



SEI Focus

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

September 2011

Welcome Trey Knight and Eli Crispell!

The SEI Department is delighted to welcome Trey Knight as our new Education & Outreach Coordinator and Eli Crispell as our Paddlesports Training Grant Coordinator.

A native of Northern Maine, Eli attended Saint Michaels College in Vermont and became immersed in their Wilderness Program. After graduation he traveled the country working as an instructor, teacher, and professional guide in some of the wildest and most remote areas North America has to offer. Eli is passionate about introducing people of all ages and backgrounds to safe and fun outdoor recreation and has honed these skills by working for organizations like the University of Alaska, Outward Bound and the Boys and Girls Club. By becoming part of the ACA he hopes to continue encouraging safe responsible recreation and sparking a passion for paddling in the community. While paddling is his first love, he also enjoys the professional and recreational sides of rock and ice climbing, Nordic and alpine skiing, mountaineering, backpacking, and his newest pursuit, skijoring.



Originally from Savannah, GA, Trey earned his B.A. in Math at Mercer University and M.S. in Sport Administration from Georgia State University. Trey's passion for the outdoors has led him all over the country. He has worked for Big Sky Resort in MT, as a raft guide for the NOC, a kayak instructor for High Country Outfitters, and has paddled in 11 states along the way. In undergraduate school at Mercer and Georgia Tech, Trey taught many outdoor sports including kayaking and rafting. While at Georgia State Trey served as the Program Coordinator for Outdoor Recreation Georgia Tech. While at ORGT one his

responsibilities was to train instructors and leaders in 8 outdoor sports including, sea kayaking, whitewater kayaking and canoeing, and rafting. Most recently he was the Assistant Outdoor Adventure Director at a prominent boys' camp in Western North Carolina, where previous to his administrative role he was the Head of Paddling. Trey has been a member of the ACA, AORE and AEE since 2007 and is a Level 5: Swiftwater Rescue Instructor, Wilderness First Responder, and Lifeguard. When not at work Trey will often be outdoors snowboarding, paddling, climbing, geocaching, and trail running, often with his dog and fiancée.

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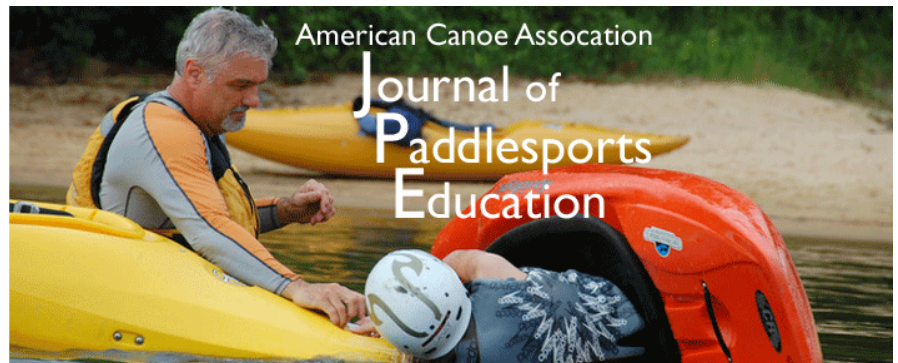
September 2011

ACA Launches Journal of Paddlesports Education

On September 1, we launched a new tool to engage paddlesports instructors and enhance the diverse fields of paddlesports and water safety education. A number of journal articles seed the first-day launch of the volunteer-instructor-run publication as a showcase of the variety of opportunities to share teaching tips, techniques and suggestions!

Any ACA instructor may submit appropriate articles for publication. Intended categories for the journal include:

- Discipline specific or cross-discipline instruction
- Best practices
- Paddling education history
- Articles intended to generate discussion on a paddling education topic.



The website itself is open to the public including publicly submitted (moderated) comments on published articles. Due to the nature of the web and online publication, the journal includes the ability to publish text, graphics, photographic and video formats and encourages the use of visuals to illustrate points or techniques described or discussed.

ACA and SEIC have prepared this site to recognize the professional nature of paddlesports education and to provide peer-recognition for innovators in the fields. Innovators are not by necessity 'old-timers' at teaching. Newly "minted" instructors often bring new vision, ideas and insights to paddlesports education and ACA encourages all to consider contribution.

Take a look at the [journal](#) and be a part of making paddlesports education as dynamic in press as on the water. Instructions for contributors can be found [here](#) and linked from the journal's home page. Contact the journal editor at editor@acajpe.org.

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National Paddlesports Conference: Louisville, KY

Join the paddlesports community in Louisville, KY this fall for the annual National Paddlesports Conference and SUP Summit!

National Paddlesports Conference Highlights:

- Exciting events for paddlers of all experience levels
- Family Opportunities
- High Quality Educational Sessions
- Instructor Updates
- Reel Paddling Film Festival
- SUP Summit
- Flatwater & Whitewater paddling opportunities literally from the hotel parking lot!
- and much more...



American Canoe Association's National Paddlesports Conference Louisville, September 30 – October 2, 2011

Make plans to dig your paddles into all that Louisville has to offer as Possibility City hosts the American Canoe Association's Paddlesports Conference this September. Canoes, kayakers, rafters and paddleboarders gather on the banks of the Ohio to experience a city of parks and waterways, including a new six-mile water trail. Make plans to attend and learn more at AmericanCanoe.org/NationalPaddlesportsConference. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/2011.ACA.NPC](https://www.facebook.com/2011.ACA.NPC).

1.800.626.5646 | GoToLouisville.com | 



National Paddlesports Conference and SUP Summit Registration is now available [online!](#)

Annual Membership Meeting - As Part of the National Paddlesports Conference

The ACA's Annual Membership Meeting occurs as part of the National Paddlesports Conference in the fall of each year. This is an opportunity for all current ACA members to have a voice in the governance of the association. All members are encouraged to attend and membership votes will take place during the meeting.

For more information about the Annual Membership Meeting, click [here](#).

The meeting is being held Galt House Hotel

- Phone: 1-800-843-4258
- Address: 140 North 4th St. Louisville, KY 40202
- The Galt House
- Rate: [Special ACA Discount](#)



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SEIC Meeting

Ever wondered about the inner workings of the Safety Education and Instruction Council of the ACA?

We invite you to attend the [SEIC Meeting](#) on September 29, 2011 as part of the National Paddlesports Conference.

ACA Instructor Audit Information

Calling all Instructor Trainer Educators, Instructor Trainers, and Instructors! If your current certification is set to expire this year- you might want to ensure that you have met the re-certification requirements:

Maintain your ACA Membership and SEIC Registration!

Please review the [ACA Policy Manual](#) to find out the exact details pertaining to the maintenance of your specific certification.

If you do not foresee that you will be able to complete the recertification requirements by your expiration date, please consider completing an [extension form](#)- the SEI Department will grant extensions on a case by case basis. Extensions allow an additional year to complete the recertification requirements.

If you do not meet the recertification requirements, you will be sent a notification of your pending certification status and certification expiration date of 12/31/2011.

If you have taught courses and/or participated in an update: make sure it has been properly reported!

Goodbye Travis!



The SEI Department would like to bid a warm farewell to our Education, Outreach & Club Coordinator, Travis Festa. Travis dedicated his time to serving ACA members and Instructors; we wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors, and are very grateful for his efforts and contributions to the ACA.



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Important Dates

2011

September 28 - [Intro to Paddling Committee & River Canoe Committee Meeting](#)

September 29 – SUP Committee Meeting

September 29 - [SEIC Meeting](#)

September 30 - October 2 - [National Paddlesports Conference](#) (Louisville, KY)

September 30 - October 2 - [SUP Summit](#) (Louisville, KY)

October 1 – [ACA Annual Membership Meeting](#)

October 2 – SUP Committee Meeting

October 18-20 – Level 2 [Essentials of SUP Instructor Certification Workshop](#) (Oakland, CA)

2012

March 9 – [SEIC Meeting](#) (Fredericksburg, VA)

November 2-4 – National Paddlesports Conference (Location: TBA!)

*We would like to thank ACA Volunteer Nicole Anacker for designing the new
SEI Focus graphics!*

Paddle Safe & Paddle Often!



Trey

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