

WELCOME TO THE HOOSIER CANOE CLUB

Hello New HCC Member:

I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome you to what I commonly refer to as my extended family, the Hoosier Canoe Club. You have no doubt read about the HCC in the brochure or on our web site www.hoosiercanoeclub.org, but I want to provide my personal perspective on the club.

The HCC has been around since 1963 and has provided paddlers a continuous forum to enjoy the waters of Indiana and beyond. The HCC can be best defined as a “common adventure” not-for-profit club, where like-minded individuals come together to enjoy and share their passion for paddlesports and the outdoors. One thing the HCC is not, is a political action committee, although we do weigh in on topics that affect paddlers and waters of Indiana. Since I joined the HCC in the early 80s, I have seen the club grow and diversify. The HCC now gives paddlers of all disciplines be it a canoeing, recreational kayaking, whitewater kayaking or sea kayaking an organization that provides trips, safety, and training. One look at our extensive trips schedule tells the story best.

The HCC also offers members an opportunity to develop and hone leadership skills, provide community service, and also to serve in the operation of the club via the Executive Board. If there is a trip that you would like to sponsor, the HCC will assist you as necessary to insure a successful trip. If there is a place you would like to paddle, but are unfamiliar with the area, just post a note on the bulletin board, and you will likely find some company and information. The HCC is also an official sponsor of Fall Creek and Raccoon Creek and conducts annual river cleanup trips generally in preparation for a paddling trip. The bulletin board and monthly newsletter are also good places to buy and sell used paddling and camping gear, and there is always a swap meet at the general membership meetings. If you are looking for training, the HCC is the best and cheapest place to get it. The club has a number of paddlers trained by the American Canoe Association canoe, American Red Cross and the British Canoe Union in solo and tandem canoe, whitewater kayak and sea kayak. The HCC also provides periodic CPR/First Aid training.

To say that the HCC is a full-service organization may be somewhat of an overstatement, but if you are a paddler at any level, I believe we have something to your liking.

Again, welcome, and I hope we meet on the water soon.

Reggie Baker, Skipper 2007-2008