

The Hoosier Paddler

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A note from our skipper, Sue Foxx:

Paddling season is just around the corner! We got together in January and planned some awesome trips at the Trip Planning meeting for flat-water, sea kayaking, and white water. Those calendars are now on our website so I hope you find many opportunities to paddle with the Club this year. We look forward seeing you on some new trips and some old favorites. The Boat Sport & Travel Show has also been a good opportunity to connect with those interested in paddling and to share our safety campaign materials with those new to the sport. As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, we partnered with Renfro for a seminar with Cliff Jacobson, a world renowned paddler and author, and hosted a reception. About 60 people attended and got new insights and tips for trips to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Don't forget Canoecopia is March 9-10 in Madison, WI. If you want to ride up with the Central Indiana Wilderness Club, contact Bob Hart. Finally, Mark Cowser will be leading the trip to Summit Lake on March 16th which traditionally starts our paddling season. I plan to be there and hope you will be too!

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Newsletter Editor Needed

HELP!!!! The club needs a NEW newsletter editor since Kim will be resigning as of June. If you are good at editing and competent with technology, this might be a great way for you to help out from the comfort of your own home. We have been blessed with wonderful newsletter editors who have really streamlined the process and made it a great communications tool. Since we are now totally electronic, it is a relatively easy process to put things together and get it posted. If you want more information about the position or would like to volunteer, contact Sue Foxx at [317-363-4074](tel:317-363-4074).

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

Trip Report: Ohio River at Madison, IN, October 27-28, 2012

By: Dave Ellis

This was my Favorite kind of trip: To my memory, the Club has never done it before!



Six long boaters met in downtown Madison on Saturday and paddled upstream about 7 miles and returned. Sunday 4 of us paddled downstream from West Street in Madison to Hanover Beach for a 10 mile round trip. There are public restrooms nearby for changing rooms. We camped at Clifty Falls State Park with Saturday buffet dinner at Clifty Inn. Campground facilities are in very good condition. I found the river traffic antiques littering the banks very interesting. The view of Indiana from the Kentucky bank much more attractive than looking south - better lighting at a bank top stone face. A barge passed us about once an hour the only effect being a diversion from paddling into a persistent head wind from the east. We should do an Ohio River trip each year, but being careful to avoid the four festivals Madison host each year.

Jim Sprandel, Robert Moore, Andy Thieneman, and I paddle both days, Kellie Kaneshiro and J.C. Amoto paddled on Saturday.

The pictured bridge replacement is interesting. They apparently plan to built the new truss system parallel to the old bridge, then slide it onto the existing pylons; thus minimizing the time the bridge will be closed to traffic.

Summit Lake Early Spring Paddle Trip Leader: Mark Cowser

Saturday, March 23, 2013

Calling all flatwater (canoe/kayak) and touring kayak paddlers for an early spring paddle on Summit Lake. We have done this trip for several years and it works out well as a season opener. There is even a rest room where you can change clothes or get into wetsuits! Summit Lake is the major feature of Indiana's 19th state park. Established in 1988, 800 acre Summit Lake was formed by damming Big Blue River and other smaller tributaries. Since we are meeting at the boat ramp (enter the park and turn right at the first T past the gate house), you will be able to launch your canoe or kayak from the dock, concrete ramp or shoreline.

This early in the season there will be no gate fee but you will need a 2013 State Park Boat Permit (cost is \$5) in case any rangers are checking. Be aware that wind and waves can be moderate... 1-2 ft depending on the weather so a spray skirt is recommended. Also, the air can be variable at this time of the year but the water is cold so be sure to dress accordingly and bring a dry bag with a change of clothes just in case. We will paddle around the edge of the lake and lunch near the dam. Please let me know by 8:30 pm on Friday, March 22nd, if you plan to attend.

Meeting time: 11:00 am

Location: Summit Lake State Park Boat Ramp

Directions & More Info: <http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2967.htm> (park is 1 hr. 10 minutes east of Indianapolis/ four miles north and east of Newcastle)

Trip Sponsor: Mark Cowser [317- 849-7521](tel:317-849-7521) or cowser_mark@att.net

Length: 2-3 hours, 6-8 miles



Reminder—Get your 2013 DNR Lake Permit

You must have a 2013 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 per year. The fine for paddling on Lake Monroe without a sticker is over \$100 and this is enforced by the state's conservation officers.

Permits may be bought at the Indiana Government Center (402 W. Washington St., Room W160) in Indianapolis or at the property offices or entrance gates at state parks, reservoirs, and forests when they are staffed. Alternatively, you can buy stickers on-line at:

<http://stores.intuitwebsites.com/IndianaStateParks/-strse-2013-State-Park-Permits/Categories.bok>

Note: Early in the season, attendants will be available at some launch ramps. However, not every ramp and not every day so be sure to check at the park you are going to before you head out.

Happy Birthday, HCC...the History Continues (part 2 of 11)

As the HCC continued to grow with purpose and recognition, Dave Ellis emerged as one of the club's most consistent members. Since joining in 1969, Dave has held board and executive board positions and two separate terms as president; has been membership chairman, newsletter editor, pursuer, and education/safety contributor. Almost every Club position has had a Dave Ellis signature. As with many members of the Club, the "granola side of Dave emerges with political crunch when speaking of river conservation. River "clean ups" he states, provide an immediate short term solution to long term ecological damage. Hence, river "clean ups" have been annual events since 1970.

Bill Lawless (member since 1971) also waved the river conservation flag early when stating: "Canoes and Kayaks leave no carbon footprint after they are built. It becomes apparent, that when you paddle a river of any size, you cannot look at any [stream] in the same way, again." Streams in Indiana change because the river bed is soft limestone and will morph naturally over many years. I realized he was saying that we should let Mother Nature not Human Nature make the changes.

What the HCC does for the community

With 40+ flatwater trips a year, and equal offerings of white and blue water trips, the HCC provides a lot of interconnectivity and play, while often focusing on service within the community. The river and recently added Eagle Creek "Clean ups" have been annual events for almost 44 years and many members continue to work the "safety patrol boats" at the annual triathlons held at Eagle Creek. Teaching paddling to "special needs" children has recently become a voluntary annual activity while the Club continues to spread its "Paddle Safe Indiana" mission throughout the paddling community via our safety initiative which began in 2010. (Posters and educational materials are available on the website).

The HCC's grandfathers of white water

Chuck Conklin (joined the club in 1968), learned his basic paddling skills in the boy scouts and taught canoeing, but he also did a lot of white water canoe paddling on the Potomac River. Coming from the East to Indiana, Chuck was not only looking for the elusive white water but for like minded paddlers. After meeting Walt Citron and Dick Tileston in 1970, together they began to stir the "white water pot" which would now become a steady diet for this new section of paddlers.

Chuck gives a lot of credit to Dave Ellis who, for the lack of only five years, is the only constant in the club since inception: the living bridge connecting the past to the present. One significant contribution that Chuck Conklin shared with Dave and Chuck Lundsford was the authorship of the Indiana Canoe Guide published in the mid 1970s by the Department of Natural Resources. The 40 page pamphlet evolved from the early trip formatting Chuck and Dave developed to ensure safe and rewarding paddling trips. The DNR distributed this pamphlet for many years and at least two editions were available. Congratulations, to our published members of the Club.

....As we meander this metaphorical river of HCC history, let's pause for now to rejoin our paddling leaders in April edition of the Hoosier Paddler.



Sea Kayak Notes

Jim Sprandel

Kellie Kaneshiro and I are co-chairmen for the Sea Kayak fleet again this year. When you look over the Sea Kayak Schedule, you'll see that we will revisit many of our old favorites as well as some really exciting new locations. Our season will begin Sunday, March 3 with our first Geist Monthly paddle and will end with a Lake Monroe Overnight in November. Be sure to look at our trip in late July when we are planning a week-long trip to Lake Penage in Ontario—stay tuned.

You can view the entire Sea Kayak schedule in this newsletter or using the on-line Google Calendar at: <https://sites.google.com/site/hcctripscalendar/hcc-touring-schedule>

If you have any questions, please call or e-mail Kellie or me.

Also, mark April 6 and 7 on your calendar since this is our first overnight trip on Lake Monroe. We slid this trip back a week this year so that the Middle Fork wildlife resting area will be open.

Calling all Long Boaters—Join our Sea Kayak E-Mail List: The Sea Kayak fleet uses an E-mail list (IND_TOURING_KAYAKS) to let HCC members and friends know about upcoming sea kayak paddling and training events. People also use this list to discuss boats and gear or to pick up other paddlers for spontaneous trips when it is just too nice to stay inside. If you have a sea kayak and would like to paddle with us, please e-mail me at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net so I can add you to this list.

2013 Eagle Creek Paddles: We will continue our Tuesday Evening Paddles at Eagle Creek again this year (May through September). I will publish details along with the 2013 Pass in the May newsletter.

Geist Monthly Sunday Paddles: Our first monthly Sunday paddle will be on Sunday, March 3 at Geist Park. I will get an e-mail reminder with details out to the IND_TOURING_KAYAKS mailing list during the week before the event. These will always be on the first Sunday of each month unless there is a conflicting HCC event.

Training: We will have at least three training sessions this year: 1) an Intro to Paddling Class, 2) an Intermediate Paddling Clinic (probably Edging and Turning), and 3) an Open Water rescue clinic. Our Intro to Paddling class will be held on April 13 so watch for e-mail from our mailing list or the April Newsletter for details. Class size is limited and we will look at having additional session if the current ones fill up. Also think about going to the pool—a great place to work on your roll, bracing, and open-water reentries.

Winter is starting to break, robins are hopping around, and it's almost time to get out and paddle. I think that 2013 is going to be a good year. See you on the water.

Jim Sprandel

Thatcher Pool Sessions move to Wednesday in March

Jim Sprandel

If you have never been to a pool session, it is really fun. It is an excellent chance to work on your bracing, paddle strokes, open water reentries, and roll—it's okay to swim in a pool, too. You usually see a mix of whitewater and sea kayakers at these sessions honing their rolls and other skills. There are usually more experienced paddlers around who you can ask for help.

Pool sessions will continue to meet at Thatcher Pool (4649 W. Vermont St., Indianapolis). Please go to the HCC Pool Session page (<https://sites.google.com/site/hcctrainingsite/>) for more information. Participants must sign in and pay \$10.00 per family for each session. For more information about pool sessions, email [Jordan Ross](mailto:Jordan.Ross@hcc.org). It is also good to check for pool information updates on the HCC Bulletin Board before heading over (especially around holidays).

2013 Thatcher Pool Schedule:

Through Saturday, February 23: Saturday Morning—10:00 am to Noon

Wednesday, March 6—Wednesday, November 27: Wednesday Evening—7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Starting Saturday, December 7: Saturday Morning—10:00 am to Noon

Hoosier Canoe & Kayak Club Trips for 2013

Check website at www.hoosiercanoeclub.org for official list.

KEY: **WW= Whitewater with rapids (whitewater kayaks or specially equipped canoes)**
FW=Rivers and smaller lakes (recreational kayaks and canoes)
SK=Large lakes (touring/sea kayaks)

February

9 Sugar Creek/Ice Falls (FW)

March

16 Summit Lake (FW & SK)

23 White River Paddle to Dinner (FW)

April

6 Big Pine (FW)

6-7 Lake Monroe (SK)

13-14 Webster Wildwater Weekend River Festival (III) Webster Springs, WV (WW)

13 Sand Creek (FW)

14 Whitewater River (FW)

27 Driftwood River (FW)

28 Brookville Reservoir (SK)

May

3-5 Cheat River Festival (III/IV) Albright, WV (WW)

11 Upper Ocoee First Release (III/IV) Ocoee, TN (WW)

17-19 Boater Chick Fest (II-V) Nelson's Nantahala Hideaway, NC (WW)

18-19 Stonycreek Rendezvous (III/IV) Johnstown, PA (WW)

18-19 Grayson Lake with Cincinnati Paddlers (SK)

25 Wildcat Creek (FW)

25-27 Wisconsin Whitewater (II/III) Langlade, WI (WW)

Wolf River and Langlade Lake (FW)

June

1-2 Blue River (FW)

8 Geist Women's Paddle (SK & FW)

8-9 East Race Opening Weekend (II) South Bend, IN (WW)

9 Wildcat Creek (FW)

15 HCC 50th Anniversary BBQ & Paddle (All Club Activity)

22 Eagle Creek Clean Up (All Club Activity)

22-23 Tuckasegee/Nantahala (II/III) Nantahala, NC (WW)

29 Morris Park Triathlon Boat Support (All Club Activity)

Raccoon Lake (SK)

July

3 White River Paddle to Fireworks from Broadripple Park (FW)

4-8 New River "Old School" (II/IV) Fayetteville, WV (WW)

5-7 New River W. VA (FW)

Lake Michigan (SK)

13 East Fork White River (FW)

20 Eagle Creek Triathlon Boat Support (All Club Activity)

August

2-4 Indiana Paddler's Rendezvous/Wildcat Creek (FW)

Yough Fest (III/IV/V) Ohiopyle, PA (WW)

10 Chicago Shoreline Marathon (SK)

10-11 Green River Mammoth Cave, KY (FW)

17 Eagle Creek Triathlon Boat Support (All Club Activity)

August

- 23-25 Dunes Surf Play on Lake Michigan with NWIPA (SK)
- 24 Salt Creek (FW)
Go Girl Triathlon at Eagle Creek Boat Support (All Club Activity)

September

- 1 Eel River (FW)
- 1-2 Beaver/Black (IV/IV) Upstate NY (WW)
- 7 Eagle Creek Clean Up (All Club Activity)
- 7-8 Gauley First Release (III/IV) Summersville, WV (WW)
- 13-15 Manitou Island (SK)
- 14 Trail Creek (FW)
- 20-21 Gauley Fest (III/IV) Summersville, WV (WW)
- 21-22 Hoosier Outdoor Experience at Fort Harrison State Park (All Club Activity)
- 28 Savage River Release (III/IV) Bloomington, MD (WW)
White River/Waverly to Henderson Ford (FW)
Ohio River (SK)

October

- 5 Chain of Lakes (FW)
- 5-6 Russel Fork (II/III) Russel Fork, KY (WW)
- 12-13 Sugar Creek (FW)
Patoka Lake (SK)
- 18-20 Bridge Day/Fall Colors: New & Gauley Rivers (IV) Fayetteville, WV (WW)
- 26-27 Ocoee Last Release (III/IV) Ocoee, TN (WW)

November

- 2 Mississinewa River (FW)
- 9-10 Lake Monroe (SK)



Keep Calm and Paddle On
