

The Adobe Whitewater Club

Flipline



Greetings

Hello readers and welcome to the **Winter 2018 edition of the Flipline**. If you have a trip report, want to lead a club trip, or provide a photo for name that river, have news you think our members would like to know about, *or would like to present a trip or topic at any meeting*, please submit it to cspoores@gmail.com. Our next Flipline will be the **Spring Edition**, and should come out in April. Thanks for Reading!

Club Officers

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

On behalf of the AWC Members I would like to say THANK YOU and JOB WELL DONE, to Therese and Jessica for your time serving the Club as board members. It is a thankless job and one that we all greatly appreciate. SYOTR!

President: Russell Cooper

Vice President: Scott Carpenter

Treasurer: Chad Morris

Secretary: Adam Hill

Member and Webmaster: Tom Fort

Member: OPEN-Therese Dorwart (Retiring)

Member: OPEN-Jessica Sunderland (Retiring)

Member: Scott Burchfield

Member: Bart Harvey

Member: Corey Spoores

Education Coordinator: Donna Koechner

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President's Letter

Paddling enthusiasts,

Welcome to the winter edition of the flip-line. One of the great things about New Mexico is that paddling is a year round activity. Its been wonderful to hear about your winter trips and its already providing me with lots of inspiration. I was even able to make it out with some of you for the club's New Year's Day paddle. There isn't much snow in the mountains and while we've all been enjoying the good weather, I hope each of you can undertake a snow dance or two.

I've been happy to watch the AWC change and grow over the last few years. Further change is underway in the AWC, we are currently adding two new board members, and looking to update the AWC by-laws. If you are interested in these or any other activities reach out to the board at board@adobewhitewater.org. All of the great things that the AWC has done are driven by the members and I look forward to seeing all of your great ideas.

For the love of rivers,

Russ

Treasurer Report

[Treasurer Report for FY2017](#)

Membership

At the time the Flipline went to press we have **104 paid members**.

Club Meetings: Past and Upcoming

Past:

December 2017, we celebrated a wonder paddling season at our annual holiday gathering at the Rio Rancho Aquatic Center. Some folks came with their boats to play, while others choose just to socialize. A wonderful evening was had by all who came out. If you would like to organize next seasons holiday gathering please reach out to anyone on the board!

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January 2018, Our first meeting of 2018 was held at Papa Felipe's in ABQ. This was our traditional Permit Party, which was presented by Travis. We also learned of two retiring board members and our current roll sessions (see below). If you missed the meeting and would like to learn more about the permit process you can view the presentation at the following link. [Permit Presentation](#)

Upcoming:

February 13 will be the next Club Meeting at Papa Felipe's, come at 6 pm for socialization and 6:30 for the meeting.

Name that Rapid....Please submit your answers to the Facebook AWC Chat Group

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State ACA News

By Robert Levin, State Director for New Mexico, American Canoe Association

The history of the “Adobe Whitewater Club” was intricately involved with the Mother’s Day Races in Pilar as well as organized trips throughout the state of New Mexico, Utah, Colorado and Texas. Of note should be the name of the AWC newsletter was at one time called “Adobe Mud”.

Here is a segment from the June 1, 1982 edition of Adobe Mud describing the summary of the competition of the Mother’s Day races in Pilar. I found it interesting in the description of some of the boat types and competition numbers along with the apparent excitement this event created.

K-1 were the boat of choice for both women’s and men’s Slalom and Wildwater races which included almost equal numbers of women and men. Raft’s did not have their own event but were grouped into the Inflatable category that included IK’s and rafts of all types. Canoes were at that time had the largest number of entries.

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adobe mud



VOLUME 3 NUMBER 17

June 1, 1982

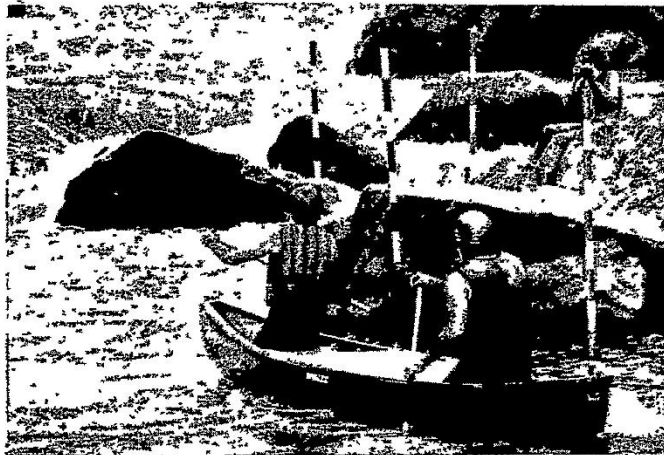


Photo by Lisa D. Madsen

CLIFF DeWENT AND MARK HYLARIDES on the slalom course. Theirs was the only open canoe entry in the Pilar slalom race. (more on the Pilar races on pages 4, 6, 7 and 8)

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THINKING THINGS OVER

Maybe it was the weather, or the 1900 cfs flow flushing down the "Toilet Bowl" or, perhaps, it was just that laid-back New Mexico attitude that kept K-1 entries in the Pilar slalom races at a meager 22 and a pitiful 7 in the wildwater run on the following day. The course, put up on Friday by Merle Wheeler, Curtis Goodnight, Ohio Knox and David Platts, consisted of 18 gates strung up behind "Big Rock" and was challenging.

Sunday's wildwater race drew, besides the aforementioned seven kayaks, 34 rafts and four inflatable kayaks. Among the latter, Hans Keppler's winning time (35:15) in a Klepper inflatable compared favorably with the winning K-1 time of 31:49. Los Alamos' Explorer Post 20 swept the K-1 wildwater: the first three finishers were all members of Post 20, all under 18. (David Orlicky, watch out!)

Rafts ranged from small, 2-men boats to Avons with rowing frames. We were especially pleased to see two rafts with all women crews--such enthusiastic boaters would be welcome in AWC.

The canoe marathon, run against a strong upstream wind, had 16 entries. We were glad to see some boaters from the southern part of the state--in fact, they produced two winning teams: Dale Beck and Randall Russel (Hatch) and Victor Viramontes with Dennis Whited (Las Cruces).

ADOBE MUD congratulates all who participated, winners and losers alike. Our special thanks to Stretch Fretwell and Merle Wheeler whose names have become synonymous with the Pilar races.

We have never viewed ourselves as a consummate competitor, having realized some time ago that the ultimate challenge lies within. Still, we know that the cutting edge of all sports is competition; where skills

For this reason, we would like to see more races in New Mexico, spread over the boating season, at various water levels and of varying difficulty. Like every club function, this too, would depend on member participation, both as organizers and competitors.

If you would like to see more racing in New Mexico, come to the club meetings and voice your feelings. Or write to ADOBE MUD if you are shy. AWC is YOUR club.

Meanwhile, take advantage of existing opportunities. Like the kayak clinic below.

The Editor

KAYAK CLINIC

CHIP KAUFMAN, former AWC member now living in San Francisco will be in town to hold a two day kayak clinic on the weekend of June 12-13. Sponsored by the Adobe Whitewater Club, the clinic will be held on an overnight river trip on the Chama or through White Rock Canyon, depending on water conditions.

The clinic is designed for beginning through intermediate boaters who must supply their own boats, food and camping gear. Fee for the two day clinic is \$40 per person and attendance is limited to 12 in order to ensure maximum attention for each participant.

CHIP has run the Grand Canyon several times and has been active on the California racing circuit. He is an excellent boater and an enthusiastic teacher.

To register for the clinic, send your name, address and phone number, accompanied by the \$40 fee to KAYAK

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Historical trip schedule from 1982, Adobe Whitewater Club

1982 TRIP SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Trip Leader</u>
March 27	III	Pilar	Bob Rhett (247-2770)
April 10-11	II-III	Upper Chama, Monastery	Ohio Knox (881-7748)
April 17	I	Rio Grande below Cochiti	Stephen Maurer (344-2621)
April 25	III	Pilar	Steve Patchett (294-8236)
May 8		Slalom Races	Merl Wheeler (662-5413) Curtis Goodnight (832-4326)
May 9		Wild water	Strech Fretwell
May 15-16	III, IV	Pilar, Box	Phil Wallin (988-3592) Scott Tyler (835-5324)
May 29-31	II	San Juan: Bluff-Mexican Hat	Chip Brenn (821-8596)
June 5	II-III	Animas (Durango)	Chris Cooke (471-1822)
June 6	II-III	San Juan (Pagosa Springs)	
June 26-27		Canoe School	Ohio Knox (881-7748)
July 4	II-III	Chama (overnight)	Rick Smith (897-0915)
July 10-11	II-III	Arkansas	Bob Rhett (9247-2770)
Thanksgiving	I	Rio Grande (Big Bend)	Ohio Knox (881-7748)

Kayak New Mexico

Kayak New Mexico will again be holding an adaptive kayaking open house, this January 27, and on February 24, 2018. This will take place at the Rio Rancho Aquatic Center. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer please contact Jane Bales, who is the President of the Board at KNM. She can be reached at the following email address

jane@kayaknewmexico.org

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Pool Sessions

Wednesday's: 6-8pm at the Geoveva Chavez Community Center, Cost is \$10.00

Saturday's: 10-11:45am at the [Rio Rancho Aquatic Center](#), Cost is \$5.00

River Trip Reports/ Stories

Rio Grande – Bosque Del Apache to Elephant Butte Lake, as Reported by Adam Hill



There is a tranquil stretch of Class I-II Rio Grande Bosque located between San Antonio, New Mexico and Elephant Butte Lake State Park. The river there is similar in river type and difficulty to the Corrales stretch of the Rio Grande for those familiar with the river in the Albuquerque area. The stretch is great for wildlife viewing and can be done in 2-3 night multi-day or smaller sections can be run in a day as there are multiple river access points.

I have run the portion from Mile 23.5 to mile 45 (setting zero at the put in just North of Bosque Del Apache), and know people who have run the Bosque section, which was until recently against refuge regulations. I look forward to doing that section very soon. On the float below the refuge, along with beautiful views of the Fra San Christobol Mountains, we spotted deer, red fox, turkey, skunk, cranes, geese and more – a more comprehensive list of [species found on the Bosque Del Apache refuge at this link](#).

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There's a great put-in you can access just North of the Bosque Del Apache by taking the road between the river and the ditch on the West side of the river and following that road South to just before the refuge boundary. The refuge is now open to boating but no camping so you need to try and make about 15 miles. I have set that put-in as mile 0 for my map of the stretch as I figure you'll want to launch near the refuge and there is a good place to camp and leave vehicles here.

There is a fence across the river at the southern refuge boundary at mile 12.5. The fence will likely require a portage unless you can sneak your boat under it, and once past it you are off the refuge and can camp. There appears a river access at mile 15 – so 2 ½ miles past the fence that you should be able to get to from the San Acacia access.

To get to the San Acacia access roads, you can take the San Acacia exit from I-25 to get on 178 or follow the old HWY85 south of the Bosque until you get to 178, from there proceed through the large gate marked “Armendaras Ranch”. The ranch is private property but 178 is a county road (wide, well graded dirt road) and the service roads it leads to are public. You will turn at a service yard that stores the equipment for maintaining the diversion and be able to access the diversion roads that run North to within a couple miles to the refuge and South several miles – the access at river mile 23.5 is about 6 miles south of where you cross the bridge over the diversion.

There is definitely access at mile 23.5 that is a little primitive but will allow you to get a vehicle to the river (some willows to push through but not bad as of December 2017).

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River Access at mile 23.5

At mile 45 there is access at a USGS gauging station at rock house – take the Red Rock exit from I-25 and follow HW-1 South a few miles, turn left under I-25 at the rock house sign and take the dirt road back North on the East side of I-25 – that road will eventually bring you down near the river to where you can access the water. This used to be the Narrows of Elephant Butte Lake, but as of 2017 is still river. The accesses at mile 0 and mile 45 would be fine for large rafts, the access at mile 23.5 would require pushing through some willows and up/down a steep 5 foot bank but it could be done.

It appears possible to go an additional ~7 miles to the upper Narrows and the upper end of the lake and take out there as well.

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Deer along the river's edge

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View of the Fra San Christobol Mountains

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 us, we are constantly striving to make the AWC a great Club. Or if you would like to present a topic or be a guest speaker at any of the club meeting please let us know.

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Club Trips

Upcoming Trips

Past Club Trips

Turkey Bash: This past November we held an inaugural Thanksgiving Paddle Trip called the Turkey Bash. This year we kayaked the Rio Grande Race Course, with a level of 500 cfs fun was had by all in attendance.

New Years Day Paddle: Several members of the greater whitewater paddling community attended the annual NYD Paddle on the Race Course. Again our water level was a fluffy 500 CFS (ish). We had 10 kayaks, 1 shredder in attendance and later me a nice couple in a whitewater canoe from Pagosa Springs who came down to enjoy the beautiful weather.

Would you like to Organize a Club trip? It's simple, just read the information below. 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. Do you know someone who wants to come? Great bring them along and then send them to the website to 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 AWC via email, or the AWC Chat Board on Facebook.

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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 AWC via email, or the AWC Chat Board on Facebook.

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

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

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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

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.

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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 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.