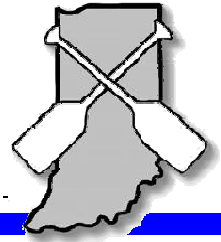


# The Hoosier Paddler



Volume 48, Issue 3

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

April 2010

## Hello, HCC

Dan Valleskey

It is fun being involved in the canoe club this time of year. Especially this year; our trips calendar looks fantastic! And I get to go paddle on some of these trips! Life is good. But there are a couple things going on behind the scenes you should know about.

*Safety Outreach Committee:* Our Safety Outreach committee has applied for a small grant to design and print materials that might help educate the public about things on the river that can hurt people. The intended audience is not HCC paddlers. Not to say all of our people know everything there is to know about staying safe on the river but we will address that as we can. However, the river fatalities in our area in the last couple of years are upsetting. Statistically, a paddle trip is pretty safe. But when something bad does happen, it makes us all look bad. So we are focusing on educating new paddlers and renters about the *BIG THINGS* that can hurt them. High water, cold water, strainers, not wearing PFDs and low-head dams top the list. Theresa Kulczak is heading up this effort, Jordan Ross, Terry Busch, and Mariann Davis and I are also involved. We are putting forth serious club resources, I'm sure you will hear more about it in coming months. And maybe, one day you will see a poster in a store, and you will be able to point to it and say, "Hey, My canoe club made that."

*Moving Water Paddle Clinic:* We have scheduled an Intermediate Moving Water paddle clinic for May 8. There are still some details to work out, there might be more information in the next newsletter, but enrollment is first come-first served, so don't wait to register. We will run it a lot like we did last year. You hapless open boaters will again be stuck with your humble servant (me). Kayakers are luckier- Dave Ellis, Garry Hill, and Joel DeLashmit actually know how to paddle! (I've been faking it a lot the last 20 years.) Similar classes at commercial schools would run about \$175 for a single instruction day on the water. Consider this a real bargain! Get your money in to Sue Foxx, she is arranging everything for us. See Sue's article on the next page of this issue for details.

*Beginner Paddling Class:* I am often asked for ideas on a "total beginner" class, for the people who don't have a clue about starting out. I know there is demand for such a class. Unfortunately, we do not plan to offer it at this time. If that is what you are looking for, talk to Rusted Moon, NURPU, Central Indiana Wilderness Club, or the internet "Indy Kayak" meet up group. The HCC is running full speed ahead in several other directions at this time, I just don't see a Beginners Class in our future. Reggie Baker has been gone for a while now, this is just one more area where I really miss him. Team Baker did wonders for our club when it came to teaching newbies.

*White River-465 Construction:* The construction on 465 on the North side of Indianapolis has greatly affected the White River. If you must paddle under 465, pay a lot of attention to the causeway they have built. I ran through there last month, the portage is tough. At some levels, it might be possible to drift through the largest culvert tube. The current just below the causeway is very fast, but steel sea walls and other equipment make play uninviting. The good thing that happened to me on that float was seeing a pair of bald eagles on the far South side of Town Run Trail, at the gravel pit.

*Venture Crew:* Our Venture Crew is off and running. Or should I say, off and paddling. We are looking to meet at Thatcher to watch the poolies in action. My email plea resulted in lots of offers to help teach, but brought us no new kids. What we need right now are young people ages 14 to 20 to paddle with us. Anyone have a niece or nephew, grandchild or child that needs to put down the Nintendo for a while?

*Club History Article:* Mariann Davis's history article in last month's issue has attracted a lot of attention! If you somehow missed it, go back and read it. We will find a special place on the web page for it. Once again, thank you Mariann, you have helped put the HCC on the map.

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*The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club*

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*HCC Web Page:* Speaking of the web page, we are looking at touching it up a little bit. Roger Kugler continues to do a great job with the pages, he is very responsive to our requests. We have a good system in place, web ideas get vetted by the Board, then Jim Sprandel passes them along to Roger. (I try not to short cut the system too often).

*Newsletter Editor needed for 2011:* Speaking of Jim Sprandel! I'm sure if you are reading this you have noticed that our little canoe club (no longer the biggest in the state) has been putting out newsletters worthy of awards! Of course, we have Jim Sprandel to thank for this. The bad news is, he has done his stint, he has other plans, and he has made it clear that we need to find a new editor for next year. More good news though, he has some ideas on how to make the job a little easier. (Jim usually has pretty good ideas.) He will help train whoever takes over the job. Duties can be segmented and shared by several people—making it easier and smaller. We are also lucky to have Dan Evard and Linda Smith on our board, they have provided fantastic service from their printing company, Morris Printing.

Being editor would be a great chance to learn valuable skills! (I sound like a college advert., don't I?). But the sort of skills that go into producing a high quality newsletter for a canoe club are directly applicable to many jobs. It might not be the toughest job in the club (well, maybe-). But this is one way to step into the workings of the HCC without a lot of background knowledge, and become an influential member of our board. We will get you the software and even get buy ink for your printer. Here is a unique opportunity for someone to make a real difference in the paddlesport community in Indiana, and you do not have to be an expert paddler. I would take the job myself, Jim and I have discussed it, but I have other plans.

Please contact me if you might be interested in the newsletter production process. Or send me an email for any other reason! I always try to respond to members, this is not my club, this is your club. Tell me how to run it. Besides, I just like chatting with paddlers, they are the greatest people around. I don't see all of you, sometimes I am on different rivers so I might miss out hearing your ideas about your HCC

Dan Valleskey ([danpaddles@gmail.com](mailto:danpaddles@gmail.com))

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## Moving Water Clinic for Canoes and Kayaks — Saturday, May 8, 2010

**Goals:** To help intermediate paddlers learn to safely paddle more challenging Indiana river and streams. This course is open to both kayakers and canoeists (tandem or solo). Garry Hill, Joel DeLashmit and Dave Ellis will teach on-the-water sessions for kayakers and Dan Valleskey will teach canoeists.

**Target Students:** Participants must have enough paddling experience to already comfortably paddle in swifter water and currents. Students must have their own kayaks or canoes.

**Course Description:** This clinic will start with a bank-side talk but you will spend most of the day on the water. During the talk, the instructors will explain river features, moving water dynamics, and then how to use this knowledge while paddling the river. On the water, students will work on refining skills and increasing control.

### Equipment needed:

- Closed-cockpit Kayak or Tandem or Solo Canoe  
**Important** Each kayaker must bring a spray skirt and must know how to wet exit from their kayak before coming to the clinic.
- PFD (must be worn)
- Paddle(s), water shoes, water bottle(s), sun screen, and lunch.
- Appropriate Dress – The weather may be warm but dress for cold water since the water will probably be in the 50s. Wear paddle-specific top and pants if you have them. Be sure to carry a spare set of clothing since you will be working with new boat maneuvers so you just might get wet.

### Course Plan

**Location:** Fall Creek with put-in to be announced

**Time:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm

**Course Size:** 18 Kayaks and 6 Canoes. Students will be accepted on a first come basis.

**Registration:** \$10/student registration fee. Please mail your check made out to *Hoosier Canoe Club* along with your name, E-Mail address, phone number, type of boat, and paddling experience to:

**Sue Foxx**, 5241 Whisperwood Lane, Indianapolis, IN 46226



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## Thursday Evenings at Eagle Creek Park

Kellie Kaneshiro

Please note that we are changing from Tuesday evenings to Thursday evenings starting in May of this year. The change was made so as not to compete with the park's popular jazz concert series.

I am working on a Partnership Agreement with Eagle Creek Park for 2010. In return for Hoosier Canoe Club members being able to paddle with no entrance fees on Thursday evenings, the club will provide one escort and offer instruction for canoe or kayak once per week during the park's evening paddle program (8 week duration). Club members will also provide 49 volunteer hours for shoreline trash clean-up. HCC Zero drowning campaign information will also be provided to the park.

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## Paddle Fishing Announcement

### Waveland Lake Fishing Trip

Saturday, May 1, 2010

#### Trip Sponsors: Jay Moyer

On Saturday May 1st, my wife Gina and I plan on fishing Waveland Lake near Shades State Park. This little jewel of a lake has provided much enjoyment for us and hopefully the paddling anglers out there will enjoy it as well. We will be on the water at 9:00 am but if you decide to come later by all means come on out, put in at the ramp, and join us later in the day.

There is a nice fish cleaning house at the ramp and there are charcoal grills. If you want to fry up your fish, we plan on staying till the late evening. And if enough people want to, we can camp overnight and fish the next morning as well.

Please remember to bring your poles, life vest, and fishing license. If you have never canoe/kayak fished before, get on the HCC Bulletin Board and ask some questions on the [Fishing Forum](#) of the HCC Bulletin Board.

**Directions:** Lake Waveland Park is about 5.5 miles east of Turkey Run State Park on State Road 47, north side of the road, easy to find. There is a gate fee of 5 dollars per car for day use (if my memory serves me correctly) and DNR lake sticker which should be available at the gate (if not Turkey Run down the road should have them).

**Contact Information:** Please call Jay Moyer by Friday up until 11:30 pm and tell him if you plan on attending or to find if it has been canceled due to inclement weather. 765-376-6316

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## Flatwater Trip Announcements

### Upper Sand Creek Trip

Saturday, April 3, 2010

#### Trip Sponsor: Richard Tekulve

Venture Southeast to Decatur County to paddle one of Indiana's premier float streams. We will experience a 10.6 mile trip on the upper part of Sand Creek that is referred to as the "Canyon Section". A sand/gravel bottom, steep limestone bluffs, and clear flowing water traditionally characterize this creek. This will be a different trip from past years as this section will be narrower and more challenging averaging 40-80 ft. wide with a decent gradient of 8.1 feet per mile. Our put-in will be at a new Decatur Co. Park and Recreation site with a small paved parking lot.

**Note:** Upper Sand Creek like all Southeast Indiana streams is mood stricken with low water and can be totally unpredictable even at the Springtime levels. Several area streams can be substituted if proper flow patterns do not exist. I will scout Sand Creek and other nearby streams such as Vernon Fork Muscatatuck, Laughery, Otter, Graham, Clifty, Big, Flatrock, Driftwood, and East Fork White on Friday April 2nd.

**Meeting Time:** 9:30 am.

**Shuttle:** 19 miles (round trip)

**Tentative meeting place:** Iron Bridge Park at County Road 500 S., bridge over Sand Creek.

**Directions:** From the junction of SR3 and SR 46 (West of Greensburg), take SR 3 South 3 miles to CR



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500 S. Turn left (East) onto County Road 500 S. and go 1 ¼ miles to the Iron Bridge Park put-in. The take out will be at the Westport dam (public access site) just downstream from the Westport covered bridge.

**Trip length:** 10.6 miles

**Contact information:** Richard Tekulve. Please email me at [canoeindiana@yahoo.com](mailto:canoeindiana@yahoo.com) or call (812) 346-7921 (home) or (812)592-0661 (cell) by 10 PM Friday night to see if an alternative route is to be put into effect. If you need to contact me on the day of the trip, please call my cell (812) 592-0661.

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### Big Blue River Trip

Saturday, April 17, 2010

**Trip Sponsor:** Joel DeLashmit

Join us on an exciting trip down the Big Blue River through Shelbyville. This section of river begins with wooded banks, passes under six bridges, through many fields and ends at a city park. During spring, this river can be very swift. We will stop at a sand bar to enjoy lunch or a snack. Although this section of the river passes through a bit of the urban part of Shelbyville, most of it is farmland. Much wildlife can be seen on this trip, I have seen a bald eagle and a young owl was spotted during last year's paddle. Pictures and a short video from last years trip can be seen at:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/JoelDeLashmit/BigBlueRiver042509#>

<http://picasaweb.google.com/JoelDeLashmit/BigBlueRiverVid#>

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/merlin3d/sets/72157617312780648/>

**Meeting Place:** {N39°36'39.71", W85°44'58.30"} We will meet at the put-in, Roger Shaw Park in Shelbyville which is about 40 minutes from Indianapolis. Travel Southeast on I-74 to SR 9 (Exit 113) then turn left to head North 4.25 miles to CR 600 N. Turn right and travel 0.92 miles, the park is on the right side just before the bridge.

**Take-Out:** {N39°31'33.68" W85°47'22.18"} Sunset Park in Shelbyville.

**Trip Length:** 9.1 miles

**Expected Water Conditions:** Good current with some calm spots

**Schedule:**

9:30 am	Gather at the Meeting Place/Put-In
10:00 am	Shuttle leaves
10.30 pm	Start Paddling

**Trip Requirements:** There are some strainers and water levels may produce swift current so good boat control is absolutely necessary in these areas. If water levels are lower, portages may be an option. Please call with questions or concerns. The river will be scouted sometime before the trip, so check the bulletin board closer to time for any changes.

**Contact Information:** Contact Joel DeLashmit by 9 pm Friday April 16th at [joeldelashmit@gmail.com](mailto:joeldelashmit@gmail.com) or (317) 656-1597 if you plan to paddle.

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### South Fork of the Wildcat.

Saturday, May 15, 2010

**Trip Sponsor:** Jeff Matthews

.Come paddle the slightly smaller brother of the Wildcat. The South Fork drains Clinton and Tippecanoe counties as it runs west, then north to meet the main branch of the Wildcat trio. Running through farm and forest landscapes, it gathers considerable volume picking up water from several feeders—Prairie, Killmore, and the Middle Fork along with smaller streams. Always good wildlife viewing, including sightings of great horned owls hunting during the day. Plus, eagle sightings are up from previous years.

The South Fork is a flat stream, but frequent tight turns and timber that seems to have legs require basic maneuvering skills. It may be May, but the water will still think it's March. Dress for the weather, but carry extra clothing packed in water tight bags just in case. All other club safety requirements apply.

I have paddled the creek down to 75 cfs. High water is always relative to the skill levels of the individual paddler. I will run the creek during the week prior to the trip (again ) and make a determination regarding high water if it is an issue.



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**Meeting and Launch Location:** We will meet at the access site on St Rd 38 east of Dayton. The take out will be Wildcat Park at the confluence with the Wildcat (North Fork).

**Directions to Meeting Location:** The Dayton PAS is located on Tippecanoe county road 800 E, just north of Hwy 38, at the bridge. The easiest route is I 65 to St Rd 38 (Dayton exit), then east on 38, 1.5 miles. Cross the creek and immediately turn left on 800 E. You will see the PAS at that point. Turn left on the first drive off 800 E. If coming from the east or northeast, using U.S. 31 as a reference, take St Rd 26 west to U.S. 421 at Rossville, then south to St Rd 38, and west through Mulberry into Tippecanoe County, and on to the bridge. Turn right on 800 E, then left at the PAS. Arrive by 10:00 am.

**Trip Length:** 9.5 miles.

**Contact Information:** Contact me by telephone or E-mail anytime for questions, and within 5 days prior to the trip to confirm your intent to be there. I can be reached at [riverdog\\_46041@yahoo.com](mailto:riverdog_46041@yahoo.com) or 765-427-8499. If water conditions dictate a change I will post on the Club site Friday prior, and be at the put-in regardless, on the day of the trip. Thanks, see you there.

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## Flatwater/Whitewater Trip Announcements

**Muskrat's 33rd Annual April Fools On Big Pine Cruise**  
**Trip Sponsor: Garry Hill**

**Saturday, April 10, 2010**

"Muskrat's 33rd Annual April Fools on Big Pine (AFOBP) Cruise" will be held Saturday April 10th, 2010.

As usual, as "forever", our AFOBP meeting time is 9:30 am at our traditional gathering location, in downtown Pine Village. Please don't go to the put-in! Go to Pine Village.

Nearly every year, the put-in is not announced until we meet in Pine Village. There are 5 different launch sites that we have used through the years, and the choice is made in consideration of water level, weather, and local conditions.

***Just be in Pine Village by 9:30 am.***

Two additional meeting locations are available in Kokomo and in Lafayette. Directions to the other two meeting places are contained in the complete trip announcement reposted to the HCC Bulletin Board at <http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/forums/showthread.php?t=3502> .

**Pine Village Directions:** Pine Village is located on SR-26, about 20-miles west of Lafayette (Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer Page 30], at the junction of SR-26 & SR-55, in beautiful, downtown Pine Village.

The boat-laden auto caravan will arrive in Pine Village at, about, around, or somewhat after 9:30 AM. Be there early! Park anywhere downtown. Expect to see paddler-people wandering around in the middle of the highway. The locals just ignore us. They know we're harmless and that we'll soon be gone

**Expected Paddling Conditions:** I know there are many of you who are not familiar with Big Pine Creek, so let me pass on a word of caution. My April Fools Trip is a bit different from the normal paddling trip, so I think it's prudent to describe this event a bit more in detail.

Big Pine Creek is the best whitewater stream in Indiana, with several rapids of Class II when the flow is over 1-foot on the Rainsville Gauge. 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 draws paddlers like "flies to roadkill".

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

**Last Minute Updates:** 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 before 7 pm, so call after that time. I'll



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be taking calls all evening, and may not have time to return your call if you leave a message before 7 pm. Also, look for a Last-Minute Email Update! If I can get off the phone long enough, I will post an E-mail update.

**Contact Information:** Muskrat, [GarryHill@aol.com](mailto:GarryHill@aol.com), 765-628-3155 home

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## **Memorial Day New River/Gauley River Trip, WV**

**Friday-Monday May 28-31, 2010**

### **Trip Sponsors: The Gates Family**

The Gates Family will be sponsoring a trip to the New/Gauley Rivers area on Memorial Day Weekend (May 28 - 31, 2010). Momma Gates, Lori, Tiffany, and I will be camping at ACE, more than likely, and using them for rafting.

I will be leading the kayaking trips while Momma Gates, Lori, and Tiffany will be running the rafting portion. This trip will have many options for everyone, so if you can't, or are not willing to run down Class IV or V whitewater in a kayak or canoe, then you can raft or enjoy the many other activities at ACE.

Momma Gates and I will be conducting our famous "Gates style" camping with all the fixin's so don't miss out on a great time!

**Contact Information:** To get more information, you can call Shirley, Lori, Tiffany, or John Gates for details. See you in May!

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## **Whitewater Trip Announcements**

### **Webster Wildwater Weekend, WV**

**Friday-Sunday, April 9-11, 2010**

#### **Trip Sponsors: Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling**

The "Wild Water Weekend" in Webster Springs, WV is a great festival for Hoosiers to start off the season in a really paddler-friendly location. Base camp for the festival is Camp Caesar, a 4-H camp for Webster County near Cowen, West Virginia. (See <http://www.campcaesar.info/> for directions.)

The camp has heated dormitory-style cabins with bunk beds and shared bathrooms. "Family style" buffet breakfasts and dinners are 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. Friday night, we're hoping our own "Big Drop" Bob Heckler will be playing again this year, which always revs up the Orange Crush, a sight to behold.

For Friday and Saturday nights, we have reservations (under Jordan Ross) for the 17-bed log cabin "Oriole" where we've stayed for the past three years. The cost is \$10 per person per night. Please note that you must supply your own bedding or sleeping bag, pillows, and towels.

Since we have to pay for this cabin up front, the first 17 people to notify us and pay in advance get reserved beds. This is a popular event and things fill up fast, so don't wait! To confirm your reservation, post a reply or email and 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, you can call Camp Caesar to reserve a bed in the dorm-style "Slabside" cabin, which is just across the road from "Oriole". "Slabside" beds 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 and runs one or more local creeks. Paddling plans Friday, Saturday and Sunday 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/>). A popular run on the way home Sunday is the Middle Meadow



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(III+), a relatively short, roadside run that includes the “Miracle Mile” section with lots of play spots.

Webster Springs is an early spring trip and the highlands weather has varied in recent years from cool and sunny to near blizzard conditions. Check the weather and come prepared with appropriate cold-weather paddling gear.

**Contact Information:** As always with whitewater trips, check the Bulletin Board for more details as the date approaches. Jordan Ross & Sharon Schierling

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## Elkhorn Creek, (Class II), Frankfort, KY

Saturday, April 17, 2010

### Trip Sponsor: Rob Friedman

Last year, we had 25 paddlers—so I’m asking some experienced paddlers to lend a hand.

Assuming sufficient water level, we will be paddling the Elkhorn Creek on Saturday, April 17. This is a 6-mile run through pretty woods, farm fields and striking sandstone bluffs.

The trip features lots of Class I and Class II rapids and is suitable for novices with basic river skills and moving water kayak experience. A good pool roll is recommended. Dress appropriately for the weather. Water will still be cold so a dry top is strongly recommended. Bring extra layers of clothing and something to eat and drink on the river. This is a one-day trip.

**Directions:** From Indianapolis, it’s about a 3-hour drive. Take I-65 South to Louisville, then I-64 East from Louisville to Frankfort, KY. Take Exit 58 North and go about 1 1/2 miles to the McDonalds on Highway 60. We will meet at the McDonalds in Frankfort, KY before 11:00 am (EDT). Be ready to depart for the put-in at 11:00 am.

**N.B.:** Water or weather conditions can require us to reschedule or cancel the trip on short notice. Please make sure we have your contact information and check the club bulletin board for updates.

Descriptions of the Elkhorn can be found and water levels can be checked at the following sites:

<http://www.americanwhitewater.org/rivers/id/661/> and <http://www.canoeky.com>

Run-able levels are from 700 cfs up to 1800 cfs.

**Contact Information:** Rob Friedman, [rdf@Lilly.com](mailto:rdf@Lilly.com), (317) 276-2366, cell (317) 358-3396

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## M.A.C.K. Fest, Mamora, Canada (III-V)

Friday-Sunday, April 16-18, 2010

### Trip Sponsor: Bob Heckler, Randy Parker

The Hoosier Canoe Club is going international.... Crush and I are giving M.A.C.K. Fest a go this spring. M.A.C.K. Fest will be held the weekend of April 16-18th. This will be a first for the HCC

This festival features rivers and creeks in Ontario, Canada ranging from Class III, III-IV, and IV-V and has become a growing event over the past few years.

Crush and I will leave Thursday night, April 15th and hope to end up in Marmora, Canada some 10 hours later. We plan to hit several rivers on both Friday and Saturday. These rivers are featured on the M.A.C.K. Fest website at [www.mackfest.ca](http://www.mackfest.ca). Looking to hit the Beaver and the Black and probably something else that's running and recommended by the locals. Saturday night, I will be playing on the main stage (indoors!) as an opening act while Crush dances up the crowd. We shall wake up Sunday and drive back as early as possible. Camping and hotel accommodations are available near/at the festival site. Check the message board when it gets closer for more details and post if interested.

**Contact Information:** Check the message board when it gets closer for more details and post there if you are interested in attending.

**Note—Passport Required:** You must have a passport to reenter the US, so please keep this in mind when planning for this trip!!! If you don't have a passport, you may want to start applying as soon as possible in order to receive it in time for the trip!



2009 HCC Trip to Elkhorn



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**Clear Creek (II-III), Tennessee**  
**Trip Sponsor: Dan Valleskey**

**Friday-Sunday April 23-25, 2010**

Join your skipper for a few days of fine Tennessee Plateau paddling! We have no school on Friday April 23 (a snow day- go figure.) so we will warm up late on Friday. Jett to Lilly on Clear Creek is just about perfect for our purposes—short and very playful. Saturday, we plan to put in at Lilly bridge and run to Nemo. If the river is way up (or way down), we will shift gears a bit. A possible Sunday trip depends on whether. Or weather.

These are classic Tennessee pool drop runs. Jett to Lilly is a blast with one significant Class III drop within sight of the takeout. Below Lilly bridge, the gradient picks up. Several undercuts deserve our attention. There are a handful of Class III drops, depending on water level, they can push Class IV. Swims are not fun and you can get beat up. I would guess you might find this almost as hard as the Ocoee, not as pushy maybe, but more technical, requiring good maneuvering skills. Call me if you are unsure of your skills.

I'm hoping to camp at Frozen Head, be sure to let me know if you are planning to paddle with us, so I can keep you in the loop on changes. For now, let's plan to meet at Sunbright, Tennessee for a late breakfast at the finest diner in town. Call my cell, it ain't a big town, and I won't know the name of that fine eating establishment until I get there myself, but I bet there is one. Shall we say, 11:00 our time zone? I do know where we will eat dinner one night—get set for the best BBQ anywhere! Lefty's on Peavine Rd. has never disappointed paddlers. Otherwise, we will mostly eat in camp.

**Contact Information:** Dan Valleskey, [danpaddles@gmail.com](mailto:danpaddles@gmail.com), 317-413-0324

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## Touring Trips

**Lake Monroe Overnight Paddle, Bloomington, IN**  
**Trip Sponsor: Kevin Dogan**

**Saturday-Sunday, April 17-18, 2010**

Join us on Lake Monroe for the first bluewater overnight trip of the year. Monroe is the largest lake in Indiana and most of it lies within the boundaries of the Hoosier National Forest. As a result, it affords paddlers a lot of room for exploration of its remote woodland scenery.

We will paddle out Saturday morning with our camping gear for Saturday night. We will pitch our tents at the designated primitive camp sites on the peninsula in the northwest part of the Deam Wilderness Area, before paddling back to Cutright the next day. Lake Monroe Information is available at

[http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/files/monroe\\_trail.pdf](http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/files/monroe_trail.pdf)

**Meeting Place/Put-In:** Cutright SRA. We will meet at the shelter house at the end of the road (not the boat ramp area) since we will head east from there.

**Directions to Meeting Place:** Take Hwy. 446 south from Bloomington to the causeway. Cutright SRA is on your left immediately after you cross the causeway when driving south from Bloomington. This is about 1 hour 40 minutes from the intersection of 37 and I-465 on the southeast side of Indianapolis.

**Camping Information:** We will load our gear into our kayaks and paddle to our campsite where we will stay Saturday night. There is no charge for camping at this site. This is a primitive camping facility so you will need to bring potable water (the DNR ranger did not recommend filtering lake water).

**What to Bring:** Bring your camping gear including food and water (Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and any snacks you might need) plus your paddling gear.

**Note:** Due to possible lake conditions and the possibility of April showers, a kayak or decked canoe with spray skirt is recommended. We will be carrying our camping gears in our boats so plan accordingly. If the forecast for this weekend indicates that bad weather is likely, make sure you get confirmation of the trip status from the leader the day before.





<b>Schedule:</b>	Saturday	10:30 am	Arrive at Put-In.
		11:15 am	Start Paddling
	Sunday	After breakfast trip, participants have the option of paddling directly back to the launch site (less than an hour) or spending more time exploring the area by land or lake.	

**Contact information:** Contact Kevin by 8:00 pm on Thursday, April 15th:  
 Kevin Dogan (317) 908-9627 [kdogan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kdogan@sbcglobal.net)

**Grayson Lake Trip, Kentucky** **Saturday-Sunday, May 22-23, 2010**  
**Joint Trip with Cincypaddlers, Elkhorn Paddlers, and HCC**  
**Trip Sponsor: Todd Sullivan**



*Grayson Lake, May 2009*

This year, it's not just a trip – it's a jamboree! That's because Cincypaddlers is partnering with the Elkhorn Paddlers (Frankfort) and Hoosier Canoe Club (Indianapolis), some of the friendliest paddlers you'll ever find. While that's a lot of paddlers, it enables us to break down into sub-groups of those who enjoy various paces. Enjoy the magnificent, wind-carved sandstone cliffs, formations and waterfalls of Grayson Lake (near Ashland, KY). We go every year because it has to be some of the most spectacular scenery east of the Mississippi. See for yourself in these pictures from last year's trip:

<http://tinyurl.com/y95yig7>

This trip is the weekend of May 22-23, but you have the option of adding Friday. Saturday, May 22, we launch for a 12-mile flatwater paddle.

That evening, we group-camp and party nearby. It's tent camping with facilities. You will not have to carry your gear in your boat. Sunday morning, we do a seven-mile paddle in the most beautiful stretch. This is more canyon paddling than open water, so little concern about rough water. Still, there's some distance to cover, so I'd strongly recommend a boat of 12' or more, unless you're an exceptionally skilled paddler.

The optional Friday paddle is poking around the rocky coves of Paintsville Lake (south of Grayson). We'll camp at Grayson that night (add the extra night to your camping deposit below).

**Signing Up:** When we've reached the RSVP deadline (May 12), I'll send out a group email with detailed instructions/directions, and we can facilitate carpooling. RSVPs are accepted on a first-come basis.

**Space is limited, so RSVP early to avoid being closed out.**

The only way to RSVP is to send \$8/person/night (your option is just Saturday or Friday and Saturday) to: *Henry Dorfman, 1409 Amesbury Dr., Cincinnati 45231* for the camping fee. (This is not refundable after May 10th). Your RSVP must include names of people in your party, number of vehicles (contact me before mailing if you contemplate RV, boat trailer or anything else that takes up extra space), your email address and phone number.

The deadline for receipt of RSVPs is May 12 or when the trip fills, whichever comes first. This trip has never failed to fill, so earlier is better.

**What you need:** kayak, paddle, PFD, camping gear, food for on the water and off, and rain gear (you never know).

**Contact Information:** If you have questions, HCC members should contact Todd Sullivan at [toddsullivan1@mac.com](mailto:toddsullivan1@mac.com). As noted above, mail your check directly to Henry Dorfman to register.



## Trip Report: Ice Falls Trip on Sugar Creek, February 27, 2010

Jim Sprandel



20-30 foot Ice Fall

**Trip Sponsor:** Dwayne James

**Trip Participants:** Tom Beckerich, Jim Sprandel, Jay Morrison, Greg Hecht, Jay Chenoweth, Gina and Jay Moyer, Josh Gregory, Elizabeth Trybula, Jim Shaw, Dave Tibbets, Mark Krauss, John Fenoglio, Jeff Matthews, Garry Hill, Jeff Ford, Theresa Kulczak.

This trip really lived up to its name. There were many ice falls along Sugar Creek on this trip and there were some truly large ones. Last year, they were few and far between. Several falls were over 20 feet in height. There were also curtains made of icicles along the edge of the stream as well and ice bells hanging down from branches. The ice falls are formed by water flowing over the rock cliffs that lined the creek much of the trip.

When the trip started, the temperature was about 30 degrees and the skies were overcast. However, this was warm enough that all 17 boaters were able to paddle comfortably. The boats included a range of kayaks and canoes plus a Krueger Sea Wind – a decked canoe. I found this boat especially interesting since the

Sea Wind had fittings for a sail and outriggers.

We started just above Deer Mill Covered Bridge and ran about 13 miles down to the covered bridge at Cox's Ford passing through Shades State Park and Turkey Run State Park. In the summer, this stretch is crowded with canoes and kayaks from the local outfitters but we had the creek to ourselves on this day.

We stopped for lunch on a sandbar along the way and then finished the trip with everyone safe and dry.

All of the parking spots at the take out and put-in have signs limiting parking to 30 minutes. This is not a problem at the put-in since there is long-term parking a quarter mile up the hill. However, this is a



Curtains of ice while paddling into Cox Ford Covered Bridge



Krueger Sea Wind

problem at the take out since no other parking is close and this limits its viability as a take out. On this trip, we were the only paddlers on the creek and ignored the signs without any problems. There is a [Bulletin Board](#) thread on this topic and a several people have been talking with DNR and the State Park about it. One of our officers will be touching base with DNR soon. Ongoing results from discussions with DNR and possible alternative take outs can be seen in that Bulletin Board thread.

Additional pictures are available at:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/merlin3d/sets/72157623522959578/>





Covered Bridge over Walnut Creek

## Trip Report: Big Walnut Creek, March 6, 2010

Dave Ellis

You all shudda been there! Eight of us paddled seven boats 9.3 miles in the sun with temperatures in the mid 50's. The shady side of the creek still had icicles and ice flows and we saw an occasional iceberg stranded on a sand spit. King fishers were scolding, mallards and Canada Geese were pairing up and staking property claims. As we reached the take out at 300 N, Putman County, 50 or so sand hill cranes chortled a half mile over head. We did have three log events. Two requiring limbo moves and the third was a swiftish jet of water pushing into a strainer. One of us got wet. We need to find a safe spot on future trips to practice dealing with such hazards with back ferries, eddy turns and proper prior planning.

The eight paddlers included: Jim Sprandel, Ken Jordan, Sue Foxx, Jay & Gina Moyer, their friend Josh Gregory, Mark Cowser, and Dave Ellis. By the way, we put in at the Pine Bluff Covered bridge.

You should join us next March!

### The Creek Freak

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## Reminder—Get your 2010 DNR Lake Permits

You must have a 2010 DNR Lake Permit if you want to paddle your boat in Indiana state parks, state-managed reservoirs, or state forests. The permit is required on 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.

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 the Indiana Government Center, over the phone via credit card from (317) 232-4200 or on-line at:

<http://stores.intuitwebsites.com/hstrial-IndianaStateP/-strse-State-Park-Permits/Categories.bok>

There is a \$4 service fee if you purchase on-line. The permit should be affixed on the left, front side (port side) of your boat.

**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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**Photo Credits:** Page 7—Courtesy of Rob Friedman, Page 9—Henry Dorfman, Page 10 (top)—Theresa Kulczak, Pages 10 (middle, bottom), 11—Jim Sprandel,



## Upcoming Events

Wednesday Nights 7-9 pm	<b>Pool Sessions- Thatcher Pool</b>	March Newsletter
Sat. Mar. 27, 4-7 pm	<b>5th Annual Whitewater Warehouse Demo,</b> Thatcher Pool, Indianapolis, IN	<a href="#">Bulletin Board</a>
Sat. March 27–Sun. Apr. 4	<b>WW Trip: Week of River - Tennessee Rivers</b>	March Newsletter
Sat. Apr. 3	<b>Flatwater Trip: Upper Sand Creek Trip</b>	Page 3
Sat. Apr. 10	<b>Flatwater/WW Trip: April Fools Trip on Big Pine</b>	Page 5
Sat.-Sun. Apr.10-11	<b>WW Trip: Webster's Spring Wildwater Festival, (II-IV) WV</b>	Page 6
Fri.-Sun. Apr.16-18	<b>WW Trip: M.A.C.K. Fest (III-V), Marmora , Canada</b>	Page 7
Sat. Apr. 17	<b>WW Trip: Elkhorn Beginner's Icebreaker (II), Frankfort, KY</b>	Page 7
Sat. Apr. 17	<b>Flatwater Trip: Big Blue, Shelbyville, IN</b>	Page 4
Sat-Sun. Apr.17-18	<b>Touring Kayak: Lake Monroe Overnight Trip</b>	Page 8
Fri.-Sun. April 23-25	<b>WW Trip: Class II-III, Clear Creek</b>	Page 8
Fri. Apr. 30–Sun. May 2,	<b>WW Trip: Cheat Fest</b>	Bulletin Board
Sat. May 1	<b>Fishing Trip: Waveland Lake, IN</b>	Page 3
Sat. May 8	<b>Flatwater: Intermediate Moving Water Training Clinic</b>	Page 2
Sat. May 15	<b>Flatwater: South Fork of Wildcat Creek</b>	Page 4
Sat.-Sun. May 22-23	<b>Touring Kayak: Grayson Lake</b>	Page 9
Fri.-Mon. May 28-31	<b>Flatwater/WW: Memorial Day Trip - New River/ Gauley River Area</b>	Page 6

**March Newsletter Deadline:** Please submit articles to Jim Sprandel by Thursday, April 15, 2010. Please e-mail articles and pictures to [merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net](mailto:merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net) or call him at 317-257-2063.

