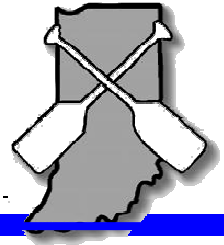


The Hoosier Paddler



Volume 49, Issue 5

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

June 2011

Volunteers Needed!

The club has several events upcoming that need volunteers. Part of what makes the HCC, the HCC is our consistent efforts to help our community. The events below are an example of this. Please, if you have some time to lend to these events, do so.

HCC Fall Creek Clean up

Saturday, June 4, 2011

Plans are underway for the HCC Fall Creek Clean Up on Saturday, June 4th, 2011. The last two years we have run a section upstream from the Emerson bridge, so we'll probably concentrate our efforts downstream from there this year. Let's plan on meeting at 9:30 at the old O'Malia's parking lot, which will probably be our put-in location. We should be off the water about 1:00, and we will grab some pizza for anyone interested.

If you are not familiar with Fall Creek, it runs from Pendleton above Geist Reservoir as well as below the reservoir, and down to about 10th street. Good websites are: <http://www.fallcreekindiana.com> and the Fall Creek Trail, Indy Greenways website at <http://www.indygreenways.org/fallcreek/fallcreek.htm>.

The club will provide trash bags, gloves, drinking water, etc. 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 and protective footwear.

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

25K Masters Swim on Morse Reservoir

Saturday, June 18, 2011

The 25K Open Water National Championships sanctioned by the United States Masters Swimming Association will be held on Saturday, June 18 at Morse Reservoir. The USMSA is looking for "safety boaters" and additional kayakers for volunteers who don't have kayakers. The safety boaters will escort solo swimmers for 1 or more laps of the 5K loop and patrol the course for safety purposes. Short and long shifts are available. It is not necessary to volunteer for the entire day as a safety boater can choose to volunteer on a per-loop basis. Swimmers travel from throughout the United States to compete in the event at Morse. We are hopeful that the HCC members will volunteer and help the club show support for this major event. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Herman Arrivillaga of the Kayak Committee for the USMSA at hmcrae@gmail.com or call 317-823-6031. Details about the event are available at <http://www.grinswim.org/2011USMS25K>

Eagle Creek Triathlons 2011

The 2011 Triathlons at Eagle Creek will be coordinated by me, John Wainscott. If you didn't know, HCC provides safety boats (canoes & kayakers) for the swimming portion of the race. In return, the HCC gets a healthy check at the end of the year, which goes into the club's general fund. For your efforts as a volunteer you get a great t-shirt. It's a great time to get out and paddle with members and not have to drive very far or do any shuttles. Typically, some paddlers venture out onto Eagle Creek's northern section after the event. This area is full of wildlife and provides some beautiful scenery and bird watching. I usually arrive at day light, donned with a fishing pole and try my "luck" till it's time to start the Triathlon. Keep in mind the following dates for this event: June 18 – Sprint Triathlon, July 23 – Sprint Triathlon, August 20 – Sprint Triathlon, August 27 – Go Girl Triathlon. All of the events start at 8:00 AM. It's not a hard thing to do, nor do you need to be a life guard or experienced. Just bring your boat a smile and have a great time. My contact info is: wldleak@sbcglobal.net, cell 317-250-8107. I'll be sending out calls for volunteers closer to each event, but feel free to sign up now! I am looking forward to seeing you out there at Eagle Creek. So if you're interested please drop me an email or phone call.

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club



Trip Report: Lake Monroe Overnight Paddle, April 9-10, 2011

Jim Sprandel

Trip Sponsors: Tom Beckerich, Jim Sprandel

The day started out auspiciously! With heavy rain and thunder. Patiently, we sat at the put-in, had lunch, and waited for the weather to pass. Tom Beckerich believed in the possibilities of the weekend so that we unloaded our boats from our cars while the rain was still coming down—the less optimistic of us loaded our gears into the boats under the picnic pavilion at Cutright's Marina.

When the thunder passed and the rain had largely stopped, eight of us paddled out down the South Fork of Salt Creek past the entrance to Patton Cave (the cave seemed to be open). The water was high so that we could go fairly far up the creek above the cave. We then paddled north along the peninsula before turning into the Middle Fork Waterfowl Resting Area which opened up April 1. We saw several eagles and hawks on this stretch. Tom was able to photograph an immature bald eagle. Several people were looking for Morel mushrooms but we were a few days too early for them.

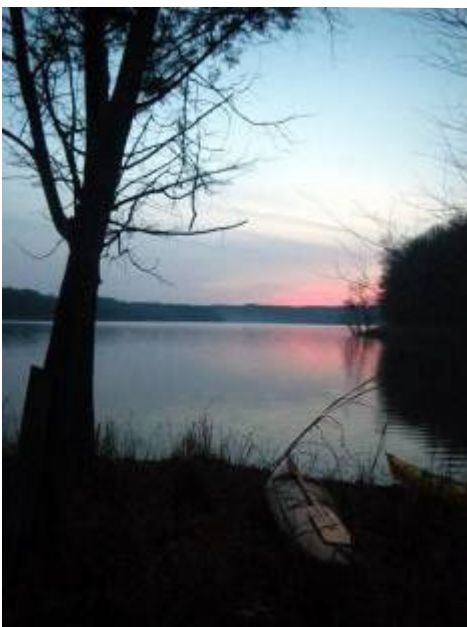
We set up camp on a small peninsula that was 3-4 miles from the original put-in. By this time, the sun was out and we had plenty of room for the 6 people who camped out overnight. After setting up camp, Tom and I paddled farther along Salt Creek and photographed a loon with its winter markings. It was a clear night and we all sat around our fire ring talking after dinner.

Sunday morning, the six of us headed back early (8:45 am) since winds were predicted to get brisk later on in the day. We all paddled back to Cutright. A perfect Spring paddle.

Three of us then investigated the North Fork paddling up to the Pine Grove ramp. When paddling back to Cutright, the wind indeed picked up—with gusts in the high 20s and 1-2 foot chop while crossing Monroe to go back to the marina.



Loon—Winter Markings



Sunrise on Lake Monroe



Thoughts after a Rescue Clinic—Practice makes Safety.

I participated in many Open Water Rescue Clinics and one Swift Water Rescue Clinic since I've been paddling. Dave Ellis and I led a clinic in May - people learned what they needed to learn but it didn't go without a hitch. The biggest thing that I learned is that I need to practice these skills on an on-going basis. Having been able to execute a drill 90% of the time in the pool some time six months ago doesn't really cut it when teaching on "real" open water—I suspect that I would fare even worse in lake conditions where people could be expected to capsize.

The one word that I took away from the course is PRACTICE. Practice in the conditions where you'll need them—with your boat loaded with 70 pounds of gears, with the rescue equipment that you will be carrying, in 2-3 foot waves, and in 60 degree water. We had wished for prettier weather but it was enlightening to notice how fast being in the water of Eagle Creek drained the snap out of all those cool pool drills.

Everything makes a difference—mumbled excuses don't make much difference when someone is still swimming 3-4 minutes after going into cold water. This was a sea kayaking clinic but the same readiness is required for Flatwater and especially Whitewater. Your roll isn't going to automatically be there after you change boats or paddles or if you're really cold and any a real situation unless you practice.

Trip Report: Flatrock River, Sunday, April 17, 2011

Dave Ellis

If you followed the bulletin board postings and the Yahoo Group e-mailings, you already know that the Big Walnut trip scheduled for 4/16 morphed into a Flatrock River trip on the 17th. The Walnut water level was too low, the weather was unsettled, and only one other paddler had RSVP'ed. So using our e-communication tools, 8 HCC'ers agreed to do the St. Paul section of the Flatrock on Sunday 4/17. Weather was absolutely FABULOUS, water level was low but perfectly adequate at 400 cfs, and 6 of the paddlers had never seen this river - the 7th claims to have seen it before but claimed a senior moment when asked about the details. Mary Keith, Mariann Davis, Brian Kestle, Sue Fox, Ellen Popodi, Luther Rice, Theresa Kulczak joined me for this adventure.

Theresa Kulczak

It was a beautiful day, and I have to say, some of the best water the Flatwater group has experienced in a long time. Clear aqua with many excellent runs, the spring trees in bloom, Virginia Bluebells serenading us with their sky blue cheers along the banks, and the fragrant spring breeze whisking us down the river. It was a sublime April paddling day!

Oh yes, one of our paddlers was in a fiberglass kayak and a rock bit her on a rapid at the beginning of the trip, luckily just below the YMCA camp. The boat sustained injuries of a 6-inch hole and multiple cracks in the hull, in the floor by the seat. Thanks to Dave Ellis' knowledge of boat repair and mastery with duct tape, he triple-taped it and she made it down the river. Albeit sad about the hole in her boat but happy to have made it down the river on such a glorious day.

Trip Report: Fall Creek, Thursday, May 12, 2011

Sue Foxx

An energetic group of nine (mostly new or new to HCC) paddlers gathered at the put in just west of I-465 on Fall Creek. Once the shuttle was completed, newbies understood the shuttle process and were ready for the adventure. We had good flow which helped us with some obstacles but we couldn't overcome the mass of logs across the river about half way into our 3 mile paddle. We were able to thread boats through the log jam but people had to climb over the tree trunk on river right. It might not have been pretty but it didn't deter the group's enthusiasm! We hit several areas of faster water which was exciting for the newer paddlers but not enough that they can legitimately claim navigating Class 1 rapids...sorry guys! We only had one 'swimmer' who can chalk it up to a very tippy kayak and lots of cross current. The evening was beautiful and we arrived at our take out at the bridge over Emerson Way around 8 pm. Beautiful night, great group but boy was I glad we didn't try the longer route or we would have been tying down boats in the dark.



Trip Report: Driftwood, Saturday, May 14, 2011

Linda Smith & Dan Evard

With a weather forecast of scattered thunderstorms for the afternoon, we were expecting a light turnout for this year's Driftwood trip but were delighted to find 15 fellow paddlers ready to hit the water on Saturday. Sue Foxx was in her new solo canoe, and Sarah Waehner and Debbie Yates were looking well satisfied with their new kayaks. Special welcome to Diane Clark, whom we hope to see on many future trips.

Given the forecast, the consensus was to do the 8 mile trip from Furnas Mill Dam in Camp Atterbury down to Heflin Park.



Since the park had not opened for the season yet, parking that many cars by



the side of the road was a bit worrisome. Fortunately, Jeff Blue, of Blue's Canoe Livery came to our rescue by graciously volunteering to open up his parking lot and by permitting us to use his take-out. Dale Perry recognized Jeff as a former Butler Basketball standout and Boston Celtics player. A Celebrity Spotting! Thanks Dale!

Water level was of the "Goldilocks' Variety," not too high, not too low, but just right. Several members of the group saw a bald eagle. Planes in the Atterbury area were practicing parachute drops of supplies right by the river's edge. We also witnessed a pretty good air show, seemingly staged just for us, during our lunch break. James Beckwith, Jim Clendenin, Mark Cowser, Mariann Davis, Jim Eckerty, Jeff McConnell, Addison McConnel, Joan Perry, Everett Pulliam and Greg Rathnow rounded out our group.

Joint Flatwater/Touring Trip

Cataract Falls on Cagles Mill Lake—Lieber SRA

Saturday, June 25, 2011

Trip Sponsor: Dave Ellis

Cataract Falls is a series of stair-step falls where Mill Creek enters and forms Cagles Mill Lake in Lieber State Recreation Area near Cloverdale, IN. We put in on Cagles Mill Lake and paddle up the headwaters of the lake to the base of Lower Cataract 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, sea kayaks, recreational kayaks).

Meeting Place: 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 SR243 and the Marathon 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 water, your lunch (I'm thinking of providing lunch if I can work out the details -- I'll let you know when you RSVP), sun screen, and insect repellent. You might bring walking shoes since you will want to climb around Cataract Falls.

Paddling Distance: 6 miles. It is 3 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 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 Dave Ellis 317-858-0963 by 6:00 pm Friday, June 24 or e-mail me at river-papaw@aol.com

Flatwater Trip Announcements

Two on the Blue – Blue River Paddle, Milltown, IN Saturday–Sunday , June 11-12, 2011

Trip Sponsors: Sue Fox, Jim Sprandel

Come for one or two days of beautiful paddling down this scenic part of the Blue River. Last year due to a rapid rise in water level we were not able to paddle the second day so it may offer a new stretch for many of you. You can anticipate seeing bluffs, canyons, and springs in this pristine section of river. 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. FYI, we usually chip in for wood for a common campfire. For information on camping facilities, call 812-738-8232, but there has never been a problem getting space.

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 County 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 rain right up to our departure and then it was beautiful the rest of the day. We will post any last minute changes on the bulletin board so be sure to check.

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

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. Sue will also bring a small gas grill in case you want to do brats or a steak.

Contact information: Be sure to contact Sue or Jim by 8:00 pm on Friday June 10th if you plan to attend either Saturday or Sunday:

Sue Foxx (317) 363-4074 (Cell), 317-253-0222 (Home) E-Mail sufoxx@doe.in.gov

Jim Sprandel (317) 257-2063 E-Mail merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net

Weeknight Paddle Announcement

Since we had a terrific turnout for the first Thursday paddle on Fall Creek, we will repeat it in June. Plan to join us on Thursday, June 9, at 6 pm in the Walgreens parking lot at 56th and Emerson to paddle down from the bridge over Emerson to Keystone.

We will also meet on Thursday, June 23, at 6 pm at the Rocky Ripple Town Hall to paddle White River down to just south of the 30th Street bridge.

Contact Information: Sue Foxx (317)363-4074



Touring Kayak Trip Announcements

Edging and Turning Class for Sea Kayaks

Instructors: Ed Furia, Jim Sprandel,

Saturday, June 18, 2011

As you begin paddling in more challenging water, you have to improve your boat handling ability. This class is about learning to use your body, boat, and blade to play and explore in a highly dynamic environment using dynamic techniques. This course will teach you techniques for turning your kayaks more quickly and precisely and for paddling in a wider range of water conditions.

We'll start by tuning up your basic strokes and then show you how to edge your kayaks to make them turn more quickly as well as to help them go straight in windy conditions. At that point, we'll teach you several maneuvers that will let you bring your boat around faster in different conditions and how to use bracing techniques to help stabilize yourself in choppy conditions.

Course Details

Date: Saturday, June 18, 2011

Location: Launching Ramp at [Paynetown State Recreation Area](#) (SRA), Lake Monroe, Bloomington, IN.. There is a \$5 per car entrance fee to the SRA and you must have a DNR sticker on your boat. A DNR Sticker can be purchased at the gate if you do not have one.

Paynetown State Recreation Area is located off SR 446 about 6 miles south of Bloomington. Paynetown SRA is about a 1 hour drive from the junction of SR37 and I-465 on the south side of Indianapolis.

Schedule:	9:30 am	Meet at Paynetown Launching Ramp—Get boats to water
	9:45 am	Introduction/Shore-Based Training
	10:00 am	Start on the water training
	12:30 pm	Lunch – Questions/Answers
	1:15 pm	Afternoon Session
	3:30 pm	Off the Water

Recommended Skill Level for this Class: Before taking this class, you should be comfortable using all of the basic kayak strokes (i.e., forward, forward sweep, reverse, reverse sweep, and draws) as well as bracing.

Class Size: The class will be limited to 12 students. HCC members will be accepted on a first come-first served basis.

Required Equipment:(Contact with [Jim](#) or [Ed](#) if you want an exception to these requirements since we may have extra equipment that you can borrow):

Kayak—Must have water-tight fore and aft bulkheads.

Spray Skirt

PFD, pump, paddle float, water, lunch, dry clothes in a dry bag.

Paddle—These techniques work equally well with European (Standard) paddles or Greenland paddles so bring the paddle that you are most comfortable with.

Recommended: Wet Suit or Dry Suit—People often capsize while working on edging so it's good to dress for the water.

Contact Information: If you wish to sign up, contact Jim Sprandel at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or (317) 257-2063 by Thursday, June 16, 2011. Contact [Jim](#) or [Ed](#) if you have any questions about the course.



NWIPA Lake Michigan Water Trail National Trail Designation Day

Saturday, June 4, 2011

HCC Coordinator: Jim Sprandel

Lake Michigan is a recreational resource that is unique to this area of the country. On June 4th, Lake Michigan will be designated a National Recreational Trail (NRT) and the Northwest Indiana Paddling Association (NWIPA) will celebrate the dedication of the first 75 miles of shoreline as part of the NRT.

At the dedication, there will be a number of noted guests and speakers including the Executive Director of the American Canoe Association, Wade Blackwood, as well as possible appearance by several members of congress and the National Park Service Director. They will also unveil the new Lake Michigan Water Trail "Paddle the Dunes" South Shore Series poster honoring the Lake Michigan Water Trail and each participant will receive a brand-new map of the newly designated Lake Michigan National Recreation Trail.

NWIPA's president, Dan Plath, said "we will be dedicating what within a few years will be the longest continuous loop water trail in the world. This stretch will be the first 75 miles of what will be a 1600-mile long trail that will attract paddlers from around the world to paddle the shores of Lake Michigan."

For more information on the water trail, go to the Lake Michigan Water Trail web site (www.LMWT.org) or the NWIPA web site. (www.NWIPA.org)

Paddle/Celebration Details: For sea kayakers, the event will feature a 4-mile paddle beginning at 12:30 (EDT-Indianapolis Time) from Marquette Park in Gary to Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk. For recreational kayaks and canoes, a second trip will begin on the Little Calumet River at the Miller Charter of the Izaak Walton League and paddle to the Portage Lakefront and Riverwalk simultaneously.

At 2:30 pm (EDT-Indianapolis Time), there will be the dedication ceremony and unveiling of the South Shore Poster. After the ceremony, sea kayakers will paddle back to Marquette Park.

Additional trip information as well as detailed directions to the different put-ins will be posted to the Touring Forum of the HCC Bulletin.

HCC Arrangements: Several HCCer's already have reserved campsites at Dunes State Park for Friday and Saturday nights. Since each campsite allows 2 cars and 2 tents, we should have room for a total of 6-8 people there—I know of another campground in the area if more people want to camp overnight and are unable to get into Dunes State Park.

Depending on Lake Michigan and people's interests, HCCers arriving Friday night may paddle Saturday Morning before the start of the Gary-to-Portage paddle to the Dedication Ceremony and Sunday Morning before heading back to Indianapolis.

Trip Requirements: For the Lake Michigan portion of this event, you must have a sea kayak with spray skirt and you should wear a wet suit or dry suit since Lake Michigan is still cool. It is recommended that you have experience paddling in up to 1 foot waves and be able to average at least 3 mph on open water.

Contact Information: If you have questions about the National Trail Designation paddle or HCC's camping/paddling plans for this week-end, please contact Jim Sprandel at merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or (317) 257-2063. I will post details and plans for the event in the Touring Forum of the HCC Bulletin Board.

Photo Credits: Tom Beckerich—Page 2 Top 2, Jim Sprandel—Page 2 Bottom, Linda Smith—Page 4



Upcoming Events

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July Newsletter Deadline: Please submit articles to Kim Henry by June 15, 2011. Please e-mail articles and pictures to editor@hoosiercanoeclub.org.

