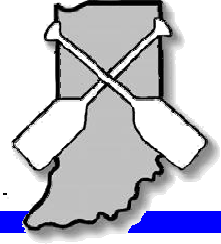


The Hoosier Paddler



Volume 46, Issue 2

<http://www.hoosiercanoeclub.org/>

March 2008

Learn to Paddle in 2008

If you or someone you know has been waiting for “the right time” to learn how to paddle a kayak, that time has arrived. This spring the HCC will offer an introductory training progression suitable for all paddling styles. It’s designed to take beginners from clueless to comfortable in just a few steps.

Part I - Introduction to Paddling

Location: Thatcher Recreational Center, 4649 W. Vermont St., Indianapolis
Dates: March 19 or April 9
Time: 6:30 to 9:00 PM

Entails one evening session at Thatcher Pool. This session is aimed at absolute beginners and is intended to give them the foundation they need to get the most of the more detailed moving water clinic later in the Spring. The class will start with a “chalk talk” introducing basic paddling concepts, types of boats and paddles, necessary equipment and its function, and key safety concepts. Students will then move to the pool to learn and practice some foundation skills for paddling. They will learn how to adjust outfitting; how to hold the paddle, entering and exiting the boat; basic strokes (forward, reverse, sweep, draw) and the beginning of body mechanics for boat control (using torso rotation, paddling “in the box,” leaning and edging.) Students will learn how to cope with a tip-over and be introduced to concepts of proper self-rescue and safe swimming.

Equipment needed: Swim suit and towel is all you need. Students are welcome to bring their own boats and other gear to this first session but need not. We’ll have “loaners” at the pool.

Expenses: All students must be HCC members with a signed waiver on file. Visit www.hoosiercanoeclub.org to get a membership application. HCC’s membership fee is \$15/year. We will also need \$10 for one evening’s pool fee. *Note:* Class size is limited to 10 students for each session; first come—first served. (If there’s significant overflow, we’ll look into adding more sessions.) To sign up or for more information, contact Terry Busch, 317-695-1825, or email buschterence@sbcglobal.net.

Part II -- Moving Water Clinics

Both cover roughly equivalent material. However, the first section requires whitewater boats and gear while the second works with recreational kayaks. Each class is a full day commitment of strenuous exercise.

Section A. Whitewater Preparation

Intended for: Beginners interested in eventually running whitewater who have taken Part I or (at instructor’s discretion) can show equivalent experience. **Note:** Class size is limited to 10 students.

Date: May 10

Meeting Time and Place: Central Indiana river. Most Indiana streams are “rain dependent,” and so the best available location will have to be determined in the days before the clinic. In the past, we’ve used Wildcat Creek at Adams Mill, the Flatrock River near St. Paul, and the White River near the Broad Ripple Arts Center. Check the HCC bulletin board and/or contact the instructor for more information.

Lead Instructor: Sharon Schierling (contact -- sschierl@nd.edu)

Class content: The pre-whitewater clinic starts with a bank-side talk but spends most of the day in on-water teaching. The instructor promotes a “safety first” approach to paddling, with a focus on preparation, accident prevention and teamwork on the water. The chalk talk will cover students key hazards and their solutions. On the water, students will review and practice self-rescue (safe swimming), teamwork to assist swimmers, and perhaps Eskimo rescue technique.

The central focus of the clinic is on understanding river features and moving water dynamics and how to use them in running the river. Students will learn the “parts of a rapid” and the key concepts in entering and leaving the current. On the water, students will apply and build on the skills they learned in Part I. The focus will be on boat control in the basic river maneuvers of entering and exiting the current (moves known as “peel-outs,” “eddy turns,” and “ferrying.”)

This clinic follows the American Canoe Association (ACA) course outline for “Essentials of River Kayak.” A syl-

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

labus is available online: <http://www.americancanoe.org/PDF/2007%20RKERK.pdf>

By the end of the class, students should be ready to run easy whitewater (Class I-II) with the support and guidance of more experienced paddlers. If there's sufficient interest and favorable river conditions, Sharon will lead such a trip in Central Indiana on May 11. Others will be scheduled periodically throughout the season.

Equipment needed: Unlike Part I, students should expect to bring their own gear. Those who contact the instructor early may be able to borrow boats or other components, but availability will be limited. Everyone must have the "five essentials" for whitewater paddling – boat, paddle, PFD (life vest), sprayskirt and helmet. Boats MUST have floatation – i.e., air bags in stern. Also strongly recommend -- water shoes (make sure they fit in your boat), water bottle(s), sunscreen, lunch. Weather may be warm but dress for cold water – wear paddle-specific top and pants if you have them. Polypro is best, wool marginal, cotton is bad. If you have a drytop, bring it. Coated nylon or gore-tex splash top is a good alternative. Again, if you lack suitable gear, let the instructor know well in advance –many of us have some "spare parts" we can loan.

Expenses: Since this will be an ACA-registered course (Sharon is an ACA-certified instructor), insured through the ACA rather than the HCC, it is open to both HCC members and non-members. All participants will be required to sign the standard ACA waiver and pay a nominal fee. Waivers are available online:

http://www.americancanoe.org/PDF/ACA_waiver_2008.adult.pdf

http://www.americancanoe.org/PDF/ACA_waiver_2008.minor.pdf

The course fee for ACA members with a valid membership card is \$15. The fee for non-members is \$20. (Regular ACA membership is \$40.) Please be prepared to pay by cash or check prior to the start of the clinic or you will not be allowed to participate due to insurance liability reasons. (The fees cover ACA insurance, registration/reporting of the course, and materials. None of the volunteer instructors profit from these fees.)

Section B. Moving Water Training for Recreational Kayaks

(See Trip Description in the April Newsletter)

Intended for: Beginners who have purchased a recreational kayak generally less than 14 feet in length and are mainly interested in paddling slow moving rivers (abundant in the mid-west.) Again, students must be HCC members and will be expected to have Part I or some paddling experience as a foundation.

Date: April 26, 2008

Meeting Time and Place: 9:30 a.m. Waverly Public Access Area off SR144.

White River south of Indianapolis, Waverly to Henderson Ford

Lead Instructor: Reggie Baker, contact him at 317 888-3315

Class Content: Very similar to the whitewater section as described above. Here too, heavy emphasis will fall on staying safe while paddling. (Paddlers are often unaware of the risks of Midwest moving water, which may be less obvious than the hazards in fast water, but nonetheless real.) Students will refine their turning and power strokes and learn to work with the current moving forward, backward and across the river.

At the end of the class, students should be comfortable joining most of the club's river or lake daytrips. This year's trip schedule offers many great opportunities.

Equipment needed: Students will bring their own boats (recreational kayak), paddles, and PFDs. Water shoes, water bottle, lunch, sunscreen and a hat are also highly recommended. Again, paddlers should dress for cold water.

Expenses: Since this course is sponsored by HCC, no fee is associated with this Section.

Thatcher Pool Status

Thatcher Pool has been closed to replace its roof. Roof work is now complete and the pool is being cleaned, filled, and reheated. The pool *may* be ready for the Feb. 27 pool session and *should* be ready for the March 1 Pool Demo (page 9). Please check status on the Bulletin Board or call Jordan Ross (317-460-7000) before going to Wednesday pool sessions. If Thatcher Pool is not available on March 1, the Pool Demo will be held at Krannert Pool (605 S. High School Road, Indianapolis).

Reminder—2008 DNR Lake Permits

You must have a 2008 DNR Lake Permit if you want to paddle your boat in Indiana state parks, state-managed reservoirs, or state forests. Annual permits are only \$5 per boat. Permits may be bought at the property offices or entrance gates at state parks, reservoirs, and forests *when they are staffed*. Alternatively, you may buy a pass at the Customer Service Center in Indiana Government Center or on-line at <https://estore.dnr.state.in.us/>.

Note: Early in the recreation season, attendants will be available at some launching ramps but not every ramp and not every day. State forest property offices may not be open on weekends and some weekdays.



2008 HCC Schedule

On Pages 7 and 8 of this newsletter, you will find the HCC trip schedule for 2008. I hope there is something here for everyone. We have some Saturday trips, and some on Sunday. There are a lot of great trips close to home, and just a few that take a bit more of a drive to get to. Some new places are included, and the old favorites are still included.

We worked on this a little earlier than last year. I hope that means we will have more trips show up later in the year that aren't on the calendar at this time. If anyone had ideas about any trips they would have liked to have seen on the schedule, please speak up! Let's consider this to be a living document. We can add more trips as the year rolls along. Keep your eyes on your email in-box. I am sure we will use the email list more this year. If you are not yet subscribed to it, send a note to: HCC_Members-subscribe@yahogroups.com and then hit your "reply" key when that first email comes in. That is all there is to it. And, we need to keep eyes on the Bulletin Board, too.

I want to thank Jim Sprandel for putting the finishing touches on this schedule. It looks great, doesn't it. And I especially want to thank the trip leaders that stepped up to help out. I think we will have a very good year.

SYOTR! -Dan Valleskey danpaddles@gmail.com

Flatwater Trips

What to Bring on a Flatwater Trip

- PFD (Personal Floatation Device) with attached whistle
 - Spare Paddle: your preference
 - Rescue gear: paddle float, throw rope, first aid kit
 - Bilge pump or bailing device (small bucket, sponge, etc.)
 - Personal medications: Be sure to inform your trip sponsor of medical conditions.
 - **Cold Weather Protocol:** Change of clothes, gloves, and hat in a Dry Bag. No cotton clothing. (See "Cool Paddling", February Newsletter)
 - Sunglasses, sun/bug spray
 - Lunch, snacks, drinks (hot or cold) plus 2 quarts of water
-

Sugar Creek Ice Falls Trip

Saturday, March 1, 2008

Trip Leaders: Dwon and Joy Miller—765-288-1404, Cell: 765-730-4370

Get your early paddling fix with the annual (open water permitting) Ice Falls Trip on Sugar Creek. This is a fun trip where you'll see big ice cascades, rock formations, two covered bridges, eagles, robins, and red-winged black birds returning. This trip is **very** weather dependent for open water and appropriate dress. People often get together for dinner afterwards.

Meeting Place: Burger King about one mile west of 465 on the north side of US 36. Come early and join us for breakfast.

Put-In: Deer's Mill bridge at the east end of Shades State Park on Indiana 234 if you want to meet there. Pass the entrance to Shades to get to the bridge.

Trip Length: Maximum 5 hours.

Take-Out: Cox's Ford that is at the west edge of Turkey Run State Park

Schedule:

9:02 am	Leave Burger King to go to Put-In
10:30 am	Arrive at Put-In
11:00 am	Shuttle leaves

Contact Information: Please call Dwon Miller (765-288-1404) by Friday evening, February 29, to confirm your attendance and that the trip is a go since this trip may be cancelled due to frozen water or bad weather.

Cicero Creek

Sunday, March 16, 2008

Trip Leaders): Sue Foxx, (317-543-0222 (home), 317-363-4074 (cell), sufoxx713@aol.com),
Rick Turney, Linda Smith

What better way to warm-up the 2008 paddling season than with a fast run down this scenic little creek. It has good depth, a great water flow, and banks that are lined with trees that won't have any leaves...they would just block the sun anyway. So break out the sun block, the ole' wetsuit that likely shrunk in the closet, and head to the feeder creek that made Morse Lake famous! This will be a great flatwater paddle for all skill levels.

Meeting Place: Waterfront Restaurant parking lot in Cicero, IN. From Indianapolis, take Meridian Street north to



236th Street and turn right. Go east on 236th Street to Morse Reservoir. Cross the bridge over the lake and the restaurant is on the right (south side).

Put-In: Near the town of Atlanta

Take-Out: Waterfront Restaurant

Trip Length: 4 hours (12 miles)

Expected Water Conditions: Quick moving creek out into Morse Reservoir.

Schedule:

9:00 am	Arrive at Meeting Place
10:00 am	Start paddling
Lunch Break	Bring your own lunch!
3:30 pm	Landing at Take-Out
4:00 pm	On the Road

Contact Information: Please contact **Sue Foxx by Friday, March 14th**, to confirm your attendance and that the trip is a go since it may be cancelled due to bad weather.

Cold water warning! Warm spring days but dangerously cold water! Layer up and bring extra clothes and fleece blanket in your dry bag.

Cataract Falls on Lieber Lake

Saturday, March 22, 2008

Trips Leaders: Team Baker (Reggie and Debby)—317 888-3315

Cataract Falls is a series of stair-step falls where Mill Creek enters and forms Lieber Lake. We will put in at the Cunot Public Access Area on the south side of Lieber Lake and paddle through the headwaters of the lake to the falls where we will stop for lunch, hiking and photos. This section of Lieber Lake is mostly protected and will be suitable for all types of boats (canoes, sea kayaks, recreational kayaks).

This is a COLD WATER trip so dress for possible immersion!

Meeting Place: Marathon station just south of I-70 on SR 243. (45 minutes from Indianapolis, 34 miles)

From the Indy Westside, head west on I-70 towards Terre Haute. Go past the Cloverdale SR231 Exit approximately 4 miles to the SR243 exit (Exit 37). Turn south on SR243. The Marathon Station (I think it is still a Marathon) station is on the right just after passing over I-70.

Put-In/Take-Out: Cunot public access on Lieber Lake.

Trip Length: 3.5 hours, 6 miles

Expected Water Conditions: Flat to wind chop

Shoreline Conditions: Varied typical reservoir setting

Schedule:

10:00 am	Arrive at Marathon station staging area
10:15 am	Begin shuttle
10:45 am:	Start Paddling
12:30 pm:	Lunch Break: Bring your own lunch!
3:30 pm:	Landing at Take-Out.
4:00 pm:	On the Road Again

Note: A current DNR Lake permit is required for this trip. (See DNR Permit note on Page 2.)

Contact Information:

Please call Reggie Baker (317 888-3315) by Friday March 21. Saturday morning, you can call his cell phone — 317 531-4346.

Big Walnut Creek

Saturday, March 29, 2008

Trips Leaders: Dave Ellis (aka Creek Freak, 317-858-0963)

Over the last 38 years, I've paddled all sections of Big Walnut from North Salem to the confluence with Eel River just below the dam for Cataract Lake. Well, almost. I haven't done the section through Greencastle which includes a 4 foot dam. Ninety five percent of the floatable mileage is in Putnam County. My favorite section is near Bainbridge from north of US 36 to south of that highway. It flows through a Nature Conservancy property. North of US 36 this is a woodland stream; south it alternates between woodland and cropland.

Although we'll see a rock outcropping or two, the main hazard will be fallen trees and perhaps a log jam or two. I'll scout the trip before the 20th and share specific worry spots with participants at the put-in. I'll have chosen the specific section for us to paddle at that time depending on water levels and weather. Cold weather paddling protocol will still be in effect; i.e. no cotton plus a change of clothes.



Here are two web links referring to this area-

<http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/indiana/work/art7796.html>

http://www.indianaoutfitters.com/big_walnut_creek.htm .

Meeting Place/Time: The Hardee's on the east edge of Danville—9:30 am

Trip Length: 7-8 miles

Contact Information: Call me or e-mail by 6:00 pm Friday if you are going to join us as there may be last minute changes in plans.

Muskrat's 31st Annual April Fools On Big Pine

Saturday, April 5, 2008

See the Trip Description for this trip under Whitewater Trips below. Depending on water conditions, this trip may be safe for novice paddlers as well as whitewater paddlers.

Sand Creek Trip

Saturday, April 12, 2008

Trip Leaders: Richard Tekulve (812 346-7921, indianacanoe@wmconnect.com)

Please join us as we float down one of Southeast Indiana's hidden charms—a 13.8 mile trip down Sand Creek from Westport Dam to my old log cabin on the west side of Brewersville. This trip will take us past two old mill races with a lunch stop at the first one. The creek averages 60-120 ft. in this section and has a gradient of 5.1 feet per mile. Numerous limestone ledges highlight the scenery combined with clear flowing water.

Note: Sand Creek like all Southeast Indiana streams is mood stricken with low water and is totally unpredictable even at Springtime characteristics. Several area streams can be substituted if proper flow patterns do not exist.

Meeting Time: 9:30 am

Tentative Meeting Place: Westport Dam

Directions: Westport is located in Southern Decatur county—15 miles north of North Vernon or 14 miles south of Greensburg on State Road 3. From State Road 3, turn east at the flasher (only light next to only gas station). Proceed East through town and go 2 miles to 2 adjacent bridges (one concrete and one covered), hang to right and cross the concrete bridge over Sand Creek. The dam will be 500 feet to the right downstream with a parking lot..

Trip Length: 13.8 miles

Contact Information: Please call me by 10:00 pm on Friday Night, April 11 to see if an alternate route is planned.

Whitewater Trips

Tennessee Creeks and Rivers

March 13-16, 2008

Trip Leaders: Bob Heckler (219 662-6330), Randy Parker (219 762-7353)

We plan to meet under the Nemo Bridge near Wartburg, Tennessee in the middle of the night on Wednesday, March 13th. Each year we use the "day-to-day plan" based on water levels. However, here is somewhat of an itinerary based on past trips. Thursday morning, we plan to paddle creeks on the Plateau—Clear Creek Canyon, Obed Canyon, and Daddy's creek are the creeks we have paddled the last few years. We probably will hit two of these that day. One of these years, we'd like to hit the Piney or Island creek depending on water availability. Depending on water, we may go south and hit the Nolichucky or Tellico on Friday or stay on the Plateau another day if there is good water. Saturday, we will probably go south to the Nolichucky, Pigeon, or Tellico, and may hit the Ocoee release later that evening. That night we plan to head back north near the Big South Fork or the Rockcastle and make an early Sunday run on one of these and hit the road back to Indiana after the run.

Muskrat's 31st Annual April Fools On Big Pine

Saturday, April 5, 2008

Trip Leaders: Garry Hill (765-628-3155, GarryHill@aol.com)

Big Pine Creek is the best whitewater stream in Indiana, but it's nearly dry and not paddleable most of the time. Enough water to make the rapids enjoyable (6" or more on the Rainsville Gauge) happens maybe 30-40 days per year. Good water on a warm comfortable day, and you're down to about 10-15 days. When the water is up and the sun is shining, the whitewater rapids of Big Pine Creek draw paddlers like "flies to roadkill".

Here's a look at what the Creek is like. At normal water levels ("0" or less on the Rainsville gauge) Big Pine is very shallow and rocky (much more so than a Summertime Wildcat), still with many rapids that are equal to the best Wildcat Creek has to offer.

However, if the water level is up (anything above "0"), Big Pine has several good Class I+ rapids. In addition, if it's up, we will also be running Rocky Ford, which is 3/4-mile of continuous Class II, with some of the best Whitewater in



Indiana, easily able to swamp Open Canoes. The most fun level for this event is about 1-2 feet.

Big Pine is a beautiful and fun Stream loved by Paddlers all over Indiana. Its difficulty varies greatly with flow level; ranging from a "boat-beater" in dry times, to huge waves and hydraulics in high flows. However, Big Pine could be considered appropriate for Novice Paddlers at levels under 2-feet on the Chuck Weis Gauge.

If you have concerns about your abilities or equipment, contact me. In addition, be sure to watch for the "Last Minute Update" which will contain a description of the expected water level and type of difficulties you can expect.

Meeting Time: 9:30. Be there early.

Meeting Place: Downtown Pine Village, on SR-26, about 20-miles west of Lafayette. At the Jct of SR-26 & SR-55, in beautiful, downtown Pine Village.



Garry Hill surfing S-Turn on Big Pine

Contact Information: If you're interested in attending this Cruise, but have concerns about your abilities or equipment, please feel free to contact me.

Last Minute Update: On Friday evening before the trip (after 7 PM), feel free to call me to see about the water level and the expected level of difficulty (or check for a Last-Minute Email Update). I'll be visiting the Big Pine Valley on Friday afternoon to check on our Access locations and the flow level, so I will have up-to-the-moment info. I will do my best to be home by 7PM, so call after that time. I'll be taking calls all evening, and may not have time to return your call if you leave a message before 7PM. Also, look for a Last-Minute Email Update! If I can get off the phone long enough, I will post an Email Update.

Webster Springs Trip

April 4-6, 2008

Trip Leaders: Jordan Ross (317 460-7000), Randy Parker (219 762-7353)

Webster Wildwater Weekend centers around a downriver race on the Class II Elk River. Novices as well as expert racers are invited to compete. For more information on festival events, see their website at:

<http://www.websterwv.com/whitewater.html>

However, the HCC group usually opts NOT to participate in the race, instead running one or more of the local creeks—the recent favorite, if it's running, being the Back Fork of the Elk (II-IV). Other nearby rivers include the so-called "fruit basket" of Gauley River tributaries: Cranberry, Cherry, and Williams. The Meadow and the Top Gauley are other options the HCC group has run in previous years.

We will meet and camp at Camp Caesar, the 4-H camp for Webster County, West Virginia. (You may get directions at: <http://www.campcaesar.info/> .) It has heated dormitory-style cabins with bunk beds and shared bathroom(s). Bedding, pillows, and towels are NOT provided. The HCC has reserved Oriole cabin, which sleeps 15, for Friday and Saturday nights and a few beds are still available for \$10/night (contact Ross Jordan ASAP). If these fill up, you can stay at Slabside cabin (just a few yards away with individual beds available for \$15 per person per night), we can still party together in the big barn, hang out together at the HCC campfire at Oriole cabin—and, of course, paddle together! As of now, there's plenty of room still available at Slabside but it would be a good idea to call soon and reserve a bed. Call Camp Caesar directly at (304) 226-3888.

A "family style" buffet breakfast (and possibly dinner on Sat, TBC) will be served in the camp dining hall. Meals are reasonably priced, all you can eat, and convenient.

Camp Caesar is also the site of the after-race festival party Saturday evening featuring live music, swag giveaways, and race videos around an indoor bonfire in the barn. Depending on the quality of the band (which has varied in recent years), this could be a good to great party.

The Webster Springs trip is an early spring trip and the weather has been highly variable in recent years, from cool and sunny to near blizzard conditions. (The heated cabins are much nicer than camping at this time of year!) Check the weather and come prepared with appropriate cold-weather paddling gear.

Contact Information: Contact Jordan (317) 460-7000 if you have questions and check the Whitewater Section of the Bulletin Board.

April Newsletter Deadline: Please submit articles for the April Newsletter to Jim Sprandel by March 15. Please E-Mail articles to merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or call him at 317-257-2063.



2008 HCC Schedule

General/Training Schedule

Note: *Italicized entries* are not HCC sponsored events.

Start Date	End Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor
Sat, Mar 1		HCC 2008 Boat Demo & Paddle with the Pros, Thatcher Pool, 5-8 pm (Krannert Pool if Thatcher Pool is not open.)	Jordan Ross
Fri, Mar 7	Sun, Mar 9	Canoeopia, Madison, Wisconsin	Theresa Kulczak
Wed Mar 19		Introduction to Paddling, Part I Thatcher Pool, 6:30 – 9:00 pm	Terry Busch
<i>Sat, Mar 29</i>	<i>Sun, Mar 30</i>	<i>IU Wilderness First Aid Course, Bloomington, IN (See Feb. 2008 Newsletter) dcalvin@indiana.edu</i>	<i>David Calvin</i>
Wed, Apr 9		Introduction to Paddling, Part I Thatcher Pool, 6:30 – 9:00 pm	Terry Busch
Sat, Apr 26		Moving Water Training for Recreational Kayaks	Reggie Baker
<i>Sat, Apr 26</i>	<i>Sun, Apr 27</i>	<i>IU Wilderness First Aid Course (See Mar. 29-30 above)</i>	
Sat, May 10		Moving Water – Beginner Clinic	Sharon Schierling
Sun, May 11		Beginner River Trip (I-II) – Location TBD (Associated with Moving Water – Beginner Clinic)	Sharon Schierling
<i>Sat, Jun 23</i>	<i>Sun, Jun 24</i>	<i>IU Wilderness First Aid Course (See Mar. 29-30 above)</i>	
Sat, Jul 19		Summer Meeting–Full moon float Lake Maxinhall	Reggie Baker Dan Valleskey
Sun, Nov 16		Fall Meeting	Reggie Baker

Flatwater Events

Note: *Italicized entries* are not HCC sponsored events.

Start Date	End Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor
Sat, Mar 1		Ice Falls Trip, Sugar Creek	Dwon & Joy Miller
Sun, Mar 16		Cicero Creek	Sue Foxx
Sat, Mar 22		Easter Paddle, Cataract Falls	Reggie Baker
Sat, Mar 29		Big Walnut Creek	Dave Ellis
Sat, Apr 5		April Fool's Trip, Big Pine Creek	Garry Hill
Sat, Apr 12		Sand Creek	Richard Tekulve
<i>Fri, Apr 18</i>	<i>Sun, Apr 20</i>	<i>East Coast Canoe & Kayak Festival James Island County Park, Charleston SC</i>	
Sun, Apr 27		ECO Project, Salamonie River	Sue Foxx
Sat, May 3	Sun, May 4	Fish Fry, Pigeon/Fawn	Dan Valleskey
Sat, May 17	Sun, May 18	Blue River	Sue Foxx
Fri, Jun 6	Mon, Jun 9	Sea Kayak Adventure, South Bass Island	Reggie Baker
Sun, Jun 22		Driftwood	Linda Smith Dan Evard
<i>Sun, Jun 29</i>		<i>Michiana Paddlefest, South Bend, IN; info: www.paddlefest.org</i>	
Sun, Jul 13		Wabash River	Sue Foxx
Sat, Jul 19		Summer Meeting–Full moon float Lake Maxinhall	Reggie Baker/ Dan Valleskey
Fri, Aug 1	Sun, Aug 3	Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous – Wildcat Creek	Chuck Weis
Sun, Aug 24		Grand Lake at St. Mary's	Sue Foxx
Sat, Sep 13		Picnic Paddle – Lake Monroe	Reggie Baker
Sat, Sep 20	Sun, Sep 21	Cleanup – Raccoon Creek	Dwon/ Joy Miller
Sun, Sep 28		Lost River	Sue Foxx
Sat, Oct 4		Arrrgh! Pirate Paddle	Theresa Kulczak
Sat, Oct 11		Wabash River – Terre Haute	Sue Foxx
Fri, Oct 17	Sun, Oct 19	Covered Bridge Festival – Raccoon Creek	Dwon & Joy Miller
Sun, Nov 9		White River – Noblesville	Sue Foxx



2008 HCC Schedule (continued)

2008 Whitewater Events

Note: *Italicized entries* are not HCC sponsored events.

Start Date	End Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor
Sat, Mar 1		HCC 2008 Boat Demo & Paddle with the Pros, Thatcher Pool 5-8 pm (Krannert Pool if Thatcher not Open)	Jordan Ross
<i>Fri, Mar 7</i>	<i>Sun, Mar 9</i>	<i>Northern Alabama Whitewater Festival, a.k.a. NAWFest; info: http://www.nawfest.net/</i>	
Thu, Mar 13	Sun, Mar 16	Tennessee Creeks and Rivers (III-IV)	Randy Parker Bob Heckler
Wed, Mar 19		Introduction to Paddling, Part I Thatcher Pool, 6:30 – 9:00 pm	Terry Busch
Fri, Apr 4	Sun, Apr 6	Webster Springs Festival – Elk River, WV (II-IV)	Jordan Ross, Randy Parker
Sat, Apr 5		April Fool's Trip on Big Pine (I-II)	Garry Hill
Sat, Apr 12		Elkhorn, Ky (II)	Terry Busch Mitch Merritt
Sat, Apr 19	Sun, Apr 20	Wisconsin Whitewater (III-IV)	Randy Parker
Sat, Apr 26	Sun, Apr 27	Stonycreek Rendezvous, PA (II-IV)	Randy Parker
Fri, May, 2	Sun, May 4	Cheat Fest, Cheat River, WV (II-IV)	Trip Organizer Needed
Sat, May 10		Moving Water – Beginner Clinic	Sharon Schierling
Sun, May 11		Beginner River Trip (I-II) – Location TBD	Sharon Schierling
Sat, May 24	Mon May, 26	Wisconsin Whitewater – Wolf, Red, Peshtigo, Menominee (II-IV)	Jordan Ross
<i>Sat, Jun 7</i>	<i>Sun, Jun 8</i>	<i>East Race Opening Weekend - South Bend, IN; info: http://www.sbpark.org/parks/erace.htm</i>	
Sat, Jun 14	Sun, Jun 22	Colorado Week of Rivers	Randy Parker
Sat, Jun 21	Sun, Jun 22	Lower Yough, PA (III-III+)	Lesley Stout Nick Ruark
<i>Sat, Jun 21</i>	<i>Sun, Jun 22</i>	<i>TSRA Canoe & Kayak School, Gee Creek (Hiwassee/Ocoee), TN; info: http://paddletsra.org</i>	
Sat, Jun 28	Sun, Jun 29	Southern Class II Whitewater (Tuckaseege, Hiwassee, Nantahala), NC and TN	Terry Busch, Bob Friedman, and Mitch Merritt
Sun, Jun 29		Introduction to East Race (II+), South Bend, IN	Sharon Schierling
Fri, Jul 4	Sun, Jul 6	Ocoee, TN (III-IV)	Randy Parker
Fri, Aug 1	Sun, Aug 3	Upper (IV-V) and Lower (III) Yough, PA	Jordan Ross
Sat, Aug 23	Sun, Aug 24	Ohiopyle Over-the-Falls Festival, Yough River, PA	Sharon Schierling
Sat, Aug 30	Mon, Sep 1	New York State Trip –Beaver & Black Releases (IV-V)	Jordan Ross
Sat, Sep 6	Sun, Sep 7	Gauley First Release, WV (III-V)	Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling
Fri, Sep 19	Sun, Sep 21	Gauley Fest, Gauley River, WV (III-V)	Trip Organizer Needed
Sat, Oct. 4	Sun, Oct 5	Hiwassee and Nantahala, TN and NC (II & II+)	Terry Busch Rob Friedman
Sat, Oct 11	Sun, Oct 12	Gauley Fall Colors, WV (III-V)	Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling
Sat, Oct 18		Bridge Day – New River Gorge, WV (III-IV) ("Paddle under the Parachutes!")	Jordan Ross
Sun, Oct 19		Gauley Last Release, WV (III-IV)	Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling
<i>Sat, Oct 25</i>	<i>Sun, Oct 26</i>	<i>NOC Guest Appr. Festival Weekend, NC</i>	
Sat, Nov 1	Sun, Nov 2	Ocoee Fall Colors – Last Release, TN (III-IV)	Jordan Ross



4th Annual Boat Demo and Paddle with the Pros

Saturday, March 1, 2008, 5:00—8:00 PM

Thatcher Recreational Center Pool, 4649 Vermont St. Indianapolis, IN

Cost: \$10

Note: Please check the Bulletin Board or with Jordan Ross before going to this event. If Thatcher Pool has not reopened by March 1, the Pool Demo will be held at Krannert Pool, 605 S. High School Road.

This event has been really fun and well attended for the last three years. There are several reasons you should plan on attending this event:

- Boat Demonstration — Bernie Farley from Whitewater Warehouse in Dayton, Ohio will bring his 2008 boats to try out in the pool. In addition to white water boats, Bernie carries recreational and sea kayaks and can bring a particular model to the demo if requested.
- Practice — The pool is open for individual practice and clinics so bring your own boat. After the first hour, the flurry of demo activity should calm down so you can practice in your own boat.
- Professional Paddling Demo — Several nationally-known pro boaters will be on-hand to give paddling advice and to demonstrate paddling techniques that you can use throughout the year. The pro-boaters really make their boats perform so you can see what is possible and how to do it.

Please call Bernie or Jeryl at Whitewater Warehouse if you have a question about a particular boat. I will post a notice on the HCC Bulletin Board with updates and to get an idea of how many people will be coming.

Contacts: Jordan Ross, (317) 460-7000, jross@iquest.net (Put "kayak" in Subject Line)
Whitewater Warehouse, Bernie or Jeryl, (937) 222-7020, www.wh@erinet.com

Dwayne James speaking at Canoecopia

Canoecopia 2008, Madison, Wisconsin

March 7-9, 2008

Canoecopia, is one of the largest Canoe and Kayak Expo's in the world. This exposition runs from Friday through Sunday. Canoecopia provides educational sessions to improve your paddling skills and describe new paddling destinations. There will be over 50 sessions—HCC's Dwayne James will present "Early Season on the Thelon River" as well as exhibits by about 200 outfitters, equipment providers, and outdoor organizations. Watch the HCC Bulletin Board for notices on car pooling up to Madison for this event.

Event Web Site: <http://www.rutabaga.com/canoecopia/page.asp?pgid=1001>

A Man, a Plan, a Canal

A Solo paddle of Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area

There comes a time in your paddling life when you must put it all together. It is one thing to do a day paddle or a group overnight trip. It is quite another to plan and execute a multiday solo trip. I planned such a trip for the first week of May, 2007.

When reading an issue of Sea Kayaker magazine, I came across a paddling destination which piqued my curiosity. Johnny Molloy wrote an article about a multiday trip at the "Land Between the Lakes" (LBL). LBL is located partially in southwestern Kentucky and northern Tennessee, making it only a 6 hour drive from Indianapolis. Several additional features make this site attractive for this type of trip. First of all, there are 2 bodies of water (Kentucky Lake, Lake Barclay) which run parallel to one another, attached by a small canal. The strip of land between the lakes is a mere 10 miles wide, making it relatively easy to drop your kayak and equipment on one side, drop off your vehicle on the other side and get a ride back to your equipment. This allows one to paddle about 95 miles and end up only 10 miles from your original departure. Navigation is

relatively easy as it is difficult to get lost. Because it is freshwater, there are no tides to worry about. Also, there are lots of bays, one every 5 miles or so, making it easy to get off the water should the weather turn unexpectedly.

With the help of Ranger Brett, I dropped my car at Gatlin Point and the ranger drove me back to Boswell Landing and I set up camp. Temperatures in general for the trip were in the lower 80s as highs and lower 60s as lows.



Gil Morris



Aside from the goal of getting to the finish, there were many additional reasons for making the trip. Goals of this trip were to learn:

- What items to pack
- How to cook
- How to pace the trip
- How to camp
- What to wear
- How a loaded kayak handles
- How far I could paddle on consecutive days
- How to navigate a route that “you can’t get lost”

Day 1 – Boswell Landing (Kentucky Lake)

The first morning at Boswell landing, I ate a quick breakfast, loaded up the kayak and was on the water by 7:00. The forecast was for a 30 percent chance for rain, high in the lower 80s with little wind. The water temperature was 70 degrees. I decided to wear hydroskin long pants and a hydroskin top.

The slight wind and open water created quite a chop. The first 2 miles ended up being one of the most challenging stretches of the trip! With the current at my rear quarter, I lowered my skeg to keep on course. Additionally, I was ready to brace when necessary. After crossing this initial bay (Panther Bay, Dry Fork Bay), the water was considerably smoother. I was rewarded while paddling by Byrd Bay by seeing several Bald Eagles.

I stopped for lunch and rested on a sand bar. As I started back on the journey, the rain was threatening. I got caught in a small downpour but with the lack of lightning, I continued on. The weather soon cleared and I decided it was time to look for a wilderness campsite. The GPS indicated that I had traveled 30 miles, which is 10 more miles than I had previously paddled in a day. One of the attractions of this type of trip is the availability of campsites. As long as you don't camp near one of the many cemeteries or by a public access site, you have a vast selection of sites. I scouted for a site and found one in Smith Bay. With a level open site, I set up camp. I had a tent in addition to a Hennessey Hammock. I used the hammock several

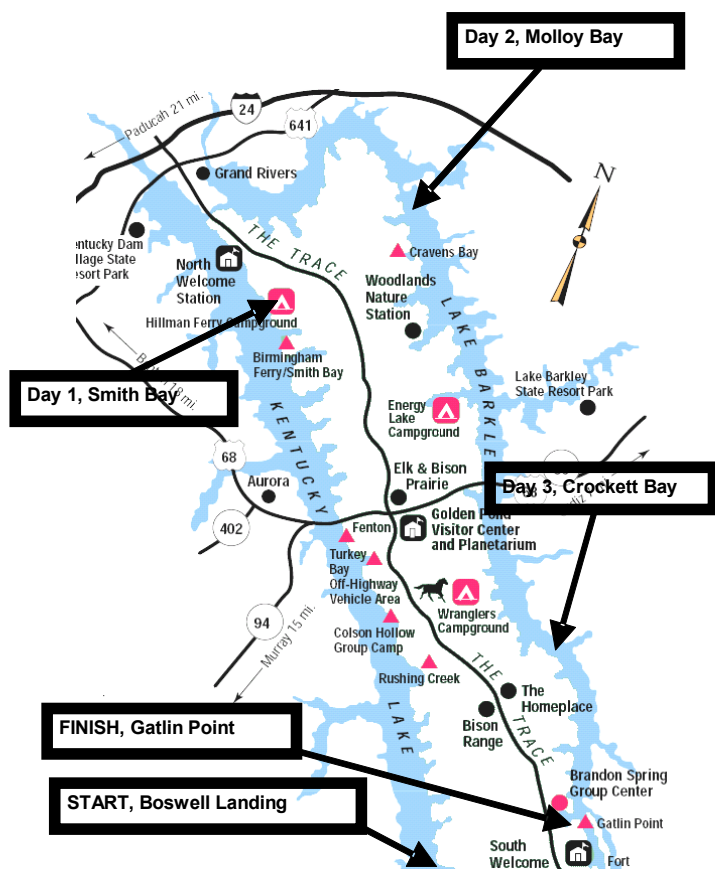
afternoons to take a short nap. It is an invaluable item which can be used for many situations and it's small and lightweight. After fixing Spam and egg burritos, I called it a night.

Day 2, Smith Bay (Kentucky Lake) to Molloy Bay (Lake Barkley)

Day 2 started with partly cloudy conditions with winds out of the ENE. After another early start on the water, I reached the channel which connects Kentucky Lake to Lake Barkley. I had been averaging about 4.5 to 5.0 mph until I reached the channel. Because of the waves and the direct head wind, my progress was slowed considerably to 2.5 to 3.0 mph. The channel is narrow for about 1 mile, then opens up into an open, winding Lake Barkley. Because of the wind direction and the fetch, the waves were larger as I exited the channel. Suddenly, it was difficult to control the direction of travel. Thankfully, the fully loaded kayak (CD Gulfstream) with its upswept bow and skeg deployed was able to handle the confused seas. This was the most turbulent water I had paddled and it was not letting up. There were small whitecaps and the wind velocity and direction were constant. Finally, I reached Willow Bay where I was able to take a lunch break and get some much needed rest.

By the time I finished lunch, the waves had eased and I was able to resume a moderate pace of 4.5 mph. In this area of Lake Barkley, there is some motor boat activity. This is also true of the northern section of Kentucky Lake. After paddling most of the upper stretch of Lake Barkley, I pulled into another bay and took an hour long nap in the hammock late in the afternoon.

Back on the water, I was treated to several bird sightings including Blue Herons and Osprey. I also saw a mother duck with her 4 ducklings fighting some of the waves I previously paddled. I thought to myself if these little ducklings can make it through the larger waves, I can certainly make it! Finally, I rounded the northeastern shoulder of Lake Barkley and started making my way southward. Evening was approaching, it was time to select a camp site. I had just passed Cravens Bay and decided to make camp in the next bay, Molloy Bay. With several excellent choices, I finally selected a site and set up camp. The GPS indicated I had paddled 27 miles on this day. At times paddling this day was scary, ex-



hilarating, tiring, and rewarding. I felt like I had to elevate my paddling to a new plateau to combat the constant waves and confused seas.

I fixed dinner, ate and rested. A clearing was seen up the hill from where I set up camp. I decided to explore and found this to be the Woodson Chapel Cemetery. There were many tombstones with the last name "Molloy" which I assume is associated with the naming of Molloy Bay. After this, I gathered wood for a campfire. This area appears to be rarely used as firewood is plentiful. After burning a small fire, I finished my night by journaling in my tent. Throughout the night, there were some very eerie animal calls.

Day 3 – Lake Barkley

Another early morning on the water, I left Molloy Bay and headed south on Lake Barkley. My goal was to reach the 68/80 bridge by lunch. This turned out to be a bit aggressive as the current and breeze were against me. However, this was a cakewalk when compared to the first part of Lake Barkley that I paddled the previous day! I paddled to Elbow Bay, which is immediately to the south of the bridge and stopped for a rest and lunch. What a beautiful view from some elevated rocks.

After returning to the water, I pointed toward reaching the Tennessee border. Again I stopped in the late afternoon and rested in a secluded bay for about 45 minutes in the hammock. By this time, I had established a pattern of paddling, eating, and resting. I reached the Tennessee – Kentucky border and searched for a suitable site in the next bay, Crockett Bay. Late in the day, the temperature was 80 degrees with no wind and lots of sun. After finding a campsite, it was time for a swim as I had paddled 27 miles this day. This bay was absolutely beautiful and the water was still. The time was right for a swim to cool down. After the swim, I filtered water for the next day's paddle. Also, there were many photo opportunities with the glass-like water conditions. I also photographed a deer drinking from the lake. Several waves of helicopters from nearby Fort Campbell make their way over the bay. Again, I gathered wood and had a small campfire.

Day 4 – Heading for Gatlin Point

With only 11 miles remaining, I was counting on an easier paddle and started out on the water an hour later (sleeping in!). This part of Lake Barkley has many small "islands" which have shrubs and trees which can block the waterway. My map showed a clearing all the way along the shoreline. Of course, this was not the case. After about 5 miles, the island pinched off the shoreline. The only way out was to backtrack and look for an alternate route. Using the GPS, I backtracked several times and never saw a clear path forward. It was getting hot and I was getting frustrated. One nice diversion was an overabundance of green herons on several of these islands. It turned out to be a good time to take some pictures and gather myself. Finally, I came upon 2 local fishermen who directed me to a hidden channel. I then successfully navigated the many islands and found the clear shoreline. My journey came to a close as I reached Gatlin Point (11 miles paddling on Day 4). My car was parked there so it was a relief to see it just as we had left it.

My journey was complete as I paddled from Boswell Landing to Gatlin Point in 3 ½ days. I had set aside 7 days to be on the safe side and I quite pleased to make the 95 mile trip in 3 ½ days. A lot of this trip was exploratory for me as I had never tried a multi-day solo trip.

Some additional learnings from this trip:

- A solo trip is not really solo. It is the accumulation of experience and input from many fellow paddlers including Brad Hughey, Jay Bodwell, Dave Ellis, Jordan Ross, Henry Dorfman, and many others.
- Such a trip can happen only with the understanding of family, especially my wife who graciously supports me in my pursuits of kayaking.
- After having experienced rougher water conditions, it is vital to have a kayak, which will comfortably handle these conditions. It was a great feeling having the Gulfstream, which is not the fastest kayak, but does a lot of things very well, including handling rougher water.
- All the contacts I made with LBL personnel were very pleasant and extremely helpful. They were willing to go out of their way to make the trip a reality for me.

Some of the things I enjoyed most were

- The freedom that comes with having entire days to focus on paddling
- Figuring out paddling schedules and breaks that worked best for me
- Seeing wildlife including bald eagles, tanagers, blue and green herons, snakes, deer, ducks, and osprey
- Taking my paddling to a new plateau
- Having a sense of achievement in completing a planned solo trip

Additional resources:

- Land Between The Lakes Outdoor Recreation Area Handbook, Johnny Molloy
- Sea Kayaker Magazine, October 2006
- www.lbl.org



Upcoming Events

Wednesday Evenings	Pool Sessions Thatcher Recreational Center, Indianapolis, IN (See note below)	Feb. Newsletter, Page 3
March 1	Flatwater Trip—Ice Falls Paddle Trip, Sugar Creek, Indiana—Dwon and Joy Miller, Trip Leaders	Page 3
March 1	4th Annual Boat Demo and Paddle with the Pros (See Article on Page 9)	Page 9
March 7-9	Canoecopia (Madison, Wisconsin)	Page 9
March 13-16	Whitewater Trip—Tennessee Creeks/Rivers (Class III-IV) (Bob Heckler, Randy Parker)	Page 5
March 16	Flatwater Trip—Cicero Creek (Sue Foxx)	Page 3
March 19	Learn to Paddle—Part I (Thatcher Pool)	Page 1
March 22	Flatwater Trip—Cataract Falls on Lieber Lake Team Baker (Reggie and Debby)	Page 4
March 29	Flatwater Trip—Big Walnut Creek (Dave Ellis)	Page 4
March 29-30	Wilderness First Aid Class (Bloomington, IN)	Feb. Newsletter, Page 7
April 5	Flatwater Trip—Muskrat's April Fool's Trip on Big Pine	Page 5
April 4-6	Whitewater Trip—Webster Spring Festival (Class II-IV) Elk River, WV (Jordan Ross, Randy Parker)	Page 5
April 12	Flatwater Trip—Sand Creek Westport, IN, Richard Tekulve	Page 5

Note: Please check the Bulletin Board to confirm that Thatcher Pool is open before pool sessions and the Boat Demo.

2008 HCC Dues

Dave Ellis sent out the 2008 Dues Statements in early February. If you have not mailed your dues in to him, please mail them now. If you have any questions, please call Dave at 317-858-0963 or e-mail him at RiverPaPaw@aol.com.

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

The Hoosier Paddler
Jim Sprandel, Editor
6505 Dean Road
Indianapolis, IN 46220

