

Adobe Whitewater Club of New Mexico

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Hello to all,

Wow! How to start? 2020 was a year that we will not soon forget! Maybe not for the memories of great river trips spent with friends and family in exotic reaches, but as a time of uncertainty, social distancing, and even worse for many. I think the pandemic restrictions we have all endured emphasize the value of our paddling time that we may have taken for granted in the past. Let's all be optimistic that vaccines and other developments restore things soon.

Club trips, clinics, and meetings have mostly been replaced with efforts focused on the numerous Stream Access issues, with different crises almost weekly. Strong AWC member support has aided in recent legislative votes in our favor regarding the HB200 and future use of remaining money for the Gila water projects, other than diversions, and the tabling of HJR5 and HJR8, sneaky attempts to enshrine privatization rights over public rights to access waterways flowing adjacent to private lands.

The AWC has stepped up our roles of stewardship and advocacy with bi-monthly cleanup projects, signage, and access efforts, including a pending NM Supreme Court Writ to challenge the privatization and blockading of some of our favorite river sections, and the creation of the NM Paddlers Coalition.

Our records indicate that you have attended AWC events in the past, and we'd like to invite you to become a member! Membership is only \$15, and we have voted to return to a rolling 12-month renewal date policy so that everyone will be good for an entire year after payment. You can securely join/renew online at <a href="https://www.adobewhitewater.org">www.adobewhitewater.org</a>.

We invite you to tune in to our virtual monthly meetings (second Tuesdays) and check out our social media sites for more/current details.

As a long time AWC club member, I have always enjoyed meeting new folks and sharing trips and stories with everyone, and I look forward to seeing you all again, hopefully on the river. Boat Up!

**Scott Carpenter** 

**AWC President**