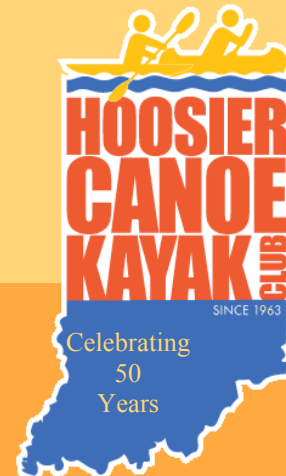


# The Hoosier Paddler

February 2014, Vol. 52 Issue 2 <http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org/>



## Skipper's Message

Thanks to all who helped cover the booth during the Indianapolis Boat Sport and Travel Show and a special thanks to Dwayne James for organizing the volunteers. We had a great time connecting with people who were interested in who we are and what we do. We even gave some tips on what type of boat should I buy. As part of the BSTS, Renfro Productions president Mark Kaley brought in Cliff Jacobson to make several presentations on Kayaking, Canoeing and portages. My personal take away from one of the presentations was the benefits and use of a tumpline. After the 2:30 Saturday presentation we sponsored a reception for Cliff. We had about 30 people show and most were members of HCC. Cliff shared with us some of his experiences in a recent Florida everglades trip, such as camping on platforms known as Chickees and paddling in 20 mile an hour headwinds for 11 days straight. Again, thanks to all who helped and made it a great weekend.

Skipper  
Jim Clendenin

### In this issue:

**Front Page: Skipper's Message**

Trip Announcements:

Page 2: Sugar Creek Ice Falls 3/1/2014

Page 2: **A Friendly Dues Reminder**

Page 3: Summit Lake 3/22/2014

Page 3: Schedule is Posted

Page 4: Sea Kayak Notes

### Trip Reports

Page 5: Future Trip Idea?

Page 6: Mississinewa 1981

Scout Day at the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show Photo by Joe Rozsahegyi



## The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

## Trip Announcement

### Sugar Creek Ice Falls Trip March 1, 2014

#### 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 redwinged 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 takeout. This is not a deterrent but an unexpected thrill.

We will meet at Deers Mill Covered bridge at 10:30 a.m. The putin 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 takeout is at The Narrow's Bridge with parking in the Lusk Historical building lot located at the East edge of Turkey Run State Park.

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 the temperature is below 30 F for the day, 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](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, February 28th to confirm your attendance and that the trip is a go.

[DwayneSJamesA1@hotmail.com](mailto:DwayneSJamesA1@hotmail.com)

## Cold Weather Paddling Tips–

Jim Sprandel:

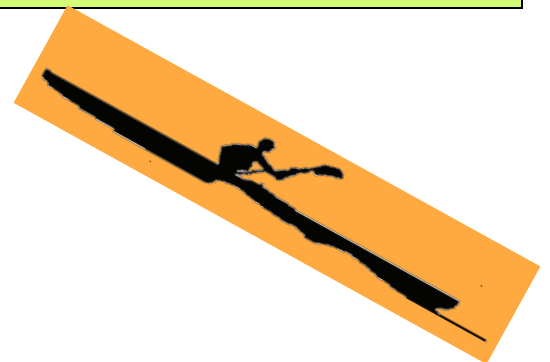
During the winter, paddling is still enjoyable but you need to dress properly to be comfortable and safe. The Fort Wayne paddling group circulated the following links on how to survive if you fall through thin ice:

<http://www.archive.org/details/ColdWaterSurvival>

<http://www.archive.org/details/YoureOutNowWhat>

<http://www.archive.org/details/Gett...tSinkingFeeling>

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



## A Friendly Reminder that Dues are Due

*If you have not already renewed*, please take a minute to do so. Your support and participation in this club is appreciated and highly valued. If you are sending your renewal by mail, please take a moment and tell us how we can improve our club, our trips, and our annual events.

The online members list has been updated to show your dues status. If the year noted below your first name is "2014" you NEED to send Dave Ellis \$15 by 3/1/2014.

Link to list: [http://www.hoosiercanooclub.org/HCC\\_List.pdf](http://www.hoosiercanooclub.org/HCC_List.pdf)

You can renew online via PayPal, <http://formsmarts.com/form/k5u> OR Download, print and complete the membership form from [hoosiercanooclub.org](http://www.hoosiercanooclub.org) and mail it to Dave. See

<http://www.hoosiercanooclub.org/App06.pdf> OR catch up with Dave Ellis at a Saturday morning pool session with cash. Dave Ellis

## Trip Announcement

### Summit Lake Early Spring Paddle [Saturday, March 22](#)

Trip Leader: Mark Cowser

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 shore- line. This early in the season there will be no gate fee but you will need a 2014 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 21](#) if you plan to attend.

Meeting time: [11:00 AM](#)

Location: Summit Lake State Park Boat Ramp    Length: 2-3 hours, 6-8 miles

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](mailto:cowser_mark@att.net)

## 2014 HCC Trip Calendar

Jim Sprandel

We held our annual Trip Planning meeting on January 26. I think that all of you will be excited by the trips that you will be able to choose from this year. However, be sure to circle October 11 on your calendars since this is the target date for the Pirate Party - one of one club's premiere social events.

If you are curious, look the schedule over at: <https://sites.google.com/site/hcctripscalendar/>.

**Note** There are links on the left- hand side of the web page so that you can see/print the Flatwater White Water, or Sea Kayaks events by themselves..

**Watch your Mail:** In past years, the HCC Events Calendar has been part of the March Newsletter    This year, the Board decided to try something different — we thought you might want to keep a paper copy of the calendar in your home to refer to during the year. Given this, we will create a list of all club events after the schedules have firmed up on March 1 and then mail a paper copy of this list to all members.

**Caveat:** This schedule is subject to change. Even the club's best psychics sometimes fail to accurately predict Indiana water levels three to six months in advance. Therefore, be sure to confirm details for an event a few weeks before it is scheduled. You will normally find final details for a trip in the newsletter. You can also check the Google Calendar and the Bulletin Board    If in doubt, e-mail the trip sponsor or appropriate Fleet chairman.



**The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**

## Sea Kayak Notes

### Jim Sprandel

We had a great trip planning meeting and I think you will be excited after looking over the schedule. This year, we are planning trips to North Carolina in April, the Apostle Islands (Lake Superior) in August, and Drummond -Lyme Islands (Lake Huron) in July. This is in addition to our standard trips on Indiana lakes and Lake Michigan.

**Sea Kayak Mailing List - E-Mail me if you want to sign up!** The Sea Kayak Fleet maintains an E-Mail list of sea kayakers within Indiana. We use this list to talk about upcoming trips, to distribute useful articles and videos that we stumble across on the internet, and to raise questions. *If you are a sea kayaker and want to be added to this list*, please email me at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net.

**Learn to Roll-** Kayaking is a lot more fun if you comfortable in and can handle your boat well. Nothing reinforces your confidence like being able to roll. When you have a "bomb-proof" (i.e., really, really reliable) roll, you can relax and take chances when you are paddling. Winter is a great time to go to the pool and find your roll. -Be sure to check the Bulletin Board for information on these pool sessions.

**Other Sea Kayaking Classes:** Dave and I will teach the following Sea Kayak classes this Spring:

**Introduction to Paddling Class** - This class targets newer kayakers. This class is important because it teaches to paddle efficiently before you develop "bad habits". This course is a first step. To really master these skill, you will have to practice these skills (forward, backward, and sideways) every time you go out. We also cover basic paddling issues such as equipment and safety considerations.

**Stroke Refinement Class** - Dave and I will teach a Stroke Refinement class this Spring. This class is targeted at Intermediate paddlers who have already can execute the basics and have practiced them for at least a year. We work with you to tune your basic technique and to teach you more efficient ways to complete turns. We will also include an extended segment on Forward Stroke. The goal of this segment is to teach you to paddle longer and more easily - forward stroke is what you do 99% of the time so you might as well learn to do it right..

**Open Water Rescue Clinic** - This clinic teaches you to perform assisted and solo rescues. Attendance at a class like this is *strongly recommended* before your first big water trip. People should think about retaking this clinic annually to "refresh" their skills. Rescues have to be quick - there is nothing more tiring than a failed rescue or sitting in cool water for a long time..

The Sea Kayak Fleet will continue our Geist paddles on the 1st Sunday of each month and our Tuesday afternoon Eagle Creek paddles during the Summer. See you on the water.



**The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**

### **A future Trip Idea???**

The photo was taken at the entrance to Katlian Bay at the end of the road in Sitka , Alaska ... The whale is coming up to scoop up a mouthful of herring..... (the small fish seen at the surface around the kayak).

The kayaker is a local Sitka Dentist. He apparently didnt sustain any injuries from the terrifying experience. The whale was just around the corner from the ferry terminal, and all the kayaker could think at that moment in time was: "Paddle Man - really fast!"



The whale's mouth is fully open with the bottom half under the boat. If the whale had closed his mouth before he furiously paddled away - He might have been LUNCH!!!  
Look at the picture again - He is in the whale's MOUTH!

**As always, please send Dwayne James your trip announcements by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to your trip and remember to send him your trip reports and pictures. [DwayneSJame-sA1@hotmail.com](mailto:DwayneSJame-sA1@hotmail.com)**

**The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**

## Trip Report Redux:

### Mississinewa Canoe Trip

October 31, 1981

by Max Kidwell

Seven members of the Hoosier Canoe Club, met at the Lotus Garden Restaurant, Saturday morning in October at 7:30 A.M. The caravan included four canoes and two kayaks, we headed north on US 31. We were headed for the dam on the Mississinewa Reservoir. The weather was perfect and prospects for an enjoyable trip was high. Those attending The Mississinewa Trip; Max Kidwell, Bob Corya, Dave Ellis, Tom Baker, Dave Craig, Anna Harris, and Buzz Howlett. I want to give special thanks to Doug Buck who helped me scout the trip on a previous Saturday.

We left the Lotus Garden Restaurant rendezvous at 7:45, arriving at the Peoria access site below the Mississinewa dam at 9:15. The canoes and kayaks were unloaded and the car shuttle headed back to Peru, Indiana. Peru has three bridges over the Wabash River. That span the River upstream will be the "Tack-our bridge." It is made of concrete and the downstream bridge is an old iron bridge. I would suggest next year we make the trip to the iron bridge. When everybody was back at Peoria we started our trip at 10:06. Dave Ellis made a special effort to check the water gauge below the dam, which was at the three-foot level. This is a good flow for this section of the river. The Frances Slocum State Forest borders the river for 2 ¼ miles on the right. One Hill is 90 feet above the river level.

After being on the river for a half hour, we heard two shotgun blast and a splash in the water downstream. Rounding the curve, we saw duck hunters sans dog, they ask us to retrieve their duck. Buzz hollow being in the lead played Golden Retriever; Dave Ellis was overheard saying "We ought to call him the Golden Howlett."

Max Kidwell spotted an island with the Sandy Beach for a lunch stop at 11:00 o'clock. We enjoyed potpourri of excellent companion ship for 45 minutes. The topic of conversation was "Why anybody in their right mind would not want to be with us on this river today?" We reached the confluence with the Wabash at 12:45. We drifted with the current to take out arriving there at 1:30. We met another canoeist, sans canoe; he was interested in joining our happy fleet in the future. Our Ambassador of Goodwill, Tom Baker, gave him a pep talk and wrote down his name and address for an application to join the club.

An hour and a half later we were passing the Lotus Garden. The entire trip took only eight 8 1/4 hours. The Wabash has a good flow this time of year both from the Huntington and Salamonie Reservoirs, which are both upstream from the Mississinewa Reservoir. This has been the favorite fall trip of the Hoosier Canoe Club for many years. Some years it has been rainy and snowy but we always had a good time.

P.S.I live and play in Orlando, FL with my new wife,Carol. We kayak, bicycle and camp in our Aliner pop-up trailer. At 84 I'm having the best time of my life We always like Hoosiers to drop in and see us. Phone [407-298-5942](tel:407-298-5942)

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Your friend, Max Kidwell



**Celebrating 50 Years of Paddling**

**The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**