

# The Hoosier Paddler

April 2023, Volume 61 Issue 2

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

## Skippers Note

### ALERT!!

April Fools on Big Pine has been moved to Sunday April 2nd due to weather conditions expected for Saturday. Please see details provided in the trips calendar on our website. [GarryHill@aol.com](mailto:GarryHill@aol.com) 765-432-6782

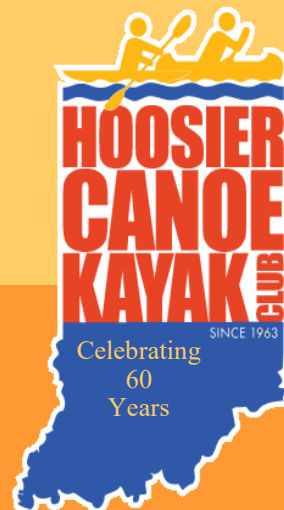
## Kayak Training Opportunity

Here's a way to jumpstart your paddling! As a new kayaker, you may know how to move your boat around in calm water. We will work with you to make your paddling easier and more efficient—to give you more control over your boat. We will work on your basic knowledge, strokes, and other paddling skills that you may need to safely enjoy the sport. This course is based on the American Canoe Association "Introduction to Kayaking" course. This is also a great opportunity to ask any question that you might have about paddling, equipment, or the Hoosier Canoe and Kayak Club.

Your instructor will first talk about the basics and then quickly get on the water to teach you how to move your boat forward, backwards, and sideways as well as how to turn and stop. This years classes will be offered on 3 dates ([May 20th](#), [July 16th](#), and [August 12th](#)). Click on the dates for more information and to register.

We also have intermediate training for kayakers on the same dates (same links too!). Intermediate students should have taken an Introductory class at least one year prior to the Intermediate and be comfortable with forward stroke, sweep strokes, drawing maneuvers, and bow/stern rudders. Specific intermediate courses curriculum will be based on students' needs/requests.

Thanks,  
Duane Garloch  
317-796-2865



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## **Trip Announcement**

**Location: Sand Creek April 8, 2023**

**Trip Sponsor: Richard Tekulve**

Please join us for the annual HCKC Spring flatwater trip on Sand Creek this year. As usual we will run the 12.1 miles from the Westport Dam access to just downstream from the Brewersville Bridge. This is one of the clubs longest-continuous scheduled trips now for several decades and has always been a club favorite on the calendar. Along this route we will pass not one but two different 200 year old limestone cut mill race water tunnels which are quite unique for a Hoosier stream.

We will take our standard lunch stop at the outlet of the first mill race. Numerous exposed overhanging rock ledges are the norm along this stretch of clear free-flowing water with a decent gradient of 5.2 f.p.m. Our meeting place will be at the Westport Dam access area which is about 1/4 mile downstream of the renovated 1880 Westport Covered Bridge off of County Road 1100 south (Delorme atlas page 52 B-3) at 10 am. Boats will be dropped off here and then we will proceed for the shuttle (18 miles total) to the take-out at Brewersville and back to the put-in.

The Westport Dam access is located 2 miles east of the Westport/SR 3 flashing light. Travel Main Street east through "downtown" Westport (turns into CR 1100 South after leaving town) for two miles and cross Sand Creek (concrete bridge) and immediately look to your right (south) where vehicles will be parked at the access. The concrete bridge and the covered bridge are adjacent to each other with the covered bridge being located upstream from the concrete bridge.

Please understand that the streams in SE Indiana are extremely moody and can be very water dependent. The levels can fluctuate in a matter of 24 hours and an alternative must be chosen. A good example was last year (2022) when the temps at the meeting time were 31 degrees with an inch of snow but the main reason for cancellation on that particular day was the extreme low water levels for the Springtime. The Vernon Fork Muscatatuck was paddled the next day as a substitute.

In 2021 the total was 17 paddlers from three states ranging in a geographic area of Cincinnati to Louisville to Chicago and in many points in between. If the water levels are going to cooperate by mid-week I will post something in "concrete" for the planned trip. Otherwise on Friday I will drive 40 miles north to the farthest upstream area near Greensburg to examine all of the ditches and small feeder streams to make a call on whether it is a "go" or a substitute will have to be put in place.

Contact me by 9pm on Friday, April 7 at canoeindiana@yahoo.com or (812) 767-1317 and please leave a contact number as people have become lost before and ended up in Cincinnati due to bad technology. I will have my cell with me Saturday morning if people are running late.

Sincerely, Richard Tekulve (trip leader since 2006)

## **Trip Announcement:**

**SK: Cagles Mill (Cataract Falls) Highwater Trip**

**Date: April 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Trip Sponsor: Jeff Stejskal**

**THIS IS A LEVEL 2 HCKC Sea Kayaking Trip however paddling distance is 13 to 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.

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 **2023 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 April 8th, 2023 –

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.

## Trip Report

**Location: Ocoee First Release Weekend**

**Trip Sponsor: Jeff Stejskal**

We had four paddler sign up for the Ocoee first release weekend. Ken Jordan was able to make contact with local paddler he knew so we joined them on the Tellico Saturday. This was PFD (Personal First Descent) for Tim Owens and My Self on the Tellico and PFD for Kyle on the Middle Tellico. Tellico Level was 2.06 FT and 505 CFS when we put on Tellico Ledges section at 12:15 PM weather was around high 40 and sunny.



We joined a group of 10 paddlers they where very helpful guiding us down each rapid's. Tim did have swim at I believe at Dirty S rapid. Got the boat collected and drained. Ken, Tim and I all took out right before Baby Falls. Kyle continued down with rest of the group for full run of Ledges section. We go ride back with groups shuttle bunny to the Ledges Put-in took a break before our next run down.

Tim elected to skip the second run on Ledges section went down to Middle Put-in / Ledges takeout to wait for the group. So Ken, Kyle and I joined the rest of group making second run on the Tellico Ledges. Ken and I both ran Baby Falls, Diaper Wiper and Jarrad's Knee. This was my first ledge or water fall over 10 FT. I managed to landed upright but I did flip but rolled up without issue. I was going for the left boof guessing it was more of penciled in then a boof. We ran the left side of Diaper Wiper which after reading AW discretion is the hard side. After some boogie water we came to Jarrad's Knee a class IV rapid. The group was very good at breaking down the rapid into 4 parts and explain rapid to both me and Ken. Ken did miss the last eddy and took last drop backwards flipped and had a swim. He was fine and we collected both him and his boat. After that we meet up with the rest of group for a run down Middle Tellico which was very pretty. Finished the day in Tellico Plain with some Mexican food and cerveza.





We headed back to AU campground in Ocoee, TN had nice fire and got ready for the cold evening. Overnight low was in mid 20's but with a little wind so no frost or dew. Sunday we broke camp and got early start. Tim had to head back early but did help us run shuttle. We put on the Ocoee river by 10:30 AM. It was colder day but sunny with temps in 30's.

So three of us paddled down not playing or stopping much with the colder temps. I didn't run double suck close enough to rock and end up in the second hole. I managed to ender my LL Alpha 90 out of the hole. I was able roll up and continue on. Ken wasn't as lucky instead of running over Kyle who's was positioned where Ken wanted go on the top Dimond Splitter. Ken got flipped on the curler missed a roll and swam. We were able to retrieve Ken and the boat. After draining the boat we head on down for a uneventfully rest of run. The lake level was down I assume for winter pool. So we did have more flow but also lower water on the paddle out. We were off the river by 12 PM.

A great way to start the Ocoee paddling season. Trip Sponsor: Jeff Stejskal



**The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club**

**Trip Announcement  
Help Wanted!  
Eagle Creek Triathlon Even Coordinator**

HCKC is seeking a new Eagle Creek Triathlon Coordinator. John Wainscott Is retiring from the position. I have sold my Business and am still recovering from an accident which may leave me somewhat limited in my physical abilities. I Have done this since at least 2010. Or at least that is how far back my paperwork goes. I would like to mention one individual who has been on the volunteer list since 2010 at almost every Triathlon. And that is Bob Shaw. He needs to be recognized as HKCK most valuable volunteer. Thanks Bob.

The job is simple. Set up the events through our website (I get help with this every year), Make a list of attendees and their shirt sizes. Show up early the day of the event and collect the shirts. I then return to the put-in and have all the participants sign the waiver and give them their shirt. Once on the water I give the boaters their assignments. The event starts at 8:00am and usually end at 9:00am. We then gather for a group photo then were done. There are 4 events, June 10, July 8, and August 19 and Go Girl on the 28th. For our efforts the club gets \$1200. If you're interested in taking over this event, please contact me. John Wainscott  
John2sea56@gmail.com 317-250-8107

NOTE: John and Dwayne have this covered for this summer—However, if you want to learn about this position, please join us for one or more of the dates and we will be happy to show you the ropes.