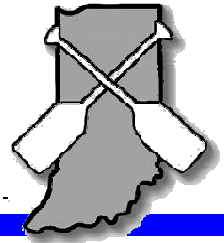


The Hoosier Paddler

Volume 48, Issue 5

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

June 2010



Moving Water Clinic, Fall Creek, May 8, 2010

Hello, HCC

Dan Valleskey

I hope you have been keeping your paddle wet as much as I have. It is a great time of year for paddle classes. The rivers are still up a little (not as much as other years maybe). And the temperatures are also rising. There have been a plethora of opportunities to get out and learn. The Intermediate class was fun, in spite of moderate levels and cool air temperatures. Our HCC Venture Crew has been in the water twice in the past month, I am amazed at how quickly teenagers can learn to move a boat in the water. And I just had a report from Terry Busch that his Beginner class was a success.

We are getting ready for another successful cleanup on Fall Creek. This year, Friends of White River will be helping us, as well as the folks from the Millersville at Fall Creek Valley Association. The mayor will be riding his bike right along part of our chosen section, I hear he may have a few friends with him! Be sure to wave and smile, you never know where there might be a photographer snapping away. Dan Evard is putting it all together this year, read his write up at the bottom of this page in the newsletter.

Your board is working to make sure HCC members get first class treatment (fancy words for "discount") if you wish to join either American Canoe Association or American Whitewater. Watch next month's newsletter for details on this. I'd encourage you to take advantage of a good deal, both are well worth our support. We are also looking to make a splash on our own, the Safety Outreach Committee is working hard on copy and illustrations. Ask [Terry](#) or [Theresa](#) about that, they are glad to tell you what they have planned.

I have not heard the first word of complaint about switching to a predominantly electronic newsletter. I think there will be more changes in that direction. It could be that a new editor would want to hurry that along. We are still looking for a newsletter editor, Jim has identified ways to split the job up a bit. I'll make my plea again: Even if you don't know a Duffek from a J-stroke, the Editor job will elevate you to the status of "Paddler King" faster than anything else you can do. If you have ever wanted a chance to be involved with a great bunch of paddlers, without a steep learning curve, contact [Jim](#) or [myself](#).

SYOTR!

Dan Valleskey (danpaddles@gmail.com)

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club



Calling HCC Safety Boaters! Saturday, June 19

John Wainscott

The HCC will again supply safety boaters for Eagle Creek triathlons this summer. The club receives financial compensation for providing this service. However, in order to earn this money, you need to volunteer!

We will be supporting triathlons on the following dates this summer:

Saturday, June 19th

Saturday, July 17th

Saturday, August 21st

Saturday, August 28th Go Girl Triathlon

All events start at 8:00 am Eastern Daylight Time. Safety boaters are asked to gather at Eagle Creek by 7:15 am to receive instructions and complimentary race T-shirts as well as to get their boats in the water. Please meet at the Ranger's Office on 56th street—the entrance to the Ranger's Office parking lot is on the north side of 56th street about 0.3 mile west of the 56th street entrance to Eagle Creek park.

Volunteers will follow swimmers and allow struggling swimmers to hang onto their boats. You would then signal a motorized safety boat, which would swoop in to collect the exhausted swimmer. Paddlers are not expected to take swimmers to shore. The total swim distance for these events is 500 meters.

For more information about these events, please visit: <http://www.tuxbro.com/triathlons.html>

This is a great opportunity to get in an early morning paddle and watch amazing athletes compete and regular people tackle a challenge!

If you would like to volunteer to safety boat for one of these events, please contact John Wainscott at (317) 250-8107 or wldleak@sbcglobal.net. You might even get inspired to do a triathlon yourself!

Fort Harrison State Park Paddle Festival, Saturday June 26

On Saturday, June 26, Fort Harrison State Park will host a Paddle Festival with support from NURPU River and Mountain Supply and Dick Sporting Goods. The festival will be held from 11:00 am to 4:30 pm on Delaware Lake in the State Park. The festival is free except for the park entry fee. There will be a free drawing for a kayak and other camping equipment.

Test Paddles of Kayaks/Canoes: At the festival, you will have a chance to test paddle boats from Native Watercraft, Dagger, Wilderness Systems, Hurricane Kayaks, Old Town, C-4 Stand Up Paddle Boards, Mad River, Future Beach, Pelican, and Heritage Kayaks.

Paddling Clinics:

Recreational Basics Clinic Sessions:

- 12:00 pm Launching and Landing – There must be 40 ways to get in and out of a kayak – gracefully. Here are a few plus tips on launching.
- 2:00 pm Track a Straight Line – Knowing how the paddle pulls – gives you a great start on steering control and a great upper body workout.
- 3:00 pm Paddling Sideways – Accelerates all kayakers into bracing, drawing, and sculling.

Performance Sea Kayaking Sessions:

- 1:00 pm Advanced Paddling – Listen and watch Gary demonstrate efficient use of combining paddle strokes to maintain drive in a variety of wind and wave conditions.
- 2:30 pm Self and Team Rescue – After a successful Wet Exit, reentering your kayaks avoids a day-long swim. These techniques require practice but, first, have to be learned.
- 3:30 pm The Eskimo Roll – Staying in your boat is the preferred and safest choice for all sea kayakers. Watch the steps of set-up, cork screw, and finish.



HCC Fall Creek Cleanup—Saturday, June 5, 9:30 am

Dan Evard

The HCC Fall Creek Cleanup will take place on June 5th. Because of expected congestion from the Mayor's Bike Ride at our original meeting location, we have changed our meeting place to Skiles Test Park, which is on Fall Creek Road, just west of Shadeland (about 6200 North).

Plan on meeting at 9:30 am and we should be off the water about 1:00 pm. Weather permitting, we'll head over to Skipper Dan's home on Lake Maxinhall for a picnic immediately following. Friends of the White River will also be participating. Another group, Millersville at Fall Creek Valley (www.millersvillefcv.com) will be concentrating on a shore-based clean up the same day.

There are plenty of volunteer opportunities (besides the clean-up part), such as paddling the lead boat, the sweep boat, first aid (just in case), organizing the shuttle, distributing supplies (trash bags, gloves, drinking water, etc), photographer, and festivity planning. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering.

What to Bring: Your boat and paddle (of course) along with your PFD, hat, sunscreen, bug spray, drinking water, work gloves, and protective footwear.

Contact information: Dan Evard (317) 753-1226, danevard@aol.com

Flatwater Trip Announcements

Two on the Blue – Blue River Paddle, Milltown, IN
Trip Sponsors: Sue Fox, Jim Sprandel

Saturday–Sunday , June 19-20, 2010

Come for one or two days of beautiful paddling. Bends, rapids, bluffs, canyons, and springs comprise what you'll see along this scenic part of the Blue River. The second day is particularly beautiful.

We plan to camp at the Stage-Stop Campground in O'Bannon State Park (Harrison Crawford State Forest) on Saturday Night. The state park entry fee is \$5 per vehicle and each campsite is \$8. For information on camping facilities, call 812-738-8232.

Meeting Place: The meeting place for Saturday is Milltown Public Access site by the Cave Country Canoe and Kayak Livery, 112 Main Street, Milltown, IN 47145 (812-365-2705). Contact us for the meeting place if you only want to paddle on Sunday.

Driving Directions from Indianapolis- Go south on I-65 to Clarksville. Then go west on I-265 (Exit 6B). Take I-265 west (I-265 becomes I-64) to Indiana State Road 64 (Exit 118). Go west about 20 miles on SR 64 to downtown Milltown and look for the public access site by the Cave Country Canoe and Kayak Livery.

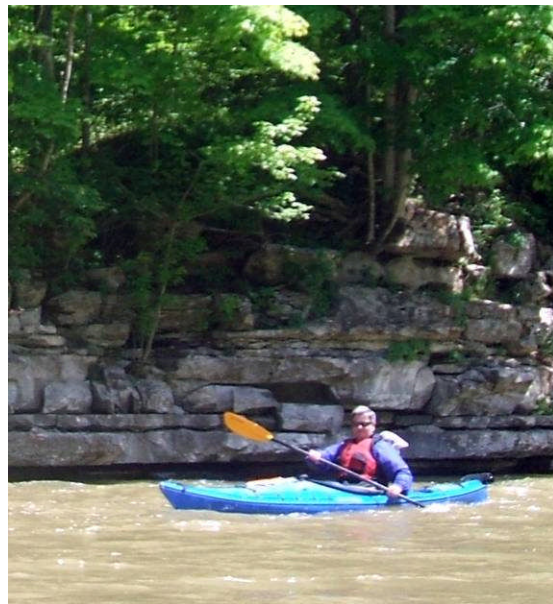
Drive time: Approximately 2 ½ hours—About 140 miles

Trip Plan: Saturday: Milltown Public Access Site to Rothrock Mill Dam PAS (14 miles)
Sunday: Rothrock Mill Dam Public Access Site to Stage-Stop Camp (10 miles)

Note: Be sure to contact either Sue or Jim prior to the trip since it may be necessary to change venues due to water conditions. Last year, we had a great water level but we had to cancel the previous year. The water level should be more reasonable this year since we are going a month later.

Schedule (Saturday and Sunday)

10:00 am	Gather at meeting place in Milltown
10:15 am	Shuttle leaves
11:00 am	Start Paddling
5:00 pm	Land at the Take Out



HCC Blue River Trip—Day 2 June, 2009



Trip Requirements: This is a relatively easy run. At several points, you must be able to control your boat in moving riffles and current. Bring your own lunch and drinks. Bring your own camping equipment and food if you are going to camp with us Saturday evening. We'll bring the marshmallows.

Contact information: Be sure to contact Sue or Jim by 8:00 pm on Friday May 15 if you play to attend either Saturday or Sunday:

Sue Foxx (317) 363-4074 (Cell), 317-253-0222 (Home)
Jim Sprandel (317) 257-2063

E-Mail sufoxx@doe.in.gov
E-Mail merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net

Whitewater Trip Announcements

Wisconsin Memorial Day Trip (II-IV)

Sat.-Mon. May 29-31, 2010

Trip Sponsor: Jordan Ross

Time to start thinking about this annual Wisconsin pilgrimage. Even in drought years there's always something to paddle there, unique rapids such as Sullivan Falls, the Dells, Monastery Fall, Horseshoe, Piers Gorge and Big Smoky. There are river choices for every skill level. This is a great destination for the beginner/intermediate paddler. Those energetic enough can easily do five river sections in three days and still have time to party with "Big Drop" Bob Heckler each evening.

Once again, we'll be based at the Bear Paw Resort: <http://www.bearpawoutdoors.com/index.html>, (715) 882-5302.

Contact them or go on-line to reserve your campsite or cabin. Other accommodations are available in nearby Langlade. There are rafting opportunities for families and friends on several of the rivers we will run. Call me if you need advice. See you all "Up Nort' Der"!

Contact Information: Post a reply on the Bulletin Board or send me an email if you plan to go so I can keep count of everyone. Check the bulletin board for updates in the week or two before the trip.

Jordan Ross, jross@iquest.net, (317) 460-7000

Kayak Touring Trip Announcements

Sea Kayak Tour of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

Saturday, June 5th, 2010

Trip Sponsor: Northwest Indiana Paddling Association (NWIPA)

Dan Plath of the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association has invited all HCC sea kayakers to join them for a National Trails Day event that they are providing with the National Park Service (NPS). Four to five HCC paddlers are already planning on heading up for this event.

The Sea Kayak Tour of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore is a paddling event that will allow *competent* paddlers to be a part of a historic one-day journey from Marquette Park in Gary to Michigan City. The route will follow part of the new Indiana portion of the Lake Michigan Water Trail that was dedicated last June during the Burnham to Marquette Water Trail Expedition.

Beginning in Marquette Park, participants will paddle along the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in 4 to 7 mile segments allowing participants to be able join in and finish at various points along the route. At 8:30 am. Saturday, June 5th, the tour will begin at Marquette Park in Gary, Indiana near the western end of the National Lakeshore. There will be several shuttle vans as well as multi-boat carrier trailers to assist paddlers on a limited basis from stop to stop.

Throughout the day, public programs will educate paddlers and the public about the ecology and history of the Indiana Dunes. The stopping points along the way are public access sites that are part of the Indiana portion of the Lake Michigan Water Trail. At these stops, they will highlight the natural areas along the southern Lake Michigan coast as well the native ecology of the Great Lakes.

These stops include:

Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk—NPS Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore
Indiana Dunes State Park—Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Lakeview—NPS Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore

On Saturday evening, paddlers will complete the tour at Washington Park in Michigan City, just past the



east end of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Mt. Baldy, culminating in a party at Georgetti's Restaurant near Washington Park celebrating the journey along the Lake Michigan Water Trail.

Note: This trip will be on Lake Michigan. Paddler's should have sea kayaks with spray skirts, should be experienced paddling in moderate winds/waves, and have practiced rescue skills before the trip. Check Lake Michigan [wind and wave forecasts](#) to decide if you can safely paddle in the expected conditions.

Contact Information: Registration details will be posted to the HCC Bulletin Board when available. Contact Jim Sprandel at (317) 257-2063 or merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net if you want to be e-mailed follow-up information or if you have questions about expected conditions .

Carlyle Lake at Boulder, Illinois
Trip Sponsor: Joel DeLashmit

Thurs.-Sun., June 10-13, 2010

Join us for an exciting journey through some areas of Illinois's largest man-made lake. The lake itself is 26,000 acres, 15 miles long and about 3-4 miles wide. The average depth of the lake is only 11 feet which means a slight breeze will produce 1 to 2 foot waves. On a very windy day, I was told the waves can reach 7 feet.

One day, we will tour North of the causeway (active railway) at the Fish and Wildlife Area. Motor boats are not allowed to speed in this area. The wildlife area is about 2.5-3 miles wide and about 4.5 miles long—5,800 acres. There are numerous islands and lots of shoreline to explore. Last year, we saw [several hundred White Pelicans](#). Over the course of the day, we saw literally thousands of other birds of many different species.

Another day, we may make some longer open water crossings to explore the far shore and some of the coves in the State Park. Join us for one or more days, I will be arriving on Thursday evening and leave Saturday evening.

Daily Trip Length: 10-20 miles

Special Requirements: Large waves are possible so decked boats with float bags or bulkheads will be necessary. Boat length should be a minimum of 12'. At times, the nearest shoreline will be about an hour away. Food, water, and medications will need to be on the boat with you. Rescue gear and self rescue skills are strongly recommended.

Agenda: Our first trip onto the lake will take place at 10:30am on Friday June 11. If you are not camping Thursday evening, Carlyle Lake is about 3-1/2 hours from Indianapolis. The campgrounds are very clean and have modern restroom and shower facilities. Our second trip will be at 10:30am on Saturday.

Camping Information and Reservations: Please call Joel to get specifics before making reservations. http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/Carlyle/Reservations/Reservation_Splash.htm

More Information on the Lake
<http://www.carlylelake.com/>

For a review of last years trip with pictures, visit:

<http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/forums/showthread.php?t=3276>

Contact Information: Joel DeLashmit, (317) 656-1597, joeldelashmit@gmail.com

Paddling Festivals

In addition to the Fort Harrison Paddle Festival on June 26 (see Page 2), there are two major paddling festivals in or near Indiana on that same weekend. One is on the Ohio River at Cincinnati (June 26-27) and the other is on the St. Joseph River in South Bend (June 28).

Ohio River Way Paddlefest, Cincinnati, Oh

Friday-Saturday, June 25-26, 2010

Celebrate, promote and protect the beauty of the Ohio River at the 8th Annual Ohio River Way Paddlefest on Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27, 2009. Come to Cincinnati to enjoy two days of paddling, education, entertainment, competition and camaraderie at America's largest on-water paddling event.



Joel DeLashmit has attended this event for the last three years and reported that the Friday session is great for kids with lots of interactive educational activities. The Saturday paddle is very large but organized well—boats are tagged at the put-in upon arrival and checked before leaving. There is usually a band playing on a paddleboat halfway down the river.

During the day on Friday, there will be a Kid's Outdoor Adventure Expo featuring demonstrations on water safety and river research, fishing in Lake Como, live animals, and live music shows as well as canoe/rafting trips on Lake Como and "kayaking for little ones". For adults, the Ohio Music and River fest will have canoe, kayak, bike and outdoor gear vendors, boat demos until dusk, a gear swap, a wooden boat show, film festival, and music starting at 5 p.m.

On Saturday, people will be paddling. There will be a 14-mile professional race, a 9-mile amateur race, and an 8 mile float trip for everyone else. The starts for the amateur race will be divided by boat class so you won't be racing against surf skis.

For more information, go to: <http://ohioriverway.org/paddlefest/events/#paddle>

Subaru © Paddlefest Canoe & Kayak Races, South Bend, IN Sunday, June 27, 2010

This will be the 9th Annual Paddlefest at St. Patrick's County Park on the St. Joseph River in South Bend, Indiana on Sunday, June 28. There will be races for every kind of paddler. Several HCC paddlers participated in this event last year and enjoyed the beauty of the St. Joseph river as well as a little friendly competition.

Paddlefest Events:

- 2-mile "Fluid Fun" Fun Race
- 8-mile Half Marathon. This race is divided into classes by age and boat type.
- 16-mile professional Marathon (with prize money!). Note: This race brings the best and fastest from throughout the Midwest.
- Memorial Hospital Duathlon (3-mile run, 2 mile-paddle)
- South Bend Tribune Youth Pond Race

While the marathon attracts serious racers, the other races target recreational paddlers, families, and whitewater types paddling either canoes or kayaks. The pond race is for kids 6-12...so there is something for everyone, plus t-shirts and lunch! People wanting to race should get there by 8:00 am.

For more information, go to their website: www.paddlefest.org

Trip Report: The Nolichucky (or so we thought), April 17, 2010 Barry Welling

After some last minute planning and lots of rearranging due to low water levels; Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling, Ed Ragsdale and I headed south to do the Nolichucky.

After we got everyone to the campground, Saturday morning dawned slightly cool from the light rains the night before. We noticed lots of kayakers standing around and soon found out why. The normal shuttle road to the put-in was closed due to a forest fire. We could set our own shuttle using another route (2 hours one way) or we could paddle elsewhere. Elsewhere it was and we headed for the French Broad River.

Jordan was the only one of us who had done the French Broad before and it had been a while. He could not recall exactly why he hadn't been back. After getting directions, we were off and arrived at the put-in at Barnard, NC. It was a beautiful day as we set out after setting shuttle.

The upper part of the French Broad seems to be boulder and ledges. Many times, we had our pick of multiple lines. The only bad part was the rather stiff breeze that we were paddling into. It made some interesting times, as wind and water seemed to conspire against us hitting our lines at times or directing us to "interesting" routes.

As we got further down, the drops got more choked and more powerful currents came into play. Many of the drops can be seen from a boat—although a few require you to get fairly close. We made it down to



Stackhouse Rapid (which in the future will be a strong candidate for the take out)

After the Stackhouse Rapid, the French Broad widens out. There are a few riffle rapids but you won't see them for the sun glimmering off the water. The flats last for a while and once again our friend the wind was having the best of us. We finally arrived at the end of the flats to see what made the trip worth it. The river splits around an island—left being a standard 2-3 boulder/ledge garden and the right dropping abruptly at Kayaker's Ledge. Kayaker's Ledge is a 5-foot drop with a good line on the far left, with a 3-foot drop behind it, bearing an obvious far left side tongue. Did I mention the hole in the middle? And that a flip gave you little recovery before you are washed over the bad side of the second drop?

We left there and headed for the grand finale. Frank Bells has a lead into a 4-5 foot double drop. There's an obvious tongue with a curler on it's downstream side. The trick is getting to it without incident. As the lead in is a solid Class 3, it can be scouted from the Island in the middle but take your paddle and rope as there are several channels to cross and travel isn't fast.

Jordan chose to run it, taking a very elegant line, and as usual, making it seem all too easy. The rest of us chose discretion and ran the sneak on the left side of the island. We finished out the river as the sun was setting, and went back to get Ed's truck from the put in.

This is when we realized a small flaw in our planning. It was late (9 pm) and we needed gas and dinner. We headed for the next town upstream hoping to find both. After passing several gas stations that were closed, we were getting nervous. We descended into Marshall to find open restaurants but no gas stations. After asking directions, we found the gas stations were open on the main road. Jordan and I went for gas while Ed and Sharon got a table at the restaurant Bachus's Bistro. It was a wonderful place with great food (and beer!) and I cannot recommend it should you be in the area.

We headed back to camp hoping the shuttle road to Poplar would be open in the morning, as we had been told was likely. Morning arrived, and we headed for the office with high hopes, only to be disappointed. The road would be closed for another 3 days probably. Ed had asked if we knew anything about the Rockcastle river in Kentucky as he'd been looking for a good river for those Sundays when you want to be home during daylight. We sent out a few messages to folks we knew who had run the Rockcastle looking for information and headed north through the Cumberland Gap.

I can now look back and say the hardest part of the Rockcastle, seems to be finding out the details of the run. American Whitewater lists a fun run at 17 miles and then speaks of a shorter run, but offers no information as to the put-ins and take outs for this shorter section. After talking with Crush, Big Drop, Monica, and eventually Sponge Bob, we headed to the take out, as several people had said they simply hiked up from there to run the last bit—a 3/4 mile section called "The Narrows". We ran into a ranger at the put-in and I now think I know where the put-ins for the shorter runs are (we only tested one, but it was good). Following the ranger's advice, we headed to the top of the ridge and dragged our gear down a forest service road to the river (1/4—1/2 mile, but all downhill and on an old road).

Heading downstream, we started finding narrow chutes fairly quickly but the start of the Narrows proper was pretty obvious. The river becomes crammed between very large boulders, and is a drop pool nature, but it's really an exercise in advanced scouting. The terrain is very rugged, there's not always good places to take out / put in, and when I say it'll take you at least 30 minutes to get out, scout a rapid, decide to walk it, carry your boat, and find a place to get back in, and do so, I'm quite serious. We ran it at 200 cfs, and while none of the drops were bad (once you could see them) few could be run with only a boat scout.

As we finished the run, and headed back to the car, I was quite pleased, it's a wonderfully beautiful run and ,while a bit time consuming, it can be run without a shuttle by carrying up. The Narrows section could be run by 1 car of solid Class 3 boaters in 3-4 hours while on the way home (that's time from car to car, including getting dressed, etc) We headed home having added (for most of us) two new rivers to our lists and a great weekend for all.

Photo Credits: Page 1—Courtesy of Dan Evard/Dan Valleskey, Page 3,8 – Jim Sprandel





Lake Erie, Fairport Harbor, Ohio, May 2010

Upcoming Events

Wednesday Nights 7-9 pm	Pool Sessions- Thatcher Pool	March Newsletter/ Bulletin Board
Thursday Evenings 3 pm — dark	Eagle Creek Paddles , May 6, 2010 through Sept. 30, 2010-	May Newsletter/ Bulletin Board
Sat. May 29	Touring Kayak Open Water Rescue Clinic	May Newsletter
Sat.-Mon. May 29-31	Whitewater: Wisconsin Memorial Day Trip (II-IV), Wolf, Red, Pestigo and Menominee	Page 4
Sat. June 5	HCC Fall Creek Clean-Up	Page 3
Sat. June 5	Touring Kayaks: NWIPA Dunes State Park Paddle	Page 4
Thu-Sun June 10-13	Touring Kayak: Carlisle Lake 3-day trip, Carlisle, IL	Page 5
Sat.-Sun. June 12-13	East Race Opening Week-End	-
Sat. June 19	Sprint Triathlon at Eagle Creek	Page 2
Sat.-Sun. June 19-20	Flatwater Trip: Blue River, Milltown, IN (Overnight)	Page 3
Fri.-Sat. June 25-26,	2010 Ohio Riverway Paddlefest, Cincinnati, OH	Page 5
Sat. June 26	Fort Benjamin Harrison Paddlefest, Indianapolis, IN	Page 2
Sun. June 27	Subaru Paddlefest, South Bend, IN	Page 6

July Newsletter Deadline: Please submit articles to Jim Sprandel by Tuesday, June 15, 2010. Please e-mail articles and pictures to merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or call him at 317-257-2063.

