



KANSAS PRAIRIE PACKERS BASECAMP NEWSLETTER

BASECAMP is published by the Kansas Prairie Packers Association, Inc., at Topeka, KS. Membership in Prairie Packers is open to individuals and families interested in hiking, backpacking, canoeing, bicycling, cross-country skiing and other outdoor activities.

www.prairiepackers.org

MAY, 2009

MONTHLY MEETING

WHEN: **MAY 13, 2009**

WHERE: Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka, Topeka, KS
Board Meeting 6:00 pm, Visit and Eat 6:15 pm, Meeting 7:00 pm

PROGRAM: **Representative from the Topeka Police Department**

ACTIVITIES

May 9--Saturday walk – Tina Yochum 379.0863.

Clinton Lake Woodridge Park 10:35 AM - 4.5 miles and should take 2 hours to do. I would like to head over to Lawrence afterwards for a meal. Dogs are welcome on the hike!

Meeting Place for Car Pooling at 10 AM: 2521 SE Faxon Drive, Topeka, KS 66605 Phone: 379-0863. I reside east of Croco Road off 29th Street, just prior to Tecumseh Road.

You can reach my place either via heading east on I-70 and getting off at Rice Road, going half way around the round- about then on to a one-way street heading east. Then head southbound to Croco Road to 29th. Or you may use I-470 and heading north on Topeka Boulevard, right on 37th Street until you reach the Lake Shawnee which comes to a T. Then make a left on West Edge Road until you come to 29th Street.

Head east or turn right on 29th, cross over Croco Road. You will see 2 Baptist Churches on Paulin Road on your right. Your second street on your left is Faxon Drive. Make a left and then proceed counting 5 blocks while heading north and I am on the corner of SE Faxon Drive and 25th SE Terrace.

May 9--1:00 pm Canoe/Kayak Outing Dragoon creek-John Stambaugh 862.6621

This is a reschedule from May 2. See the last newsletter for details or call John. Note the time change also.

Activities

May 13—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka.

May 17—The Tour de Florence ride is a 40 mile ride over gravel roads through the Flint Hills with a 25 mile cut-off ride. Scheduled for 8:30 am. Sags and feed at the end of the ride provided by the hosts. <http://www.florenceks.com/> (not a PP event)

May 23--Bike Topeka - Denise Myers 785.806.5666

Meet at the south west corner of Lake Shawnee on West Edge Road just north of 45th street at 9a.m. We'll ride around the lake including Tinman Circle. The ride will be 7 easy miles. For more information call Denise's cell 785 806-5666.

May 23—Great Plains Running Co. 5967 SW 29th St, Topeka. Patty Jordan

PP are scheduled to be at their store on May 23 from 10-noon to visit with people interested in PP. We will have a DVD or CD running on their TV. We will have a card table with literature. I'll be asking for volunteer PP who can be there.

June 6-- First Saturday Walk – Kansas City walk—Tina Yochum 379.0863

I am scheduling a hike on the date of June 6, 2009 to the Arboretum & Botanical Gardens in Overland Park, Kansas.

We can carpool if you desire by meeting at my house at 2521 SE Faxon Drive, which is east of Lake Shawnee. Call me at 379-0863 if desiring carpooling and leave a message if I am not there. Planned leaving time is from my place is 9 a.m.

The hike has nearly six miles of paved and wood chip hiking trails winding their way through the Arboretum & Botanical Gardens and across two 75-foot bridges that span Wolf Creek.

A major tributary of the Blue River, Wolf Creek bisects the Arboretum & Botanical Gardens.

Trails become more challenging along the limestone bluffs, which rise high above the southern banks. Their new rocky ridge trail takes you to the prairie and through a cedar forest and hickory grove. For those less adventuresome, a half-mile asphalt "country road" trail is available for an easy saunter.

June 10—Annual potluck picnic and gear exchange, Lake Shawnee

This is our monthly meeting but a special one. It will be held at Shelter House #5 at Lake Shawnee, located on the Tin Man Circle, just north of Reynolds Lodge.

Eating time is 6:30. Bring your own entrée, table service, and a covered dish to share. There will be grills available to grill your entrée. If your last name begins with A-J, please bring a dessert; K-R, a vegetable dish; and S-Z, a salad.

If you have any gear you would like to sell, price it and bring it along. If you have something really neat that you just want to show or demonstrate, bring it along too.

June 6-15--Canoe the Kansas River-Russell Gray – 234.8102.

June 13—14th Annual Wilson County Wildflower Tour

For a sign up sheet call 620.378.2866 or gina.thompson@ks.nacdnet.net (not a PP event)

June 20-29--Colorado canoe trip-Gary & Betty Rinehart - 271.0057.

Day 1 – Shadow Mountain Lake - Morning Launch from the Pine beach Day Use area adjacent to Gary's place on Shadow Mountain Lake just outside the town of Grand Lake – Paddle back to Gary Rinehart's place for a mid-morning coffee break at Gary Rinehart's Place – Pack Picnic Lunch & launch again for a picnic on one of the nearby Islands. For anyone up to it, an evening paddle in the same area seeing nesting Osprey, geese, ducks, and Beaver.

Day 2 – Grand Lake, Co. - Early Breakfast in Grand Lake and Morning Launch From downtown Grand Lake paddling around Grand Lake, landing and taking a mid-morning coffee break at one of the local coffee shops. More Paddling. Lunch will be your choice, either a picnic style lunch on the water-front / beach area at Grand Lake or at one of the many restaurants.

Day 3 – Monarch Lake – (golden age or pass req. – approx. \$5. daily) is located approx. 45 min. From Gary's place. A small beautiful high mountain lake. A morning Launch and paddle around the lake, lunch picnic style. After Lunch our options are a 3 ½ mile loop trail walk around the lake or a 7+mile walk up the cascade falls trail.

Day 4 - Break camp and drive to the Yampa River State Park close to Steamboat Springs (Approx. 1-2 hr. drive from the Grand Lake Area). Establish camp and a short shuttled float if time permits.

Day 5 – Float The Yampa (*water level permitting*)

(Betty & I floated The Yampa a few years back and could tell from the reaction of wildlife along the river that not many people come by in canoes) Position vehicles for shuttling. Day long float OR overnight camp on the river.

Campgrounds

Each party is responsible for making their own lodging reservations. I've listed a few possible campgrounds below. I will continue to attempt to secure better / less expensive lodging and will notify you if I'm successful.

Arapaho Bay Campground

[http://www.forestcamping.com/dow/rockymtn/arapcmp.htm#arapaho bay](http://www.forestcamping.com/dow/rockymtn/arapcmp.htm#arapaho%20bay)

Potable Water in Campgrounds, Pit Toilets, NO Showers

\$14. a day camping + \$15. for a week pass

approx. 30 min. drive to Gary's

Winding River Campground

<http://www.windingriverresort.com/camping.html>

Full Service Campground w/ all amenities.

\$29. day (no elect.) for 2 persons, \$36. day (30 amp elect) for 2 persons

approx. 15 min. drive to Gary's

Green Ridge Campground

<http://www.reserveamerica.com/campgroundDetails.do?subTabIndex=0&&contractCode=nrso&parkCode=grer>

Potable Water in Campgrounds, Pit and Flush Toilets, NO Showers

\$17. a day camping + \$15. for a week pass

Yampa River

Yampa River Brochure & Map

<http://parks.state.co.us/NR/rdonlyres/5ED4253A-3957-4DD7-BB86-43F1498B9435/0/YampaBrochure.pdf>

Yampa River, Colorado

<http://away.com/tripideas/maybell-colorado-canoeing-301115.html>

Ten Kid-Tested Rivers: Big River Adventures for Families with Little People

By *Buck Tilton*

The last major tributary of the Colorado River to remain undammed, the Yampa River flows placidly for approximately 60 miles from Craig to Maybell, Colorado, past stunning northern Colorado scenery and a paradise of wildlife that often includes deer and antelope, turkey vultures, and herons.

Below Maybell the river turns extremely dangerous. Put in on Highway 13 where it crosses the river below Craig and you lose about nine miles of quiet water but also lose the unappealing paddle through Craig.

Duffy Canyon, about 20 miles long, offers dramatic trip highlights: pastel "badland" walls sloping a thousand feet down to the greenish-brown river.

Lovely campsites shaded by cottonwoods will give you and the kids a chance to stretch your legs and explore. A rapid below Juniper Hot Springs, not recommended for open canoes,

demands a portage. Or you can take out above the rapid, missing the last six miles before Maybell.

Practicalities

When: Low water can ruin your trip because you'll be walking more than paddling. Spring, after high water subsides, typically provides the best conditions.

Canoe rentals are available. No permits are required.

For more info: Bureau of Land Management, Little Snake Resource Area, 1280 Industrial Avenue, Craig, CO 81625; (970) 824-4441

July 8—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka.

July 11-- Saturday Walk – Denise Myers 785.806.5666.

July 18-27--Summer backpack – Need a Leader!

July 25-26—The Flint Hills Death Ride has been scheduled for either Saturday or Sunday, July 25-26. The actual date is not too clear at this point. It usually runs about 70-80 miles of gravel roads in the Flint Hills with a cut-off ride of 40-60 miles. (not a PP event)

August 1--Hike & swim - Denise Myers 785.806.5666.

August 8--Konza moonlight hike-Richard Johnson – 587.8731.

August 12—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka.

August 22-24--Car camp – Mike & Shari LaRue – 836.3167.

September 5-- First Saturday Walk – 10:00 am – Denise Myers 785.806.5666.

September 9—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka.

September 26-October 5--Fall backpack - Need a Leader!

October 3-- First Saturday Walk – 10:00 am – Denise Myers 785.806.5666.

October 14—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka.

October 17-18--Canoe Kansas River, DeSoto to Kaw point - John Stambaugh 862.6621.

November 7-- First Saturday Walk – 10:00 am – Denise Myers 785.806.5666.

November 11—6:00 PM board meeting; 7:00 PM monthly meeting, Pizza Hut, 10th & Topeka Blvd, Topeka.

November 14--Soup hike - Rick & Trudy Racine 484.2108.

December 5-- First Saturday Walk – 10:00 am – Denise Myers 785.806.5666.

December 9—Annual Holiday potluck and election of officers, Lake Shawnee.

January 1, 2010—NewYear’s Day hike - Jon & Rosemary Ware 266.2144.

TRIP REPORTS

Shunga Trail Bike Trip April 11, 2009

It was a beautiful day for a bike ride! Thirteen people and three dogs headed off from Crestview Community Center going east. We biked to the end of the paved trail and returned to Crestview for a 5 ½ mile ride. Several people joined together for lunch at The Classic Bean. Thanks to everyone who enjoyed the ride with me: Richard Johnson, Annette Figuered, Kate Sieverson, Gary & Betty Rinehart, Jon & Rosemary Ware, Karen Bradburn, Kathy Tyson, Linda Hardie, Carolyn Steele, and John Stambaugh



Treasurer's Report

Treasurers Report for Apr. 09

Income:

Dues \$50.00

Paid out:

Newsletter \$25.36

Print checks \$27.75

Balance in checking 4/28/09 \$1,464.35

Membership

67—Paid members

50—Emailed newsletters

17—Mailed newsletters

11—Comps

The Membership Committee would like to challenge you to contact 5 or more people to inform them of the benefits of belonging to the Prairie Packers. Tell them the reasons they should join—love of the outdoors, health reasons, social connections, being around a great group of people! Use email, telephone, word of mouth, cards, etc. to spread the news to all your contacts!

There will be a fabulous prize at the end of the year for the current member that has recruited the most new members. Be sure to tell your recruits when they pay their membership dues to let Dave Dunford know who referred them to join.

Editor's Note

Due to a vacation the June newsletter will be early. If you have information, submit it as soon as possible.

There was not room for all the trip reports in this issue. Maybe next time. Look forward to a great report by Todd Osborn on the Arkansas hike and Judy's report on the Hutchinson trip.

Officers and Committee Chairs

President Denise Myers 986-6626
dmmopp@yahoo.com

Vice President Mary Glanville 234.4667
mglanville@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer Dave Dunford 234.4667
davedunford@sbcglobal.net

Programs Olivia Boyd 554.5559
beba_55_2008@hotmail.com

Activities Shari LaRue 836.3167
shari@rockytopacres.org

Membership Patty Jordan
Jan & Terese Hamilton
Teresa Stambaugh

Social Events Judy Shipman 228.3655
Mary Flin 741.2989

Newsletter Editor/Web Page
Mike LaRue 836.3167
mdlarue@rockytopacres.org

Board Members

Olivia Boyd 554.5559
Jo Chen 633.6421
Richard Johnson 587.8731
Jan Hamilton 633.9122
Terese Hamilton 633.9122
Kate Sieverson 817.7080
John Stambaugh 862.6621
Teresa Stambaugh 862.6621
Jon Ware 266.2144
Rosemary Ware 266.2144

Deadline for June newsletter submissions—20 May.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Outdoor Interests _____

Circle your membership level and send check to:

Dave Dunford
2115 Harrison St
Topeka, KS 66611-1127

Join the Prairie Packer listserve? Yes No

Referred by: _____

Membership levels:

New members joining Jan thru Jun:

\$25.00 for mailed newsletter

\$20.00 for e-mailed newsletter

New member joining Jul thru Dec:

\$12.50 for mailed newsletter

\$10.00 for e-mailed newsletter

Renewals due **prior** to January 1.

\$25.00 for mailed newsletter

\$20.00 for e-mailed newsletter

Prairie Packers Basecamp
11300 S Stanley Rd
Overbrook, KS 66524



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