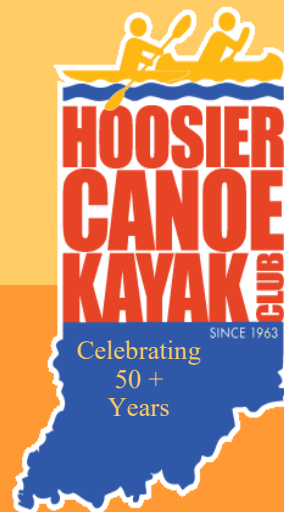


# The Hoosier Paddler

March 2021, Volume 59, Issue 3

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



## Trip Report

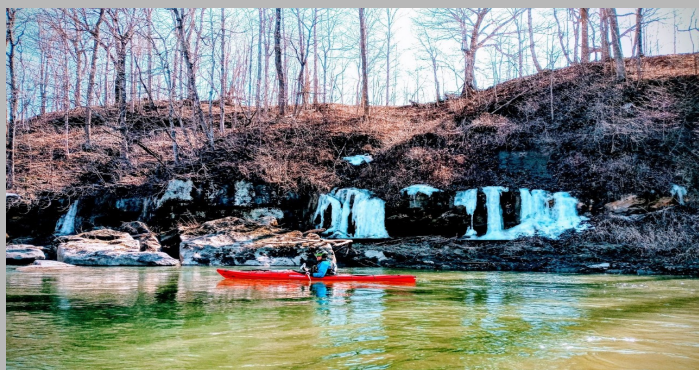
### Ice Falls Sugar Creek

March 6, 2021

Sponsor: Dwayne James

After having to reschedule, twice, due to frozen water and then flooding, we were able to enjoy a beautiful day on Sugar Creek. In spite of two weeks of temperatures that neared 60 degrees, we still had several nice ice falls remaining along the southern ridges of the creek. Thirteen paddlers in canoes and kayaks joined in with many of them doing the Ice Falls trip and Sugar Creek for the first time. The water level on the Crawfordsville gauge was just at 2.3 ft, temps ranged from 35 to 48 F, and the sky was blue all day.

Thanks to all who shared stories along the way. And a great thank you to Judy Thompson for doing not one, but two scouting trips to check out the location for us.



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April Fools on Big Pine!!

*The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe and Kayak Club*

## Trip Announcement

### Muskrat's 44th Annual April Fools On Big Pine Creek Cruise"

**Saturday April 10th 2021.**

**Sponsor: Garry Hill**

"

Meeting time is 9:30 AM at our Traditional Meeting Location, in Downtown Pine Village.

**Please, Don't go to A Launch Site !!! Go to Pine Village !!!**

The Putin will not be Announced until we Meet in Pine Village. There are several possibilities, with the selection based on Water Levels.

#### **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:

#### **1) The west-side McDonalds in Kokomo, corner of Sycamore St & Dixon Rd.**

**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.**

#### **2) The Lafayette East-side McDonalds, on SR-26, just west 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.

#### **3) 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.

If you're interested in attending this Cruise, but have concerns about your abilities or equipment (Stream conditions??, type of Boat?? spray skirts?? helmets?? float bags??), please feel free to contact me. Muskrat's complete contact info is available at the end of this Trip Announcement.

#### **LAST MINUTE UPDATES:**

Each year I make a Scouting Run thru the Big Pine Valley on the Day Before my April Fools Cruise.

My plan for that day includes being home no later than 6PM, so I can prepare my email "**Last Minute Update**" which I **Promise** to have available to my Expedition Team Members no later than 7PM. For everyone else, I will be sitting next to both phones all evening, beginning at 7PM. **Feel free to call me any time after 7PM** to see about the Water level and the expected Level of Difficulty.

**GarryHill@aol.com** 765-628-3155 home **765-432-6782** cellphone

**Snail-Mail to 1021 Eastcrest Drive, Greentown, IN 46936-1612**

# Trip Announcement

## SK: Lake Monroe Overnight April 10th and 11th

### Trip Sponsor: Jeff Stejskal

**THIS is a LEVEL 2 HCKC Sea Kayaking Trip (with possible Level 3 conditions)** Please review trip level chart before signing up. [Trip Level Guide 1-2021.docx](#)

Join us for an overnight paddling trip on Lake Monroe. Lake Monroe lets us camp from our boats along the shore in Deem Wilderness. This year, we are paddling after all of the wildlife protection areas are open so we may explore or camp in the Middle Fork. Or, we can try and find the eagle's nest north of Pine Grove. This is also a good time of year because we usually see migratory ducks, grebes, and loons on the lake.

*If you only want to paddle on Saturday*, our campsite should be only be about 3-4 miles from the Cutright put-in so that people are welcome to come out and day-paddle with us without camping.

**Registration:** Please [register](#) on the club web site or by email if necessary

**Meeting Place/Put-In:** Cutright Public Access Site. This is about 2 hours from the intersection of Hwy 37 and I-465 on the south-east side of Indianapolis. ([Google Map](#)) Note: Hwy 37 has a detour so plan ahead.

**Directions to Meeting Place:** Take Hwy 446 south from Hwy 46 on the east side of Bloomington to the Lake Monroe causeway. Cutright is the first turn on your left immediately after you cross the causeway. Go to the first boat ramp that you come to after leaving Hwy 446.

**What to Bring:** Bring your paddling gear, spray skirt, camping gear, food for lunch, dinner, and breakfast, and warm clothes. You should also bring drinking water with you. We will be camping from our boats and you will have to pack all of your gear and food in your boat, so plan accordingly.

**Be sure to have a 2021 Indiana DNR Nonmotorized Boat Permit.** You *should* be able to pick one up on the way to the meeting place, either at the DNR headquarter on Hwy 446 on the north side of the entrance to the Paynetown SRA or at the gate for the Paynetown SRA.

**Required Equipment:** Depending on the temperatures, wet suits or dry suits are recommended. Due to potentially rough lake conditions, spray skirts, safety equipment, and sea/touring kayaks with fore and aft bulkheads are required.

**Schedule:** **Saturday** - 10:00 am is the recommended time for arrival at the put-In. We will launch at 10:45 am. We will probably paddle about 4-5 miles and then set up camp and have lunch. After lunch, we will go out and explore more of the lake.

**Sunday:** We are flexible here. We could return to Cutright as early as 10:00 am and drop off people who have to take off. We'll talk and figure this out Saturday night depending on how far people want to paddle on Sunday and when people have get home.

**Contact information:** Jeff Stejskal [jeffs45321@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffs45321@hotmail.com) Please contact me by 7:00 pm on the Thursday before the trip if you want to come. Be sure to register or contact me since I will monitor weather forecasts prior to the trip and I will let the people who have contacted me know if there will be changes to or cancelation of the trip due to the expected conditions.

#### Covid-19 Safety:

To minimize the risk of spreading COVID-19, we will be following the HCKC [Corona Virus Guidelines](#) which includes maintaining social distancing. All participants should bring personal protection items such as face mask and sanitizer.

Please complete the [Waiver/ COVID Screening Form](#) the day prior to the event and submit to the Trip Sponsor/Lead (include TEMPERATURE). Anyone experiencing symptoms of Covid-19 or direct exposure as detailed on the form, should not attend the event.



# The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club



## Sea Kayaking Forward Strokes Submitted by Linda Decker

Spring is in the air and it's time to dust off your paddles and get ready to be on the water. As we get out and paddle this spring, it's important for us to remember when dressing to not only consider the outside temperature but, also the water temperature. It's been a long winter so, if you haven't been paddling, don't expect too much from yourself the first couple of times out!

Here are some of our early season fun trips, training and activities planned to get the season started.....

<b>March 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Annual Spring Solstice trip at Summit Lake
<b>April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Brookville Reservoir Paddle
<b>April 10<sup>th</sup> &amp; 11<sup>th</sup></b>	Lake Monroe Overnight
<b>April 16<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup></b>	Lake Jocassee, South Carolina
<b>May 1<sup>st</sup></b>	Cagles Mill (Cataract Falls) Highwater Trip
<b>May 15<sup>th</sup></b>	Kayak Skills Training: Beginner & Intermediate
<b>May 16<sup>th</sup></b>	Fundamentals of River Rescue & Safety
<b>May 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Demo Day (more info coming)
<b>June 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup></b>	Open Water Rescue at Summit Lake

*Details & Registration available on HCKC Website (don't forget to sign in so you can see all posted information)*

### Trip Announcement

**SK: Cagles Mill (Cataract Falls) Highwater Trip May 1<sup>st</sup> 2021**

**Trip Sponsor: Jeff Stejskal**

**THIS IS A LEVEL 2 HCKC Sea Kayaking Trip however paddling distance is 13-15 miles** Please review trip level chart before signing up. [Trip Level Guide 1-2021.docx](#)

This trip was one of Jim Sprandel's favorites because Cagles Mill Lake has a different feel when we paddle it at the higher lake stages that we have in the spring. Link to [Indiana Lake Levels](#). It's fun to paddle areas that are normally only hike-able. In 2017, we actually paddled over the Lower Falls all of the way up to and under the Upper Falls. Pretty cool.

We will launch from Lieber State Recreation Area. We will then paddle down the lake past Cunot PAS and up to the Falls. The trip from the Lieber SRA Ramp up to the Falls is about 6.5 miles each way and the first 3 miles crosses open portions of Cagles Mills Lake which can get choppy and windy. We will probably have lunch at the Lower Falls.

**Meeting Place:** Meet in Lieber SRA. If the lake stage is below 640, we will meet at the East end of the Swimming Beach at Lieber SRA. If the lake is above 645, we will either have to unload our boats on the road down to the beach or we may be able to use the ramp's parking area at the west end of the beach which is a few feet higher than the beach. I'll check the levels the week before the trip and let people know where we will be able to park.

**Directions:** From I-70 and I-465 on the west side of Indianapolis, drive west on I-70 to the SR 243 exit (Exit 37). Drive about 3 miles south on SR 243 to the Lieber SRA Entrance and follow the signs to the beach within the park. (The SRA is approximately 45 minutes from I-465 and I-70 on the Indy West Side.) Note: There is a \$7 fee for Indiana residents to enter the park and you must have a **DNR Sticker** for your boat—these stickers are available at the SRA gate.

**What to Bring:** Be sure to bring your boat, paddling gear, water, your lunch, sunscreen, and insect repellent. I require a spray skirt since we may be dealing with wind and boat chop in the first 3 miles. Due to the mileage and possible lake conditions, sea kayaks or touring kayaks with fore/aft flotation - spray skirts are required

**Paddling Distance:** 13-15 miles.

**Schedule:** Saturday, May 1, 2021 –

Plan on being ready to launch at 10:00 am—we should get off the water around 3:30 pm.

**Contact Information:** Please register on the website or e-mail Jeff Stejskal at [jeffs45321@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffs45321@hotmail.com) by 6:00 pm on the Friday before the trip if you plan to attend so I can get latest conditions and launch location to you.

# The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

## **Trip Announcement**

**Brookville Lake Paddle      April 3, 2021**

**THIS IS Primarily A LEVEL 2 HCKC Sea Kayaking Trip however, 12 mile distance planned**

**LAUNCH TIME: 10:00 am. Bring a lunch.**

**SPONSOR: Robert Moore**

This year's Brookville paddle will launch from the Old Dunlapville Road Ramp (first left turn heading east on Dunlapville Road after crossing the causeway).

Ramp coordinates: 39.589627, -84.984160

The plan is to head south to Hanna Creek and then continue south towards the Fairfield causeway. The Hanna Creek area is normally a water fowl gathering area. Docks should be empty and boat traffic minimal.

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)). The shore line is largely wooded.



Launch time is 10am. Please arrive a few minutes early to get your boat ready and in the water. The group will gather on the water to avoid crowding the ramp.

Sea Kayaks are required. This is not a difficult paddle but you should be able to self-rescue, launch our own boat and be comfortable paddling 12 miles on an open lake. Keep in mind that this is an early season paddle.

Please Register on website page no later than April 1<sup>st</sup> if you wish to attend.

Contact information: Robert – [njordball@gmail.com](mailto:njordball@gmail.com)

## Trip Announcement

**Lake Jocassee, SC April 16 to April 24th**

**Location: Lake Jocassee Salem, South Carolina**

**Trip Sponsor: Tony Pascuzzi**

We will camp at Devils Fork State Park (Salem, SC) and paddle Lake Jocassee. The campground is located at the southern end of the lake. Lake Jocassee is a 7,500 acre, 300' deep reservoir located in northwest South Carolina. The lake is well known for the clean and cold Appalachian mountain rivers that feed the lake to keep its waters cool and clear year-round.

We will do day paddles to the various waterfalls with hiking/biking, etc. on alternate days. There are six waterfalls including Whitewater Falls (811') that is the highest waterfall east of the Mississippi. Most are accessible by kayak or boat only, however Whitewater Falls is best viewed by hiking via the Foothills Trail or spur trail. You can also access the upper overlook by following a paved ¼ mile walkway from the parking lot.

The area offers plenty of hiking, biking, fishing and site seeing opportunities. On past visits to this lake in the summer-time, the boat traffic has been minimal compared to the lakes in our areas.

*Lake Jocassee is an undeveloped reservoir nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Paddlers enjoy crystal clear water, mountain views, excellent fishing, many lake-side waterfalls, and a boat-in only campground. The reservoir is fed by four major rivers: the Whitewater River, the Horsepasture River, the Toxaway River, and the Thompson River. While you share the lake with motor boats, there are many opportunities to explore coves and shoreline that are off the beaten path. Devil's Fork State Park, on the south end of the lake, provides opportunities developed access and opportunities for lodging and camping, including a boat-in campground. The northern and eastern parts of the lake are bordered by Jocassee Gorges, an area protected and made accessible to the public by SC Department of Natural Resources.*  
<https://www.gopaddlesc.com/waterways/trail/lake-jocassee>

**Driving distance:** approximately 8 hr 20 min from Indy and 6 hr 45 min from Cincy

**Expected paddling conditions: Level 2 – Kayak Trip Level** (please see the attached HCKC Sea Kayaking Trip Levels chart that describes expected conditions and paddler's expected ability).

The main body of Lake Jocassee is rather large at the southern end so conditions vary with the weather. While lake conditions are usually fairly calm, winds can whip up quickly producing waves.

The distance to the furthest reaches of the feeder river is approximately 10 miles so we will decide if we wish to venture that far then. There are plenty of opportunities to stop for bio breaks and to stretch new

**What to bring:** paddling gear (including spray deck), camping gear, food for all meals, bike and fishing gear and any other outdoor equipment that you'd like. Warm paddling clothing (dry suit or wet suit w/dry top) is recommended as the average air temperatures for winter are 50-55F and spring are 61-65F. Winter water temperatures range from 45-50F.

**Boat requirements:** kayaks with fore/aft bulkheads and perimeter deck lines are required.

### **Schedule:**

**Friday evening, April 16** – arrive and set up camp.

**Saturday, April 17 – Friday, April 23** – explore the lake, waterfalls, hike, fish, bike, etc. Exact paddling schedule TBD.

**Saturday, April 24** – break camp and drive home. Some people may opt to stay until Sunday (4/25) which obviously you may do so. Please make appropriate camping reservations to ensure that you have a place to camp.

**Contact information:** Tony Pascuzzi, [izzucsap@yahoo.com](mailto:izzucsap@yahoo.com). Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns, etc. Register for trip on club website

## Sea Kayaking Paddling Topics & Gear Review

*by Tony Pascuzzi Co-Chair SK Fleet*

### Storm Cag

The Storm Cag is one of the most useful pieces of kayaking kit that I have. I never realized how handy and important it truly is until I finally bought one. After having my Storm Cag for a short period of time, I wondered how I ever got along without.

A Storm Cag is basically an over-sized rain jacket, emergency spray deck and extra layer that rolls up and stores in its' own hood in the approximate size of a cantaloupe. It's made to be able to quickly and easily throw on over your dry suit and PFD if it starts raining, if the wind picks up and/or you just get a little chilly. When stopping for lunch breaks it's great to throw on to keep toasty.

My Storm Cag is always in the rear day hatch, ready to deploy at a moments' notice. No need to bring a rain jacket if you have your Storm Cag. It has a hood, lined pocket, large zippered pocket, another zippered pocket on the upper arm and a pass thru opening so you can access your PFD or dry suit without removing the Cag. The hood has a draw-string so it can be cinched down tight when the wind starts to blow.

Several companies make Storm Cags. Mine happens to be from Kokatat and is made of their Hydrus material. They also make them out of Gore Tex. Reed Chillcheater make theirs out of their Aquatherm material. Although they're not inexpensive, they're priceless when you really need one.

Imagine being out with your best friends for a day paddle. The weather is perfect – not a cloud in the sky, temperatures in the 80's and the water is dead flat calm. You paddle across the large lake, hopping from island to island, finally stopping at one of the larger islands for an amazing deli sandwich and an even more amazing ice cream cone for that extra bit of nourishment to get you back to your destination.

After lunch, the group starts the journey back. You stop off at an island at the midway point for a quick bio break, drink and snack. Everyone notices that the weather is suddenly turning very ugly - as in grab Toto and make a quick run for it. Everyone is paddling frantically to get to the destination but the skies open up and it begins to pour. Thunder and lightning is everywhere and seems to be tracking directly for your group. Luckily there's an island that the group can safely land at and wait out the storm. And wait, and wait...for several hours. Luckily everyone had their Storm Cags except for one, who happened to have a rain jacket which did the job. Everyone was warm and dry(ish) while waiting out the storm.

Lesson learned. Don't leave home without it.

## The Five Common Knots used for River Rescue

### Submitted by John Gates

What five knots do you really need to know to be able to perform rescue and recovery on the river?

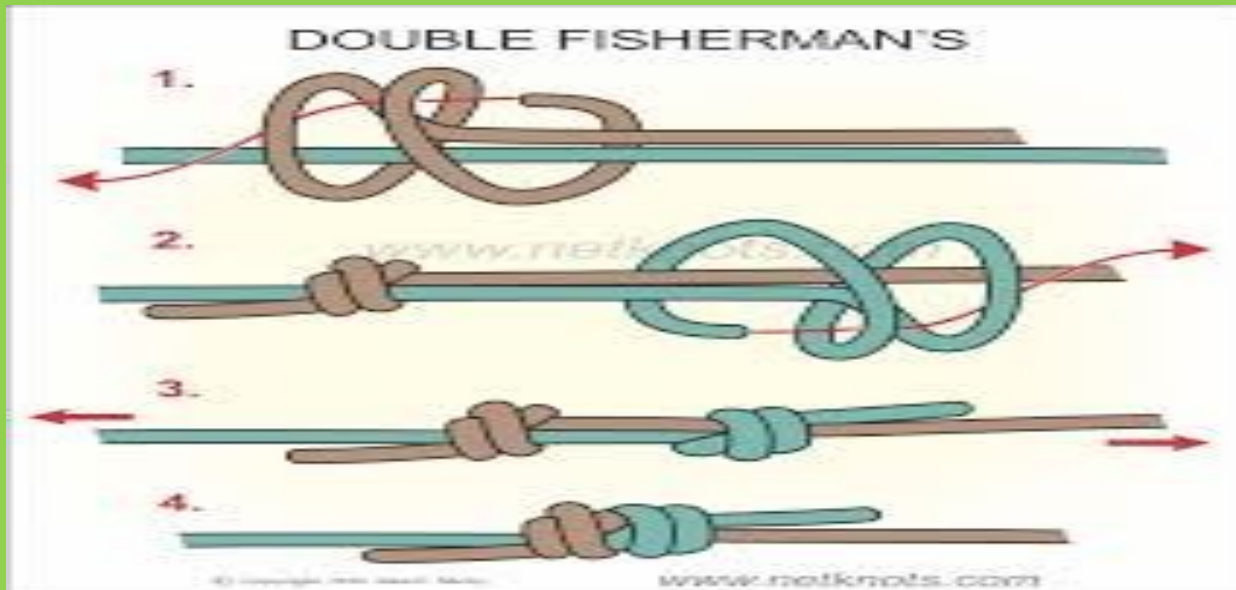
- Alpine Butterfly Knot
- Double Fisherman Knot
- Figure Eight Knot
- Prusik Knot
- Water Knot

These five knots are common and actually with a little practice you can tie them quickly and with ease. In this article I'm not going to get into where we would use the knot in our rescue/ recovery event but if you know these knots before you take a Swiftwater Rescue Course it will help. The following diagrams illustrate each knot.

#### Alpine Butterfly:

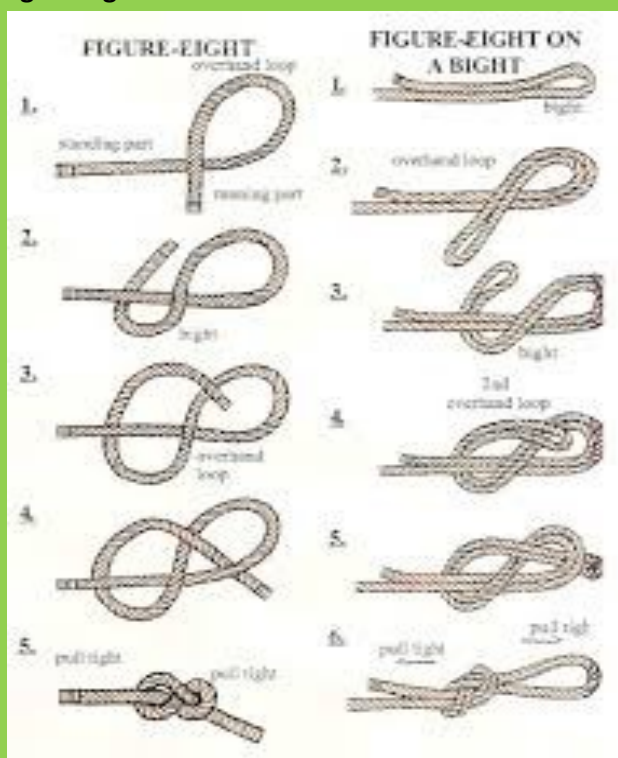


#### Double Fisherman Knot:

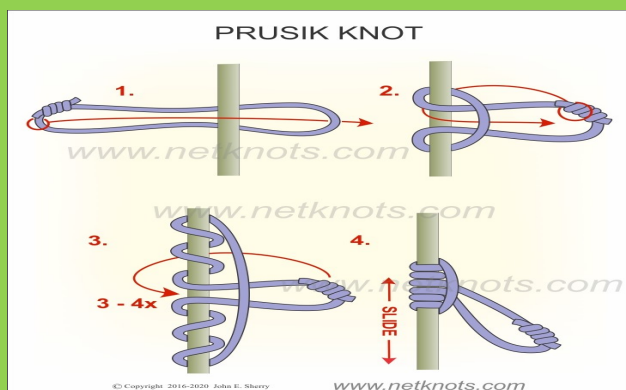




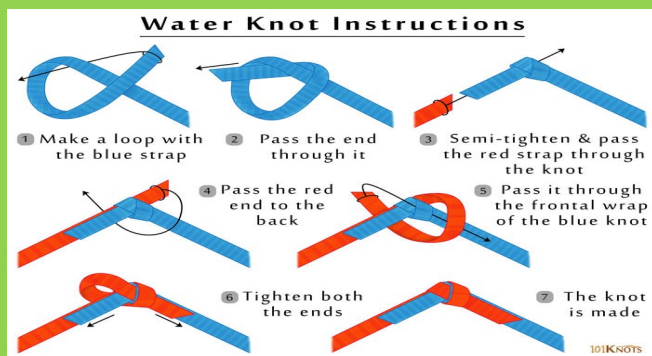
## Figure Eight Knot:



## Prusik Knot:



## Water Knot:



## **Live Bait**

**Submitted by John Gates**

**Situation:** A swimmer in the water that can't swim to shore due to being caught in a hole or pinned or is unconscious.

**Gear Required:** One throw bag, one locking carabineer, a Swift water Rescue PFD, and two paddlers. Both paddlers must be wearing helmets, PFD, and proper river clothing with respect to water and air temperature. Also both paddlers must have a river knife that is easily assessable.

**Technique:** When setting up to initiate a live-bait rescue, select a spot that puts the rescuer and swimmer in a safe spot when they get to shore. Ideally it will be calmer water free from obstacles and entanglements. And as always, to avoid a foot entrapment, never stand up in moving unless it's very calm or quite shallow.

Entering the water to grab a swimmer, while tethered to shore by a rope attached to your quick-release rescue belt, is a very effective technique. Often it can be more effective than standing onshore to toss a throw rope.

The quick-release rescue belt on a rescue-specific PFD is the key equipment that makes it possible to use this technique safely. Typically, the belt is threaded through the metal tri-glide to give the maximum friction. However, you can go directly through the quick release buckle.

After getting attached to the quick-release belt with the rope, the next consideration is the positioning of the rescuer. The rescuer should be upstream of the anchor point (the anchor point can either be another person or a tie-off point on shore). Also, ideally the rescuer should be approximately the same distance upstream of the anchor point as the swimmer is expected to be from shore.

When the rescuer is getting ready to jump into the water he or she pulls a few coils of rope in their downstream hand so when they leap into the water they throw it at the same time downstream so they have plenty of rope to swim to the victim. Also when the rescuer leaps into the water they do a kind of chest flop with their arms and hands extended forward protecting their face. The rescuer must inspect the water in front and downstream to make sure they are not leaping into a dangerous place like in front of an undercut rock or tree.

As the rescuer reaches the swimmer, they should reach with their near-shore hand to grab the stream-side shoulder strap of the swimmer's life jacket. Then, by reaching back with their stream-side hand to grab the rope, the rescuer puts their body and the body of the swimmer in a good line that puts minimum force on the rope and the anchoring person as they pendulum into shore.

As I have said before all these techniques are learned by taking a Swift water Rescue Course and practice afterwards.

Look for more safety articles and watch for opportunities to sign up for safety courses ranging from entry level canoe/kayaking skills to swift water rescue skills offered through our club.

## Event Announcement

**Location: East Race, South Bend**

**May 28, 29, and 30, 2021**

**Sponsor: Gregory Emmack**



East Race Whitewater Festival

South Bend, IN

### Events:

Kayak Freestyle Competition 3 Divisions - Mens , Womens, and Masters (over 50yrs old)

Boatercross Races 4 Divisions - Mens Short Boat, Womens Short Boat, Mens Long and Womens Long

There will be heats of 4 racers at a time and the top 2 go on to the next round

There will be a few buoys that will need to be navigated

Riverboard Races 2 Divisions Mens & Womens

Only whitewater designed boards allowed ( Fluid Anvil, Kern, Carlson, etc)

Pool Floatie Race Only 1 division and only 1 heat - we're looking for colorful mass chaos

Only flotation devices designed for pool use allowed (flamingos, alligators, ducks, unicorns, etc)

Helmets and PFD's required

No flippers or paddles allowed

It's for fun

### Other Activities:

We will have food trucks near all of the fun

We have music that will be provided

Corby's Pub (right on the East Race) will be a sponsor also

Product/Gear vendors on site

### Schedule of Events: (Tentative)

Friday, May 28th - 6 - 8pm open practice session

Saturday, May 29th - 9 - 11am open practice session

Noon - 2pm Boatercross Races

2:30 - 3:30pm Riverboard Races

3:30 - 4pm Pool Floatie Race

4 - 6pm Freestyle Competition

6:30pm Awards Ceremony

7 - 9pm Musical Entertainment

Sunday, May 30th - 11am - 4pm Sunday Funday - East Race will be open

no competitions

no planned activities

Just Fun!

Watch for registration details on our facebook site.

# The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club