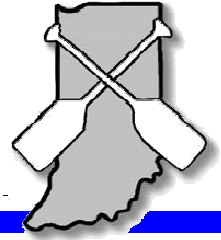


The Hoosier Paddler

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March 2009



In Memory of Reginald O. Baker

July 29, 1947 - February 7, 2009

Reggie Baker passed away on Saturday, February 7, after a brief but intense battle with cancer.

Reggie was Skipper of the Hoosier Canoe Club more than anyone, having served in 1990, 1991, 2000, 2001, 2007, and 2008. Both he and Debbie have continually strived to improve instruction for HCC members in all types of paddle sport and have given generously of their time over the years. Many of our members have learned technique and skills from Team Baker.

Reggie was one of the most accomplished paddlers among us. White water, flat, freestyle, and he was especially proud of his top level certification from the British Canoe Union. Earlier this past January, he was presented with a Hoosier Canoe Club Award Paddle which called him "Best HCC Skipper Ever."



The HCC is not as good a canoe club today as it was before Saturday. The loss of Reggie will be felt for a long time. Both he and Debbie's contributions were legion, and we had looked forward to continued guidance, direction and contributions from them. Reggie was a mentor to many of our HCC Board members and paddlers, and thanks to his vision and guidance, our Board is the strongest that it's ever been. Reggie had a full understanding of the needs of our group, and he had the class and good grace to positively impact our paddling without ruffling feathers.

The HCC provides different things to all of us. Some folks just want to find out about trips and maybe learn how to have fun outdoors. But for some of us, the HCC gives a deep sense of belonging. From his last "Welcome New Member" letter, I quote:

"I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome you to what I commonly refer to as my extended family, the Hoosier Canoe Club."

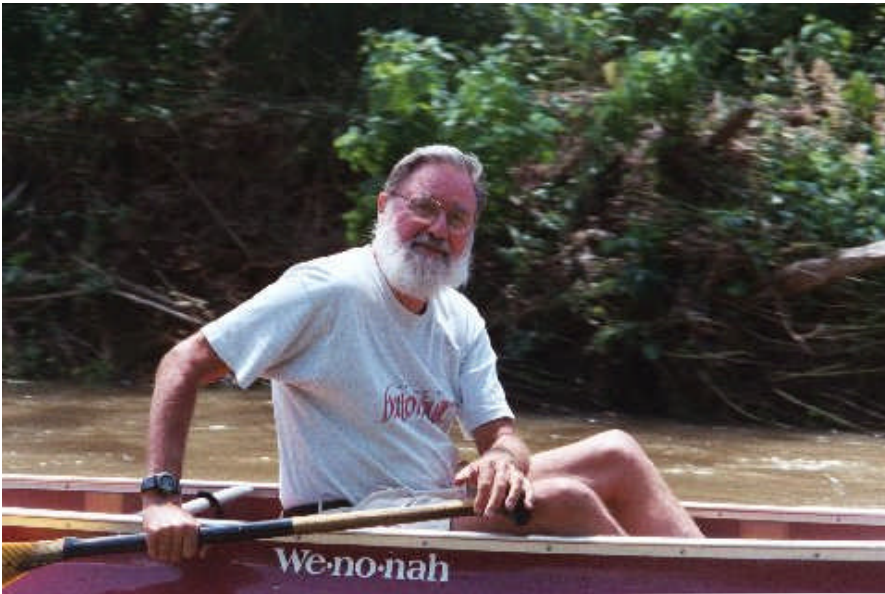
He sincerely meant that, I think. He really was like a family member for many of us, someone we would turn to for advice, and someone we could count on to help us learn and grow.

I received this today in an email from Skip Powers, one of Reggie's colleagues at the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM):

"He was known for his unbridled enthusiasm for all he embraced; his work with the state, his marriage with his equally enthusiastic wife Debbie and to the outdoor sports. In his 30 years with IDEM, including the former ISBH, he worked in the Air Pollution Division, served as Chief of Superfund in OER, worked in OWQ in the Wet Weather program and finally in Drinking Water as the counter-terrorism coordinator. He had a unique passion for the "silent sports." He was a proficient SCUBA diver for about 40 years, engaged in all the paddle sports including white water paddling and freestyle canoeing, enjoyed archery, cycling, cross country skiing, canoe camping and most recently, cruising around in his white BMW Z4. He was a person always pushing the edge; always, as he termed, "relentlessly pursuing perfection." And he was a mentor for many of us, including myself. He will be very much missed."

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

In Memory of Chuck Weis (1933 — 2009)



Most of you have heard by now, Chuck Weis passed away on January 31st.

Chuck was a key figure in protecting the Wildcat Valley. He was a former editor of Paddler Magazine, one of the founders of the USCA, and he was the best damn story teller I've had the pleasure to know.

There are only a few people who have had a large influence on where and how I paddle. Some taught me paddle strokes, how to brace, how to read a rapid. Some taught me shuttle routes, pointed out the best places to paddle. But Chuck taught me how to enjoy it, how to involve others, how important it is to share our enthusiasm, how important the campfire is at the end of the

day. He also showed me that I could enjoy flatwater just as much as whitewater. My first flatwater trip with the Wildcat Canoe Club was a Chuck trip!

And most importantly, he showed me how great it was to have your family involved. Ask my kids on any given day if they want to go paddle- they always do, and I've often hauled them along, mostly because of what I learned from Chuck Weis. He always went out of his way to involve both of them at Indiana Paddler's Rendezvous. He will be sorely missed.

Dan Valleskey

For additional information:

<http://www.iconline.com/article/20090202/OBITS/902020313/1114/OBITS>

Hello HCC!

Dan Valleskey

I feel my writing skills were taxed to the limit this month but there are a few things I need to talk about.

I chatted with Debbie Baker about Reggie's passing. She has been duly impressed with the pile of cards she has received. Deb wanted me to tell club members to watch a movie: Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure. "And to be cool, and party down, don't be down." (I could not make that up- if you know Debbie- you will understand.) Hey, I'm going to watch that movie on her say so. She is, of course, somewhat blown away by her loss. But by the time I was done talking with Deb on the phone, I was feeling positively buoyant. What an incredible personality.

Debbie has arranged with the Morgantown Conservation Club to set up a memorial for Reggie. If you feel so compelled, send a check made to them at P.O. Box 432, Morgantown, IN 46160. Mark your check - "In memory of Reggie Baker". Deb tells me that the MCC is a lot like the HCC, but they do have a facility to support, and they work hard to hang on to the little bit of woods they have set aside for their purposes. I know Reg and Deb enjoyed shooting archery there. It was a special place for the Bakers, it sounds like a very appropriate way in which to remember him.

Look for an announced "Memorial" get together (okay, I think Deb really wants to have a party, but we'll give it a grown up sounding name) when the weather breaks, after we have all had some time to come to terms with our loss. I am sure the HCC will also find some other ways to help remember Reggie's contributions to the club.

I want to share this sentiment, sent to me by a member of many years- *"Please share my love and concern*



with Debbie, and the HCC "old timers" who consider Reggie to be brother-father-uncle-son as well as beloved mentor and friend. May our warm memories of Reggie's vibrant spirit help quiet this awful sadness". Thanks much Patty, you said that so well- consider it shared.

I had talked about a raft trip for Labor Day weekend, I feel I need to back out of that. If you were looking forward to it- I apologize. Actually, if you wanted to, it would not be a difficult trip to do on your own, with family and friends. That is what I will end up doing. Get on the 'net, and look up the Nantahala Outdoor Center near Bryson City NC. Or give me a shout, I'd be glad to steer you in the right direction.

From the sneak peeks I've had of the trips schedule, I think we may have the best year ever for the HCC. I know Theresa has poured a lot of sweat into planning out a great year of paddle opportunities. Look the schedule over. If there are other trips you were looking for, we can always help you plan something later on. We have the Bulletin Broad, as well as the club E-list, to help promote trips and events. And we are working to keep communication lines open with other organizations. If we don't paddle it- someone else does!

As I finish writing this, it is the eve of St. Valentines Day. Always remember the old adage- Love many, trust a few, but always paddle your own canoe.

Dan Valleskey

New Location Announced for Annual Boat Demo, Saturday, March 7

Event: 2009 HCC—Whitewater Warehouse Boat Demo and Pro Paddle
When: Saturday, March 7, 2009, 3:30 - 6:30 PM
Where: Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
7725 North College Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240
Admission: \$10 per Boater or Family (kids and spectators free)
Contact: Jordan Ross, jross@iquest.net, 317-460-7000

Don't miss this chance the try out the new boats and get paddling tips from a super-expert. For the first time, this popular event will be held at the spacious indoor pool of the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Indianapolis. This is a modern facility with lots of deck space for demo and personal boats.

Bernie Farley and Jeryl Yantis from Whitewater Warehouse in Dayton, Ohio will be hauling a trailer-load of new boats from Wavesport, Dagger, Jackson, Pyranha, Liquid Logic and other companies for us to play with. The Warehouse carries rec and touring boats as well as whitewater models so please e-mail Jeryl if you are interested in a particular boat at <www@erinet.com>.

Again this year, Whitewater Warehouse has arranged for Pro Kayaker Brian Kirk to be at the Demo. Brian is a world-famous paddler and playboater whose photos are familiar to anyone flipping through the paddling magazines. Those of us who have seen Brian's amazing paddle skills and participated in his mini-clinics are eagerly awaiting his return. Brian is as friendly as he is famous. He's open to whatever we'd like to do so I'm sure we can talk him into clinics for beginner paddlers and advanced playboaters too. Corey Volt and other pro-boaters may make it there also so stay tuned to the HCC Bulletin Board for updates.

After the event, Brian, Jeryl and Bernie will join us at a nearby restaurant for brews, eats and river talk. Everyone is welcome to come.

Driving directions: From the interchange of I-465 and U.S. 31 (Meridian Street) on the north side of Indianapolis: go south on Meridian approximately one mile to 86th Street; turn left (east) on 86th to the first stoplight (College Avenue); turn right (south) on College less than one mile to the school entrance on the left.

To get to the indoor pool, make the first left after entering the school grounds. Turn right when you see the greenhouse. This road will curve left and take you to the large pool building. Turn right for parking. Boats can be taken directly into the pool through a door on the right side of the building.

More Information: Swimming and diving will not be allowed. Please make sure all boats are clean and rinsed free of mud, leaves and debris. Bring towels and locks for the lockers if you want to use them. The pool temperature is cooler than Thatcher Pool so a paddle jacket, vest or wet suit might be comfy. Paddle socks are useful for demo boats.



Flatwater Trips

What to Bring on a Flatwater Trip

- PFD (Personal Floatation Device) with attached whistle
- Spare Paddle
- 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.
- Sunglasses, sun/bug spray
- Lunch, snacks, drinks (hot or cold) plus water!
- **Cold Weather Protocol:** Change of clothes, gloves, and hat in a dry bag. No cotton clothing. (See "[Cool Paddling](#)" in the February 2008 HCC Newsletter)

Big Walnut Creek

Saturday, March 21, 2009

Trip Sponsor: Dave Ellis

Over the last 39 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.

In 2008, we had a nearly perfect trip from McCloud Nature Park to the second bridge above US36. This year I'll have a bias for doing the next section down stream – from two bridges above US36 to two bridges below.

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 21st 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 at 317-858-0963, (Cell 317-374-4956) or e-mail me at [<RiverPaPaw@aol.com>](mailto:RiverPaPaw@aol.com) by 6:00 pm Friday if you are going to join us as there may be last minute changes in plans.

Upper Fall Creek Trip

Saturday, March 28, 2009

Trip Sponsors: Joel DeLashmit, Dan Evard

Join us on a section of Fall Creek that is rarely canoeable. Most of the year low water prevents paddlers from enjoying this section of the creek. Be sure to pack a lunch and plenty to drink, as the trip length could vary depending on levels and obstacles.

Meeting Place: {N40° 0.129-W85° 45.332'} We will meet at the put-in at State Road 38 / W State St. Bridge (Pendleton) - American Legion parking on the southeast corner of the bridge. Pendleton is about a 45 minute drive from Indy.



Take-Out: {N39° 56.878' W85° 53.505'} Geist Park, plenty of parking with a gravel way to Creek

Trip Length: 9.8 miles

Expected Water Conditions: Very dependent on water levels

Schedule:

10:00 am	Gathering at the Meeting Place/Put-In
10:30 am	Shuttle leaves
11.30 pm	Start Paddling

Contact Information: Contact Joel DeLashmit or Dan Evard by 7:30 pm March 27th:

Joel DeLashmit, (317) 656-1597, idelashmit@awrsling (before 3:30pm to this e-mail)

Dan Evard, (317) 753-1226, danevard@aol.com

Whitewater Trips

NAWFest

March Fri. 20— 22, 2009

The Northern Alabama Whitewater Festival (NAWFest) is a national Whitewater competition that uses two areas for its events. One is Short Creek near Guntersville, Alabama and the other is King's Bend with access to the Locus Fork river near the city of Cleveland, Alabama. In the past three years, NAWFest has brought together some of the world's best whitewater kayakers for fun, entertainment and competition. Since its conception in 2005 with 200 attendees and competitors, to more than 1,300 in 2007 and almost 1,800 in 2008, this festival has become one of the best in the Southeast.

As one of the largest festivals in the United States, NAWFest kicks off freestyle events for the United States Freestyle Committee's yearly schedule of events. NAWFest prides itself in offering not only a family environment, but a full itinerary filled with food, refreshments, games, raffles, camping, music, media coverage, competition and good ole' fashioned southern hospitality.

Note: This NAWFest information was excerpted from the NAWFest web site. Please go to this site for more complete information: <http://www.nawfest.com/>

Note: This event is very water dependent and is also quite far away so that HCC involvement will depend on water level. Please check the White Water Forum in the Bulletin Board to check conditions and interest level.

Muskrat's 32nd Annual April Fools On Big Pine Cruise

Saturday, April 4th, 2009

Trip Sponsor: Garry Hill

Big Pine Creek is the best Whitewater Stream in Indiana, but it's nearly dry and not paddable 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 by phone or email well before the date of the Trip. In addition, members of Muskrat's Wildcat Creek Expeditions can watch for an email Newsletter "Last Minute Update" which will arrive Friday evening before the Trip, and will contain a description of the expected water level and type of difficulties you can expect.

Date: Saturday April 4th 2009

Meeting Time: 9:30 AM. Be there early!!!

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

Contact Information: If you're interested in attending this Cruise, but have concerns about your abilities or equipment, please feel free to contact me well before the date of the Trip. Garry Hill (765-628-3155, GarryHill@aol.com)

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, my Expedition Team Members can 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. If I can get off the phone long enough, I will post an Email Update.

Memorial To Wildcat Paddler Chuck Weis: Muskrat will hold a Memorial Service for Chuck Weis on the morning of this Cruise. The service will be held under the Rainsville Bridge, which is also the location of the "Chuck Weis Big Pine Creek Gauge".

***See You On The River,
Muskrat***

Webster Wildwater Weekend

Big Drop's & Orange Crush's Week of Rivers (WV & TN)

Trip Sponsors: Bob Heckler, Randy Parker

Friday April 3- 5, 2009

Friday April 3-11, 2009

This year, we plan to combine two classic HCC spring trips. This year's trip will begin at Webster Springs for the "Wild Water Weekend" that we have been attending for years. This is a great festival to start off the season in a real paddler friendly location.

Off river, the weekend festival is based at Camp Caesar, the 4-H camp for Webster County, in Cowen, West Virginia. (See <http://www.campcaesar.info/> for directions.) There are heated dormitory-style cabins with bunk beds and shared bathrooms. (Please note that bedding, pillows, and towels are not provided.) A "family style" buffet breakfast and dinner on Saturday 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.

For Friday and Saturday nights, April 3 and 4, the club reservations (under Jordan Ross) for a 15-bed cabin: Oriole (where we've stayed for the past two years). Cost is \$10 per person per night. Since we have to pay for this up front, the first 15 people to pay in advance get reserved beds. This is a popular event and things fill up fast, so don't wait! To confirm your reservation, please send a check for \$20 per bed (\$10 per person x 2 nights) to Jordan Ross, 5418 White Willow Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46254.

If you wait too long and we can't accommodate you at Oriole cabin, Jordan will return your check



and you'll have to call Camp Caesar directly to reserve a bed (individual bunks in dorm-style lodging across the road at Slabside cabin are \$15 per person per night). Also, if you plan to arrive on Thursday or stay Sunday night, call Camp Caesar for availability (304-226-3888).

Webster Wildwater Weekend centers around a downriver race on a class II section of the Elk River nearby. Novices as well as expert racers are invited to compete. For more info on festival events, see their website: <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. Paddling plan for Friday and Saturday will depend on rain, skill level, and personal interest. Options include the Back Fork of the Elk (II-IV), the Elk (II-III), as well as the so-called "fruit basket" of Gauley River tributaries: Cranberry, Cherry, and Williams. (For more info on sections/classes, see the AW website: <http://www.americanwhitewater.org/>). On Sunday, the most common run that we have done in the past is the Middle Meadow (III+), a relatively short, roadside run that includes the "Miracle Mile" section with lots of play spots.

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. Check the weather and come prepared with appropriate cold-weather paddling gear.

On Sunday, many Webster Spring goers will head back home, but for Orange Crush and Big Drop, the fun will just be beginning. From there, they will head south towards Tennessee and hit popular Class 3 and 4 rivers along the way. Most likely, on Monday they will hit the Upper Meadow and perhaps move towards the Nolichucky and/or the Tellico for a Tuesday trip. By Wednesday morning, they probably will be waking up under the infamous Nemo bridge and making plans to run the Plateau for the next few days. The Obed, Clear Creek, and Daddy's creek are all favorites that will be targeted depending on water levels. Perhaps this will be the year we get lucky and can hit something new like the Piney River or Island Creek. By Friday, they will be heading back and may get a quick fix on the Rockcastle River in Kentucky.

As always with whitewater trips, check the Bulletin Board for more details as the date approaches.

Contact Information: Robert Heckler <rheckler@ecps.org>

Other Events

Canoecopia 2009 Madison, Wisconsin

March 13 –15, 2009

Canoecopia is one of the largest canoe and kayak expositions in the world. This exposition runs from Friday through Sunday (March 13-15). If you're looking for gear, you will be able to see the latest in canoes, kayaks, paddling gear, camping equipment, and clothing from about 100 vendors in the Exposition Hall. If you're looking for a bargain, merchandise is typically 15% off and some vendors may have even better deals on close-out items. It's a great chance to look over and evaluate the equipment you've read about on the web and in magazines.

In addition to cool boats and gear, there will be presentations and clinics on paddling techniques, trip experiences, places to paddle, and instructional information. Canoecopia provides over 50 different educational sessions that you can choose from.

The cost of the show for the weekend is \$15. Watch the 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>



2009 HCC Trips Calendar

Theresa Kulczak

The 2009 trip calendars are officially launched and we're sure they'll float your boat! Thanks to the advance work and support of many of the directors and members, we're excited about the upcoming year with great trips lined up for flatwater, whitewater and bluewater!

You'll note that there's even more variety in the flatwater schedule, with new locations, several overnight trips, a cleanup, a paddle-to-dinner, our perennial favorites, and a "Back to School Splash" family trip! We especially want to thank the new trip leaders who have helped to put some new offerings on the chart. Although some of our senior paddlers have retired from leading trips, we continue to offer the club's beloved traditions, such as the Ice Falls on Sugar Creek and the Covered Bridge Festival paddle on Raccoon Creek. Don't miss the beautiful summertime paddles at Eagle Creek Reservoir on Tuesdays, with a free park pass offered only by the HCC!

The whitewater schedule promises rapid upon rapid of adventure and excitement! The HCC whitewater gang doesn't miss a stroke, and you'll find major whitewater events and the best action rivers in the region on tap. For hardy adventurers with advanced whitewater skills, the Jackson Hole trip will be a highlight of the year. For all of us WW wannabes, beginner and intermediate trips are in the works. First ya gotta learn how to roll! Yes, the HCC sessions at Thatcher Pool on Wednesdays continue in the warm months, too!

Still in planning are what promise to be excellent clinics for newer paddlers, as well as the Swift Water Rescue Clinic which has become one of our most important and popular offerings. Our Skipper wants us to set our sights on the "DNR Hoosier Outdoor Experience" mega event in September, and "yours truly" encourages all pirates and buccaneers not to miss the second annual Pirate Paddle in October!

And the best news is: there's still more to come! Stay tuned to the website Bulletin Board for call-up trips and new offerings. If you have ideas about trips you'd like to see (or lead), let us know!

Woo hoo! See ya at the put-in, maties!



Indiana Paddler's Rendezvous 2008

Theresa Kulczak
Executive Officer



2009 HCC Schedule

General Schedule

Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor(s)
March 7	Pool Demo, Indiana School for the Blind	Jordan Ross
May 9	Moving Water Clinic	Garry Hill
June 6	HCC Cleanup on Fall Creek, Indianapolis, IN.	Kellie Kaneshiro
June 7	Eagle Creek Paddle-to-Dinner, Zionsville, IN.	Mike Miller
June 20	Triathlon, Eagle Creek, Indianapolis, IN.	Jan Sneddon
July 18	Triathlon, Eagle Creek, Indianapolis, IN.	Jan Sneddon
August 22	Triathlon, Eagle Creek, Indianapolis, IN.	Jan Sneddon
August 29	Go Girl Triathlon. Eagle Creek, Indianapolis, IN.	Jan Sneddon
Sept. 25-27	Hoosier Outdoor Experience, Fort Harrison State Park Indianapolis, IN	Dan Valleskey
Oct. 3	Pirate Paddle & Party, White River, Noblesville, IN.	Theresa Kulczak
Nov. 15	HCC Annual Fall Meeting	Dan Valleskey

Flatwater Schedule

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

Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor(s)
Feb 28	Ice Falls Trip on Sugar Creek	Dwayne James
March 21	Big Walnut, Bainbridge, IN	Dave Ellis
March 28	Upper Fall Creek, Pendleton, IN	Joel DeLashmit, Dan Evard
April 4	Muskrat's April Fools on Big Pine, Pine Village, IN	Garry Hill
April 11	Lower Big Pine, Pine Village, IN	Dwayne James
April 18	Sand Creek, Westport, IN	Richard Tekulve
April 25	Big Blue, Shelbyville, IN	Joel DeLashmit
May 2 - 3	Friends of Muscatatuck Paddle, Camp & Canoe Race	Theresa Kulczak
May 9	Moving Water Clinic, TBD	Garry Hill
May 16 - 17	Blue River Paddle and Camp, Milltown, IN	Sue Foxx, Jim Sprandel
May 30	Driftwood River, Edinburg, IN	Linda Smith, Dan Evard
June 7	Eagle Creek Paddle-to-Dinner, Zionsville, IN	Mike Miller
June 13	Laughery Creek & Versailles Lake	Joel DeLashmit
June 20	Eel River Iron Bridge Festival, Stockdale, IN	Sue Foxx, Jim Sprandel
June 26-27	Ohio River Way Paddlefest, Cincinnati, OH http://www.ohioriverway.org/paddlefest/	Earl King
June 29	<i>Michiana Paddlefest, South Bend, IN</i> http://www.paddlefest.org/	
July 25	Salt Creek (Hoosier National Forest), Elkinsville, IN	Joel DeLashmit
Jul 31 - Aug 2	Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous, Wildcat Creek	Garry Hill
August 8	Evening Paddle on Westwood Lake, New Castle, IN	Joel DeLashmit
August 23	Wabash River, France Park, Logansport, IN	Sue Foxx, Jim Sprandel
Oct 3	Pirate Paddle & Party, White River, Noblesville, IN	Theresa Kulczak
Oct 17 - 18	Raccoon Creek/Covered Bridge Festival, Bainbridge, IN	Dwayne James, Jim Clendenin
Oct 31- Nov 1	Pigeon and Fawn Rivers, Mongo, IN	Dan Valleskey
Nov 7	Mississinewa River Seven Pillars, Miss. Dam	Dick Fetty
Jan 1, 2010	Annual New Year's Day Paddle	TBA



2009 HCC Schedule (continued)

Touring Boat (Bluewater) Schedule

Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor(s)
June 13	Laughery Creek & Versailles Lake	Joel DeLashmit
July 12	Cataract Falls/Cagles Mill Lake, Lieber SRA	Jim Sprandel
August 8	Evening Paddle on Westwood Lake, New Castle, IN	Joel DeLashmit
August 15	New Buffalo, Lake Michigan	Jim Sprandel
Sept 19-20	Patoka Lake Paddle, Wickliffe, IN	Kellie Kaneshiro Jim Sprandel
Oct 10 & 11	Lake Monroe Paddle, Bloomington, IN	Jim Sprandel

Whitewater Schedule

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

Date	Trip	Trip Sponsor(s)
Feb. 20-21	National Paddling Film Festival/Big South Fork Frankfort, KY Oneida, TN	Jordan Ross
March 7	Pool Demo, Indiana School for the Blind	Jordan Ross
<i>March 20-22</i>	<i>Northern Alabama Whitewater Festival (NAWFest) http://www.nawfest.com/ -</i>	
April 3-5	Webster Wildwater Weekend	Contact Jordan for Cabin
April 3-11	Big Drop & Orange Crush's Week of Rivers (WV & TN)	Bob Heckler, Randy Parker
April 18	Beginner's trip to Elkhorn in Frankfort, KY (II-II+)	Rob Friedman, Mitch Merritt
Apr 24-26	Stonycreek Rendezvous, Johnstown, PA	
May 1-3	Cheat Fest, Cheat River, WV (II-IV) (http://cheat.org/festival/)	
May 23-25	Memorial Day Weekend/Wisconsin Whitewater - Wolf, Red, Peshtigo, Menominee (II-IV)	Jordan Ross
June Weekend	Nantahala (II+)	Susan Rapp/Monica Davis
July 4-11	Jackson Hole, Wyoming	Randy Parker, Bob Heckler
July 18-19	New River (III-IV)	Jordan Ross
July 25-26	Ocoee (III+)	Jordan Ross
July 31-Aug. 2	Upper (IV-V) & Lower (III) Yough, PA	Jordan Ross
Aug. 15-16	Swift Water Rescue Clinic (Tentative)	Jordan Ross/ Sharon Schierling
Aug 22	Ohiopyle Falls Festival (II+-IV) (http://www.fallsrace.com/)	Barry Welling
Sept 5-7	Beaver River in New York (IV-V)	Randy Parker
Sept 12-13	Gauley First Release, WV (III-V)	Sharon Schierling, Jordan Ross
Sept 18-20	Gauley Fest - Gauley River, WV, (III-V)- (http://www.americanwhitewater.org/c...w:events_gauley)	Susan Rapp
Oct 3-4	Gauley Fall Colors, Gauley River, WV, (III-V)	Jordan Ross
Oct 17-18	Bridge Day (New River Gorge)/Gauley Last Release	Susan Rapp
Oct 31-Nov 1	Halloween/Ocoee Fall Colors/Ocoee Last Release,	Jordan Ross
Nov. 6-8	Tohicken Creek, PA (III-IV)	Randy Parker



Looking for a Few Good Committee Members

Spring is in the air and everyone's thoughts naturally turn to conservation. Our club bylaws list three objectives, one of which is "to promote the preservation of natural waterways and natural resources." In that spirit, a Conservation Committee is being formed to promote these activities. Currently being planned is a Fall Creek clean-up on June 6th, and other activities (which you, yes, you can have an impact on) later in the paddling season. Don't wait to join the Conservation Committee! Contact Kellie Kaneshiro at: conserv@hoosiercanooclub.org

Kellie Kaneshiro
Conservation Chair

Got GPS—Try Geocaching

John Wainscott

I wrote an article on this a few years ago and thought to re-introduce geocaching. On our recent, successful, pirate trip, I managed to get in one successful geocaching hunt.

Geocaching is basically a treasure hunt with a handheld GPS. Using your GPS, you are guided to a location that may contain a hidden container with treasures, or just a visual site, a web cam or a clue to your next location. Usually, if it is a standard cache, it will be a large container such as a military ammo box. Inside this box will be a note book for you to sign and date for proof. Also, there will be trivets to take for souvenirs, you can also leave one.

This phenomenon is world wide. You can geocache just about anywhere in the world. To start, go to www.geocaching.com, enter a zip code or address and see what's in store for you. Read the comments and view the pictures. You will be surprised to find that many geocache sites have been added to waterways and are only accessible by boat. Try it on your next trip or see what's in your neighborhood.

Reminder—Get your 2009 DNR Lake Permits

You must have a 2009 DNR Lake Permit if you want to paddle your boat in Indiana state parks, state-managed reservoirs, or state forests. Annual permits are still 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/>

The permit should be affixed on the left, front side (port side) of your boat.

This permit should be placed on any boat that will be on the water at Indiana state parks, state-managed reservoirs or state forests. This includes the main bodies of water and all fishing ponds/lakes at Patoka Lake, Brookville Lake, Hardy Lake, Monroe Lake, Salamonie Lake, Mississinewa Lake, Roush (Huntington) Lake, Cagles Mill (Lieber) Lake, Cecil M. Harden (Raccoon) Lake. It also includes Worster Lake at Potato Creek State Park, Kunkel Lake at Ouabache State Park, Summit Lake at Summit Lake State Park, Versailles Lake at Versailles State Park, Ogle and Strahl Lakes at Brown County State Park, Lakes Shakamak, Lenape and Kickapoo at Shakamak State Park, all lakes at Chain O'Lakes State Park, Spring Mill Lake at Spring Mill State Park, Whitewater Lake at Whitewater State Park, Lake Lincoln and Weber Lake at Lincoln State Park.

The permit is required at all lakes at state forest properties. Public access sites maintained by the Division of Fish and Wildlife and Indiana streams do not require this permit.

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.

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Upcoming Events

Wednesdays 7 pm	Pool Sessions —Thatcher Pool, Indianapolis, IN	Feb. 2009 Newsletter
Saturday Mar. 7 3:30 - 6:30 PM	HCC/Whitewater Warehouse Pool Demo and Pro Paddle Indianapolis Blind School Pool	Page 3
Mar. 13-15	<i>Canoecopia, Madison WI</i>	Page 7
Fri. Mar 20 – 22	<i>Whitewater Trip: NAWfest</i>	Page 5
Saturday, Mar. 21	Flatwater Trip: Big Walnut Creek	Page 4
Saturday, Mar. 28	Flatwater Trip: Upper Fall Creek Trip	Page 4
Fri. Apr. 3 - 5 Fri. Apr. 3 - 11	Whitewater Trip: Webster Wildwater Weekend Whitewater Trip: Big Drop & Orange Crush's Week of Rivers (WV & TN)	Page 6
Saturday April 4	Muskrat's 32nd Annual April Fools On Big Pine Cruise	Page 5

April Newsletter Deadline: Please submit articles to Jim Sprandel by Sunday, March 15, 2009. Please E-Mail articles to merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or call Jim at 317-257-2063.

