



# The SPRAY

Newsletter for Colorado Whitewater

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 10  
Spring Kick-Off
- April 26-27  
Swiftwater Rescue Course

Visit the Events page on the CW website for more information.

## CW Celebrates 60 Years

By: Jodi Lee



Colorado Whitewater is regarded as one of the longest-standing paddling clubs in the country and is proud to be celebrating its 60th anniversary this year!

CW was established many years before the luxuries of molded plastic hulls, composite paddles, and state-of-the-art drysuits. It was started by one man with a simple vision of bringing kayakers together to share in the love of the sport. In April 1954, Larry Zuk sent out the first invitation to form a paddling club. Thirty-four canoeists and kayakers attended this first meeting. With more than 500 members to date, CW continues to promote whitewater paddling across the Rocky Mountain Region.

*The Spray* newsletter has also been around since the very beginning of the club. It serves to inform members of news about the club as well as information on whitewater events, instruction, and other articles related to kayaking and water conservation.

*(continued page 3)*

*Founder Larry Zuk paddling the South Platte circa 1961.*



# Mission Statement

Colorado Whitewater promotes the sport of whitewater paddling in Colorado and the Rocky Mountain region. The club introduces new paddlers to whitewater, provides training in technique and safety, supports racing, informs the public about whitewater issues, including river access and conservation, and works to resolve related problems.

CW is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers.

## CW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

To Join CW, visit our website at [www.coloradowhitewater.org](http://www.coloradowhitewater.org) and join online. To change your e-mail or other contact information: Contact Patty Pinkham at [plabarge@hotmail.com](mailto:plabarge@hotmail.com).

The SPRAY is the official newsletter of Colorado Whitewater and is published semi-monthly. Subscription is free to CW members. Material published in The Spray may be reprinted only with the author's permission. Views and opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent CW opinions and policies. Publication of paid advertisements herein does not constitute an endorsement of the products or services advertised or of the advertiser. Publication address: 455 Sherman Street, Suite 300 Denver, CO 80203

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## THE SPRAY

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### Interested in Advertising?

Contact Jodi Lee for rates and specs at [jodilee23@gmail.com](mailto:jodilee23@gmail.com)

### Want to Contribute?

We welcome and encourage your contributions on topics related to whitewater paddling.

Email submissions to  
[cwspray@outlook.com](mailto:cwspray@outlook.com)

### Deadline for May-Jun Issue

April 18

## Letter From the CW President

Hello CW!

Hope you have had a wonderful winter. I imagine most of you have had fun playing in the huge snowpack we have accumulated. I'm eagerly anticipating the second season of excitement the snow gives us with RUNOFF! Memories of 2011 are running through my head while dreaming what 2014 will give us. As I write this, the Arkansas basin is at 99%, South Platte is at 136%, Upper Colorado is at 126%, Yampa is at 124%. It's going to be a great year after two less than wonderful water years. It might be time to think about acquiring a 'big water' boat!

Many of you have enjoyed the exceptional 2014 instruction program at the pool this winter. Kudos to all the instructors for your volunteer efforts! I look forward to meeting many new faces at Training Camp this year and seeing the skills progression of veteran CW paddlers. I have heard rumors of what is in the works and it includes a BAND for Saturday evening. I have enjoyed the music of Full Moon Float and they are not to be missed!

A little closer on the calendar are two social events. The Spring Kickoff is back at the Oriental Theater with a new production of Ben Stookesberry, Walled In, on April 10th. And the Spring Dinner a few weeks later will chronicle a 279 mile self-support kayak trip through the Grand Canyon by professional photographer, Peter Holcomb. Several CW members were on this trip, so you will see some familiar faces on the big screen. The Fall Dinner sold out, so register early to ensure you have a seat!

I invite you to stop by the Club's website. It has been redesigned to be more user-friendly and looks great! The forums are ready for your contributions. I wish you all an enjoyable and safe runoff season.

SYOTR,

*Laurie Maciag*

President, Colorado Whitewater

## Lead a Cruise!

The Club is always looking for members to lead river trips. Please consider sharing your favorite run with less experienced members. Contact Leslie Tyson at [lesanntyson@msn.com](mailto:lesanntyson@msn.com) to schedule your trip.

Look for a 'Learn to Lead' clinic this spring too!



(continued from cover)

You may have also noticed a new and improved CW logo. Created with the feel of the original logo, the new logo reflects the forward motion of CW into a premier paddling club for all ages. CW plans to attend many of the Colorado whitewater festivals and will be promoting the new image. Look for the CW banner at events, in the upcoming Spray, and on our website!

Speaking of website, if you haven't visited [ColoradoWhitewater.org](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org) in a while, stop by and check it out! The site has been redesigned to include better organization, the history of CW, helpful news and resource articles, information on instruction, and much more. We also welcome your comments and feedback, so please submit through the Information Request Form found under "Contact Us".

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### *From the Colorado Whitewater Archives*

Building a kayak in 1960



Paddling Clear Creek in an  
open canoe circa 1955



Larry Zuk and  
a hand crafted  
kayak in 1960



## The CW Volunteers

By: Laurie Maciag

For the past 60 years, Colorado Whitewater has been solely run by volunteers. Together, we strive to make this the best club we can and encourage your feedback and/or volunteerism.

\* Help spread the word about CW's fabulous instruction program taught by ACA-certified instructors. This is a great way for your friends and family to get started in whitewater kayaking. If you, yourself, haven't been in a kayak in a while, sign up for one of our pool classes or attend Training Camp and get back in it! You'll be glad you did. Also, sign up or spread the word about our Swiftwater Safety Classes. Learn more by visiting [ColoradoWhitewater.org/Instruction](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org/Instruction).

\* Become a trip leader or sweep on a river cruise. We'd like to get cruises on the calendar early this year and we're looking for kayakers to lead others down the river. For more information visit [ColoradoWhitewater.org/Cruises](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org/Cruises).

\* Volunteer at Training Camp, help at the CW booth at whitewater festivals, help with river cleanups, plus many more opportunities throughout the year. Check back often at [ColoradoWhitewater.org/VolunteerForum](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org/VolunteerForum).

Volunteers are the only way this club has been a success for the last 60 years. We look forward to another great year, big water, and your continued involvement.



# Golden



# River Sports

**806 Washington Ave.  
Golden, CO 80401  
303-215-9386  
GoldenRiverSports.net**

**Looking Forward  
to Run-Off  
This Year?!**

**Take advantage of our 50/50 Deal: Put 50% down now and pay 50% by April 30, 2014. Take your gear home right away with half down or put a brand new boat on order for spring!**

**Save NOW on 2013 closeouts including the Pyranha Burn (M) and the Wave Sport Diesel (80), Fuse (64) and Project X (48/56).**

**Demo / Purchase a new 2014 Wave Sport Mobius, Recon or Ethos or the new Pyranha Burn III! We also have the all new Dagger Jitsu!**

**Complete Youth Packages Available.**

**Explore our SUP inventory from Hala Gear available for both rental and purchase!**

**Mark your calendars for our annual Spring Swap and Sale in mid-April. Sell your used gear and/or buy something new-to-you!**



**CW Members  
ALWAYS get 15% off!**

*Photo by Brett Hochmuth*



## Spring Kick Off

Time to get this 2014 paddle year started! In the tradition of getting amped for another run-off season, Colorado Whitewater, with co-sponsorship by Ben Stookesberry, is hosting this years' Spring Kick Off at the Oriental Theater and featuring the adrenaline pumping, seat clenching movie Walled In...

"...From the makers of the award-winning film, Kadoma, comes another adventure that takes you to a place where no one has gone before.

Eddie Bauer adventure kayakers Ben Stookesberry and Chris Korbolic have run some isolated and burly rivers in their day. But the first successful run of the Marble Fork of the Kaweah in Sequoia National Park was another level of commitment entirely. The mission involved an eight-day portage and vertical epic of establishing a sporty big-wall traverse with the assistance of Yosemite-based climbers Forrest Noble and Jared Johnson then a five-hour descent into a never-before-run, two-thousand-foot deep canyon with no potential for escape.

Located in Stookesberry's backyard of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, the Kaweah River flows from greater than 12,000 feet of elevation to near sea level in less than 30 miles. The steep gradient combined with snowpacks that average 30 feet deep, and melt quickly in hot California sun, has carved canyons into 100-million-year-old bedrock that creates an ideal scenario for whitewater kayaking. But the most challenging aspect of slaying the Marble Fork portion of this river was exhibiting the patience to hit it at

exactly the right flow — a once-a-decade occurrence — that allowed them to tick off the Impossible Gorge section that was long considered un-runnable by the kayak world." (Eddie Bauer 2013)

Walled In has been featured at numerous film festivals including Telluride and the ever exclusive Banff Film Festival and now exclusively for Spring Kick Off. CW members and nonmembers alike are welcome to experience the thrill. There will also be bar service inside the theater and a food truck. Come out and kick off what is sure to be an epic year!

### Spring Kick Off Info

Thursday, April 10, 2014

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Oriental Theater  
4335 West 44th Avenue  
Denver, CO

Members: \$10  
NonMembers: \$12

More Info @ [ColoradoWhitewater.org](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org)



The Colorado Whitewater instruction program provides a unique approach to learning to paddle. The central aspect of CW is community, and when you learn to paddle with CW, you are doing so among friends who you will be able to share river time in the years to come. All of CW's instructors are certified by the nationally sanctioned American Canoe Association (ACA) to ensure top-quality, up-to-date, and consistent teaching methods. Additionally as your peers, CW's instructors have a vested interest in helping you reach your potential. The CW course catalog provides an impressive, wide array of classes that help you improve your skills from beginner all the way through advanced paddling and in various kayaking disciplines. Finally, CW's instruction program is designed to dovetail with the club's river events (Training Camp, Poudre Weekend, Cruises, etc.) so that your skills continue to improve even after the formal instruction is finished.

## CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE

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## Advertise With The Spray

Contact Jodi Lee for rates and  
specs at [jodilee23@gmail.com](mailto:jodilee23@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Classes and Pool Schedule

### March

Mar 2	● Kids Team & Parents Team Combined	3pm - 5pm
Mar 9	● Intermediate Group A ● Kids Team	1pm - 3pm 3pm - 5pm
Mar 16	POOL CLOSED	
Mar 23	● Intermediate Group A ● Boating Betties	1pm - 3pm 3pm - 5pm
Mar 30	● Intermediate Group A	1pm - 3pm

### April

Apr 6	● Intermediate Group A ● Beginner Group B ● Kids Team ● Precision Boating	1pm - 3pm 1pm - 3pm 3pm - 5pm 3pm - 5pm
Apr 13	POOL CLOSED	
Apr 20	POOL CLOSED	
Apr 27	● Beginner Group B ● Roll Tune Up Clinic ● Kids Team ● Beginner Rolling Group A	1pm - 3pm 1pm - 3pm 3pm - 5pm 3pm - 5pm

### May

May 4	● Beginner Group B ● River Readiness Clinic ● Kids Team ● Beginner Rolling Group A	1pm - 3pm 1pm - 3pm 3pm - 5pm 3pm - 5pm
May 11	● Flat Water / Moving Water	TBD
May 12	● Flat Water / Moving Water	TBD

Classes held at George J. Meyers Pool 7900 Carr Dr, Arvada, CO 80005  
(303) 467-7111 Open Pool on Sundays (see schedule for closures) 1pm - 5pm

## Open Spots Available!

### Precision Boating

This class is designed to teach you skills required for class IV boating and give you the experience to execute them with confidence. You will learn:

- How to effectively catch eddies and use them to control your progress down a rapid and boat scout.
- How to read the river not just for "The Line" in a rapid, but to find eddies and break down a difficult rapid into a series of easier moves.
- Basic slalom kayak skills and how to apply them to running whitewater.
- Basic playboating skills and how to apply them to running whitewater.
- Advanced paddling skills to help you catch eddies, use the current to your advantage and avoid obstacles.
- Eddy-quiete; how to safely paddle difficult whitewater in a group.

Class starts April 6th!

**For more information and to sign-up visit [ColoradoWhitewater.org](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org)**

# Training Camp is Coming!

## May 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Come out and join us for our annual fun filled weekend of Instruction, Camping, Special Catering & the Full Moon Float Band! Early sign-up for \$170 until April 31.

**Sign-up today! More at [ColoradoWhitewater.org](http://ColoradoWhitewater.org)**





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Adventures. Book your fun  
today online!***

**Call  
303-  
444-8420**

## *Boating Betty*

Dear Boating Betty,

Once again I got skunked on river permits. I have vacation days saved and really want to get on the Selway this year. I have the ability, just not a permit or an invite and I'd do just about anything to go. In an effort to get invited on a trip, I've begun posting on whitewater forums and anywhere else I can think. What do you think of this idea?

- Jonesing for the Selway

Dear Jones,

Boating Betty is a firm believer in karma and feels that river permits and invites are bestowed upon those whose intents, actions and good deeds make them worthy. By seeking to bring about what karma has ignored, you run the risk of unsettling the delicate balance of your river trip. A wise boater once said, "There's an a-hole on every trip, if by the third day you haven't figured out who it is, look for them in the reflection of a calm river eddy". Boating Betty advises you to make sure that reflection isn't yours through your deeds and actions. When the time is right for you, gentle boater, the Selway will find you.

If your still intent on finding that elusive Selway invite and will "do just about anything" to get one, Boating Betty suggests you first watch the movie Deliverance to see what can happen to those who are too eager to run the river.

- BB

## Advertise!

Get your business noticed with an ad in the CW Spray.

Advertising space is available in a variety of sizes. Contact Jodi Lee for rates and specs at [jodilee23@gmail.com](mailto:jodilee23@gmail.com)

## Share!

Share your favorite river photo with your friends.

Each issue, a member photo will be chosen and features in the Spray. Send your photo to [cwspray@outlook.com](mailto:cwspray@outlook.com). Check our website for complete details.

## Contribute!

Don't be shy. Write an article for the spray.

Submissions accepted with a maximum of 1,000 words. Send submissions to [cwspray@outlook.com](mailto:cwspray@outlook.com).



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[www.coloradowhitewater.org](http://www.coloradowhitewater.org)