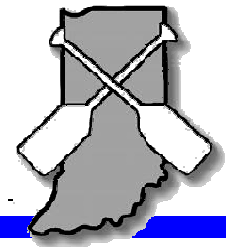


The Hoosier Paddler



Volume 48, Issue 7

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

August 2010

East Race Swiftwater Safety Weekend Saturday-Sunday, August 28-29, 2010

Jordan Ross

The East Race Whitewater Kayak Club is sponsoring a weekend of swiftwater safety practice. The Hoosier Canoe Club is a co-sponsor of this event and all members of the HCC are encouraged to join in. The East Race club is an ACA affiliate and non-ACA members will need to pay a \$5 event fee for the weekend.

Please note the new date for this event:

Date: Saturday-Sunday, August 28-29

Time: 9:30 am - 5 pm

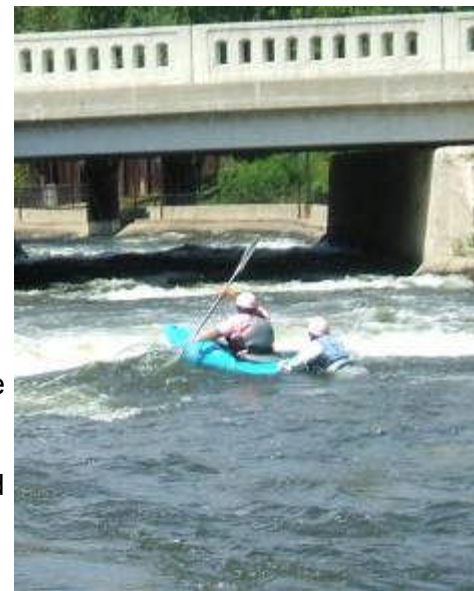
Where: East Race Waterway, South Bend, IN

The goal of this weekend is to provide a safe, controlled environment to practice numerous swiftwater safety and rescue skills. These skills fade very quickly without regular practice. This event is not intended to replace an ACA-certified swiftwater rescue class but newcomers will find much of value in these practice sessions and hopefully will be motivated to pursue advanced training.

Details of the weekend, directions and camping information will be posted soon to the HCC Bulletin Board:

<http://www.hccbuletinboard.org/forums/>

Contact Information: if you are planning to attend, you must send an email to Jason Tharp with the East Race club at jastharp@yahoo.com so we can get a head count. This is a two-day event but let Jason know if you can only come for Saturday or Sunday:



*Practicing Swimmer Rescue at East Race,
August 2008*

Hello, HCC

Dan Valleskey

Your Board is putting together your next Board! I've been asking questions, other folks are asking around, we hope you might consider what role you would like to have in the club. If you want to see what makes the HCC tick, let me know or talk with Terry Busch. The next year promises to be an exciting time to sit on our Board. We have some exciting things in store. If you will be (or just were?) at the Summer meeting, you will hear more about what the future holds. The great thing about sitting on the board is that you hear all sorts of paddle stories and adventures. It's a big old world out there, sitting around a table with like minded people once a month is a good start to learning more about the best trips and places to paddle.

One exciting event coming up is the Hoosier Outdoor Experience. (HOEx is what I like to call it.) It will be September 18 and 19 at Fort Harrison. The DNR is working hard to identify some key jobs for HCC people to help with. This year we will have well defined jobs to offer you ahead of time, so you will have a pretty good idea of what you will be getting into. Also, the groups will be smaller, we are aiming for groups of 4 boats on creek trips. There will be chances to paddle on Delaware Lake, but the HCC will not be involved in that. Remember that weekend—plan to spend a few hours with the HCC, then take off and try all the other great activities at the Fort.

We have some cool events lined up. Be sure to look over the trip announcement for the New River Rendezvous in West Virginia. When Dan Steely first told me about this trip, I was very impressed. Truly something for everyone. The old Wildcat Canoe Club of Kokomo used to do something similar at Labor Day, it

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

was fun to have a weekend where the flatwater bunch could see what made these out-of-state trips so much fun for the whitewater people. And the whitewater paddlers had a chance to get to know some of the recreational paddlers. Please consider signing on for this. It might become an annual event for us; then you could say "I was at the FIRST EVER"!

During the last weekend in August, we are working with the East Race Kayak club to offer a Swiftwater Rescue practice session. And the touring boat bunch will be in my backyard working on beefing up their rolls. I am also going to lead a trip on Saturday, August 21. We are calling it a "kid's trip" but far be it from me to dictate just what personality trait defines you as a kid. In other words, all are invited, as long as you can put up with a bit of fun along the way. And of course, the Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous is coming up shortly. Details for all of these events are elsewhere in this newsletter.

SYOTR!

Dan Valleskey (danpaddles@gmail.com)



Last Triathlons for 2010—Saturday, August 21 and 28, 2010 John Wainscott

On June 19th, nine people called to help with the Triathlon, six showed up. Early morning showers may have discouraged at least a couple of would be's. One did have a good excuse for not attending. There were also other HCC trips on the same day, which may have some bearing on the low attendance. The weather turned out to be great and we managed not to lose any swimmers with a few rescues.

After the event, Jay and Gina Moyer and I tried our luck at fishing. Jay caught one small large mouth bass. Those that attended were John Wainscott, Linda Smith, Luther Rice, Dwayne James, Jay Moyer and Gina Moyer. And we all got great tee shirts! Thanks all. Hope to see more of you at the next event. I would like to have at least 9 boats per event.

The last two Eagle Creek Triathlons for 2010 will be held on Saturdays, August 21, 2010 and August 28, 2010. The August 28 event will be the Go Girl Triathlon which is all women's event. If you haven't helped with any of these events, you'll really enjoy it. Plus, you get a free t-shirt and you can get a paddle on Eagle Creek after we're done.

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.

The swimming portion of this event starts at 8:00 am Eastern Daylight Time. Safety boaters are asked to be ready and in the water at Eagle Creek by 7:30 am to receive instructions and complimentary race T-shirts. We are usually done helping with the Triathlon by 8:45 am. 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.

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

If you would like to volunteer to be a safety boat for one of these events, please contact John Wainscott at (317) 250-8107 or wldleak@sbcglobal.net.

Are you receiving an E-Mail Newsletter Notification? Jim Sprandel

I try to notify all HCC members when a new newsletter is available on the HCC Web Site by posting a note on the Bulletin Board and sending an e-mail to the Yahoo "HCC_MEMBERS" list. This list should include all HCC members that we have e-mail addresses for but I've learned that we may be missing some of you.

If you are not receiving the monthly e-mail notification for the newsletter, please send me an e-mail at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net with your name and current e-mail address and I'll work with Dave Ellis to get our list up to date. This will allow you to receive newsletter notifications as well as notification of other club events.



Rolling Clinic, Sunday, August 29, 2010

Debby Baker

We will have some fun and learn a little too. We can chat a bit about boat outfitting, stretch, then get in the boats and work on hip snaps off the bows, braces, and progress onto the C-to-C and sweep rolls. We can work on paddling technique too, if the interest is there. Informal and relaxed, that's my style.

Most of all come prepared to have fun and work your buns off 'til attitude improves and your roll is spot on!

**Cheers!!
Debby**



Debby teaching 2009 Rolling Clinic

When: Sunday, August 29 starting around 2:00 pm

Where: Lake Maxinhall, 3333 East 56th St., Indianapolis, IN
This address is on the East side of Indianapolis between Allisonville and Keystone.

What to Bring to the Lake:

- Sea Kayak or Whitewater Boat
- Paddle and spare if you have one
- Neoprene Sprayskirt recommended (better than nylon cause it won't leak!)
- PFD
- Sponge/Pump
- Water Bottle (bring lots of water or Gatorade)
- Snacks (to keep your energy level high until dinner)
- Sunglasses with Croakies
- Sun Visor or Hat
- Sunscreen
- Swim suit/towel
- Spray Jacket or Vest (if you are a chilly willy like me in any temperature!)
- Foot wear (i.e., booties, sandals, water shoes, etc.)
- Nose Plugs (Yes and bring extra in case they drop in the drink!)
- Dry clothes for afterward
- Easy Chairs for relaxation afterwards, and your own adult beverages

We will order out for pizza when we get hungry.

Contact Information: Please RSVP by sending an e-mail to Jim Sprandel at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or leave a message at (317) 257-2063 by 8:00 pm Friday, August 27.

MOJO GONE?

*So where, oh where, did my Mojo go?
Where it went I do not know!
I had it once and now it's gone,
Where oh where do I belong?*

*Well stress no more, the 'doc' is here,
Maxinhall's the place, so have no fear!
The water's warm and now's the time,
To hone that roll, no thermocline!*

*Your roll's a mess?
Well don't distress,
It happens ya know,
Refresh your Mojo!*

*Bring the boat you want to roll,
Rolling it will be your goal,
Learn techniques to help you out,
At day's end, we'll hear you shout*

MY MOJO'S BACK IN MY KAYAK!!!!"

IshurdoLuvTaRockNRoll :-D



Trip Announcement—Calling all Kids!

Kid's Canoe Trip

Saturday, August 21, 2010

Trip Sponsor: Dan Valleskey

The HCC would like to invite all kids (actual age in years not important) to a fun, easy float on the White River. Pack some PBJ's, a good squirt gun, swim suit, sun screen, drinks, and your PFD. Load the boat and head to 146th Street, up by Allisonville Road. We will meet under the bridge behind the body shop, where the White River crosses 146th Street at 10:00 am Saturday morning, August 21.

This is a good chance to try a boat on your own. I even have one or two suitable small boats I might loan out. Have mom or dad call me about that. Heck, you can even invite them along, if you want someone to keep the lunch cooler upright and out of the river. We will figure out how far we want to float once we see who turns up, easy choices are 5.5 miles, or 7.9 miles, to either 116th Street or 96th Street/ Town Run Trail. (We *probably* better not try to sneak into Conner Prairie from the river.)

Contact Information: Better give me a call the night before, 257 9837. I'll be up late making sandwiches, and maybe inventing my own personal super soaker. Panic calls to my cell- 413 0324

Flatwater Trip Announcement

The 25th Annual Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous

Friday–Sunday , August 6-8, 2010

Trip Sponsor: Garry Hill

The Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous (IPR) on Wildcat Creek is less than three weeks away. This article should provide all the information you need to make plans and mark your calendar. Make plans to attend the IPR, and enjoy a full weekend of paddling on Wildcat Creek. The IPR has proven to be one of the overall best paddling events in Indiana. If you've never attended, rest assured it is worth your time. Come prepared to enjoy one of the nicest small streams in Indiana, to relax with old paddling buddies, and to make new friends.

Here is a basic timetable for the IPR. Directions to all locations are provided below. Whenever and wherever you arrive at the IPR, please proceed directly to the Registration Table.

Friday August 6th: The first activity of the weekend will be a trip on Wildcat Creek Friday afternoon; Starting time is 3:00 PM at Wildcat Park (directions below). The stretch to paddle will be announced at that time and the shuttle will begin immediately thereafter; please arrive early.

There will be a BYO campfire cookout at Wildcat Park following this cruise. The IPR Paddler's Campsite will be available at Wildcat Park for both Friday and Saturday nights, thanks to special arrangement with the Tippecanoe County Parks Department.

Saturday August 7th: Saturday's creek trip will begin at Knop Lake Public Fishing Area (directions below). This will cover 13.6-miles and end at Wildcat Park. There will be an alternate take out for a 9-mile trip. Lunch on the gravel bar is BYO. Shuttle departure time is 9:00 AM from Knop Lake. You should plan to arrive at Knop Lake absolutely no later than 8:30 (8 AM would be better; it really gets crowded with all the people arriving).



Wildcat Creek, August 2009



Saturday's traditional Chili Supper will begin serving at 6 PM (maybe 7) at the paddler's campsite in Wildcat Park (directions below). Please make reservations at garryhill@aol.com. Chili supper reservations are the only advance notice you are asked to provide. The Wildcat Guardians Annual Benefit Auction will be held immediately after supper.

Sunday August 8th: Sunday's creek trip will meet at Wildcat Park (directions below). Shuttle departure is 9:00 AM sharp. Please arrive early. The gravel bar lunch is BYO. This trip varies from year to year, but usually covers the 9-miles from Wildcat Park to the Wabash River. Launch and take out locations will be announced to everyone who arrives at Wildcat Park in time for shuttle departure at 9:00 AM Sunday morning.

Directions:

To Wildcat Park (DeLorme's Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer Page 31): Find Monitor on SR-26, east of Lafayette. Go North from Monitor on CR 775-E. Then, at a "T", turn left on CR 300-N. Then, left again onto CR 600-E (not written on map). 600-E will drop steeply down into the valley and make a sharp right turn. The entrance to Wildcat Park is on the left in about ½-mile after that turn.

To Knop Lake Public Access Site (Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer Page 32): Find Rossville on SR-26 at F2. About 4.25 miles west of Rossville, turn North from SR-26 onto CR 900-W; watch for sign to "Pyrrmont". This turn is also located about 7-1/2-miles east of I-65. After heading North for 2.5 miles, turn right (East) on CR 650-S (church on left). The entrance to Knop Lake State Fishing Area is on the left in ½-mile. Go slow and watch closely; you can easily miss the entrance sign in a wooded area, going downhill. Watch for "IPR" signs that will lead you to the Registration Table.

Contact Information: If you should have questions, please contact me at: garryhill@aol.com

**Whitewater River/Metamora Ice Cream Paddle
Trip Sponsor: Brett Thompson**

Saturday, August 14, 2010

This is a short section of the Whitewater River from below the feeder dam at Laurel to Metamora. We have paddled this several times and seen bald eagles each time. At higher levels, there are some small waves. Water levels may be too low to run at this time of year so make sure you check the Bulletin Board or call me before showing up.

This is a 7-mile stretch. There are several gravel bars to stop and swim or play around. This will be a family friendly trip and is suitable for beginners.

If you have never been to Metamora, I encourage you to spend some time there. The take out is right at the edge of town and has a steep bank. There is the famous Granny's Ice Cream with home-made waffle cones that are huge. There is usually a Western Reenactment, the Canal with rides, a train ride, old fashioned shops, home-made candy, etc. We will be on the water 2 to 3 hours depending on how much we stop and you should be home before it gets too late. Bring a lunch and plenty to drink.

Canoe Rental: I have access to extra canoes and can do a brief canoe training for new people if desired. I get the aluminum canoes from the Boy Scouts and do trainings for them as well. Cost for a canoe, paddles, and life jackets and transporting the boats there is \$15.00 each. I only can get 8 so the first 8 will get boats.

Meeting Place: To meet up, take 465 to 74 East. Go about 4 miles to the Walnut Street exit. Meet at the gas station at the corner of Walnut and Michigan at 8:30. If you can't make that, meet in Laurel, IN on Main Street at 9:30. We will then run our shuttle and the goal is to be on the water by 10:15.

Contact Information: Let me know if you have questions. I can be reached at bthomp2@wccia.net or 317-417-4287. At higher levels, the waves can get about 1-foot high but the river is still safe. At this time of year, the odds are the water will be low.



Kid's Paddle, White River
Trip Sponsor: Dan Valleskey

Saturday, August 21, 2010

See Trip Announcement at the top of Page 4.

Joint Touring Kayak/Flatwater Trip Announcement

Cataract Falls on Cagles Mill Lake—Lieber SRA
Trips Sponsor: Jim Sprandel

Saturday, July 31, 2010

Cataract Falls is a series of stair-step falls where Mill Creek enters and forms Cagles Mill Lake in the Lieber State Recreation Area near Cloverdale, IN. We put in on Cagles Mill Lake and paddle up the head waters of the lake to the base of Lower Cataract falls. (Note: We do **not** paddle in the rapids above the lower falls—only up to the Lower Falls.) At that point, we will have lunch, look around the Lower Falls, and then hike about one mile up to see the Upper Falls. If you've never seen the Upper Falls, you should.

This section of the lake is mostly protected and will be suitable for all types of boats (canoes, touring kayaks, recreational kayaks).

Meeting Place: The Marathon Station just south of I-70 on SR 243. From I-70 and I-465 on the Indianapolis West side, drive west on I-70 towards Terre Haute. Go past the Cloverdale SR 231 exit approximately 4 miles to the SR 243 exit (Exit 37). Turn south on SR 243 and the gas station is on the right just after passing over I-70. (Approximately 40 minutes from I-465 and I-70 on the West side)

Access Site: Cunot Public Access Site (PAS) on Lieber Lake.

What to Bring: Be sure to bring a lot of water, your lunch, sun screen, and insect repellent. You might bring walking shoes since you will want to climb around Cataract Falls.

Paddling Distance: 7.2 miles. It is 3.6 miles from Cunot PAS up to the Lower Falls and then back. If anyone wants to paddle a little more after we get back, there are some interesting areas for touring and sea kayaks to explore just west of Cunot PAS.

Schedule:

9:30 am	Arrive at Marathon station Meeting Place
9:45 am	Drive to put-in
10:15 am:	Start paddling

Note: A current DNR Lake permit is required for this trip. If necessary, you can pick this up at the Lieber Park entrance on the way to the put-in.

Contact Information: Please call Jim Sprandel (317) 257-2063 by 6:00 pm Friday, July 30 or e-mail him at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net.

Joint Flatwater/Whitewater Trip Announcement

New River Rendezvous **Labor Day Weekend, Friday-Monday Sept. 3-6, 2010**
Flatwater, Lake Touring, Rafting, and Whitewater, Class I to V near Fayetteville, WV
Trip Sponsor: Dan Steely

This rendezvous includes several paddling groups, though most from the East Coast, all into Whitewater. They range from newbies, to intermediate, and to a large group of excellent paddlers. Open boats, hard boats, several Shredders, rafts and even a couple of duckies usually show up.

Really good paddlers bringing family along often get lesser- or non-experienced family members into a larger raft so they can enjoy the river together. Every effort is made to accommodate everyone's skills/preferences. There are usually several sections to choose from, from Class I to III sections on the New River and then Gorge up to IV+. The Gauley River is close by also, if it happens to be running. Flat water is available on Summerville Lake.

The trip leader, Mike Sawyer, is also a near professional photographer with the equipment to match, and likes to go ahead of the WW groups to catch everyone's photos through the bigger rapids. His hosting site allows free downloads for anyone that wants theirs. Here's last year's crop:



http://mikesawyer.smugmug.com/Outdoor-Sports/Whitewater/NRR-2009/9583112_HZo8s

Every day there should be options to do one of the two upper, easier sections of the New River, or the Gorge. The Gorge is most popular, of course. If the levels are a bit higher, however, many more often take advantage of the "lighter" sections. Shuttles are loosely organized but always effective and efficient enough.



New River Rendezvous, 2009

We'll camp at Ray's Campground, which is a wonderful, quiet and clean campground run by, you guessed it, Ray and his wife. They're on site most of the time and great people. They really care about their customers and won't tolerate anyone causing trouble or too much noise, which is nice for everyone else. Loud, rowdy parties should find other accommodations. Camping is \$8/person/night. Cabins are also available (bunk houses only, no baths) for an additional \$30/cabin/night (on top of the \$8/person). The shower

house is nice and, well kept.

<http://rayscampground.com/>

There were probably 100+ people camping/paddling last year and probably more like 150 the previous year. It's also a great family get away for Labor Day because non-paddling family have so many other options, like rafting, hiking, biking, sight-seeing, great restaurants in the area, etc.

Contact Information: Contact Dan Steely at yakofsteel@comcast.net for additional info or questions.

Touring Kayak Trip Announcement

**NWIPA Water Trail Expedition, Lake Michigan
Michigan City, IN to South Haven, MI.**

Saturday-Sunday. August 21-22, 2010

This year, the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association (NWIPA) will hold their 2nd Annual Water Trail Expedition on Saturday-Sunday, August 21-22, 2010. Last year, NWIPA paddled from 12th Street Beach in Chicago to Michigan City for this 2-day event—a total of about 50 miles.

This year, NWIPA continues along the shore of Lake Michigan starting in Michigan City where they left off last year and paddles to South Haven, MI. People will paddle about 25 miles each day in 6-8 miles segments. A shuttle is available if people wish to skip some of the segments on either day.

This event is well organized with both kayaks and motorboats providing safety support for the trip. Shuttles for boats and paddlers are available at the stops between all segments.

NWIPA has not released detailed information about this trip yet but I will post it to the Bulletin Board and distribute it to the IND_TOURING_KAYAKS mailing list when I receive it. Or, you can track information for this event at the NWIPA web site: <http://www.nwipa.org/>

Mark your calendars since this was one of last year's premier sea kayak events for this area.

Note: This event is held on Lake Michigan—participants should be comfortable paddling in 1-3 foot waves. If you paddle the entire trip, you should be able to paddle up to 25 miles each day at a 3 mph pace. People can arrange to skip some segments each day if they want a shorter paddle.. NWIPA strongly recommends touring or sea kayaks with spray skirts.



Manitou Island Trip, Sleeping Bear Dunes Nat'l Lakeshore

Trips Sponsor: Brad Hughey

Friday-Sunday. Sept 10-12, 2010

We will be paddling out to the Manitou Islands from Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Empire, Michigan. We will leave Indianapolis Thursday afternoon about 4 pm for a 7-hour drive up to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and will camp at the D H Day campgrounds on the mainland.

Friday morning, we will leave bright and early for the 8.5 mile open water crossing of Lake Michigan to South Manitou island. This island has everything a paddler could want: beachfront camping, self-composting privies, a well for water, a lighthouse, and old growth cedars. There are also shipwrecks you can see from the beach or paddle to if it is calm enough. There are also 300-foot tall sand dunes.

Saturday, we can hike the island or cross the 4-mile channel to day trip to North Manitou Island depending on the wave conditions.

Sunday morning, we will paddle back across the 8.5 mile open water crossing back to the mainland and we should be back to Indy by 8 PM.

Trip Requirements: On this trip, we could have fairly large wave conditions, also the crossing is through a shipping lane. Sea or touring boats with spray skirts are a requirement. Self and group rescue skills are a must. You will have to carry your camping gear, clothes, and food with you in your kayak.

Contingency Plans: If wave and wind conditions are too severe to make the crossing, there are plenty of bays, lakes, and rivers to paddle in the area.

Contact Information: For additional information, call Brad Hughey at 317-848-9410.

Discounted American Canoe Club Membership Available

Hoosier Canoe Club members are now eligible for discounted "Paddle America Club" memberships in the American Canoe Association (ACA). An individual can now join the ACA for \$30 instead of \$40 with a Paddle America Club single membership and a family can join for \$40 instead of \$60 with a Paddle America Club family membership.

The ACA offers many services such as stewardship support, education and instructional resources (several HCC members are certified ACA instructors), Paddler Magazine, exclusive access to ACA's Sugar Island, discounts on Subaru vehicles and products from ACA industry partners, access to hundreds of ACA-sponsored events, and members-only back country paddling opportunities.



To sign up:

1. Go to the ACA web site at: <http://www.americancanoe.org/>
2. Select "Join ACA". This is the top item in the left-hand menu on the side of the page.
3. After you click "Join ACA", you go to a page labeled "Help Support the ACA". Go to the bottom of this page and it tells you how to join either on-line, by phone, or by mailing in an ACA membership brochure.
4. To enroll on-line, select the word "On-Line" from the list of enrollment options and you start the membership enrollment process. Specify that you are from the United States and whether you want an Individual or Family membership.
5. After making these choices, fill out the ACA membership form. To take advantage of the HCC discount, select "Hoosier Canoe Club" from the drop-down box labeled "Club Name (G-M)" and then specify that you want to be a "Paddle America Club Member" in the Membership Dues section at the bottom of the form.
6. After submitting the application, their web site will prompt you for payment.

Note: For whitewater paddlers, information on discounted American Whitewater memberships was provided on Page 6 of the [July HCC Newsletter](#).



Lightning Safety

Jim Sprandel

When paddling at this time of year, it's not unusual to get caught out in an occasional thunderstorm. Now, a little rain has never hurt anyone but lightning is something that we have to take precautions around.

The "rule of thumb" for lightning is the 30-30 rule. If the time between when you see the lightning flash to when you hear it is less than 30 seconds, immediately get off the water and seek shelter! (Note: The ACA recommends 40 seconds.) This is recommended since successive lightning strikes associated with a storm have been observed to be 6-8 miles apart.

After you get off the water, do not venture out until 30 minutes after the last thunder you hear. You can estimate your distance from a lightning strike by counting the time in seconds between when you see the lightning flash and when you hear the thunder by dividing the time by 5 to get the distance in miles. If you see lightning but don't hear thunder, the storm is probably 15 miles away. If you hear thunder, the storm is within 10 miles – almost lightning strike distance.

Once you're off of the water, get as far away from the shore as practical because of ground surge and side splash. Seek clumps of shrubs or trees of uniform height, ditches, trenches, or low ground. Avoid metal objects, isolated tall trees, shallow caves, bridges, and open fields—you don't want to be the tallest object or standing right below it. If you can get inside a car, do so.

If you're on land and your hair begins to stand on end, you hear a crackling noise, smell ozone, or objects develop a blue glow (St. Elmo's fire), this indicates a lightning strike is imminent. You should assume the Lightning Safety Position: 1) crouch on the balls of your feet, preferably on your PFD or some insulated pad, 2) keep your head down, and 3) do not touch the ground with your hands. Several sites also recommend covering your ears with your hands to protect them from acoustic damage due to thunder.

The best prevention is to check your weather radio or computer before you leave so that you know what you will be facing. Marine VHF radios used by sea kayakers allow you to monitor the local weather channel. The technologically blessed among us can also perform real-time checks of forecasts and weather radar using their smart phones (e.g., Phone or Droid) so they know where they are relative to current storm activity.

Trip Report: Whitewater River, Waterloo to Mahan Park, May 16, 2010

Trip sponsor: Richard Tekulve

A total of eight paddlers from three states enjoyed a 9.7-mile trip on the Upper Whitewater River on Sunday, May 16th. Weather conditions were cloudy, windy and slightly rainy but that didn't provide a let-down for anyone's fast-paced journey down this crystal clear stream.

The Whitewater has a gradient of 7.1 ft. per mile and is labeled as Indiana's fastest river. The current on this trip was approximately 3 1/2 mph. For this trip, the USGS gauge at Alpine read 490 cfs. This is a sweet spot for an easy, fast-flowing run. The best flow level in this area is 300 to 800 cfs. The trip began at Waterloo Bridge [CR 440 N.] and ended at Mahan Park Canoe Launch 3 miles south of Connersville on SR 121.

We had two guests from the CincyPaddlers group—Jerry Messer from Kentucky and Phil Menschen from Ohio. Of the six HCC paddlers, five all had over 35 years of paddling experience. They were Rick Moulton (Converse), Bob Burkhardt (Middletown), Garry Hill (Greentown), George Flexman (Indianapolis), and Richard Tekulve (North Vernon). Our sixth HCC member was Theresa Kulczak—the lone "rookie" and female amongst the bunch.

This stretch of the Whitewater lacks the overpopulated canoe livery crowd and atmosphere that is evident downstream in the Brookville vicinity. The stream is characterized by small islands/splits, multiple sand/gravel bars, several chutes, numerous class 1 rapids and "side" currents. A dismal weather forecast cut attendance at least in half of what was expected to be about twenty participants.

Perhaps next year, a scheduled trip from Mahan Park to either Laurel Feeder Dam or Historic Metamora will be arranged.





A bend in the Blue River

Trip Report—Blue River Trip, June 19-20, 2010

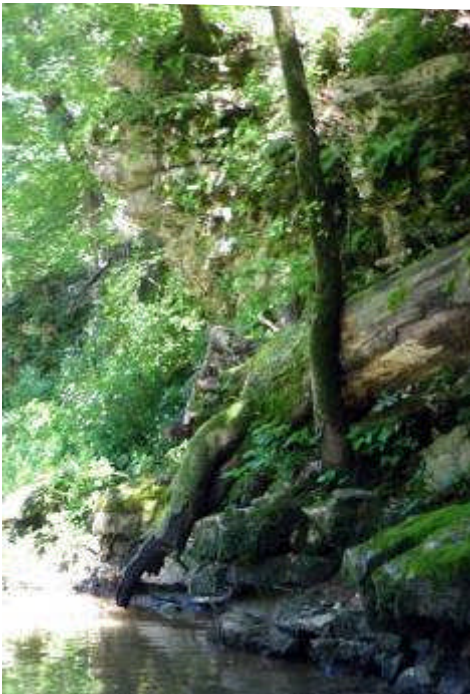
Jim Sprandel

On June 19, 2010, twelve HCC paddlers traveled down the Blue River from Milltown, IN to Rothrock Mill Public Access Site. We started paddling about 11:15 am at the DNR Public Access Site located next to Cave County Canoe rental in downtown Milltown. We finished the 13-14 mile trip around 4:15 pm.

On Saturday, the water was at a reasonable level (between 2.84' and 3.00' on the [White Cloud Gauge](#)) and we had an enjoyable trip. We also had lunch on a great sand bar. One charm of paddling on the Blue River is that there are often steep bluffs along the sides of the river. One or two spots were a touch stony and everyone scraped a little bit.



Blue River -



Typical rock bluff along edge

Saturday night, we camped in one of the group sites at Stagstop campground off State Road Indiana 62. We had a great dinner of appetizers, brats, and finally s'mores. We passed the evening around a campfire until we retired.

On Sunday, we drove up to the put-in at Rothrock Mill but decided that it was not safe to paddle since the river had jumped up 3' overnight. The river was now flowing through the trees along the edge of the river and the beach where we had pulled out on Saturday was completely underwater. (We called and the outfitter in Milltown was also closed.)

I was disappointed that we could not paddle this section since it is more wild and beautiful than the section below Milltown. This preference may be because we had the river to ourselves since the outfitter always pulls out at Rothrock.

Pictures from this trip are at:

<http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/forums/showthread.php?t=3734>



Trip Report—Chicago Skyline Trip, July 10, 2010

Jim Sprandel



Paddling north on Lake Michigan to the Chicago River

up the water enough to keep us on our toes since the waves were a little pushy and the hard walls on the side of the river ensured that the waves didn't die out quickly. We were all glad that we had spray skirts.

After we reached the Civic Opera House, we turned around and paddled back through the locks and to 12th Street Beach. Near the Opera house, we saw a tour of between 30-40 recreational kayaks on the Chicago River listening to the history of the area.

When returning on Lake Michigan, waves were 2-3 feet and fun to play in (at least I thought they were fun). We also saw an old 4-masted schooner on the lake but didn't get a picture since we all needed both



Downtown Chicago from the River

Frank Chiao led Theresa Kulczak, Kellie Kane-shiro, and me on a kayak tour of the Chicago skyline. We started at 12th Street Beach just South of the Adler Planetarium and paddled up to the entrance to the Chicago River near Naval Pier. The paddle to Navy Pier was interesting because we got a great view of all of Chicago's skyscrapers.

We paddled through the locks and went 2-3 miles up the Chicago River into the city. At points, the river is more like a canyon—you're surrounded by skyscrapers. We often went under dark, old bridges which criss-crossed the river. The view of the buildings surrounding us was surreal at times.

The tour boats, barges, and water taxis churned



Locks between Lake Michigan and the Chicago River

hands on our paddles in the waves.

After getting back to 12th Street Beach, most of us confirmed that our rolls were more than just pool rolls and actually worked in light surf. The water in the lake was clear and cool—a welcome relief on a warmish day.

Yes Toto, we're not on Geist Reservoir anymore. A interesting counterpoint to the natural environment where we normally paddle.

Additional pictures are available at:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/merlin3d/sets/72157624342861637/>

Photo Credits: Pages 1,4,10,11—Jim Sprandel, Page 3—Denise Szocka, Page 7—Mike Sawyer



Upcoming Events

Wednesday Nights 7-9 pm	Pool Sessions- Thatcher Pool	March Newsletter/ Bulletin Board
Thursday Evenings 3 pm — dark	Eagle Creek Paddles, through Sept. 30, 2010	May HCC Newsletter
Sat. July 31	Flatwater/Touring: Cataract Falls/Cagles Mill Lake Trip	Page 6
Sat.-Sun. July 31-Aug. 1	Whitewater Trip: Ocoee (III+)	Check Bulletin Board
Fri.-Sun. Aug. 6-8	Flatwater: 2010 Indiana Paddlers Rendezvous, Wildcat Creek	Page 4
Fri.-Sun. Aug. 6-8	Whitewater: Yough Fest, Upper (IV-V) and Lower (III) Yough	Check Bulletin Board
Sat. Aug. 14	Flatwater:: Whitewater River/Metamora Ice Cream Paddle	Page 5
Sat.. Aug. 21	Triathlon Support, Eagle Creek	Page 2
Sat. Aug. 21	Flatwater: Kids Back to School Paddle, Indianapolis, IN.	Page 4
Sat.-Sun. Aug. 21-22	Whitewater: Over the Falls Fest Lower Yough, PA	Check Bulletin Board
Sat.-Sun. Aug. 21-22	Touring Kayak: NWIPA Michigan City - South Haven Paddle	Page 7
Sat.. Aug. 28	Go Girl Triathlon Support, Eagle Creek	Page 2
Sat.-Sun. Aug. 28-29	East Race (ERWWCK) Safety Training Clinic, South Bend, IN	Page 1
Sun. Aug. 29	Mojo Rolling Clinic, Indianapolis, IN	Page 3
Sat.-Mon. Sept. 4-6, 2010	New River Rendezvous. New River, WV Joint Flatwater, Whitewater, Touring Kayak Trip	Page 6
Fri.-Sun., Sept 10-12	Touring Kayak: Lake Michigan-Manitou Island	Page 8

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

