

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter



Greetings

Hello readers and welcome to the Fall 2017 edition of the Flipline. If you have a trip report, want to lead a club trip, or provide a photo for name that river, or have news you think our members would like to know about, please submit it to cspoores@gmail.com. Our next Flipline will be the winter edition, and should come out in January.

Thanks for Reading!

Club Officers

Club Officers can always be reached by emailing: board@adobewhitewater.org email.

President: Russell Cooper

Vice President: Scott Carpenter

Treasurer: Chad Morris

Secretary: Adam Hill

Member and Webmaster: Tom Fort

Member: Therese Dorwart

Member: Jessica Sunderland

Member: Scott Burchfield

Member: Bart Harvey

Member: Corey Spoores

Education Coordinator: Donna Koechner

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

President's Letter

Desert Paddlers,

Fall is finally here. New Mexico was blessed with some heavy fall rains and there was a late season on many runs that are typically long gone, like the Gila and the Embudo. Hopefully you were all able to get out for the river to enjoy it.

Balloon fiesta provided a great opportunity for many people to get out on the river. I saw that many new people were out on the river. Thanks to the community for bringing the river to exposing so many newbies.

All you AWC members have been active in the community, cleaning the river, raising money for conservation groups, and working with Kayak New Mexico to support the adaptive community.

Thank you for all you do.

See you on the river,

Russ

Club Meetings: Past and Upcoming

Past

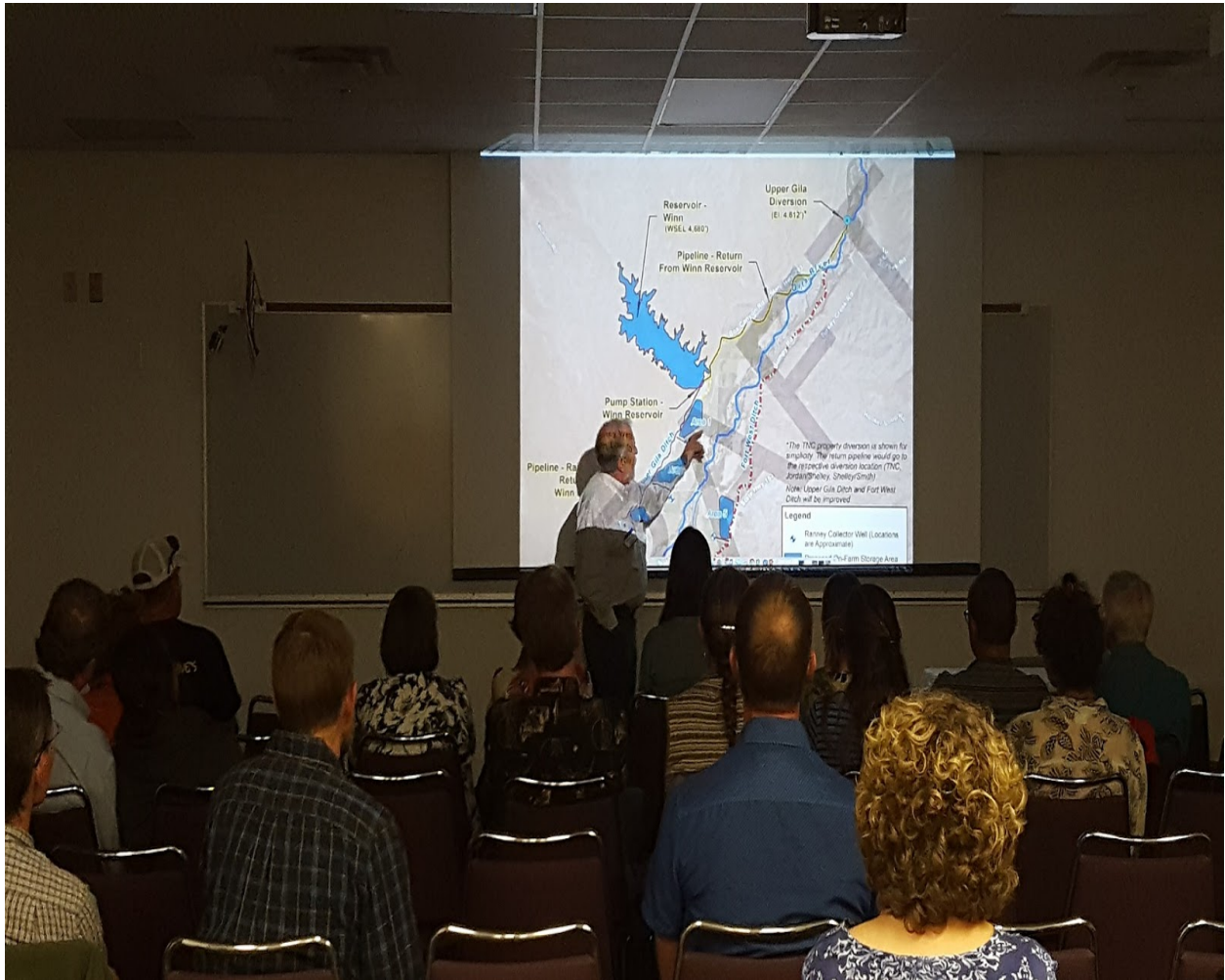
October 2017:

Our official meeting was canceled and in lieu, the AWC held a special presentation of the "Heart of the Gila" film project with the help of the JCC. This film project is a documentary film that inspires the audience to take action against the ill conceived water diversion project on the Gila River.

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter



During the presentation we heard from Patrice Mutchnick, Todd Schulke, and our very own Norm Gaume. They covered the progress and scope of the project with stunning visuals and some raw footage of the film project.

The film project is still underway and currently raising money to assist in the final steps of the project. AWC has created a donation platform on our website and collect donations at the time of the showing. If you would like to contribute you can use the [AWC donation link](#).

At the time of press it has been reported that the National ACA has ponied up a \$500 donation to assist in this project. Great work everyone!

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

September 2017:

“Thrills, Spills, and Stills: Running the Rio Yaqui in Northern Sonora, Mexico.”

Presented by Paul and Sherry Barrett

The Rio Yaqui drainage is in northeastern Sonora, near the border with Chihuahua. Beginning at the farming town of Granados it is a 110 mile run to the town of Sahuaripa. The paddle/drag begins on the Rio Bavispe, and two main tributaries, the Rio Bacadehuachi at RM 30 and Rio Aros at RM 60 confluence the run. At the Bavispe/Aros confluence the river becomes the Rio Yaqui.

Although close to the border with the United States, the run is isolated from most human populations but boasts bald eagles, military macaws, and even jaguars among the wildlife.

Upcoming:

November 14, 2017:

Is the next club meeting, 6:30pm at Papa Felipe's

The presentation will be given by Verne Huser called:

On the River with Lewis and Clark

December 2, 2017:

Holiday Party at Rio Rancho Aquatic Center. More information to follow

Name that River (see below)

-Please post your answers on the AWC Chat Board on Facebook

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter



(photo credit: Matt Jackson)

(Name that River/Rapid) Please post your answer in the AWC Chart Board....

Conservation/ Advocacy News

-The possible Sky Tram and Helicopter tours of the Big Ditch have been voted down by the Navajo Nation. [Read More Here:](#)

New Mexico ACA News

Our State ACA Director just returned from the National Paddlesports Conference, recently held at the Nantahala Outdoor Center (NOC). Several topics were discussed and many different types of clinics were held, in and around North Carolina. Probably the largest bit of news to come from

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

the conference is that the ACA is now the new governing body of the U.S. National Olympics/ Paralympics Paddlesports.

You can read a great article here: [Canoe & Kayak Magazine](#)

Or the not so impressive ACA Press Release: [Here](#)

Either way you slice it it is a great step for the national paddlesports community in general.

Kayak New Mexico

The KNM Crew conducted a river cleanup on the Rio Grande October 21, 2017, from US 550 to Corrales.

Jane reported that they had 22 Volunteers who tirelessly collected 631# of recyclables and trash!



Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

Kayak New Mexico's next two Adaptive Kayaking Open House(s) will be October 28, 2017 and December 2, 2017 at the Rio Rancho Aquatic Center from 6:00-8:00pm. If you would like to get involved with KNM or would like to learn more please contact **Jane Bales, President of the Board**, at jane@kayaknewmexico.org

Pool Sessions

Welcome to the fall paddling season, the water is low and getting colder. But don't let that stop you from learning that roll, or perfecting your flatwater tricks. Roll sessions are being held every Saturday at the Rio Rancho Aquatic Center, from 10:00 am to 11:45 am. Remember to clean out the river sand before coming to the pool. To learn more check out our [AWC Website on Pool Sessions](#).

River Trip Reports/ Stories

Rio Grande: White Rock Trip Report, by Adam Hill

"The high flow this spring left some nice sandbars for camping in the lower stretches. There's a sandbar across from Alamo Canyon that would be a great camp for 50 people! It will likely be gone or overgrown next year, but for this fall/winter it's nice. Capulin Canyon is freshly blown out again so you can camp there an access painted cave easily, and Cochiti Canyon is also clear and good for camping."

The day the Rio Grande turned fluorescent yellow

By Robert Robey

A typical late summer day in New Mexico and to celebrate the return of Marie Blatnik from Caltech back to Los Alamos, we headed for the racecourse section of the Rio Grande. We were expecting low water, but with that clear dark green translucent color typical of the season. When we arrived, imagine our surprise to see the river a bright fluorescent yellow (picture). We put on and ran the river with this unsettled feeling. All went well with Rob Aiken, Marie and myself hitting the lines all the way down to Big Rock. At Big Rock, Rob hit a great line through the slot to the right of Big Rock. Marie and I decided to run toilet bowl. There was just enough water to stay to the left over the shelf. I led and made it fine. Marie didn't stay enough left and

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

dropped into the slot next to Big Rock and flipped coming out. The hole sucked her in next to the shelf and she lost her paddle, so she attempted a hand-roll, almost coming up, but hitting the shelf, knocking her back down. At that point the river gods popped the paddle back into her hands and she rolled back up beautifully.

The epilogue. The color of the river was due to heavy rains broaching the Questa mines tailing ponds. We suspected as much while running the river, but it was confirmed in the news with pictures of front-loaders clearing roads from the mud overflow near Questa. The sediment was very fine and a bright yellow that seemed to stay suspended in the water for a long time. The river had been clear the day before and from reports was clear just hours before we arrived. Sections downriver were still clear. There were other boaters on the river and commercial trips too. But I haven't seen any acknowledgement of the river contamination from the state environmental department, environmental groups or press.



Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

Last But not Least

The Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico is working at building a more active club. Do you have any ideas that you would like to voice? Stories of how it was better “back in the day”? Please share these ideas with me or any other board member.

Club Trips

Turkey Bash!

November 11, 2017

Club Trip on the Rio Grande Race Course, 11am meet at County Line.

Organizer: Corey Spoore, Contact Info: cspoore@gmail.com 419-308-1625

Organization will take place via email and the AWC Chat message board on Facebook.

Below is a lot of information on Club Trips, don't be intimidated, read the below info and remember you're just an organizer.

Why Club Trips?

What is the purpose of the kayaking club if the club does not hold club related activities. AWC organized trips were common in the past and have since slowly moved to the Meetup.com website, as the organizers feel that might somehow reduce the liability involved in the organization of a trip.

I am happy to organize our November Club trip. Who can go on our club trip? Many of our club trips in the future will be open to members and non-members. However this November's “Turkey

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

Bash” Club trip will be open to club members only. Do you know someone who wants to come? Great send them to the website and have them join the club.

What are the responsibilities of the trip organizers?

Organizers who are unable to fulfill their trip commitments should obtain a substitute organizer and notify the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster as soon as possible, if you have internet access, please post on the club bulletin board.

MONTHS BEFORE THE TRIP

Determine put-in and take-out points.

Determine rendezvous time.

Select an alternate trip in case of high or low water, where possible.

Select camping arrangements, if required.

List the expected level of difficulty, wet/dry suits? Closed boats?

Mail/E-Mail this information to the newsletter editor and Webmaster in time to be published just before the trip.

Organizers who are unable to fulfill their trip commitments should obtain a substitute organizer and notify the Newsletter Editor and Webmaster. If you have internet access post a notice on club bulletin board.

WEEK BEFORE THE TRIP

If conditions change choose an alternate paddling location for the trip. Maintain a roster of persons signed-up for the trip with names, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and experience in order to notify them in case of a change before the trip. Do not just cancel the trip and then paddle somewhere else.

DAY BEFORE THE TRIP

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

Find out the water level, make sure it is suitable for the trip as planned. If you cannot go on the trip please find another organizer.

Guests may join us on our trips. However, please encourage them to join our club for their own safety and enjoyment. If the participant is an active member of another club like Rocky Mountain Canoe Club, they are welcome on any of our scheduled trips. **Club members enjoy the camaraderie, the mutual liability waiver and the satisfaction knowing that their dues are supporting the club services that they are enjoying.**

Read the [American Whitewater Safety Code](#).

DURING THE TRIP

Please note that “Trip Organizers” are just that, organizers..

All on-the-river “responsibilities” are those of the individual or the group as a whole. In fact, the “trip organizer” does not have to go on the trip. They’re simply the main contact that coordinates the meeting time and place, and puts interested participants in contact with each other. That is as far as their responsibility goes.

AFTER THE TRIP

Ensure that a trip report is written and sent it to the newsletter editor as soon as possible.

Trip Participant's Responsibilities

MONTHS BEFORE THE TRIP

Pick a trip to match your skills and ability. Rate yourself with the * [Keel-Haulers Self-Rating System](#). Do not pick trips that are rated more than 3 points beyond you or your partner's ability.

*Currently this list is not all encompassing to our local rivers but it does have several listed in the west. Know your score. If you are in doubt of your skills and abilities please communicate with the trip organizers to help make a determination, for your safety and the group's safety. Remember there will always be other trips within your skill set in the future.

WEEK BEFORE THE TRIP

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

Notify the trip organizer by phone or e-mail of your intent to join the trip. No one's paddling ability or knowledge of the river exempts them from this common courtesy. Plan your food, transportation and rendezvous. Please become a club member, guests are welcome but encouraged to join.

Read the [American Whitewater Safety Code](#).

Double up, help conserve fuel. Try to take as many boats and people with you as possible. Let the trip organizer know if you need transportation or if you can bring someone else with you. If you have to cancel out of the trip, let the organizer know as soon as possible, so that the other paddlers won't waste time waiting for you to arrive.

DAY OF THE TRIP

Meet promptly at the appointed time. Check to see that you have all equipment with your boat before starting on the shuttle. Plan to participate in the auto shuttle, and let the group know when you are ready. If you have a physical disability, are under a doctor's care, or may need medicine, let the group know.

DURING THE TRIP

Know and practice the [American Whitewater Safety Code](#).

AFTER THE TRIP

Leave the river and its surroundings cleaner than you found them. Drive home carefully; you will be tired.

DISCLAIMER

Remember that water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Each participant is responsible for assessing his or her own ability and from refraining from activities that are beyond their

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

The Flipline

A Fall 2017 Newsletter

limits. The club, its officers and members simply cannot and do not take responsibility for anyone when they are participating in a planned or spontaneous club activity.

Only YOU are responsible for your actions and safety. Read the [American Whitewater Safety Code](#). It's purpose is to serve as a guideline for river trips.

As stated in the code,

“A river trip should be regarded as a common adventure by ALL participants.... Participants share the responsibility for the conduct of the trip and each participant is individually responsible for judging his or her own capabilities and for his or her own safety as the trip progresses. Participants are encouraged (but are not obligated) to offer advice and guidance for independent consideration and judgment of others.”

Remember, water sports are a potentially dangerous activity. Members assume any and all risk when choosing to participate in an activity and the Adobe Whitewater Club, its officers and members are not responsible for any damages resulting from such participation.