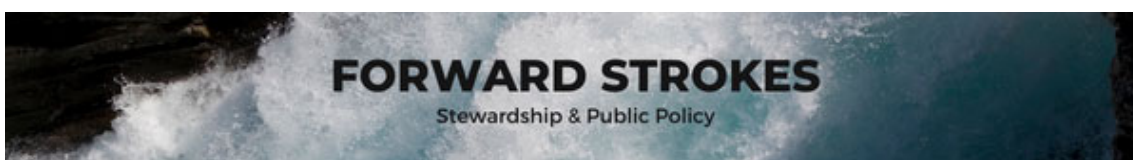




@@first_name@@,

Happy Halloween! The ACA National Office is serving up the latest paddlesports news! To find the content that matters to you most, use the guide below.

- **Forward Strokes** brings you an exciting update from the Outdoor Alliance Advocacy Fly-in Event.
- **Making Waves** shares opportunities to get more involved and make the most out of your ACA membership.
- **Bringing Home the Gold** delivers news from the 2023 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships and the start of the 2023 Pan American Games.
- **Safety Talk** announces our newest ACA Instructor of the Month and a chance for current ACA Instructors, IT's, and ITE's to vote for SEIC Discipline Committees.



Trip Report: Outdoor Alliance D.C. Advocacy Fly-in



Group photo from the Outdoor Alliance Washington D.C. Advocacy Fly-in

This October, representatives from Outdoor Alliance, the American Canoe Association, American Whitewater, Access Fund, the American Alpine Club, IMBA, The Mountaineers, Surfrider, Sage Trail Alliance, The California Mountain Biking Coalition (CAMTB), REI, and the Wasatch Backcountry Alliance met with lawmakers to discuss a range of topics including:

- **America's Outdoor Recreation Act (AORA):** This bipartisan package of recreation legislation includes provisions that Outdoor Alliance and member groups have supported for over a decade. AORA covers long-distance bike trails, rock climbing in Wilderness areas, streamlining recreational permitting, and the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) program. We asked lawmakers to support the development of this recreation package and work to pass it this year.
- **Protective Designations:** Protected public lands and waters offer excellent outdoor recreation opportunities and are crucial for addressing climate change and biodiversity loss. As a coalition, we asked for progress toward a lands package and additional protections for various areas.
- **Farm Bill:** The Farm Bill, updated every five years, is a must-pass legislation that offers opportunities to advance our community's priorities. We asked for support for conservation programs and recreation-related rural economic development opportunities. Read more about the [Farm Bill](#) here and read the full letter about [Outdoor Alliance's Farm Bill priorities](#).
- **Administrative BLM's (Bureau of Land Management) Public Lands Rule:** The BLM manages a vast amount of public lands, and this rule would help ensure sustainable management. The [BLM's Public Lands Rule](#) would have many conservation and recreation benefits, and new recreation guidance at both the BLM and the Forest Service.

[Read More](#)



2024 Summer Solstice Celebration Sticker Design Contest

As the days grow shorter, we are turning our sights to next year's Summer Solstice Celebration! This time, we are inviting you to design the stickers that will be handed out during the in-person events hosted over the ACA Summer Solstice Celebration. Keep your eye out for more information, contest details are coming soon!

ACA Annual Meeting

The ACA Board of Directors invites you to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 3 from 4:00PM to 5:30PM Eastern Standard Time. During this virtual meeting, we will provide an update on the Strategic Plan and ACA financial status. We will also announce the winners of our annual awards. We hope to see you there!

[Meeting Information & Zoom Link](#)

November 20 is the Final Day to Submit Nominations for the 2023 National Awards



Excellence in Instruction

Presented to an ACA member for his or her outstanding contribution to paddlesports education and instruction.

Sanctioned Event of the Year

Presented to the top ACA sanctioned event as nominated by the paddling public.

Green Paddle for Waterway Conservation

Presented annually to an individual or a group that has made an outstanding contribution to paddlesports by protecting America's waterways.

Joe Pina Volunteer of the Year

Presented to one or more volunteers each year for extraordinary service at the local, regional or national level.

J. Henry Rushton for Organizational Excellence

Presented annually to an organization or other group for outstanding achievements in advancing paddlesports and the mission of the ACA.

Havens Leadership Award

The Havens Leadership Award rewards individuals whose practices and behaviors best serve the interests and success of USA paddlesports athletes.

Legends of Paddling

Presented to one or more individuals each year for their legendary contributions to paddlesport. Recipients of this prestigious award will be inducted into the ACA Paddlesport Hall of Fame.

[Submit Nomination](#)



2023 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships



USA Freestyle Kayak National Team at the Opening Ceremony of the 2023 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships

We are still reeling from the 2023 ICF Canoe Freestyle World Championships! The ACA's annual board meeting just happened to be in Georgia during this spectacular event so our board and some of our staff had the privilege of attending. Convenient, eh? 😊

So stoked for all the athletes who competed, they are a truly inspiring crew.

- 🥇 Women's Squirt: Rose Wall
- 🥇 Men's Squirt: Taft Sibley
- 🥈 Men's Squirt: Andy Grizzell
- 🥇 Men's Squirt: Clay Wright
- 🥇 OC1: Landon Miller
- 🥇 MC1: Seth Chapelle
- 🥈 MC1: Dane Jackson
- 🥇 MC1: Landon Miller
- 🥇 Jr. WK1: Makinley Kate Hargrove
- 🥇 Jr. WK1: Eleanor Knight
- 🥇 WK1: Sage Donnelly
- 🥇 WK1: Emily Jackson
- 🥇 MK1: Dane Jackson

Highlights & Results

Santiago 2023 Pan American Games



Canoe Slalom National Team Member, Bug Lokken, up on the podium after earning his second gold medal from the Pan American Games

Beyond proud of the U.S. Canoe Slalom National Team and their incredible performance at the 2023 Pan American Games! Solid runs put down by Joshua Joseph, Marcella Altman, Bug Lokken, Kyler Long, and Evy Leibfarth on a very tough course!

- 🏆 MK1: Joshua Joseph
- 🏆 MC1: Bug Lokken
- 🏆 WK1: Evy Leibfarth
- 🏆 WX: Evy Leibfarth

Canoe Sprint kicks off tomorrow, Wednesday, November 1!

[Schedule & Results](#)



Instructor of the Month



ACA Instructor of the Month, Nik White, helping a student

Congratulations to Nik White, ACA Instructor of the Month for October 2023! Nik is a swiftwater rescue, river kayak, and packraft instructor based out of Denver, CO. He was awarded Instructor of the Month for his commitment to learning and his dedication to serving paddlers as an educator, community leader, and steward of rivers. Learn more about Nik, his awesome presentation on Heuristic Traps from the SWR Conference this fall, and the best way to look out for the places that you love to paddle in his full IOM Feature!

If you know a truly awesome ACA instructor, [nominate them as future Instructor of the Month!](#)

[Read More](#)

SEIC Discipline Committees Voting

Voting is now open for the SEIC Discipline Committees. All currently certified Instructors, Instructor Trainers, and Instructor Trainer Educators are eligible to vote. The deadline to submit your vote is November 15.

[Voting & More Information](#)

Instructor Certification Expiration Dates

As the end of the year draws near, be sure to keep a watchful eye on your instructor certification expiration dates! To see all your certification details, use your regular ACA username and password to log into the [ACA Course Management System](#) (CMS).

Cool tip: When you log into your CMS account dashboard, you'll see a link directly to the right side of your certification name. Click that link, and it will take you to a page called "Progress Towards Certification Renewal." That page outlines all the certification renewal requirements, which ones you have met, and which ones you may have not yet met.

Need a little more time to meet the renewal requirements? Request a one-time administrative extension until 12/31/2024.

[Request One-Time Extension](#)

Thank you for reading our monthly newsletter! You can find the latest stories and updates on the [ACA Website](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#)!

Have some news to share? We encourage you to submit your content for consideration using this [Content Submission Form](#).

Sincerely,

Kaycee Maas, Communications Coordinator

ACA | Canoe - Kayak - SUP - Raft - Rescue

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