 W. Jewell Ave. Unit C, Lakewood, CO 80232
<http://www.RMSKC.org>

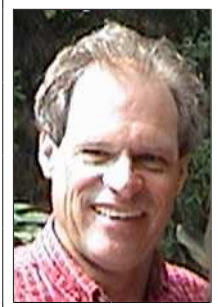
President: Matt Lutkus
 email: mlutkus@comcast.net
 phone: 720-480-2719

Annual Individual Membership of \$40 (Families \$50)
 includes both RMSKC and ACA Dues

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FROM THE COCKPIT
 By Matt Lutkus, President



One more November ballot to go!

Yet another election is coming up this month. It may be not quite as important as the general election, but one every Club needs to participate in just the same. This one will be the election of four Club officers for the coming year.

In the way of background, the Club's Steering Committee has decided that we need to make the election process and the terms of office a little more formal than they have been in the past. Previously, we had members on the Steering Committee including the President and Treasurer who essentially served until they no longer wanted to be on the SC.

What we have decided to do is have each of the seven members serve two-year terms with part of the group

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coming up for election every year. This process ensures that there will be continuity on the Committee. The elections will be held in October or November and the terms of office will start on January 1st.

This year the following offices will be up for election. None of the current incumbents in these offices, including myself, are seeking re-election.

- President
- SC Member /Communications (PR, organizing dry land (REI) events)
- SC Member/Webmaster

I will be sending out an email requesting nominations for these positions in the next week. So please give this some thought and consider getting more involved as a member of the SC.

Steering Committee members who will continue to serve until the end of 2009 are: Dick Dieckman, Treasurer; Brian Curtiss, Training and Safety; Jud Hurd, Events Coordinator; and Sue Hughes, Newsletter Editor.

My sincere thanks goes out to SC members not continuing on the Committee—Gary McIntosh and Kari Fraser. I also want to thank Barb Smith for all of her years as the Newsletter Editor. The Club's many successes are due in large part to these folks and the others on the SC who have served the Club so well.

It has been my great pleasure to serve as Club President during the past two years. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at our upcoming winter party and on the water in the coming year. Matt

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

- End-of-season maintenance from a Nevada (?) sea kayak club: <http://www.kayaknevada.org/maint2002.pdf>
- A company for Baja and British Columbia trips (contact Ted Wang for a recommendation): *Sea Kayak Adventures* at <http://www.seakayadventures.com>
- Another Baja trip provider, used by Kathleen Ellis, Larry Kline and Ted Wang last winter: *Baja Outdoor Activities* at <http://www.kayactivities.com>
- Baja trips and instruction in single NDK fiberglass boats taught by a BCU 4* coach (contact Sue Hughes): *Columbia River Kayaking* at <http://www.columbiariverkayaking.com>

BEST PICTURE OF THE ISSUE



Brian Hunter in rays of light,
by Julie Reckart

DATES OF INTEREST

NOVEMBER

Penguin Paddle at Dillon

- Saturday, November 8th
- 9:30 am - 1:30 pm
- Frisco Marina
- Tour of the islands or the Snake River arm, depending on participants' interest, followed by a BBQ and optional hot tubbing at Jan and Mike's condo
- Condo directions will be provided at the put-in
- Contact: michaeldanson@comcast.net

Union Reservoir Closed Until March

- Sunday, November 16th
- McIntosh Lake (map-quest "Lakeshore Drive") in Longmont will be open, and free, all winter

Elections for Steering Committee Positions

- Nominations will be opened this month
- Balloting will occur before the end of the year

JANUARY

Holiday/Winter Party

- Saturday, January 10th
- 5:00 pm
- Brian Curtis and Stephany Roscoe's house: 7306 Island Circle, Boulder
- Bring to Eat and Drink: A potluck dish to share; the club will provide soft drinks, beer and wine, plates and cutlery.
- Bring for Fun, if you want: A wrapped "White Elephant" gift—something silly, senseless, or possibly even worthless related to kayaking, or an item found while kayaking, preferably with a good story.
- Attire: Casual, of course!
- RSVP by January 3 to Brian at bc@asdi.com

According to ACA insurance guidelines, overnight and extended trips are open only to current RMSKC members who have a current "Release of Liability" form on file. Non-member guests on day paddles must also sign a "Release of Liability" and pay a \$5 ACA fee. Release forms may be printed from the RMSKC website at: <http://www.RMSKC.org>

EDITOR'S NOTE: We sometimes have trouble getting members to contribute to the Newsletter, but Larry Kline's kayak camping class was so memorable that *three* articles were submitted. Here are two accounts, with differing conclusions, on camping from a kayak. The third, by the trip's leader, will be printed in a future issue as a teaser for his 2009 class.

KAYAK CAMPING FOR THE FIRST TIME

By Brian Hunter

"Call me Brian. Some years ago—never mind how long precisely—having little or no money in my purse, and nothing particular to interest me on shore, I thought I would kayak about a little and see the watery part of the world."¹

Those first short trips afloat made me wonder about longer trips, even some overnight ones. Being an old rusty, dusty, crusty landlubber I had grown accustomed to my creature comforts. Oh you know: hot running water, a firm smooth mattress, a flush toilet and the like. With that in mind you can see how the thought of camping out of a kayak might be intimidating.

When I got an e-mail poll about a kayak camping class, I thought it would be the perfect way to find out if this sport was for me! So it began: with a classroom discussion of what equipment was needed vs. other stuff that would be nice to have, followed by an afternoon of loading a kayaking and paddling around Union Reservoir, and ending with an overnight paddle on Lake Granby. So I responded and got a spot on the roster.



Larry Kline

Larry Kline, the class leader, did an awesome job of scheduling the three class sessions around everyone's schedule. Larry recruited Dick Dieckman, George Ottenhoff, Rich Broyles and Ted Wang to teach and paddle with the classes. These gents are highly experienced kayak campers with technically difficult trips under their belts.

In the classroom session we examined all sorts of gear including: dry bags, paddling clothes, dry suits, sleeping bags, bed rolls, safety equipment, torpedo tubes & boom boxes, camp chairs and cook stoves. There was a very interesting (thankfully not realistic) demo of how to deal with solid human waste afield.

In the next session we met at Union Reservoir to load our kayaks and paddle a loaded boat. We had a discussion about paddling in different conditions and each of us described how we would handle the different kinds of weather and water conditions that were presented. That session ended with everyone cooking a typical kayak camping meal that we all shared.

¹ *Moby Dick*, by Melville, more or less



The author modeling his new Wag Bag support system

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One of the participants commented, "The day paddle at Union Reservoir meant I had to organize my gear ahead of time and the instructors could help me pack. Then I experienced how my boat paddled fully loaded and got all the kinks out of using my new stove, too. Breaking things into segments this way was a good idea; I've back-packed before but Larry's teaching helped me feel comfortable with all of the components of camping from a kayak before we set out. I wouldn't have thought it, and it seems silly to say, but if I had done all that organizing the day or two right before the trip, and then had to load my boat for the first time at the lake in Granby, I would have been *completely* overwhelmed." The trepidation we had about kayaking camping was put to rest by the skill, enthusiasm and helpfulness of the leaders.

The following Saturday we met on the west shore of Lake Granby where we loaded up our kayaks and prepared to launch on our adventure. Maps were passed out and we discussed our route before shoving off. We paddled across Lake Granby to Grand Bay and scouted several camp sites before choosing one. The camp site was excel-

lent, everyone pitched their tents, we had a bite to eat and then set out to explore Grand Bay by kayak. On the foray we watched a magnificent Bald Eagle.

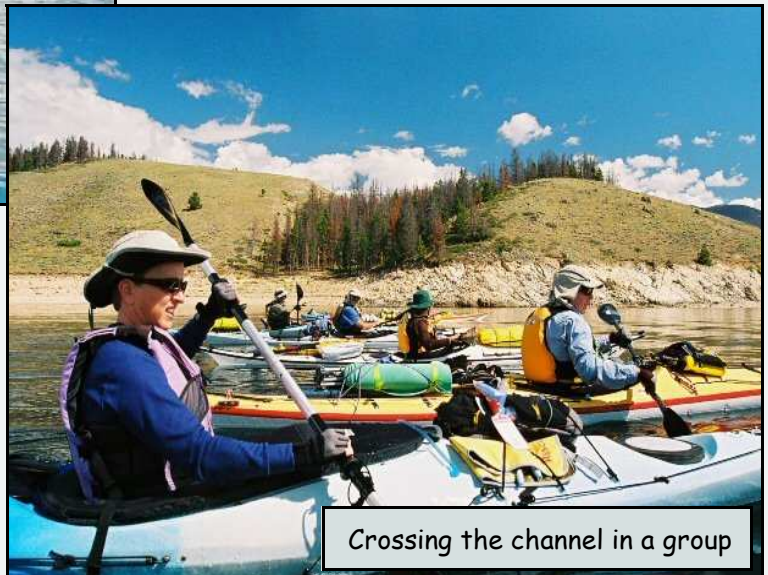


Photo by Marlene Pakish

On the return trip to camp we encountered a typical afternoon rain shower. Larry was ready for the rain with a dining fly he set up so that we could all cook the pot luck supper in dry comfort. We took advantage of a stack of cut and split beetle-kill pine and sat around a fire until another rain shower sent us scurrying off to bed.

The quiet pitter patter of rain lulled us into a sweet, peaceful sleep. A little after midnight a pack of coyotes came through camp baying and yipping which startled us awake (that's why you never store food in your tent; it should be hung in a tree). The coyotes left as quickly as they came and most of us went back to sleep.

The next morning, light rain showers came and went (good thing we had that dining fly) so we cooked breakfast and broke camp. We took a leisurely paddle back to the takeout and saddled up for the trip home. We finished by having lunch together at the Pearl Dragon in Granby and then went our separate ways.



Crossing the channel in a group

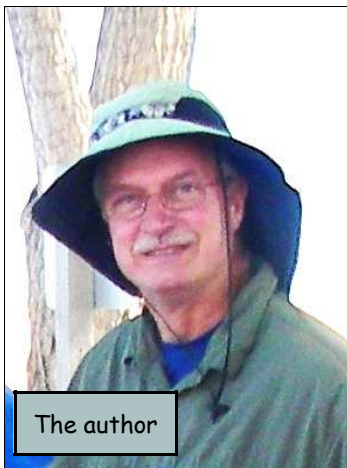
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It was a great trip for us first timers. Everyone worked well as a group and we all learned a great deal about kayaking camping. So you might want to know if I would go kayak camping again; the answer is, absolutely!

Some things I learned:

- Groups are good; maps are good, a GPS is useful
- Pare down, don't take extra stuff
- Lots of small dry bags are much better than several large ones. It is easier to split stuff up into more usable groups and the smaller dry bags fit better into the kayak by using all the available nooks and crannies.
- Make sure there is at least one dining fly in the group
- Things aren't always what they appear to be. For example islands are easy to see on a map but can be difficult to distinguish from your vantage point in your kayak. Also, camp sites might look great on a topo but turn out to be a bad choice when you arrive.
- Know your limits and push them



KAYAK CAMPING? MAYBE, WITH PERFECT WEATHER...

By Jud Hurd

You have probably heard some of our members regale us with stories of multi-day kayaking trips and may have wondered if that would be something for you. But, like me, you probably didn't want to commit to a full multi-day trip without knowing what is involved, how this works, would I even like it, etc. Well, in the usual and excellent RMSKC tradition, we have experienced people who are always willing to share their knowledge and educate us. That is exactly what took place with the Kayak Camping Class led by Larry Kline with the help of George Ottenhoff, Dick Dieckman, Rich Broyles and Ted Wang. The course consisted of three separate sessions:

THE SCHOOL ROOM SESSION: The first class was an evening meeting at Larry Kline's house. Larry and Dick went over all the ins and outs, and dos and don'ts of kayak camping, including the most intimidating topic of all, the

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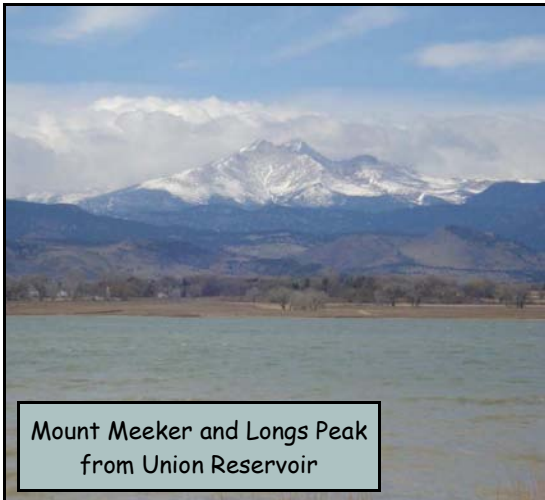
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dreaded boom box, torpedo tube, human waste system, etc. It was a wonderful evening of hands-on gear demo with enough time to really discuss and ask all our questions about:

- Backpacking - minimum weight, minimum amounts (with a handout of suggested gear)
- Boat features needed for overnight trips
- Sleeping gear
- Cooking gear
- Clothing
- Hydration
- Meal planning (with a handout of suggested meals)
- Loading it all in the boat
- Human solid waste disposal (I think this topic generated the most questions)
- Navigation
- Safety equipment in the "outback"

It was a toss-up as to what was the best part of the evening—the kayak information or the brownies Larry's wife, Carole, served. I would give it a tie. Larry sent us home with a navigation problem hand-out giving three different wind scenarios for homework.

THE BEACH SESSION: Three weeks later we all met at Union Reservoir with our boats and gear as if we were going on a trip. Larry, Dick and George talked more about gear and loading your boat. We then walked around everybody's boat as each person explained what they brought and how they planned to fit it into their boat. You can get great ideas from this. For example, somebody said they took their tent out of its carrying case so that they could stuff the individual parts into those hard to reach and hard to use places such as the front bow, or the narrow space in the stern behind the skeg box. When I tried this later it freed up a lot of space that I could use for something else.



Mount Meeker and Longs Peak from Union Reservoir

Sue saw some water bags she liked better than what she had and bought those for her actual overnight trip—another example of the benefits of being in the RMSKC, learning from each other.



What was I thinking? This water bottle won't even fit in my hatch.

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Next we went over the navigation problem Larry handed out at the end of the first class. It was interesting to hear some issues I would never have considered and the various solutions. We also talked about group dynamics—sometimes it's more important to be choosy about WHO you paddle with than WHAT you paddle with. It was interesting to see how you can have such different paddling personalities and goals in one group, and we talked about how you manage that. Even in our small group these ranged from the person who wanted to take the time to paddle everywhere and see everything to the person who just wanted to take the shortest distance to the ultimate goal. And, of course, you always have the speed demons vs. those who like a more casual pace.

Well, then it was time to load up our kayaks and see how that impossibly large amount of gear was going to fit into that teeny, tiny boat. Strangely enough with the help of our excellent teachers, it all fit and we were off to paddle around the lake after a quick on-shore lunch. This was one of the things I was really looking forward to discovering: how does my boat perform with this load? It was amazing how much more stable the boat felt and, once I got it up to speed, how it just cruised along. So far the class had resolved three of my areas of kayak camping anxiety:

1. What to bring and not bring
2. How to get it all into the boat
3. How the boat will perform with this much weight

Now you would think that being novices at this, our fearless leader would take it easy on us and just let us have a nice paddle around the lake. Not Taskmaster Kline! About half way around Larry announced that the weather has just turned lousy and we all needed to put on our splash jackets or whatever we brought for protection against the elements. We have had discussions about this in other classes but this is the first time I actually had to do it on the water. So, you have to remove your PFD—isn't the first rule of paddling to never remove your PFD? Then find your splash jacket, hoping it isn't buried in a hatch somewhere. For me this meant removing my spray skirt—isn't the second rule of paddling never remove your spray skirt? Then I had to pull the jacket out from behind my seat back (no small task on its own) and slip it on. If yours is like mine it is a pull-over, so then I had to figure out where to put my glasses so that they didn't get washed overboard while I pulled on the jacket. To make things worse, as you pull on your jacket you have your head in there for a few seconds and that is disorienting, especially on the water with the boat rocking.



But I got it done. Another anxiety put to rest. Of course, it was a warm sunny day and unless you wanted to paddle in a sauna for rest of the day, you then had to take the jacket off and put it away, but it was good practice.



Dick starts his stove; Marlene and Julie read the directions for theirs

After a 3-4 mile paddle we got back to shore and it was time to set up our stoves and cook a meal—the final test of the shakedown cruise. We found a picnic table and everybody set to work.

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We all shared what we brought so that once again we could learn from each other. I think a good time was had by all and it was fun to see how creative some people can be at camp meals.



ON THE MENU

- Quesadillas with extras
- Burritos
- MRE cheesy chili
- Annie Chung's spicy noodles
- Rye-Crisp pizza
- Knorr's Parmesan Noodles with canned chicken

SESSION NUMBER THREE, THE OVERNIGHT: Okay, everybody passed and it was time for the real thing, camping at Lake Granby. (Brian Hunter's "Kayak Camping for the First Time" has more details.) For me, in summary the paddling was great, Granby was beautiful and the fellowship with the other club members was wonderful.



Photo by Larry Kline



Granby: cooking under Larry's rain fly

Even the weather was perfect, for the *first* six hours. Actually it was perfect in another sense of the word, too—it gave us a really good idea of what camping in less than ideal conditions is like. I know that I enjoy camping when the weather is good, but how would I react when it wasn't? Well, we got an excellent example: cold rain and lots of it!

Looking back, this was a very successful trip for me. The goal of the trip was to introduce people to kayak camping at an easy level so they could decide whether or not that is an aspect of kayaking they want to do. That's exactly what I learned about myself: I am past the stage of my life where I enjoy this type of camping and I find myself wanting more and more to be either at home or in a nice motel somewhere at the end of the day. So, I will probably limit my multi-day paddling to short trips where there is a high expectation of good weather.

I want to thank Larry, Dick, George, Rich and Ted for their excellent instruction and patience. I want to thank the other students—Brian, Sue, Marlene and Julie—for their fellowship. Everybody working together made this a wonderful experience and I highly recommend it to anybody who is even toying with the idea of multi-day kayak camping. Thanks folks.

RMSKC EVENT REPORTS

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:

People should write "Event and Paddle Reports!"
How else will we know how much fun we are having?



Paddle and Gathering Report: Mike and Jan's in Dillon

Mike Anson and Jan Faulkner write: Thirteen was the lucky number of paddlers to show up on Saturday morning, July 26th at the Frisco Marina. It was a cool overcast day, but fortunately without the strong winds we often experience on Lake Dillon during the summer. From the marina we enjoyed a leisurely paddle along the south shore of Frisco Bay, past Sentinel Island and south into the Blue River Arm. We paddled around Silver Dollar Island and then headed north across the main body and into Heaton Bay. We had the opportunity to see three Osprey (or possibly one Osprey, three times) before returning through the islands along the north shore and back to the Frisco Marina.

After the paddle we enjoyed having everyone over to the Dillon house for burgers, brats and lots of yummy side dishes and desserts. In all, it was a very safe and enjoyable day, spent with a wonderful group of people! We hope everyone will return for the Penguin Paddle on November 8th for another paddle and BBQ. Don't forget your hot tub attire!

Photo from Mike Anson



Photo by Matt Lutkus

On September 7, four RMSKC members (Kathleen Ellis, Sue Hughes, Matt Lutkus and Ted Wang) drove up to join Jud Hurd for a Saturday morning paddle on Horsetooth Reservoir west of Ft. Collins. We put in at Satanka Bay on the north end of the reservoir and paddled until lunch time, exploring several coves along the west shore. Lunch under some trees reminded the ones who hadn't brought camp chairs that next time we should!

During the trip back in the afternoon, several members tried out Ted's Greenland stick. Those thin wood paddles are much more common in the Pacific Northwest; he'll feel right at home—but we'll miss him—when he moves to Bellingham, WA. Everyone agreed that it was good to paddle someplace new, and that they'd had a wonderful time in the sunny end-of-summer weather. If you go, don't forget you have to put your fees (\$7.00 per car and \$7.00 per boat) in a drop-box, so bring a check or the change you'll need.



Photo by Matt Lutkus

Bernie Dahlen, Rich and Kristy Webber, and Matt Lutkus paddled Boulder Reservoir on October 4th, with Pete Hack joining them later. Matt commented that his boat was the lonely yellow one in the red flotilla that launched from the sailboat beach that day.

DISCONNECTED IN THE GULF, PART I

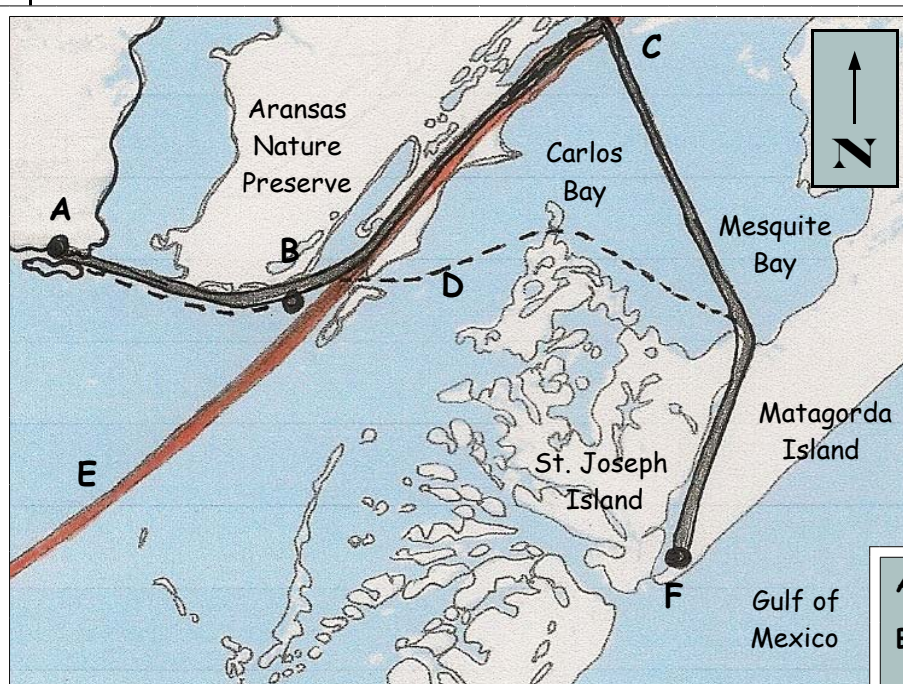
by Larry Kline

It can happen to the best (or the worst?) of them. A paddling group of friends falls apart during a trip. Larry shares how three paddlers got "disconnected" in the Gulf of Mexico.

It started in mid-December several years ago with thoughts of sunny southern Texas and almost ended after a heated flurry of sharp words at the put-in. Fortunately, all ended well and the trip was a success due to the paddlers' underlying outdoor navigation skills, confidence under duress, and boating skills. However, a lot of frustration existed in between. Here is the tale:



We car camped at Goose Island State Park [A] some 40 miles northeast of Corpus Christi. The plan was to paddle out to the barrier islands of St. Joseph and Matagorda via the inside waters of Carlos and Mesquite Bay.



First we would have to pass east along the southern shore of the Aransas Nature Preserve, then cross the NE/SW bearing Inter-Coastal Waterway [E, depicted in red].

We would continue east across Carlos Bay through some sprawling islands and into Mesquite Bay, and on to the northern entrance of Cedar Bayou (the waterway between St. Joseph and Matagorda Islands). From there we would paddle SSW to a beach camp overlooking the Gulf. [F on the map].

- A...Put-In, Goose Island State Park
- B....Where the disconnect started
- C.... Solid Line = Larry's Route
- D.... Dotted Line = Friends' Route
- E.....Red = Inter-Coastal Waterway (ICW)
- F.....Beach campsite

Paul was the only one to buy a map of the local islands. I had my GPS, had already bought maps for another area we had intended to paddle, and chose not to buy my own copy. Our companion had neither map nor GPS. The map showed "wade fishing areas" on Carlos Bay—large areas where fishermen waded up to their waists while stalking the elusive red drum and sea trout. We were told a kayak could easily paddle across them.

Not so, as we were to later find out. Turns out these large, shallow areas are transected by foot-high barriers of dredged oyster shells, which, importantly, were extremely difficult to see even from 200 yards. In sum, our plan to paddle directly east to the Cedar Bayou entrance was obstructed by oyster beds and shallow islands. Instead we would have had to go northeast on the northern shore of Carlos Bay several miles and into the western part of Mesquite Bay and then southeast to the entrance to Cedar Bayou. But this is not what disconnected us.

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I had suggested we go over Paul's map at dinner the night before we set off, but we did not have time to do so. Later that night Paul asked me to enter a few waypoints in my GPS and note them on his map, which I did in the dim light of the campground bathhouse.

In the morning, after loading our boats and just before we were to put them in the water for our 17 mile paddle, Paul pulled out his map. I began to show him which GPS points I had entered. He quickly countered that GPS was too

technical and that one only needed a map to get to Cedar Bayou. He said he didn't need a dang GPS, just a map. (Well, it was a bit more vivid than "dang"!) I, too, exploded in frustration. Just why had he asked me to enter waypoints the night before? We exchanged a few more loud words while the local power boaters looked on. I then took off to park the car. When I returned we all got in the water and began to paddle...ever so silently.

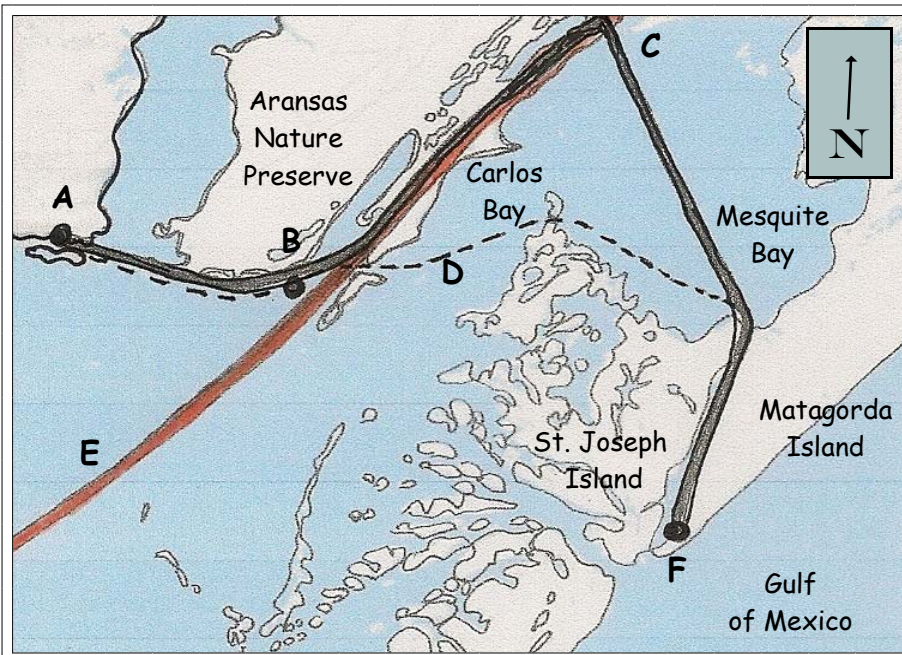
Paul and our companion were both faster paddlers than I. They quickly began to pull ahead. I paddled a course marked by channel posts [between Goose Island and the mainland near A] while they angled off looking for a slightly shorter route. We sort of met up one mile later, but they were ahead and soon pulled farther ahead again. I paddled more easterly along the southern shoreline of the nature preserve while they angled out into the

open water toward a small island to the south. I saw them meander along and figured they were trying to decide on the correct course to follow. Later they said they were waiting for me; however, they did not stop long enough for me to catch up.

Mentally, I became disconnected from them and decided to follow my own recollections of Paul's map. My GPS had a VERY crude depiction of the Carlos Bay area that did not in any way resemble reality. I thought another island to the east was one of the islands we would paddle by on our crossing of Carlos Bay towards the bayou.



At the put-in, moments before the "explosion"



How wrong I was! Rather, it was a large pile of dredged material from the Inter-Coastal Waterway—like the high bluffs along the eastern shore of the southern arm of Chatfield Reservoir. [Ed. note: at this point Larry was at B but thought he was at D.] I then saw a power boat heading NE and in front of the dredged hill so I figured he was going to Carlos Bay—our intermediate goal on the way to the bayou. In fact, he was entering the ICW and I

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should have paddled across it and continued east. I soon realized I was in, and had not yet crossed, the ICW. As I paddled on, however, I assumed it would quickly open up into Carlos Bay. I could/should have used one of my GPS waypoints to get me across the ICW and then into Carlos Bay but failed to do so out of forgetfulness. Or was it stupidity? No, I was so convinced I was right I forgot about my GPS waypoints! I continued northeast in the ICW.

I looked back south and saw both paddlers pointed my way and then they were gone. Due to the endless spoil bank from the channel dredging, the Inter-Coastal Waterway became a five mile channel with no discernable outlet to Carlos Bay. Boy, was I on my own now! But I was determined NOT to turn around and chase them. I would figure out a route. Then a tugboat with two huge barges came by, pushing an enormous bow wave! I landed and waited for the wave to pass.



Tug with a barge on the ICW; they are HUGE and make dangerous waves for kayakers!

When would this channel end? Would I risk getting swamped by commercial ships before it did? Would I just camp out for the night and paddle back to Goose Island and wait for the others to return in several days? After all, I was self-sufficient camping-wise and could easily retrace my track using my GPS..... ..

What will happen? Will Larry ever find his friends? What lessons will they learn from this falling out and drifting apart?

Read the rest of the saga, and Larry's insights about it, in the next issue of the RMSKC Newsletter!



Paddling Carlos Bay wading areas

**RMSKC
STEERING
COMMITTEE
2008**

President:	Matt Lutkus	720-480-2719	mlutkus@comcast.net
Treasurer:	Dick Dieckman	303-980-0573	rdieckman@juno.com
Membership:	Dick Dieckman	303-980-0573	rdieckman@juno.com
Newsletter:	Sue Hughes	303-776-4541	suehughes@yahoo.com
Website:	Gary McIntosh	303-234-9907	garymcin@yahoo.com
	Brian Curtiss	303-581-9045	BC@ASDI.com
Event Coord:	Jud Hurd	970-532-0178	hurdofcows@earthlink.net
PR:	Kari Fraser	303-443-4463	kfraserinonline.net

RMSCK BULLETIN BOARD

37 NEW MEMBERS IN 2008!

NAMES	LOCATION	NAMES	LOCATION
Henry and Linda Ballard	Boulder	Kelly Hillenkamp	Edwards
Allan Brantley	Ft. Collins	Brian and Laura Hunter	Denver
Steve Clemens	Denver	David and LouAnn Hustvedt	Boulder
Richard Cuyler	Salida	Kelly McDevitt	Boulder
Bernie and Marcie Dahlen	Evergreen	Pamela Noe and Eric Niles	Englewood
Bart Deferme	Parker	Marlene Pakish	Bailey
Gail Denton & Dan Downs	Longmont	Morgan Pearl	Lakewood
Don and Sue Fishbein	Boulder	Julie Reckart	Golden
Tim, Kathy & Ben Fletcher	Lakewood	John Ruger	Lakewood
Marilyn and Stephen Fox	Longmont	Shannyn Steele	Denver
Peter Hack	Denver	Rita, Max, & Quinn Vali & J.R. Ketelsen	Louisville
Robert and Suzanne Hicks	Longmont		

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RMSCK BULLETIN BOARD

MEMBERSHIP and DUES

91 CURRENT MEMBERS!

New members pay dues (with a signed waiver) whenever they join; those paying after the first of September will be paid up for the following year.

Continuing members should pay dues after the first of the year but before the first club paddling event; renewal notices are sent during this period.

A check for dues and a newly signed waiver should be mailed to:

C/O Dick Dieckman
10360 West Jewel Ave. Unit C
Lakewood, Co 80232

ANNUAL DUES:

\$40 individual and \$50 family;
\$10 if already a member of ACA

HELP THE NEWSLETTER

Do you like to hold a paddle but not a pen? Do you hesitate to contribute to the Newsletter because you disliked writing in school or wonder about making it sound good?

Don't worry. If you paddle, your fellow readers will be interested! Submit anything to the Newsletter Editor at suehughes@yahoo.com in *any* form that works for you—rough draft, outline, wild idea...

Send whatever is relevant to you as a kayaker; if we don't have a category for it yet, we will make one!

To list just a few, we'd like your:

- paddle or trip reports with pictures
- guided trip reviews
- your boating pictures
- gear reviews
- helpful hints of any kind
- useful or interesting websites you've found
- book or video reviews
- names of restaurants near put-ins or take-outs
- directions for making or modifying "do it yourself" kayak gear
- ideas for camping food
- ads for gear you're selling

Again, anything that interests you will interest other paddlers, so take a minute to write something, and send your pictures for the Newsletter.

COMING IN THE WINTER ISSUE

- * "Disconnected in the Gulf, Pt. II, by Larry Kline
- * Missouri River Trip, Summer 2008, by Dick Dieckman
- * BCU Training in Cornwall, England, by Brian Curtiss
- * End of Year Financial Report, by Dick Dieckman
- * Introduction of New SC Members