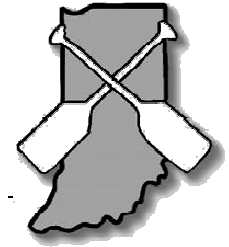


The Hoosier Paddler

Volume 50, Issue 1

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

February 2012



From our Skipper, Dwayne James: We have started another great new year with one trip under our belts already! The big winds of New Year's Day set us back a week, but Sue Foxx led a nice trip down the White River for our first trip of the year. We just had our annual trips planning meeting and we will post our calendar very soon. Let me say that we have a whole bunch of great trips planned for bluewater, whitewater and flatwater paddlers with the addition of some training for kayaks and canoeists that should be of interest to both beginners as well as the more advanced. And some of us got new Christmas presents that need to be tried out in the Thatcher Pool sessions.

Our big effort this next month concerns our booth at the Quiet Sports Expo section of the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel show February 17-26th. I emailed the membership a schedule and I appreciate any and all of you who can find the time to volunteer to tend to our booth at the show. This is a fun event and you have a chance to visit with other Quiet Sports groups from Indiana as well as hear from national and Hoosier speakers. And you can visit all of the outfitter vendors to drool over their pictures and maps while dreaming of your next big trip! Please respond asap to let me know when you can help.

And remember, we have our annual Ice Falls trip scheduled for March 3rd. Check out the trip announcement and read our cold weather paddling information included in this issue and come on out and join us for a great trip down Sugar Creek from Shades State Park to Turkey Run State Park. Hope for some snow and Ice formations.

So, let me know as soon as possible if you plan to attend the Kesselring reception and your time for volunteering at the Quiet Sports Expo. And check with Dave Ellis about renewing your membership this month. Dwayne James,

In this issue:

Page 2: Annual Dues Notice, Cold Weather Paddling Tips, Kesselring Reception Announcement, White River Trip Report

Page 3-4: Annual Meeting Recap

Page 5: Canoecopia Announcement, Sugar Creek Ice Falls Trip

Page 6: Sea Kayaker Information, Upcoming Whitewater Trips

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

Dues are due! The online members list has been updated to show your dues status. If the year noted below your first name is "2011" you NEED to send me \$15 by 3/1/2012.

Link to list:

<http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org/HCCList2012.pdf>

You can renew online via PayPal,

<http://formsmarts.com/form/k5u>

OR Download, print and complete the membership form from [hoosiercanoecub.org](http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org) and mail it to me,

<http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org/App06.pdf>

OR catch up with me (Dave Ellis) at a Saturday morning pool session with cash. OR at the Trips planning meeting noted below:

See you on the water in 2012, Dave Ellis aka Creek Freak

Please look over the announcement and email me asap if you think you might attend the reception. I need to turn in an estimated count. Thank you,
Dwayne James kanudreams@sbcglobal.net.

A Reception for Rob Kesslering:

When: Saturday, February 18, 2012

Time: 8:00 PM

Where: Champions Pavilion (upstairs)

What: Quiet Sports Expo at State Fairgrounds

The Central Indiana Wilderness Club (CIWC) is hosting a celebration of paddle sports during a reception for Rob Kesslering, renown paddler, wilderness guide, author and exposition speaker on Saturday evening February 18, 2012, at 8:00 PM. The Quiet Sports Expo, in its 3rd year, runs concurrently with the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show.

Members of the HCC are invited to be a part of this fun and unique event. This will provide an opportunity to meet other outdoor enthusiasts while enjoying some adventure stories from Rob Kesslering. Rob has completed 16 canoe trips north of the sixtieth parallel including the Nahanni, Hood, Mara-Burnside, Mountain, Elk, Taltson, Thelon, Thekehili, and the Snowdrift. He is a registered guide through the US Forest Service and has spoken in 27 states and presented at some of the biggest sport shows in North America.

Cold Weather Paddling Tips–

Jim Sprandel:

During the winter, paddling is still enjoyable but you need to dress properly to be comfortable and safe. The Fort Wayne paddling group circulated the following links on how to survive if you fall through thin ice:

[http://www.archive.org/details/](http://www.archive.org/details/ColdWaterSurvival)

[ColdWaterSurvival](http://www.archive.org/details/YoureOutNowWhat)

[http://www.archive.org/details/](http://www.archive.org/details/YoureOutNowWhat)

[YoureOutNowWhat](http://www.archive.org/details/Gett...tSinkingFeeling)

[http://www.archive.org/details/](http://www.archive.org/details/Gett...tSinkingFeeling)

[Gett...tSinkingFeeling](http://www.archive.org/details/Gett...tSinkingFeeling)

You also might want to re-read Garry Hill's article on Cold Water Paddling that we published last March for tips on how to keep paddling through the winter: <http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org/new...nal1.pdf#page=4>*

If you want to paddle, be sure to paddle with other people. Especially during this time of year, there's safety in numbers.

White River (Waverly to Henderson Ford) Trip Report – Sue Foxx

The New Year's Day trip was postponed due to a wind advisory. With gusts predicted up to 60 mph it didn't look like much fun to battle down the wide open White River despite the relatively mild temps. Instead eight folks (a nice combo of new and old members) met on Jan. 7 and headed downriver around 11:30 am. It was a glorious sunny day and at 45 degrees, a perfect one for a paddle. Dwayne couldn't make it due to a doggie emergency so Sue became trip leader backed up by Jim, Tom, and Natalie who had First Aid kits and tow ropes. We sighted an eagle about a mile into the trip and then three eagles sitting in tree tops at a bend in the river. I counted 8 total eagles by the end with their nest about a 1/2 mile from the takeout at Henderson Ford. Look for pictures on the Bulletin Board. The group made the take out at 2:30 pm. so the 9.1 mile trip only took three hours including lunch. According to Natalie's GPS our maximum speed was 6-7 mph. This trip just goes to show that even in January you can't take the rack off or you might miss a great trip!

When the HCC closed its door to the 2011 paddling season, it opened a ginormous window to a great new year of white, flat and blue water adventures. Promises of some new trips with many new members bode for an extraordinary season. Last year's annual Fall meeting on November 13, 2011 at the Holt Community House welcomed 50+ paddlers prepared to share both their tasty pot luck dishes and hawk their gently used paddling gear, clothing and even a few kayaks. Yes, a swap meet has become an expectation at this annual event along with the newest tradition: the Table Decorating Contest introduced by Linda Smith in 2010.

A new slate of officers and directors was presented to the membership who voted unanimously to accept the slate. For procedural rules on the election process, see November 2011 issue of the HCC newsletter.

We are so thankful to the members who enthusiastically volunteered to serve as an officer or Board Member; they are: Dwayne James, **Skipper**; Sue Foxx, **Executive officer**; Dan Evard, **Purser**; Jim Clendenin, **Yeoman**; Theresa Kulczak, **Immediate Past Skipper**; **Board of Directors** include: Mariann Davis, Joel DeLashmit, Sheahan Dissanayake, Robert Henry, Kellie Kaneshiro, Konstantin Louganski, Sarah Naeher, Natalie Needham, Jordan Ross, Matt Slagel, Ken Starrs and Barry Welling.

With playful irreverent ceremony, the Skipper's gavel was passed by current Skipper, Theresa Kulczak, to incoming Skipper, Dwayne James. Accolades of a job well done were sent out from the membership, along with a surprise gift of appreciation to Theresa. The luscious lavender work-out jacket monogrammed with HCC Skipper 2011 will be a big hit on the Indianapolis gym circuit in 2012 while subtly advertising our beloved silent sport.

If all this celebration wasn't enough, Theresa commenced with a gift tribute of appreciation to each 2011 Trip Leader. **Thirty-two members*** received the very practical and useful "Sealline" dry bag for their generous service to the HCC. The club recognizes that paddle trips are the DNA of the club requiring a significant investment of time and stewardship of this very important asset. Thanks to Rusted Moon Outfitters for making the top-of-the-line dry bags available at a special price.



Theresa Kulczak, 2011 HCC Skipper

HCC Club membership reached 341 members at the beginning of 2012. Opportunity for new members resides in --a small but indispensable-- part with family memberships as parents groom their children into their very own kayak adventure. As was true in the early years of the HCC, family memberships claimed the majority of members. The featured program of this year's annual fall meeting : "A Paddling Season on the Edge: *Our Whitewater Kids* promises that a membership legacy in the club will prevail, as it transports the family kayaking zeitgeist of the past, *Back to the Future*.

***Trip Leaders 2011:** Debby Baker, Tom Beckerich, Terry Busch, Frank Chiao, Mariann Davis, Joel DeLashmit, Dave Ellis, Dan Evard, Sue Foxx, Ed Furia, Rob Henry, Garry Hill, Brad Hughey, Dwayne James, Kellie Kaneshiro, Earl King, Theresa Kulczak, Jeff Matthews, Aaron McLaughlin, Robert Moore, Rick Moulton, Gina and Jay Moyer, Nick Norris, Randy Parker, Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling, Linda Smith, Jim Sprandel, Todd and Cheryl Sullivan, Richard Telkolve, Dan Valleskey, Barry Welling.

Feature Presentation: "A Paddling Season on the Edge: Our Whitewater Kids"

Some of the newest, most active and I might add, most daring whitewater paddlers in the club are the kids... the very young kids! ... The McLaughlin kids: Ewan, Callum and Alistar! Well, we have all heard of the British Invasion of 1964 but I dare say only the HCC is privileged to be a part of the "Scottish Flo-tilla Invasion" of 2011: THE CLAN MAC! Thanks to their very relaxed parents: Aaron and Louise, the boys have become quite proficient in paddling their Jackson kayaks on the Yough and Nantahala .

When Aaron was transferred to Indy to Amazon a few years ago, he didn't expect to discover whitewater kayaking as a family sport in land locked Indiana. He did, however, expect to deliver adventure to his family with equal opportunity and success as they had experienced in Scotland.



Abed Borsa running Yough Falls

While in the Service across the pond, Aaron received advance training in water rescue, mountaineering and wilderness skills and survival, and the whole family participated in, what I would call, extreme hiking and wilderness adventures. At some point in the last year Louise decided to trade in her shuttle bunny attire for a Jackson kayak and neoprene and join the rest of her family on whitewater, making it a true "Jackson Five"... she never looked back. These pictures of the young McLaughlins show



"Clan Mac"

their fearless reprisals to the disconcerting whitewater of the Youghiog-

heny in 2011.

When Theresa saw one of Jordan Ross's video of Abed Borsa (son of Board member Matt Slagel), she was blown away by his advancement and ability on whitewater and knew she wanted his story featured along with the McLaughlins. While in High School, Abed was searching to find himself: looking for a past time or pursuit that would give meaning to his life. Matt didn't know if he would take to paddling, but he did. Abed practiced regularly at Thatcher Pool under the tutelage of our own whitewater mentors. Not only did Abed enjoy paddling, it became his passion, to the extent he chose West Virginia for college so he could be



Slagel Family sans Abed

close to some of the best whitewater. Abed never got into mischief; instead he was out on the weekends running some of the best rapids around, calling his parents in Indy to talk about his adventures. Now, Satanay, Matt's wife, and little Xavier, are getting into the act! The adventure of Whitewater paddling has proven to be a great bonding experience for the entire family.



Ewan McLaughlin

In its 49 years of existence, the HCC has delivered any color of water available to its hundreds of members: experienced or beginner paddlers and anyone in between. The club encourages you to find your color... enjoy your color ... even mix and match a little. The HCC will always be color blind—to your paddling preferences-- and who knows, color blindness may just be contagious.

Color me gone for now ... see you on the water.

Canoecopia 2012, Madison, WI

Friday March 9 – Sunday March 11, 2012

Canoecopia is one of the largest canoe and kayak expositions in the world. This exposition runs from Friday through Sunday (March 9-11). 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 gear, there will be presentations and clinics on paddling skills and places to paddle,. Look over these presentations in the [program at the Canoecopia web site](#). . When you look through this list, you will see some of the biggest names in the sport such as Greg Barton, Ben Lawry, Rob Kesselring, Shawna Franklin and Leon Sommé, and Steve Sherrer. You can attend sessions on paddling everywhere from Baja to Georgia and up to the Arctic circle with trip presentations on Isle Royale, the Apostle Islands, the Boundary Waters, Quetico, the Grand Canyon, and more exotic places. If you're interested in skills, some of the best instructors from this country will be talking on safety and rescues, forward stroke, control, and rolling. A unique opportunity for paddlers of any level.

On Sunday, they will have the Reel Paddling Film Festival with five hours of the best paddling films of 2011 – canoeing, coastal kayaking, whitewater and more! They are also planning another paddle club rendezvous this year so that you can see what other club in this area are up to.

The cost of the show is \$25 for a week-end pass or \$15 for a one-day pass (there is also a \$6 parking fee at the event)

Plan Now: In past years, rooms near Madison have filled up quickly so think about registering and getting a place to stay as soon as possible. At this time, several HCC paddlers are planning on heading up there for this year's event so watch the Bulletin Board to see who is going and to work out ride sharing.

For additional information:

Event Web Site: www.canoecopia.com

Event Program: http://www.canoecopia.com/canoecopia/downloads/2011_gazette_3.pdf

Sugar Creek Ice Falls Trip Saturday, March 3, 2012

Trip Leader: Dwayne James

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, herons, eagles, robins, and red-winged black birds returning for spring. This trip is **very** weather dependent for open water and appropriate dress is required. In some years, we wore only sweatshirts. In others, we wore snowsuits and needed paddles to clear snow from our cars at the take-out. This is not a deterrent but an unexpected thrill.

We will meet at Deers Mill Covered bridge at 10:30 a.m. The put-in is at Deers Mill bridge, next to the canoe livery at the east end of Shades State Park on Indiana 234. You must pass the entrance to Shades to get to the bridge. The shuttle should run about 11:00 a.m. The take-out is at Cox's Ford bridge located at the west edge of Turkey Run State Park. I have cleared it so we can park there.

Bring a lunch and drink for the trip as there are no other provisions along the way. Some paddlers elect to eat together at the Turkey Run Inn or somewhere else before driving home. We can talk about that while we paddle and make plans for those that wish to do so.

Please watch the weather and be sure to contact Dwayne prior to the trip since this trip may be cancelled due to frozen water or bad weather. If the water is frozen or if the water level is above 3.5 feet on the USGS gauge we will cancel the trip. Follow this link to check the flow: http://waterdata.usgs.gov/in/nwis/uv?site_no=03339500

Dress accordingly and be sure to bring a dry bag with extra clothes in case you get wet. Please contact Dwayne by Friday evening, March 2nd, to confirm your attendance and that the trip is a go.
kanudreams@sbcglobal.net

Attention Sea Kayakers

Jim Sprandel

2012 Schedule: We had an interesting trip meeting this last Saturday and this year's schedule looks even better than last year's. We rescheduled our favorite paddles and we have added several new events that may be fun. We will also have more training classes tailored for touring and sea kayaks. So be prepared to get on the water. You can see the tentative Sea Kayak calendar at:

<https://sites.google.com/site/hcctripscalendar/hcc-touring-schedule>

This year, we will attempt to provide more "diversity" in our trips—that is, we want to have trips that are fun for all levels of paddlers with all levels of skill and conditioning. Some trips are intended for intermediate and advanced paddlers but we also will provide training and a lot of trips to help you gain the experience to progress to these more challenging trips. We also will have some paddles where we play with our boats rather than paddling to a destination.

Geist Sunday Paddles: We will also hold our monthly paddles on Sunday at Geist Reservoir this year. However, people asked us to move these paddles to the afternoon so more people could come. These will usually be the first Sunday of each month but we will move the paddle back one week if it conflicts with another club event. These paddles will start in March.

Eagle Creek Paddles: Kellie and I are talking with the Eagle Creek Discovery Center to set up our mid-week Eagle Creek paddles again. These are a great chance to air out your boat during the week and get out with other paddlers. Eagle Creek is a great place to see wild life and just be on the water. These paddles will start in May. We may have one or two short mini-clinics on different topics during these paddles this year like Reggie Baker used to teach.

Stay Informed—Join the Sea Kayak E-Mail List: Kellie and I have set up a Google E-mail group list for HCC paddlers with sea kayaks and touring kayaks. We use the list to discuss sea kayaking issues (e.g., how to pack your kayak, the best kayak GPS, ...) and to talk about upcoming open water events and spontaneous paddles people may set up. This list complements the Touring Section of the HCC Bulletin Board where we post trip announcements and trip reports with pictures.

The Google list is "private" so that your e-mail address and any messages you post there will only be viewable by other group members. The list is currently unmoderated so that anyone can send messages directly to everyone on the list. We have not had a spam problem since I have to approve people before they are allowed to join the group.

If you have a sea or touring kayak and would like to be added to this group list, please send an e-mail to me



A paddle near Indiana Dune on Lake Michigan

Please see the bulletin board for these upcoming Whitewater events:

Feb 24-26 National Paddling Film Festival, Frankfort KY, Films from all aspects of paddling, and the lovely Elkhorn creek for Paddling Saturday or Sunday

Mar 3 Whitewater Boat Demo, Indianapolis, IN, Thatcher pool 4pm-7pm

Mar 17 Markle Creek, IN, Leader: Jason Tharp

See You on the River!

