

# The Hoosier Paddler

Month April 2016, Vol. 54 Issue 3

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



## From the Skipper:

It's April and our 2016 paddling season has officially began! March has seen our Ice Falls Trip on Sugar Creek, a WW trip down to Kentucky on the Elkhorn, and a Spring Equinox Paddle on Summit Lake.

From now until the fall, you can count on great trips pretty much every weekend. In the newsletter, there are details on how we can help give back to our community by holding a First Descent fundraiser this year. We are hoping to gather a committee to do this, so please contact Cindy ([cindy.m.schroeder@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.m.schroeder@gmail.com)) if you are interested in helping to organize it. Also, please feel free to submit any story you may find interesting to Dwayne James so we can put it in our monthly newsletter. The story can be related to safety, upcoming trips, past trips, educational or something entertaining.

Look for emails to the club membership for upcoming trips to the Flatrock and Wildcat Creek.

**April 16<sup>th</sup>: Flatrock River, Shirley Gates sponsor**

See you on the water!  
Natalie



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Send your write-ups to:

[dwaynesjamesa1@hotmail.com](mailto:dwaynesjamesa1@hotmail.com)

## First Descent Fundraiser

Some of you may remember our speaker this past November, Adrienne Levknecht, who also volunteers to work with First Descents to help share river experiences with cancer survivors. The HCKC has been inspired by Adrienne's example and we would love to help contribute and give back. Cancer is a devastating disease, so those who have fought it and survived it are definitely special. We are asking for club volunteers to join a committee ran by Cindi to help organize a simple fundraiser. Hopefully in a year or two we can turn this into a large event that can really draw in some crowds, fun, survivors and donations. Please contact Cindy at [cindy.m.schroeder@gmail.com](mailto:cindy.m.schroeder@gmail.com) if you are interested.

**Trip Announcement**  
**April Fool's on Big Pine**  
**April 2, 2016**

**Muskrat's 39th Annual April Fools On Big Pine Cruise**

Saturday April 2nd 2016.

Meeting time is 9:30 AM at our traditional gathering location, in downtown Pine Village.

Please, Don't go to the Putin! Go to Pine Village!!! Sometimes we don't know where the Putin will be until we meet in Pine Village. There are several possibilities, with the selection based on water levels.

WARNING: There will be a Special 40th Annual T-SHIRT Next Year !!!

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There are 3 Meeting Locations:

In addition to Pine Village, this event has two other Meeting Locations available, one in Kokomo and another in Lafayette. All 3 Locations and Meeting Times are described below:

The west-side McDonalds in Kokomo, corner of Sycamore Street & Dixon Road. Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer Page 33. Enter Kokomo on SR-931 (avoid the new US-31 By-Pass).

Then, go west on Sycamore Street (first stop light north of Wildcat Creek). Follow Sycamore all the way thru the city. The west-side Micky-D's is on the left just before the stop light at Dixon Road (2331 W. Sycamore St, Kokomo 46901).

This is the site of the April Fool's Traditional "Trip Leader's Breakfast", which has been held every year since the beginning in 1978. Muskrat will arrive at 7AM if you would like to eat, sip some coffee, and listen to some "pitifully old and raucous River Tales".

We will leave from there promptly at 8:00 AM.

The Lafayette east-side McDonalds, on SR-26, just west of the Jct of I-65 & SR-26. (4200 South St, Lafayette 47905) Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer Page 31.

Be there NO LATER than 8:30AM. The group from Kokomo will arrive at 8:45 and leave ASAP, hopefully by 9:00 AM, or as soon as all the potty-stops have been accomplished.

Downtown Pine Village, on SR-26, about 20-miles west of Lafayette.

Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer Page 30, at the Jct of SR-26 & SR-55, in beautiful, downtown Pine Village. The Boat-laden auto caravan from Kokomo & Lafayette 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.

**Save The Date!!! Pirate Paddle October 15, 2016**

Aye Maties! Tis the year when all pirates and scoundrels will be convening for the gatherin' on the Great White River. Set yer courses for . . .

Saturday, October 15, 2016

Pirate Paddle & Party

White River Yacht Club, Broad Ripple, Indianapolis

**The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**

## **Trip Announcement**

### **SAND CREEK TRIP**

**SATURDAY APRIL 9**

**WESTPORT-BREWERSVILLE 12.0 MILES**

**Sponsor: Richard Tekulve**

Please come and join us for what should be an enjoyable trip down one of southern Indiana's most scenic stretches from Westport to Brewersville. This section exhibits nearly unlimited and beautiful rock formations throughout its entirety. Also, you will pass not one but two extremely old "water tunnels"/mill races that date back two centuries ago. Our journey will take us a distance of 12.0 miles with a steady gradient of 4.8 f.p.m. allowing our destination at the Brewersville Bridge.

This annual Springtime event has been a regular on the HCKC calendar for over a quarter of a century. This is one of the DNR's top ten sections in their scenic water trail inventory and its not too difficult to understand why. Our put-in time is 10 AM @ the Westport Dam Access area which is located just downstream from the fully restored 1888 Westport Covered Bridge. There will be a lunch break at the first "water tunnel" which is a narrow rock cut out which is separated by a 3/4 mile loop that actually creates an island. You can actually see paddlers on one side of the narrow (25 ft.) ledge, talk to them and then watch them land their boats 20 minutes later at the outlet of the chute as the stream traverses the loop. Paddlers ranging from four to twenty one have attended from Ohio, Illinois, Indiana and Kentucky over the years.

Please remember that the streams of SE Indiana can run totally dry even in the Spring months and therefore lies the possibility of a substitute stream to be put in place as the Vernon Fork Muscatatuck was in 2014.

DIRECTIONS to the put-in; while driving south from Greensburg on St. Rd. 3 turn LEFT at the flashing yellow light in Westport onto Main St. Proceed East on Main St. through town for 1 3/4 miles (this turns into Co. Rd. 1100 South as you leave town) to two adjacent bridges over Sand Creek. One is concrete and one is the old covered bridge. Take the (concrete) bridge to the RIGHT and as soon as you cross take a small lane to the RIGHT which is a short drive (500 ft) to the dam/access put-in location. There will be both boats and cars visible here. The put-in is located in the Delorme Atlas on page 52-B3 with the slogan Westport Bridge. This is aprox. 63 miles from the center of Indy.

Please contact me by 9 PM on Friday April 8th so that any last minute changes can be communicated as a substitute stream may have to be utilized. My cell phone is 812-767-1317 and email is [CANOEINDIANA@YAHOO.COM](mailto:CANOEINDIANA@YAHOO.COM). Please leave a name and phone # for any last minute changes that can very easily occur due to fluctuating water levels as I have several hand painted gauges painted on different locations throughout the southern part of the state. Also people from the "city" have become lost and oddly enough ended up in the state of Ohio using their "technology". I will be meeting with landowners in the Brewersville to secure a safe take-out or worst case scenario utilize my cabin take-out a mile further downstream on the creek. Also, I will try to post on the HCKC Bulletin Board and Facebook site an update. Last year (2015) was a 50/50 call with water levels falling the night before and a decision having to be made soon as the deadline approached. Thus, a last-minute 30 mile drive NE of Greensburg only to be rewarded with all small "feeder" streams flowing high and providing the next days downstream perfect flow. The life of a "Trip Sponsor" can be unpredictable at times on Hoosier streams. Sincerely, Richard Tekulve-Trip Sponsor since 2006.

## **Training Opportunity**

### **May 6-8 : ACA Level 1/2 ICW- Essentials of Kayak Touring Instructor Certification Workshop**

Join the ranks of our certified HCKC instructors and help teach our members the joys of kayaking. This weekend ACA class will be held at the Wildcat Kokomo Reservoir. Friday, May 6 5-8pm, and Sat/Sun 9-5. Cost \$325.

The course is not a skills course and geared towards the more seasoned paddler looking for development as an ACA instructor candidate. Students may be certified at either a full L2 or L1 depending on demonstrated skill set. Contact Joe Rozsahegyi / ACA State Director to register [instatedirector@americancanoe.net](mailto:instatedirector@americancanoe.net) Registration is available until class is filled. Tentative class size is 5, may increase to 10 based on a wait list and additional instructor availability.

This class is to certify experienced paddlers to teach kayak skills. Excellent for camps, paddle clubs, liveries, retailers and individuals to obtain formal accreditation to provide training from entry level to touring level skills. Once certified, instructors are able to obtain free liability insurance through the ACA to cover their classes. Class instructor is Ivan Bartha, Midwest division director for the ACA.

The Essentials of Kayak Touring Instructor Certification Workshop (ICW) is part of a nationally recognized curriculum provided by the American Canoe Association. This class combines both Instructor Development Workshop and the Instructor Certification Exam in one event. Participants are expected to come with intermediate kayaking skills and an ability to teach skills outlined in the Essential Eligibility Criteria which is linked below. Some equipment will be provided, but will be limited to rescue equipment and some extra paddling gear. Personal gear/clothing is the responsibility of the participant. Limited rental kayaks are available.

See ACA website for details of the L1 and L2 curriculum <http://goo.gl/0SFzMe>

## **Trip Announcement**

### **April 17 Wildcat Creek – West Liberty to Greentown/Kokomo**

Meet at Greentown Hwy 22 access site at Noon

Easy paddle on the eastern end of the Wildcat Creek from West Liberty to Greentown. This 8 mile section is remote and serene winding through scarcely developed woodlands, ending at the entrance to the Wildcat Creek Reservoir. We will pass the Jerome restoration project where hundreds of trees were removed and shoreline re-vegetated to prevent future erosion and the Hwy 213 bridge reconstruction where the DOT created new game paths under the bridge. We will meet at Noon at the Greentown Hwy 22 boat launch, at the western end of Greentown and arrange the shuttles to the starting point which has limited parking. This is easy trip for all, and will take 3 -4 hrs unless there is stronger current. An option will be to continue to paddle and explore the reservoir. Trip is open to all kayakers and canoers, The Wildcat Creek is fairly shallow 1-3ft so expect to occasionally touch the semi-rocky bottom. Trip will be posted on the Meetup Site and watch for email updates depending on river levels. Dress for the weather and bring a drybag with a spare change of clothes. If the current is too severe, alternate trip will be to paddle into the reservoir from Greentown. Contact Joe Rozsahegyi by Saturday April 16 by 6pm [jvrinkokd@aol.com](mailto:jvrinkokd@aol.com).

It's spring and we have a great schedule of sea kayaking/touring trips planned for this year. You can look over the Sea Kayak and Touring Schedule at:

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

If you have questions on any of the trips, contact the trip sponsor listed under the trip details or drop me an e-mail.

### **April Events:**

Lake Monroe Overnight - Our annual Spring Monroe Overnight will be on Saturday-Sunday, April 2 and 3. Kevin Dogan's trip announcement is later in this newsletter.

Brookville Lake – Robert Moore will again host us at Brookville Reservoir on Saturday, April 30 - his trip announcement also follows in this newsletter.

**Cold Water:** Be careful. The old maxim is to dress for the water. That is, assume that you are going to capsize and dress to survive a swim and reentry if you are paddling open water. I measured the water's surface temperature at Eagle Creek today (3/15/2016) and it was between 55 and 58 so you need to prepare for it.

For creek and river paddling, people can usually get to the edge and then change into the spare clothes that they have brought with them in a dry bag. However, it's not always that fast on open water so be sure to wear a wet suit or dry suit this time of year. Whether paddling creeks or lakes, be sure to wear your life jacket since that first immersion can knock the wind out of you.

**Roll Training:** Starting April 6, the Thatcher pool sessions will move back to Wednesday nights. This will be a good chance to work on your roll. In sea kayaking, a "bomb-proof" roll gives you the confidence to play in bigger waves or surf on bigger water since you know that you won't have to leave your boat. Rolling also helps you beef up your bracing skills so it will take bigger conditions for you to flip. Dave Ellis is an excellent rolling instructor and has taught many of the Whitewater and Sea Kayak paddlers within the HCKC to roll.

**Eagle Creek Tuesday Afternoon Paddles:** I have contacted the Eagle Creek Park manager and am working on renewing the partnership agreement that allows us to paddle on Tuesday Afternoons at Eagle Creek. This is a great chance to get out and get back in shape for the paddling season and just get out to enjoy Eagle Creek. These paddles are unstructured so you can just come out and work on whatever you want. Watch the Sea Kayak mailing list for more information.

**Sea Kayak Mailing List:** I would encourage paddlers with sea kayaks to sign up for our Sea Kayak mailing list. This is an unmoderated mailing list of paddlers in and around Indiana that we use for event announcements, spontaneous pick-up trips when the weather is just too good to stay indoors, and general sea kayak discussions. While almost all sea kayaking events are listed in the newsletter, we use this mailing list to pre-announce events to help with your planning – in addition, some intermediate to advanced events are only announced through this list. So, if you have a sea kayak, send me an e-mail ([merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net](mailto:merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net)) and I will add you to our mailing list.

**Jim Sprandel**



## **Trip Announcement**

**BROOKVILLE LAKE: Saturday, April 30, 2016**

**Time: 10:00AM**

**SPONSOR: Robert Moore**

Last year we paddled the north end of the lake. This year we will launch at Egypt Hollow and plan to paddle south. Options include paddling east into Mounds SRA, west fork or south to the dam. Egypt Hollow is located between the two causeways near Everton and accessed from the west side of the lake. By water, the distance from the ramp to the dam is about 5.5 miles. This is the open water section of the lake. Sea kayaks with spray skirts and water tight bulkheads are required. Brookville Lake is a 5260-acre lake managed by the Army Corps of Engineers and Indiana Department of Natural Resources for flood control and recreation. A detailed description of the lake can be found on line ([http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/files/brookville\\_trail.pdf](http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/files/brookville_trail.pdf) ).

**Put-In:** Meet at the Egypt Hollow ramp near Everton

From I 70, you can follow State Road 1 south through Connersville and continue south another 6 miles to Everton. Turn left at the Everton flashing light onto Everton Road. You may notice the small brown signs directing towards the Egypt Hollow ramp. At the end of Everton Rd., bear right onto S County Road 500E/S Bentley Rd. Turn Right onto E County Rd. 700 S. Turn right onto County Rd. 550 E. The road bears left and the name changes to W Egypt Hollow Rd. Follow it down hill to the ramp. There is an outhouse, parking area and small beach for ideal for launching kayaks.

**Meeting time:** 10:00AM. Bring Lunch.

**Contact information:** Robert Moore, [njordball@gmail.com](mailto:njordball@gmail.com)



View of East Fork from a lunch stop at Mounds SRA

## **Trip report**

### **TRIP: Spring Equinox Paddle at Summit Lake**

**DATE: March 20, 2016**

**Sponsor: Jim Eckerty**

The north boat ramp served as our meeting, put in and take out location and the lake was perhaps a foot above normal levels with the water clear and clean.

Eleven hearty souls met up for this season opener. Starting temps were in the 30's soaring to a high of 50 at take out. The winds were kind to us and even declined throughout the day. The Sun was bright and warm with a few puffy white clouds in a beautiful blue sky. The group took full advantage of this spring day by paddling the majority of the lake and covering just over 9 miles. We picked a warm and sunny section of shoreline for a nice lunch break. Many species of duck were spotted and were our frequent paddling companions as well as the ever present Canadian Geese many of which were nesting. At least two large, newer and occupied beaver dams were investigate with a few sightings of the owner reported. Overall we all enjoyed a nice spring day without incident. Perhaps the highlight of the day was the hybrid Kayak / Catamaran paddled by Rick and Stevie... beautiful work Rick Turney !



## **Dues are Due!**

Dues are due! The online members list has been updated to show your dues status. If the year noted below your first name is "2016" you NEED to send me \$15 now.

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

You can renew online via PayPal, <http://formsmarts.com/form/k5u> OR Download, print and

complete the membership form from [hoosiercanoeclub.org](http://www.hoosiercanoeclub.org) and mail it to me. See

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

# **The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**

## Class Announcement

### April 24 USCG Paddlesport Safety Class – Kokomo IUK campus 12-4 pm



A 4 hr Paddlesport Safety Class offered by US Coast Guard Auxiliary in Kokomo April 24 12-4pm at the Kokomo IUK campus. Advance reservation is required by April 15 to insure you get a book. Cost is \$20 individual/ \$25 Family payable at the door. Members of the USCG will also perform a Paddle Craft Vessel Safety Check (VSC) afterwards if you bring your boat, safety and paddling gear. This is a classroom - off water class. Contact John Nystrum [johnc111@hotmail.com](mailto:johnc111@hotmail.com) or Joe Rozsahegyi [instatedirector@americancanoe.net](mailto:instatedirector@americancanoe.net) to reserve your spot

#### Course Overview

Canoeists and kayakers are boaters also. Now, there is a course available to address the unique needs of this audience. Paddlesports America is an exciting safety course designed to attract the novice paddle enthusiasts and add to the knowledge of experienced paddlers as well. This four-hour course presents five chapters of safety information.

Topics include

- **Know Your Paddlecraft** - parts of a canoe and kayak; understanding paddlecraft characteristics such as basic types, hull shapes hull materials, lengths and widths and weights; selecting your paddle for both canoe and kayak.
- **Before You Get Underway** - knowing your paddlecraft's capacity and how to file a float plan; transporting your paddlecraft; conducting a pre-departure check; dressing for a safe trip; loading gear in a canoe or kayak; storing paddlecraft; the responsibilities when paddling with others.
- **Operating Your Boat Safely** - how to enter and exit a canoe or kayak safely; securing the paddlecraft and sharing the waterways with others; the U. S. Aids to Navigation System (ATONS); learning about local hazards on waterways.
- **The Legal Requirements of Boating** - vessel registration, hull identification numbers and who may operate a paddlecraft; unlawful operation of paddlecraft; Homeland Security restrictions; policies on alcohol and drugs. Life jackets, navigation lights, sound-producing devices and visual distress signals, protection of environment and what to do if in a boating accident. State specific information may be added at the end of this chapter. Boating emergencies...
- **What to Do** - minimizing the risk of drowning, capsizing, swamping or falling overboard; emergency techniques; how to deal with cold water immersion and hypothermia; understanding heat related illness; dehydration; handling weather emergencies.



## The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club



## Trip of a Life Time Announcement

### Uganda December 2016

One of our newer members, Hasina Mirembe, is taking the plunge to sponsor a trip this year to her native country of Uganda to kayak the legendary Nile River. These world class rapids on the Nile are being threatened by a dam being built and this trip may very well not be possible to run in a few years. This is a very rough estimate on dates and on costs, but we want to allow members to be able to prepare for the trip as soon as possible. Flatwater and white water kayaking are available, along with rafting so all paddling disciplines and skill levels are welcome to enjoy this trip and the beauty of Uganda. We are hoping to get a solid group so that we can take advantage of lower cost airfare, lodging, and equipment rental.

Expected take off: Dec. 18 or 19, 2016

*Estimated* cost of the trip: \$2500-3000 for two weeks; includes food, lodging, equipment. Safari would cost extra.

Rafting info - Nile River Explores <http://raftafrica.com/>

Rafting and kayaking info: <http://kayakthenile.com/>

Some info about the proposed dam:

<http://www.internationalrivers.org/blogs/229/uganda-dam-could-drown-local-jobs-adventure-tourism>

Please contact Hasina at [hasinamk17@gmail.com](mailto:hasinamk17@gmail.com) for any questions and/or to RSVP for the trip. Please put Uganda in the subject line so the email won't get missed.

## Class Announcement Hoosier Riverwatch Training

Hoosier Riverwatch is a program of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Office of Water Quality, Watershed Assessment and Planning Branch. The program began in 1996 to increase public awareness of water quality issues and concerns by training volunteers to monitor stream water quality.

### The mission of Hoosier Riverwatch is:

To involve the citizens of Indiana in becoming active stewards of Indiana's water resources through watershed education, water monitoring, and clean-up activities. Hoosier Riverwatch is a State-sponsored water quality monitoring initiative. Class are free and paddlers are encouraged to enroll.

We accomplish this mission through the following goals:

- Educate citizens on watersheds and the relationship between land use and water quality.
- Train citizens on the basic principles of water quality monitoring.
- Promote opportunities for involvement in water quality issues.
- Provide water quality information to individuals or groups working to protect water resources.

Support volunteer efforts by providing technical assistance, monitoring equipment, networking opportunities and educational materials. 11 Classes are available throughout the state are free See the Riverwatch website for details [http://www.in.gov/idem/riverwatch/files/training\\_schedule.pdf](http://www.in.gov/idem/riverwatch/files/training_schedule.pdf)



Saturday, April 9 Chesterton, IN  
Saturday, April 23 Indianapolis, IN –  
Friday May 6 Bloomington, IN –  
Monday, May 9 Lawrenceburg, IN  
Friday, May 13 Paoli, IN –

Tuesday/Thursday, April 19 & 21 Kokomo, IN –  
Saturday, April 23 & 30 South Bend, IN –  
Saturday May 7 Evansville, IN –  
Friday May 13 Bristol, IN –  
Wednesday, May 18 Princeton, IN Thursday, June 30 North Webster, IN

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