



THE G-R-E-E-N ISSUE

OTTER BAR LODGE

newsletter

2007 SEASON WITH 2008 HIGHLIGHTS

2007 SEASON IN REVIEW

Winter of 2007 proved to be quite wet, although snow levels were consistently high. This made for a lower water year. In the spring we repainted all interiors, some exteriors, with the phenomenal help of Jeremy Johnson. The season had its' usual issues dealing with generators, electrical, and pumping problems. For those technically minded, we have switched to a permanent magnet motor for our hydro-electric power. While the myriad of systems that keep our 'Eco Lodge' functioning may look great in print, they require constant vigilance. Our Kiwi contingent was back in full force this year, thanks to the Kettering connection in New Zealand. Outdoor education is regarded quite seriously in New Zealand and this has been a great benefit to our programs. Another spectacular season! No close fires, fabulous weather and an amazing staff and guests made our 2007 season another great year!

WHAT IS OTTER BAR?

WHAT

the opportunity to develop white water kayaking skills at one of the nation's premier schools. you can come by yourself or with friends. we have classes from beginning to advanced levels. you need a desire to learn while having a great vacation. play boating, kids camps, teen leadership camp, grand canyon and new zealand trips also.

WHEN

mid-April through mid-september each year

WHERE

forks of salmon, CA. situated on the shores of the california's salmon river deep in the klamath national forest. located between the trinity alps and sierrita mountain wilderness area in northern california. half way between san francisco and portland, OR.

FEATURES

deluxe accommodations for 14 guests.
double occupancy rooms with french doors.
hardwood floors and private decks.
outdoor hot tub & wood-fired sauna, massages
courmet meals, deluxe lodging, great kayaking,
mt. biking, crystal clear swimming holes, hiking in the
klamath national forest.

PROGRAM

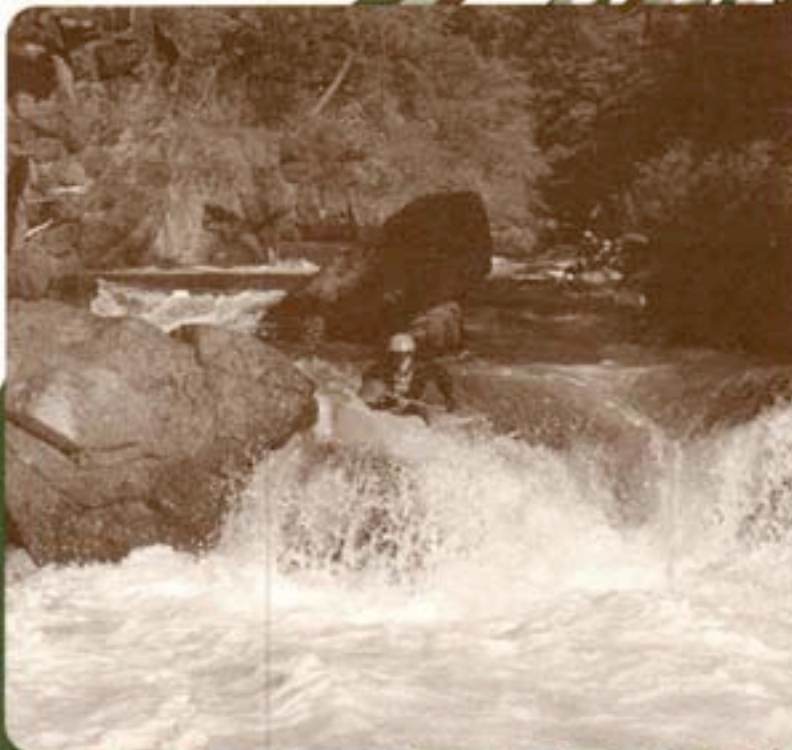
- one certified instructor for every three guests.
- seven days of instruction personalized to fit individual skills and experience.
- top of the line equipment selected to individually outfit each guest.
- instructional ponds for initial training/ orientation sessions with emphasis on rolling.
- practice sessions on the salmon river.
- overnight "graduation" run on the klamath river for trips july-sept.

WHO

from people with no previous whitewater experience required to those with advanced experience and skills. all levels taught.

EXTRAS

we will rent out the lodge at the end of september for large private bookings or weddings.



2008 DATES

PLAYBOATING CLINICS ADVANCED & INTERMEDIATE Classes run concurrently

APRIL 13-19
APRIL 20-26
INTERMEDIATE
APRIL 27-MAY 3
MAY 4-10
MAY 11-17

INTERMEDIATE & BASIC INTERMED

MAY 18-24
MAY 25-31

BASIC INTERMEDIATE

JUNE 1-7
JUNE 8-14
JUNE 15-21
JUNE 22-28

BASIC INTERMEDIATE & BEGINNING

JUNE 29-JULY 5
JULY 6-12
JULY 13-19
JULY 20-26
JULY 27-AUG 2
AUGUST 3-9
AUGUST 10-16
AUGUST 17-23
AUGUST 24-30
AUG 31-SEPT 6
SEPTEMBER 7-13

TEEN LEADERSHIP CAMP "T.L.C."

AGES 15-19
JUNE 21-JULY 2
(SATURDAY-WEDNESDAY 12 DAYS)

NOT FOR GROWN-UPS-KIDS CAMPS

AGES 10-14 YEARS

INTERMEDIATE CAMP:

JULY 20-26

BEGINNING CAMP

JULY 27-AUG.2

NEW ZEALAND CLASS 2/3 TRIP

JAN 25-FEB 4, 2008

NEW ZEALAND CLASS 3/4 TRIP

FEBRUARY 8-18, 2008

GRAND CANYON COLORADO TRIP

SEPTEMBER 7-21, 2008

GRAND CANYON COLORADO TRIP '09

SEPTEMBER 6-20, 2009

OTTER BAR HOSTS' FIRST DESCENTS' WEEK

First Descents is a non-profit organization that has been running kayaking clinics for people who have some kind of cancer. Brad Ludden, world class kayaking champion, has been an important player in this organization in Colorado. They are expanding into other states due to the popularity of this wonderful program. Otter Bar is lucky enough to become part of First Descents this September, we are canceling our last week to accommodate the group. We're really excited about this, and hope it's something we can do each year.



2007
FREE STYLE
WORLD CHAMPION,
RUTH GORDON,
IS GOING TO BE AT OTTER BAR IN APRIL
TEACHING OUR FREE STYLE/PLAY BOATING CLINICS.

TEEN LEADERSHIP CAMP / T.L.C.

The Teen Leadership Camp was a dream conceived to fill a void between Otter Bar's Kid's Camps (NGGU) for 10-14 yr olds and the adult's class. A program called: T.L.C was born for 15-19 year olds. We wanted it to stand alone, and work for students who have or haven't been to Otter Bar before, and have strong class 3 paddling skills.

Imagine loading up a van (and trailer...and truck...), and taking a paddling road trip with a bunch of teenagers who share your kayaking passion. Just like "usual" kids camps, days are non-stop action from the time we got up until we fell asleep at night. But unlike NGGU camps we teach, we facilitate many more skills than just kayak instruction. Students are involved in every aspect of a day on the river, which creates an atmosphere of teamwork and respect for fellow boaters and the environment.

We do runs on the Salmon (flows permitting) Klamath and Trinity Rivers with a culmination in the ocean. Mornings would start out with discussions about the responsible way to push comfort zones, effective rescue techniques, or group dynamics while on the river. Students are encouraged to solved initiative problems, or helped organize logistics for our paddling that day. After paddling, then cooking, the evenings usually ended with spirited discussions about what had been learned during the day's adventures.

We're looking forward to the 2008 T.L.C this June 21-July 22. We have many ideas about where we'd like to go, what we'd like to do, and how it should be structured. And though we take our goals and all of our other ideas into consideration when developing plans, the beauty of this course is that its' overall structure will ultimately be influenced by our students, and other factors such as water levels and weather. We are looking forward to the experience!

FROM THE BARON

February
2008

Winter '08 has been huge with blasts of polar air and tons of precipitation. We wander the high country, Doc

Perlman and I, immersed in massive blizzards, becoming

lost in a reverie of powder madness. One might wonder the about the allure of subjecting one's self to the harshest of elements as we seek out the steepest fall line shots in forests impossibly plugged with snow. Seemingly lifeless, wondrously beautiful white temples, veritable cathedrals of silence and chaos, we wind our way back up to ridge tops and peaks only to ski it again- just one more time. An intoxicating pursuit, even frivolous, perhaps, but always compelling and satisfying. It is our church. We have 10 feet of base in the high country now and the skiing has been... well, you get the picture. I headed over to Jackson Hole for some early season free loading at the Laakmann ski-hut. Kind of spartan accommodations, but they are nice people. Skied a week at Ruedi and Nicoline Beglinger's SME in British Columbia. It's a ski touring operation where you heli in and climb a minimum of 5000 feet a day. Felt a bit grueling at times, but the terrain, food and lodging were exceptional, as was the clientele. I also managed to ski a few days at the new Revelstoke Mountain. Quite a project, a real skier's mountain as they have 4,700' of vertical soon to be over 6,000'. Locals seem pleased (mostly) as \$17,000 trailers are now going for \$1.5 million. We'll see how that goes with the economy right now. On that note, I hope you are all still planning to come up and boat in the melted snows of the Salmon Mountains and bail us out for yet another year. If you don't, I'm taking Warren Buffett's offer. Can't believe he would want a high-end kayak school, though.



BENEFITS OF BEING AN 'ECO-LODGE'

By Peter Sturges

This is a very basic description of how alternative power evolved for many of us here on the Salmon over the last 35 years. As there has never been power supplied to the Salmon River area ("grid power") it has always been necessary for anyone who wished to have electricity to make their own power. When I first arrived in the fall of 1972, we used kerosene for light, propane for refrigeration and did without electricity. Many people had generators for electricity, but the younger folk, new to the area, learned to live without any power. Money was scarce and generators were loud and expensive. After a time we began to want to have better light for nighttime reading. Aladdin made a very bright kerosene 'mantle' type light, which was very bright, but were prone to flaring up and the romance didn't last. After a few years some of us began to use the battery from our vehicles (assuming we had one) to power a single 12 volt bulb. This involved running a long extension cord or piece of romex wire from your vehicle to the lamp in the house. Care was taken and we made sure to drive the car somewhere periodically or the battery would fail to start the vehicle. But to have even one 12-volt light powered by the car battery was a wonder and having several lights was even better. So a second battery was often added to the car as a backup. For many, this was the advent of alternative power, as it was no problem for the car's generator, when driven, to charge up the batteries.

Today's systems are not so different as 'back in the day.' We still use a bank of batteries to store electricity, but instead of charging them using an automobile, we rely on several different sources, such as: solar panels; hydroelectric power and generator power are the most common solutions. (Wind power isn't an option in our area, but may be one in other areas.) Before running the power to the lodge, we need to run it through a device called an inverter. While 12 volt DC works great in your car, it does not travel distances, so it is beneficial to change it to 115 volt AC, just like in your house. (The Europeans use 220 volt AC.) Most everything we use and buy runs off AC power, so this is a big advantage.

At Otter Bar, we have been through a number of systems over the years and as technology improved, we have installed larger inverters and bigger battery banks and streamlined our energy usage by using only compact fluorescent bulbs along with using only the most energy efficient refrigeration. Today hybrid cars work very much on the same principle as our alternative power. When these vehicles need to accelerate or climb hills, they have a gasoline engine that starts up and assists during peak demand times. As the engine powers the vehicle during these times, it also charges a large battery bank located somewhere in the vehicle. Here at Otter Bar, we run hydroelectric power 24/7 which charges a large bank of batteries. During our season we have more demand for power at night, as we run the hot tub, washing machines, more lights, hair dryers, and eleven electric refrigerators.

All these items are working hard to recover from the heat of the day. Consequently, we will run a diesel generator during this peak demand time. This is a wonderful system as it allows us to only run the generator for 4-6 hours per day, thus consuming 3-5 gallons of fuel. Normally most resorts would run a generator 24 hours a day and consume roughly 20-50 gallons per day. We do heat with wood and have no air conditioning, so strict energy conservation is what makes this possible. Since we are charging our batteries with power from the hydroelectric system, we are keenly aware of our electrical usage. Simple things like turning off lights and not wasting power enables us to do with far less electricity. And it's quite fun! Everyone at Otter Bar becomes aware of power usage, and after a short time, it becomes second nature to everyone here. As our population become more aware of what it means to save our natural resources, I think we will be seeing even more advances in this alternative energy field.

A BRIEF HISTORY ON THE SALMON RIVER AND BEING GREEN AT OTTER BAR LODGE



The latest Young Gun Production is being wrapped up as of this writing. It should be out by the Spring '08 for your viewing pleasure. And it is a pleasure! Over the past 2 years, Rush Sturges, Marlow Long and Brooks Baldwin, along with many others, have been traveling the globe and pursuing their dream. You'll find this movie different from the other ones produced by YGP. They have filmed around the globe destinations, including: Vietnam, Africa, Patagonia, Quebec, Northwest Territories, Brazil, California Sierra and others. This has been a massive undertaking and has involved logging hundreds of hours of footage combined with months of editing. They switched their headquarters from the 'Playhouse' at Otter Bar to the basement at our house in Etna, CA. The YGP Team has been hard at it since October. The details of movie-making takes a huge amount of patience. This includes obtaining music rights, writing music, getting sponsors, interviews, distribution, and decisions on what to include and what to drop. **SOURCE** was accepted at the X-Dance Film Festival in Salt Lake City, and nominated for two awards. It will also be seen in Julie Kennedy's 'Five Points Film Festival' in Carbondale May 8-10, 2008, among others. This film is a departure from their other projects. It is full of beautiful images of rivers, waterfalls, amazing kayakers and cultures around the world. We think the viewers will be pleased to see the evolution of the Young Guns.

'SOURCE'

YOUNG GUN PRODUCTIONS 2008 FILM

NEW ZEALAND 2009

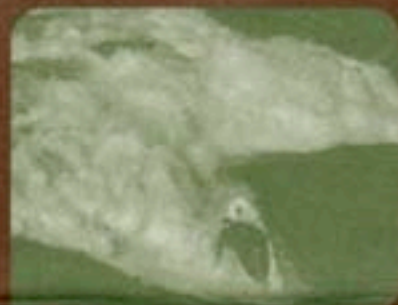
JANUARY 25-FEBRUARY 4
FEBRUARY 8-18

Otter Bar Lodge is going back to New Zealand in 2009 for our 4th time. We're super excited about the trip, which is going to be lead by Peter Kettering, our 50% Kiwi, and another charming guide from our favorite country, New Zealand. You won't be disappointed in New Zealand's mountains that drop steeply into the ocean and crystal-clear whitewater rivers through sculpted rock canyons. The country holds an incredible array of rivers for kayakers of all skill levels and we have a custom trip that takes you to the best of it.

Whether you're a class 2-3 or 3-4 boater and want to run new rivers and improve your skills, we have it all for you. Our guides will put you on sections of magnificent rivers that match your skills. The Class 2-3 trip is geared towards paddlers comfortable on Class 2-3 water, who want to improve their class 3 whitewater skills. Our Class 3-4 trip is geared for the more advanced paddler looking to strengthen their skills on New Zealand's awesome class 3-4 water. Each trip includes 2 helicopter trips, weather depending. This is how the kiwis kayak. Sort of like a heli-skiing, but with kayaks.

The cost of \$2495.00 includes: kayaks; all in-country transportation; lodging (double occupancy, extra \$375.00 for private accommodation); first-rate instruction by New Zealand's finest; light breakfast and lunch; helicopter shuttles; pick-up & drop off at the Christchurch Airport or local hotel. Does not include air-fare or dinners.

Visit our website: www.otterbar.com for more details and give us a call. And, begin planning now, to get better airfares, and time off work. This is a wonderful trip for paddlers of all levels.



SCUTTLEBUTT



In 2007 we celebrated our **26th year** of business. Who would have thought we would still be around this many years later, still messing about in rivers. Well, we are and so are many others that have helped us along this road. Both staff and guests have been with us since the 1980s. **CREEK HANCOCK** and **PETER NETTERING** are two members of our staff who have spent many years teaching at Otter Bar. So, you can imagine the hole in our instructor staff when both these core people had some medical problems which prevented them from teaching this year. Creek did manage a couple weeks, but PK was out for the count. But, the duo are back in action for our 2008 season, after operations, physical therapy and perseverance. Then on top of that, **JASON HUBBETTER**, another OB main guy, decided to go off and get a job as a financial planner. Go figure. Boggles my mind why anyone who teaches kayaking would do such a thing. Jason is in Bend, OR, reinventing himself and is doing well. We are really going to miss him! We had a lot of new blood this year in the instructional staff. **SCOTT LIGARE**, **ERICK COOKLID**, **FERRI HELFERREID**, **MICHAEL KERRIN**, **ADRY BOUDO**, **MATTY SCHERER** and **LEAH WILSON** joined the instructional staff and we look forward to seeing them back in 2008. We even had two Young Guns, **BUSH STUBBES** and **TYLER BRADT**, teaching a little bit in the kid's camps. Now, that was an interesting duo! The kids loved it! **JESS BROWN**, **HAILEY BALDWIN** and **FERRI**, Leah and Matty held the program together with their expertise in teaching kids. TYLER, by the way, finished his 32,000 mile trip in 2007 from Canada to the tip of Chile without using one drop of gasoline or diesel. He and Seth Warren drove a bio-diesel Chinese fire truck across Canada, USA and down to the tip of South America, where they met up with Rush and ran the Rio Baker. They educated all kinds of people along the way on the benefits of bio-fuel. Now he, Rush and 'The Tribe' are traveling from Madagascar to Uganda. **BITA RIEBERTS** (Rush's amazing partner) is with the boys on this trip and is educating villages in Africa on the benefits of Solar Power Ovens. She started a non-profit called 'Sun Catchers' and is trying to spread the word on using ovens that take no fuel, just the sun.

On the down under side of the world, those funny speaking Kiwis always keep us Am-mer-ick-ans entertained. They are a fabulous supplement to our home staff and bring in great new ideas. Like having a pool party in the pond on Wednesdays. (Floats with lemonade, umbrellas, music) or like, having a Gin & Tonic on the porch after work. **GRAHAM CHARLES**, comes back each year for his vitamin D fix, road biking and, of course, teaching kayaking. After trudging across Greenland in a non-stop blizzard, pulling a sled with supplies, being stuck in tents for days, rarely being able to see more than an inch or two in front of them, trying to send their blogs with frozen fingers... well you get the picture. Something we all want to do before we die, no doubt. Adventure Philosophy has managed to escape death once again, and with no frost-bite, at least I think Graham still has most of his extremities in tact. (I'll have to check it out this season.) Tune into his website, www.adventurephilosophy.com to see what you missed. But, even scarier than that adventure, he has bought a piece of land next to **PETER NETTERING** in NZ! Peter is still tilling the soil, in NZ, and turning his land into his own little paradise. Now that Peter's health seems to be back on track, he's happy to be back doing things on and off the river. He's also super keen for our New Zealand trip in 2009! And we were lucky to have had the lovely **CLARE CLOSSON** and **GEORGIA ROSE**! Now, who was that man with them again?? Oh yeah, **DARRIE BITTNER**, 'the husband' and 'Da-da.' What a dynamic trio that family is. And guess what... there's more to come, if you catch my drift. **BETTY** and **HANNAH** made their trip possible, since she volunteered to be Georgia Rose's nanny while Mum and Dad were teaching kayaking. Thank you Betty Ann! She makes a great Mary Poppins, don't you think? She takes care of a lot of people around here! I don't know what I would do without her! **ZOE SHAW** is becoming more and more like Graham Charles. He took off last July to go do Gumm's job in Antarctica, and is even back there now, February. He and **DEB JACKSON**, cutie-pie extraordinaire, took a fabulous trip to India together. You really should see their website, www.passion4adventure.blogspot.com.



2007



The photos are stunning! Move over Charles, Ben, Zak, Matty Shearer and **JESS BROWN** (my heroine) have all been teaching for Mick Hopkins at New Zealand Kayak School. Jess hops from one side of the world to another, hardly taking a breath, until she's back at work teaching kayaking. That is a woman who likes to work, and works at what she likes. She's riding her road bike a lot when she's not in a kayak, just so she can keep up with me, no doubt. The good news is Matty is finally managing to do his own laundry, with no help from me! I'm can't wait to see that NZ Team! **HALEY BALDWIN** and **PHEN HELFERHEID** are a tri-athlete team who bounce around from kayaks, skis, and bikes. This winter Hales is ski patrolling at Alta, while Phen teaches skiing there. Last season they worked as bike tour guides in the Southwest and Pacific Northwest, and taught kayaking here! An all around work out I would say.

GREG DAVIDSON is still running around in Colorado tracking bunnies in the snow, and what ever else is relevant to his degree in Wildlife Biology. I know he's eager for the home stretch, and is looking forward to another season with us. **SCOTT HARDING** still has his para-gliding obsession. He has just returned from Talpa, Mexico where he spent 10 days flying the friendly Mexican skies. Flying down for a quick Tequila break, and then back up again. I'm not sure if he spent more time flying in the sky or on the ground. And the **BEAVER FAMILY** will be back this year as well. Yes, Ward, June, Wally and Silas will be in and out. **BOB & JUDY** will be on for massage, and **Jody** has been doing Yoga once a week, weather permitting. And, 'The Beaver' He'll be teaching kayaking. And we're hoping that **MELISSA SHUCKY** will never get a job as a nurse, and come massage us forever! We'll see! But, Melissa is on her home stretch of nursing school, and she can't wait until it's over. **DEB**, our landscaper, put in such a beautiful garden this year, and made those flowers and plants around the lodge appear like magic. It's really a lot of hard work. I know, but to me, it's magic. **MELINDA STEARNS, LATHY LEADERS, CAMMILLE LAYTON, ALLISON STORGES, BECKY KURTZMAN, BOB HERRICKSON, KATHY McBRIDE**, are local women

who I depended upon in so many ways! Melinda is in Sores for the winter trying to fight the elements, that includes her 15 yr old daughter, Violet. Cammille moved to Portland to go to massage school. (No more fabulous flower arrangements.) Allison, x-pedicurist of Otter Bar turned Dishwasher, is in her first year at UC Santa Cruz. Finally **PEOPLE** her age!

Becca is in Arcata working at Muddy Waters; Kathy is at SRRC. (don't forget to donate!) Kathy L. K. has been stranded in the snow at her house for weeks. Hiking in and out, until they got smart and bought a snow mobile. 3 yr old Sienna, Cathy's daughter, was happy about that! All these women were always there when I needed them, to keep the lodge clean, organized, filled with fresh flowers, and to help the guests and staff with whatever they needed. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! I think you could say without a doubt, that the most mellow, sweet and popular guy on our staff is **NICK MOSES**. He's the winner of that contest, hands down. Out there in the hot sun or rainy afternoons, mowing away and always has a great smile on his face. **JEREMY JOHNSON**, helped fill in before Nick was here and was right up there with Nick with his helpfulness, work ethic and smile. Kid's camp is getting better and better each year. We have managed to snag Nyomi's mom, **JORDIE RIVERA**, to do the cooking and clean-up. She's been great and the kids love her and the food! Plus, she's not nearly as sassy as her daughter, **NYOMI RIVERA**, the best cook on the river. Ny is at home this winter co-authoring our future

Otter Bar Cook Book. It's coming along, for real this year. I'm not sure of publishing dates yet, but it's getting closer. Stay tuned. **AWNA ZEGOROVY** is the other half of the writing team. They have zillions of recipes they want to include and are trying to edit them down. Any favorites?? Call in and we'll try to get them to include it. Awna is on a 25 day trip down the Grand Canyon Colorado River at this moment. Yes folks, it's FEBRUARY! Burr... I'm sure Ms. Snappypants will have something to say about her trip. And she better make it home in one piece and get on that cookbook project! We all love the cooks, and their energy in and out of the kitchen. Our lodge staff are a wonderful team, and they love to road bike together along the Salmon River. Who did I forget?? **KEN & MILLS RICHARDSON**, our musicians and jade jeweler. **MERLIN HANCOCK**, X-instructor, is still in Atlanta getting his doctorate, or whatever. We miss him. Some voices from the past. **SONN WILLEN** -importing furniture from Bali; **DAVID WILLIAMS** -working in a book store in Aspen; **PAUL & ZEE MCCARRROLL** -own the best restaurant in Moab, and Utah, hands down. **ETNA WINTER** -married with 2 yr old, saving the environment; **GEORGE HARRNESS** -married with 2 kids living in Mt. Shasta; **TRACEY ROBERTSON** -grad school in Missoula; **PHIL & MARY BERTEGGER** -running trips in Ecuador & Bhutan; **BROOKE BURGHELD** -married with child in Ketchum, ID; **GALEEN SEGER** -with boyfriend, Lincoln, in Yosemite, trying to figure out the rest of her life; **ERIC DEES & KATE UDANI** -a doctor and actress in New York. Whew... I think I'm running out of room here. I best put on the breaks and say Happy Trails to all, and thank you for your support in this crazy kayaking business.



STROKES FROM THE FOLKS

2007 SEASON

Phenomenal! There were varied menus & each eating experience was amazing. I appreciate the attention to detail the recognition of dietary needs. I was asked if I would like an alternative or one was already waiting that's service!
Alice Sherbow ~ Ketchum, ID

This was the best week of vacation I've ever had! I started out a bit afraid, unsure of whether I'd have fun, but I loved kayaking. The people here were great, both the staff and the other guests. Colleen Druzgal ~ Salt Lake City, UT

In a word, amazing. All 4 guides helped me learn in different ways, and it was great to get to paddle with all 4 of them. The site promises good food, so my expectations were high-but you guys exceeded them all! Every morsel of food I ate was delicious!
Jay Krutulis ~ New Castle, WA

Instructors were excellent. I felt like they all cared about my progress. They wanted to see me improve. Positive reinforcement was always there. Most importantly, I felt completely safe. I knew I could trust every guide. Loved the different personalities & humor!
Heidi Vivolo ~ San Francisco, CA

First time I really enjoyed a meal in the States, excellent!
Cary Walhof ~ The Netherlands

So amazing! The reason I came back-who cares about kayaking!? There is no other place like this to get away from it all-it is truly beautiful! Kristy's welcome was so appreciated & she made me feel like an old & missed friend. Pete's personal attention did the same. I expected you to be burned out by now, but the fact that you seem happy to be here makes all the difference.
Sue Leavitt ~ Trabuco Canyon, CA

I had a lot of fun & totally see why my dad has been here five times. I'm really depressed to go back to my normal life.
Annie Leavitt, age 16 ~ Trabuco Canyon, CA

Awesome. All were great. Very consistent messages, drills, etc. Clearly all on the same page. Really enjoyed them off the river too!
Jay Anderson ~ Cupertino, CA

Every single one of the instructors were amazing!! By far the best teachers I have ever had! This was my first time ever stepping into a hard shell kayak and I'm already going down rapids and doing combat rolls! That shows how great the instructors are. The way they taught was very easy for me to understand so that I could do the best I could. They were always getting me to do my best, but never pushing me to do something that I wasn't comfortable with. Basically, they were the best, amazing, nice, and funny.
Kaisha Johnson, 15 years old ~ Davis, CA

There is not enough praise for Awna & Nyomi. The food is better than any 5 star restaurant. It is the little touches and friendly smiles that make it exquisite. The lodge is comfortable as always and feels like home. I truly feel that Kristy and Peter have opened their home and love to do it. You have created an island of calm, beauty, and peace. I look forward to seeing you next year. Richard Spry ~ Waukesha, WI

My son and I had a wonderful time last year. That's why we're here this year & we'll be back next year. Thanks for everything!
John Martin ~ Short Hills, NJ

All the food was exceptionally good from breakfast to dinner. Nothing better to look forward to after a long day on the river but the dinner at Otter Bar.
Justen Sheridan ~ Dublin, CA

I did not expect to leave this week with the degree of confidence in paddling the instructors created. I'm very grateful for the professional, persistent, and individualized instruction given to me by all of my instructors.
Bill Nebo ~ Livermore, CA

Beyond Yummy. I would come back for the food alone. I ate healthy all week with such a variety of food! The cooks are very sweet!
Donna Shade ~ Coeur d'Alene, ID

Outstanding food. The best week of dining in my life!
Sail Patel ~ Orange Park, FL



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