



Journal of Paddlesport Education

A professional forum highlighting Safety Education & Instruction
for ACA Instructors, Clubs & Affiliates

May 2013

Welcome to the
**Journal of
Paddlesport
Education.**

NATIONAL PADDLESPORTS CONFERENCE

BEND, OR

That's right the ACA National Paddlesports Conference will be held in Bend, OR for 2013. Join us September 27-29 for education, stewardship, recreation and competition. For more information as it is available please visit www.americancanoe.org/NPC



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Who Can Attend Your Course?

Imagine an individual shows up on the morning of day one of your course and they are unable to fit into the canoe. What if an individual cannot swim, and you meet them for the first time at the beachside public landing for an open ocean kayak program? What if an individual doesn't have the ability to close their mouth, and they are signed up for your class III-IV whitewater rafting class? What if an individual cannot speak English and they want to become a certified instructor? Can you accept them into the course? Can you deny them entry?

How do you handle these type of situations appropriately?

The ACA's Safety Education & Instruction Council (SEIC), along with external subject matter experts, developed a set of Essential Eligibility Criteria (EEC) for ACA courses. There are separate EEC for skills and assessment courses, Instructor Development Workshops, Instructor Certification Exams, and Adaptive Paddling Workshops.

To familiarize yourself with the terminology of EEC and how it might apply to what and where you teach, please visit: www.americancanoe.org/eeec

If you have questions, feel free to contact the ACA's SEI Department.

Paddle Safe, Paddle Often!

Chris Stec

Chief Operating Officer

ACA | Canoe – Kayak – SUP – Raft – Rescue



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SEI RESOURCES

ADAPTIVE PADDLING WORKSHOPS— ENDORSEMENTS FOR INSTRUCTORS

The ACA National Office is excited to announce the posting of six new Adaptive Paddling Workshops across the country for the 2013 paddling season!

Course Locations and Dates:

Bozeman, MT 5/31-6/2

Durham, NC 6/6-9

Dayton, OH 6/27-30

Big Bay, MI 9/5-8

New Haven, CT 10/17-20

[Check out the ACA Instruction Calendar for more information!](#)



New ACA Proschool—Wet Planet Whitewater

- Location: White Salmon, WA (Columbia River Gorge)
- Contact: reservations@wetplanetwhitewater.com
jaco@wetplanetwhitewater.com
- Phone: 800.306.1673

Do you enjoy teaching other people to kayak? The instructors from Wet Planet Whitewater Pro School will teach you the tricks of the trade. Conveniently located along the banks of the White Salmon River and with an on-site rolling pool, the Wet Planet facilities provide the perfect class room for any level kayaker. All equipment can be provided – just pick your date, reserve and show up! Besides kayak classes, Wet Planet offers rafting day trips, multi-day river trips, river rescue classes and international river adventure trips. Our professional instructors love sharing their skills, adventures and passion for kayaking with their students. Get out on the river with our team!



Kokatat Instructor of the Month

Ron Smith—May

Kokatat®
made in arcata, ca

The ACA is pleased to announce our May Kokatat Instructor of the Month—Ron Smith from Pinckney, Michigan!

Ron has been a paddling enthusiast for over thirty years growing up in the Great Lakes Region. After becoming an ACA Instructor, Ron formed Black Parrot Paddling, LLC and along with his wife, Suzanne, who is also an ACA instructor, has taught canoeing, kayaking and SUP to hundreds of clients over the past 18 years. Ron has served in the past on the board of the Great Lakes Sea Kayak Club and as Safety Officer for the Great Lakes Sea Kayak Symposium held yearly on the shores of Lake Superior. He serves as Senior Paddlesport Director overseeing the canoeing, kayaking and SUP programs for YMCA Storer Camps in Southeast Michigan. Splitting his time between southeast Michigan and Gulf Shores, Alabama, Ron is working to establish a cadre of ACA instructors along Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama Gulf Coasts in order to provide quality instruction resources for the growing Gulf area paddling community. Ron is a Level 5: Advanced Open Water Coastal Kayak Instructor, Level 4: Open Water Coastal Kayak Instructor Trainer, Level 2: Essentials of Canoe Touring Instructor Trainer, and Essentials of SUP Instructor. Ron also holds the ACA Adaptive Paddling Endorsement.



Learn more about past winners [here](#).



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PRO SCHOOL



ACA Pro Schools are some of the best organizations across the country to find top quality ACA certified instruction.

[Cutter Aquatics](#)

[CKAPCO](#)

[CCPRC](#)

[Geneva Kayak Center](#)

[NaturPur](#)

[Osprey Sea Kayak Adventures](#)

[Cascade Canoe & Kayak](#)

[Raff Taff](#)

[REI Outdoor Schools](#)

[The River Connection](#)

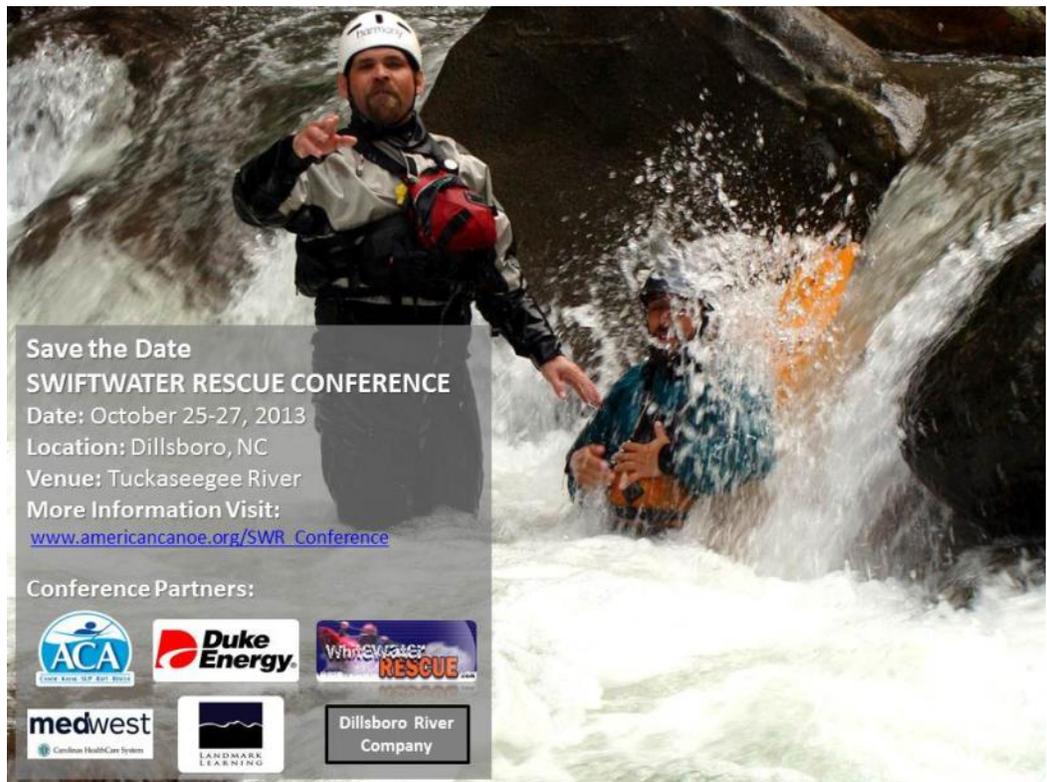
[University of Minnesota—Duluth](#)

[Wet Planet Whitewater](#)

www.americancanoe.org/proschools

ACA Swiftwater Rescue Conference

The ACA provides a range of recreational opportunities and has been established as one of the premier standards of paddlesports safety and education. As part of the ACA's leadership role, we have initiated this swiftwater rescue conference to target all facets of whitewater rescue for the paddlesports community.



Save the Date SWIFTWATER RESCUE CONFERENCE

Date: October 25-27, 2013

Location: Dillsboro, NC

Venue: Tuckaseegee River

More Information Visit:

www.americancanoe.org/SWR_Conference

Conference Partners:



Photo Courtesy of ACA Partner—Landmark Learning

Highlights

- Challenging on-water sessions for paddlers of all experience levels
- Learn from a list of who's who in swiftwater rescue
- Educational sessions for fire and rescue personnel
- High quality land and water educational sessions
- ACA Safety & Rescue Instructor Updates
- All conveniently located in Dillsboro, NC
- and much more...see it all at www.americancanoe.org/SWR_Conference

*Save the date and join fellow paddlers from across the country on the Tuckaseegee River this fall!



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EXCURSIONS

2013

That's right, if you're an ACA member, you can join the ACA and high quality outfitters on an incredible paddling excursion in 2013. In cooperation with the host organizations, you will be able to have a unique backcountry paddling experience in one of the following amazing locations.

- Western North Carolina
- Island of Poros, Greece
- Resurrection Bay, Alaska
- Costa Rica

For complete information on the 2013 Members Only Excursions visit www.americancanoe.org/excursions



Upcoming International Events

This section of the Journal of Paddlesport Education will bring to you outreach events that include conferences, festivals, symposiums and more. Check out these great events that may be in your area and consider attending. For more events check out the [ACA Paddlesports Event Calendar!](#)

European National Paddlesports Conference

- Dates: October 5-6, 2013
- Location: near Zurich, Switzerland
- Host: [Patrick Frehner](#) & ACA [Kanuschule Schweiz](#)
- Schedule: TBD
- Pre Conference - [PaddleExpo](#) & [International Whitewater Hall of Fame Ceremony](#)
- Post Conference - Level 3: Whitewater SUP IDW/ICE
- Europe Division [webpage](#)



South American Paddlesports Conference

- Dates: October 18-20, 2013
- Location: Viña del Mar, Chile
- Hosts: [Rockside Expediciones](#), [Universal Kayak](#) & [Kayak Australis](#)
- Contacts: [Chris Stec](#) & [Sergio Acevedo](#)
- Schedule: TBD
- Post Conference- Level 2: Essentials of SUP IDW/ICE and Level 3: Coastal Kayaking IDW/ICE



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IMPORTANT DATES

Upcoming Important Dates to add to your Calendar!

September 26,
[SEIC Meeting \(Bend, OR\)](#)

September 27-29
[National Paddlesports Conference \(Bend, OR\)](#)

October 5-6
[ACA Europe Paddlesports Conference \(Zurich, Switzerland\)](#)

October 18-20
[ACA South America Paddlesports Conference \(Vina del Mar, Chile\)](#)

October 25-27
[Swiftwater Rescue Conference \(Dillsboro, NC\)](#)

CKS Paddlefest

The ACA is excited to announce the CKS Paddle Fest, the "kick off to paddling" annual event, will be held in beautiful Buena Vista, Colorado **May 24 - 27, 2013**.



Paddle Fest is an interactive and hands on paddling experience that prepares you and your family for your next on-water adventure. For more information on this great event, please visit the CKS website: <http://ckspaddlefest.com/>.

Join ACA staff members Sarah Kirkpatrick and Ben Morton at the ACA booth!

WNC River Rescue Rodeo

September 29, 2013

10 Teams of 5 members with either canoes or decked boats compete in river rescue events for over \$1000 worth of prizes on the Tuckaseegee River in Dillsboro, NC. Teams compete in all events for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place as well as overall prizes.

Event to be held at Dillsboro River Company at the put-in to the Tuckaseegee Gorge – Dillsboro, NC

Landmark Learning is the host of the WNC River Rescue Rodeo.

For more information, please visit the [ACA Event Calendar](#).



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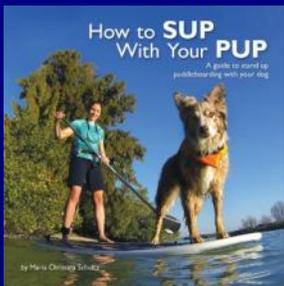
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SEI RESOURCES

SOMETHING NEW IN THE ACA eSTORE!

How to SUP with your PUP!



"It's not how far or how fast you go, it's the company you keep that makes the adventure special." Learning how to stand up paddle with your dog can be a rewarding experience for both of you, if it's done with care. How to SUP With Your PUP guides you through simple training and is designed to make the learning process smooth and safe for human and pup. It includes everything you and your dog need to SUP - from types of gear to a full training plan.

Written by ACA SUP Instructor, Maria Schultz

Find it in the eStore!

SEI Department Update

New ACA Staff Member—Welcome Joe Moore!

"Joe learned to sea kayak on a NOLS semester in 1990. Since then he has taught skills and lead personal and professional day trips and expeditions from Alaska to Belize, from Baja to Maine. In 2011, Joe earned certifications in coastal kayak and SUP while working as the Accessibility Technician at Charleston County Park and Recreation. Joe actively working toward certification as an Adaptive Paddling Instructor Trainer.



Joe's other passion is sailing. Joe's Sonar Class sailing team competed for the 2013 US Sailing Paralympic Team at the ISAF Sailing World Cup (formerly the Miami OCR), taking third among US boats.

Joe has an undergraduate degree in Philosophy from the College of Charleston and a JD and LLM in Environmental Law from Vermont Law School. Joe worked as a lobbyist and in policy development for environmental NGO's (specializing in ocean and coastal resource management) before deciding to return to an active outdoor lifestyle and pursue other passions."

Joe will join the ACA staff as the Education and Outreach Coordinator, welcome Joe!

Instructor Items

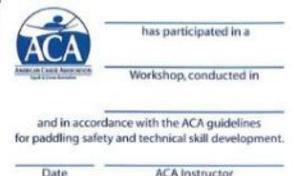
Calling all ACA certified instructors!

Did you know that we have a variety of items available in our eStore that are just for YOU?!

Check them out, [here!](#)

For example, as an ACA instructor, you can give your students a card to document their participation in your skills course.

Get some [participation cards](#) for the students in your next skills course!



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SHARE YOUR PHOTOS



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The American Canoe Association is proud to count Subaru of America among its corporate sponsors.

Subaru is the official vehicle of the ACA.

As part of Subaru's support for the association, ACA members are eligible to participate in the Subaru VIP Partners Program. VIP Partners participants can save up to \$3,300* off the manufacturer's suggested retail price (depending on model and equipment selected) on the purchase or lease of any new Subaru from participating dealers. This discount is available to all eligible ACA members. No haggling is required.



Now that's a member benefit!

In addition to providing discounts to ACA members, Subaru is partnering with *your* ACA to support the ACA's stewardship and conservation programs. When an ACA member purchases a vehicle through the VIP Partners Program, Subaru makes a contribution to support ACA's stewardship work, providing the organization with much-needed resources for protecting our nation's waterways.

To learn more about the VIP Program visit:

www.americancanoe.org/VIP



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Submit an Article

Want to submit an article
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Learn more at
[www.americancanoe.org/
JournalofPaddlesportEducation](http://www.americancanoe.org/JournalofPaddlesportEducation)

Submit articles to
[www.americancanoe.org/
JPE/submission](http://www.americancanoe.org/JPE/submission)



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