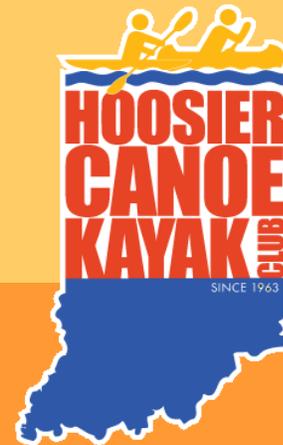


The Hoosier Paddler

Month January 2015, Vol. 53 Issue 1
<http://www.hoosiercanoeclub.org/>



From the Skipper:

THINK: SUN! Maybe through a group mantra we can channel the sun and warm weather for an HCKC paddle...if not, we might be able to experience a brief sampling of Spring at this year's Boat Sport and Travel Show (Feb 23-Mar 1). As in the past, the club will sponsor a booth (in the "Quiet Sports" area) and will be representing our organization on **Feb 20, 21, 22 and Feb 27, 28, Mar 1.**



Please contact

DwayneSJamesA1@hotmail.com if you are interested in volunteering To view the myriad offerings at this event click on: <http://quietsportsexpo.com> .

ALL VOLUNTEERS WILL HAVE FREE ADMISSION.

More to come:

Trips planning meeting Saturday, January 31 @ 1pm (all members invited); Participate in your own paddling future by recommending or leading a trip this year.

Date: Saturday, January 31, 2015

Time: 1pm

Place: Natalie Needham's House—11212 Cowan Lake Ct Indianapolis, IN 46235

****Please join the HCKC in planning and scheduling a fantastic paddling year. (Bring a snack food to share and your own personal beverage).**

Meet-up groups:We might be jumping into the 21st century very soon with an addition of an on-line meet-up group. Not all paddling trips will be offered on this site as we intend to extend those more advance paddling trips to club members only...This will be a 6 month trial run to see the advantage in attempting to recruit younger members to carry on the club's work.

Thank you, Natalie Needham, for working to develop an operational meet up site. Check out Page 3 and look for email!!

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Volunteers Needed!

Feb 20-22 and 27-3/1

Boat, Sport and Travel Show

Contact:

dwaynesjamesa1@hotmail.com

Trip Announcement

Upper Missouri River - June 6-21, 2015

Trip Sponsor: Jeff Kuhn

Back in 1994, I did a 150 mile canoe trip on the Upper Missouri River in Montana. The Upper Missouri is a National Wild and Scenic River and was my first expedition trip. We carried all our gear with us and camped streamside. We spent seven days in Big Sky country enjoying the river, the scenery, the camping, and the wildlife. It is the only place I've ever seen a Golden Eagle in the wild, plus we saw Mule Deer and Bighorn Sheep as well. I'd like to do that trip again in 2015 and am looking for some adventurous souls to join me. Here are the particulars:

The put-in would most likely be at Fort Benton Montana, although I may also look into putting in on the Marias River, which joins the Upper Missouri near Coal Banks Landing about 60 miles downstream of Ft. Benton. The take-out for either trip option would be at Kipp Bridge in the Charles Russell NWR. The trip retraces a portion of the Lewis and Clark Corps of Discovery journey of 1804-5. When I was there, signs identified where the Lewis and Clark entourage camped, and the dates they were there.

The shuttle takes all day since it is nearly 400 miles round-trip. I would prefer to use one of the local outfitters to deliver our vehicles to the take-out on the day we specify. The service is not cheap but it saves a lot of driving. After travelling the 1,700 miles to get to Ft. Benton, I for one would be happy to pay to have the vehicles shuttled.

Much of the land along the river is public land although there are some private cattle ranches. Most of the ranches are located within the first half of the trip. In 1994, the BLM had a great set of maps that show where the private and public land segments are. I assume these are still available.

Camping is allowed anywhere on BLM land. Please note that camping will be streamside and primitive as you plan your gear list. There were no facilities (toilets, fire rings, etc.) available in '94. I've heard rumors that there are one or two public campgrounds now but I will avoid them, except perhaps as places to refill water containers, since they spoil the wilderness feeling I wish to duplicate with this trip.

Campfires may or may not be possible. There used to be tens of thousands of cottonwood trees lining the river banks, but most were cut down and burned as fuel for the sternwheelers that used to ply the Upper Missouri in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The trees that remain are mostly in the late stages of life. I wanted to make you aware of this so you have a camp stove with you for cooking.

The Upper Missouri River is very wide, and for the most part is easy paddling. It is all flatwater, but has a good current (it was 6 mph in '94 at somewhat higher than normal water levels). Making 20+ miles per day is typically no problem. Most of the time we would just float along and watch the scenery. There is, however, a potential hazard with wind. The winds can really get howling there. The region has one of the highest average wind speeds in the country. In high winds, waves on the river can get really big (3' or more). In 1994, we were kept off the river for the better part of one full day due to wind. The river flows west to east so the winds are often from behind, but when they become strong quartering tailwinds, controlling a loaded canoe can be difficult.

The trip is suitable for canoes or touring kayaks and for pretty much any skill level. All you need is a boat with enough space to carry your gear, food, and water. I recommend carrying your water since near the ranches there are hundreds of cattle near the river. I don't quite trust a water purifier for providing safe drinking water in those situations. At Judith Landing, about 90 miles downstream, we can refill our water containers. There has been some development since I was there last so there may be more water stops available now. Rental boats are available at several local outfitters if you prefer to go that route.

I will be taking two full weeks off work so I can visit some or all of the following sites after the river trip concludes: Glacier NP, Yellowstone NP, Grand Tetons NP, Devil's Tower, Mount Rushmore, Badlands NP, and Crazy Horse National Monument. Anyone who wishes to join me on that part of the trip is also more than welcome.

I have 35 mm photos from the 1994 river trip that I can scan and send to you if you are interested in seeing what the river looks like. If you want to see the pictures, or if you have any questions, just send me an email at kuhnjg@comcast.net

Jeff Kuhn

Dues are Due!

Dues are due! The online members list has been updated to show your dues status. If the year noted below your first name is "2014" you NEED to send me \$15 by 3/1/2014.

Link to list: http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org/HCC_List.pdf

You can renew online via PayPal, <http://formsmarts.com/form/k5u> OR Download, print and complete the membership form from [hoosiercanoecub.org](http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org) and mail it to me. See

<http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org/App06.pdf> OR catch up with Dave Ellis at a Saturday morning pool session with cash. Dave Ellis

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

Something new: Voyager Paddling Team

Be part of a 10 person voyager paddling team this fall...(Looks like a very fun event)..check out info below:
contact **SueFoxy** @ sufoxx713@aol.com (**primary**); **Mariann Davis** @ mariandvs@gmail.com (**secondary**).

Doug Fenn is promoting the Louisville 50, a 50 mile adventure downstream race on the Ohio River. It is held the **first weekend in October**, starting in West Port, KY and ending in West Point, KY. In 2015 they want to add a new event racing/paddling 6 separate 30' long Voyager Canoes on 7 miles of the Louisville 50 course from Harrods Creek in eastern Louisville to the downtown Louisville waterfront. Recruit six teams from the regions paddling organizations for 10 person crew. They would provide an experienced stern captain, and bow co-captain, Voyager Canoe, paddles and PFD's for each crew. They are seeking organizations to put together a team of 10 to paddle the event and represent your region or organization. Co-ed or not, (Let's try to mix it up), it should be a fun event. More to come!



Hello all paddlers!

Meet Up Page is up and running.

After careful discussion for a few months, the HCC Board has agreed to try a Meetup page to possibly make it easier for club communications and reach out to possible new members. I invite all of you to come and check out our new page and to also join the meetup site so you can participate.

Our page can be found here: <http://www.meetup.com/Hoosier-Canoe-Kayak-Club/>

I would like to remind everyone that the page is in its infancy and will continue to grow in functionality and looks as we get used to the new format. Please feel free to send me questions, comments, or suggestions. We also need a group photo to put on the site, so please feel free to send in pics that may be used!

Thank you for your continued support,
Natalie Needham

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

Trip Announcement

Ice Falls Trip March 7, 2015

Trip Sponsor: Dwayne James

Get your early paddling fix with the annual (open water permitting) Ice Falls Trip on Sugar Creek. This is a fun trip where you'll see big ice cascades, rock formations, two covered bridges, herons, eagles, robins, and redwinged black birds returning for spring. This trip is very weather dependent for open water and appropriate dress is required. In some years, we wore only sweatshirts. In others, we wore snowsuits and needed paddles to clear snow from our cars at the takeout. This is not a deterrent but an unexpected thrill.

We will meet at Deers Mill Covered bridge at 10:30 a.m. The putin is at Deers Mill bridge, next to the canoe livery at the east end of Shades State Park on Indiana 234. You must pass the entrance to Shades to get to the bridge. The shuttle should run about 11:00 a.m. The takeout is at The Narrow's Bridge located at the East edge of Turkey Run State Park.

Bring a lunch and drink for the trip as there are no other provisions along the way. Some paddlers elect to eat together at the Turkey Run Inn or somewhere else before driving home. We can talk about that while we paddle and make plans for those that wish to do so.

Please watch the weather and be sure to contact Dwayne prior to the trip since this trip may be cancelled due to frozen water or bad weather. If the water is frozen, or the temperature is below 30 F for the day, or if the water level is above 3.5 feet on the USGS gauge we will cancel the trip. Follow this link to check the flow: http://waterdata.usgs.gov/in/nwis/uv?site_no=03339500 Dress accordingly and be sure to bring a dry bag with extra clothes in case you get wet.

Please contact Dwayne by Friday evening, March 6th to confirm your attendance and that the trip is a go.
DwayneSJamesA1@hotmail.com

Cold Weather Paddling Tips--

Jim Sprandel:

During the winter, paddling is still enjoyable but you need to dress properly to be comfortable and safe. The Fort Wayne paddling group circulated the following links on how to survive if you fall through thin ice:

<http://www.archive.org/details/ColdWaterSurvival>

<http://www.archive.org/details/YoureOutNowWhat>

<http://www.archive.org/details/Gett...tSinkingFeeling>

If you want to paddle, be sure to paddle with other people. Especially during this time of year, there's safety in numbers.

Please submit pictures, trip reports, trip announcements, gear for sale, and items of general interest to the club to dwaynesjamesA1@hotmail.com. Word documents work best, the less formatting the better.

Thanks,

Dwayne James