

March  
2011

The Newsletter

# The CRATE Current

of Colorado River and Trail Expeditions

## GREETINGS!

The momentum of our 2011 season has begun to build with preparations well underway for the launch of our first trip **APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup>!** For this edition of the *Current*, in recognition of the end of our off-season, we'll be checking in with some of our guides to see what they've been up to up to all winter.

This month we'd also like to spread the news about the launch of our **new website!** Pop over to [www.crateinc.com](http://www.crateinc.com) to peruse our renovations, see new content and let us know what you think.



Cheers!

Mikenna, editor

[mikennacloukey@gmail.com](mailto:mikennacloukey@gmail.com)



### Sybrena Smith

GUIDING SINCE: **1996**  
HOMETOWN:  
**Murray, UT**

I am spending this off-season in Vancouver, BC, Canada, gaining experience as a raw/vegan "pastry" chef.

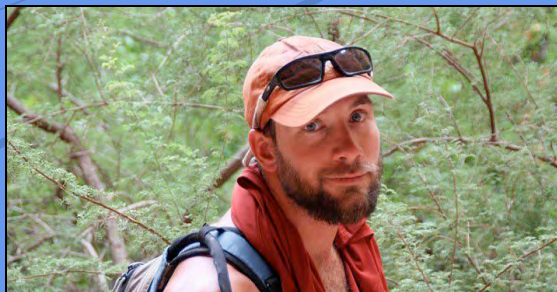
Recouping from last season and nurturing an injured shoulder, I decided to try something new and volunteer at one of the few organic/raw/vegan restaurants in Vancouver. My raw cookies are a big hit with the famous faces of the Hollywood North crowd, who keep me on my toes to make sure my creations are super tasty. In my spare time I have been doing yoga, wandering the city, skiing and brushing up on my French. A bientôt!

### Ben Reeder

GUIDING SINCE: **2004**  
HOMETOWN: **Provo, UT**



Right now I'm living in Salt Lake City working on a masters degree in the Environmental Humanities program at the University of Utah. I am interning with the National Parks Conservation Association and working on a writing project on the Colorado River. On the weekends I coach ski racing at Snowbird to high school kids.



## Dewey Moffat



GUIDING SINCE: 2001  
HOMETOWN: Park City, UT

After last season I relaxed by going on another 18-day river trip, leaving me two whole days to get ready for my next job, living on a boat for three months on the Great Salt Lake while harvesting brine shrimp. After shrimpin', I went straight to the ski shop where I work until it's river time again. Still, I have been having a great winter skiing with my girlfriend, Sonya, and having a clean little apartment to come home to, so we can leave it all covered in micro trash again. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone this summer. Until then, as always, make sure you are drinking lots of water!



## John and Kristen Toner

GUIDING SINCE: Forever  
HOMETOWN: Anytown USA



John and Kristen are currently backpacking their way through Chile for seven-weeks! Last update was they had just finished 11 days circumnavigating the Torres del Paine mountains. We can't wait to hear all about it!

## Gray Kelsey

GUIDING SINCE:  
2009  
HOMETOWN:  
Lyme, NH

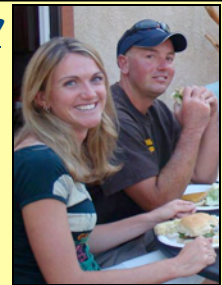


I am currently on an exchange from Dartmouth University where I am working toward a double major in biology and art. I am spending this term in Puebla, Mexico studying Spanish, por supuesto, and so far it's coming along! In the spring I'm planning to take the trimester off from school to go on a road trip with a friend. We received funding from the outing club at our university to travel and rockclimb throughout the Southwest, so we are super excited! I will be working for CRATE again starting in May.

## Walker and Mindy Mackay

GUIDING SINCE: BIRTH  
HOMETOWN: MURRAY /KANAB, UT

Walker and Mindy just returned from a Hawaiian vacation and well-deserved week-long break from operations at the CRATE office.

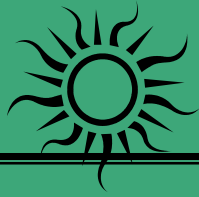


## Sonya Leibman

GUIDING SINCE:  
2005  
HOMETOWN:  
MOSCOW,  
RUSSIA/COLUMBUS  
OHIO



Since the last river season I have been in Salt Lake City studying math at the University of Utah. Graduate school is very involved, but I am committed to spending as much of the summer as I can on the river (this means convincing my adviser that I can read math papers on river trips and think about research while rowing a boat). I am also learning how to ski. Though all I've mastered are face plants, I'm loving my time in the mountains! A happy off-season, but I can't wait to go back to the desert!



### ***Kyndl Quayle***

GUIDING SINCE: **2008**  
HOMETOWN: **Pocatello, ID**

I am currently a biology major at Idaho State University, with only two semesters left. Yeah! When I am not studying I am usually hiking with my dog, Brodie, or knitting and crocheting like a crazy old lady. I am getting very excited for river season to start and can't wait to see everyone again.



### ***Mikenna Clokey (that's me!)***

GUIDING SINCE: **2002**  
HOMETOWN: **Moab, UT**

This winter I've made a giant leap from Utah to Providence, RI. When I'm not editing the *Current*, I'm working in the after school program of a local non-profit organization here. I spend the rest of my time sewing, exercising my Boarder Collie mix and attempting to pass as an East Coaster. I live in RI with my boyfriend and fellow CRATE guide, Kimo, who is a graduate painting student at the Rhode Island School of Design.

One of the highlights of my winter has been the release of a book on which I collaborated with my dad, photographer Tom Till.

***Canyons of Utah*** features my original essays, which draw heavily on my experience running rivers, as well as beautiful photographs of the unique landscape of my home state.



AND THERE'S A NEW MEMBER OF THE CRATE CREW! WELCOME TO THE FAMILY ***Colin Forest Parks!***



Born March 7<sup>th</sup> to proud parents and long time CRATE guides, Chris and Annie Parks, Colin joins the next generation of river runners. Congratulations!

*Wishing you a Happy Spring, from ALL of us!*

