

The Hoosier Paddler

Volume 44, Issue 7 <http://www.hoosiercanoecub.org> October 2006



October Board Meeting

October 9th, 2006

The next HCC board Meeting will be October 9, 2006 at 7:00 at the home of Dave Timme.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS NEED TO PLAN ON ATTENDING----We will be approving the 2007 slate of officers to vote on at the Nov. Meeting.

I have also included an address for 1st LT John Gates on the back page. Please send cards and letters.

The big event this month will be the Raccoon Creek Trip down through Mansfield and ending at Bridgeton. This event takes place during the annual Parke County Covered Bridge Festival and is a great opportunity to enjoy the festival from a different perspective. We eat lunch in Mansfield and show off our canoes, kayaks and other equipment to the local crowds and maybe even give a kid a short ride around the dam basin.

We will also have an opportunity to check out the cleaning work of the new outfitter down there and to see the progress on the new covered bridge at Bridgeton to replace the one the damned arsonist burned down last year. The plan is to have it completed in time for the festival. Please check out the trip announcement and come join us for a great day or two of paddling!!

And we are still looking for people to volunteer to write monthly or bi-monthly specialty theme articles for this newsletter. Your help is needed and appreciated. The Editor

TRIATHALON COORDINATOR NEEDED—

WANTED: A coordinator to help organize our participation with Tuxedo Brothers.

WHAT do you do? Contact Tuxedo Brothers to coordinate schedules,
get HCC members to volunteer to be safety boaters at the events.

WHY? The HCC earns money from these events to offset costs of this newsletter, annual meetings and insurance.

Unless we get someone to coordinate this activity, we will discontinue and lose approximately \$1200 per year.

Call Shirley Gates to volunteer. 317-852-9809

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

2006 HCC White Water Trip Schedule

| Date | Location | Class | Sponsor |
|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Oct 14-15 | Gauley Fall Colors/Last Release, | (III-V) - | Jordan Ross |
| Oct 21-22 | (Open) | | |
| Oct 28-29 | Ocoee Halloween Festival, TN | (III+) - | David Swingley |
| Nov 3,4,5 | Tohickon Creek, PA | (II-III) - | Randy Parker |
| Nov 4-5 | Ocoee Fall Colors/Last Release, | III+) - | Jordan Ross |

Please contact the trip leaders for more information. And remember to check the bulletin for pick-up trips and other timely announcements.

The link to the bulletin board has been changed and you will probably have to register again to get access: <http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/forums/>

Suggested Experience Levels:

Beginner -

Roll optional, safety workshop, moving water, Flatrock, Big Pine,(<3'), East Race, Hiawasee.

Intermediate -

Reliable pool roll, safety workshop, Big Pine (>3'), Elkhorn, Nantahala, Lower Tellico.

Advanced -

Reliable river roll, safety workshop, Lower Yough, New, Ocoee, Cheat Canyon

Please be advised: All Canoe trips involve some degree of danger and possibility for injury or loss of property. Please talk with the trip leader about required safety equipment and experience levels for the specific trip you wish to take part in. Do not endanger yourself or others by enlarging upon your skills or experience. Start on easy trips and work your way up to more demanding trips.

2006 HCC Flat Water Trip Schedule

| Date | Location | Sponsor | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Oct 21-22 | Covered Bridge Fest. Raccoon Creek | Dwon Miller | 765-288-1404 |
| Nov 25-Dec 3 | Florida Rivers | Dick Fetty | 765-754-8200 |
| Dec 2 | Christmas Party | Need volunteer | |
| Dec 30 | Loxahatchie River Florida | Ken Miller | 954-570-9491 |

Coastal Sea Kayaking

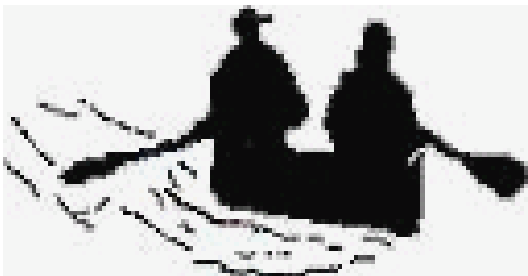
| | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| November 4-12 | Coastal North Carolina | Reggie Baker | 317-888-3315 |
|---------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------|

Please contact the trip leaders for further information.

And remember to check the bulletin for pick-up trips and other timely announcements.

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**Hey,
There is
Still Time to Paddle!!**



Trip Announcement: October 21-22, 2006

COME VISIT THE FALL COLORS ON RACCOON CREEK

The annual trip down Raccoon Creek is fast approaching. We will paddle on October 21 and 22 on this beautiful stretch of river at the peak of the color, during the Covered Bridge Festival in Parke County. We will go under covered bridges, iron bridges, concrete bridges, and portage one large dam. (Some of us may even run the dam without the portage! Your choice, experience recommended!)

The route for Saturday is below the dam of Hardin Lake to Mansfield, for a lunch break, then on to Bridgeton for a take-out. Sunday will either repeat the first trip or put in at Bridgeton and continue on to Rosedale for the take-out. If there are enough paddlers to have both choices for Sunday, we will split into two groups. Because of the clean-up problems in past years, the second half of the trip has not been done as of late. Thanks to Dave Gahimer and his canoe rentals, this is now available.

Several HCC members will be camping in Raccoon SRA for Friday and Saturday nights. There should be space available for others to join. In the past, we have been allowed to put tents on sites where there are campers, one extra per site. They have also opened up a primitive area for tents across the road from the main campground entrance. Mention HCC and check for locations at the front gate or the campground office. Known campers are the Sanders, Ritchies, and Millers.

If you do not care to camp, come over for one or both days and paddle. We will meet at the Shell Station on IN 36, on the north side of the road, just west of the entrance to Raccoon SRA. Plans are to leave for the put-in at 9:03 am. If you want to meet at the put-in, go west from the Shell Station to IN 59. Turn south and go 2.7 miles to a brown sign that indicates a turn back east to the Hardin Lake Dam. Follow that road, but do not turn up to the dam. Continue the road to the first bridge. You will follow the creek for a bit. Put-in is just before the bridge, on the left. Shuttle will run as soon as boats are unloaded, hopefully around 9:30am.

Dress for this trip is very weather dependent. We have worn swimsuits and we have worn heavy jackets. Many wear layers just in case! Watch the weather and plan accordingly. There can be quite a difference from morning to afternoon at this time of year. Since there is a festival going on, there is no need to bring food unless you want to do so. Pack up some cash in a ziplock and enjoy the variety of food available. For those who want to do the second day on the second half of the trip, you will need a lunch for that one. There are no festival stops along that path.

There is a parking fee for the lot at the take-out in Bridgeton. Last year it was \$3. The cars are right next to the take-out and the lot owner lets us sit in those "river rows" all day long for one fee. He turns over the rest of the lot several times a day so we are pleased he cooperates with us on this matter.

An RSVP is not required, but it would help us know who is coming so we don't leave anyone behind when we leave the Shell Station or start downstream. Same with camping, it helps to know who to expect. A campfire will be going both evenings and the next mornings.

Dwon Miller, 765-288-1404 before noon Friday or dwon_joy@iquest.net Hope to see you there for this "winding down of the season" trip. This is a moving water, but family friendly creek. Come relax with us and watch the scenery go by with friends from HCC.

Trip Report:

Tippecanoe River

July 8, 2006

The date posted in the last newsletter was incorrectly posted as a trip for the 7th when in fact it was to be held on the 8th. With several phone calls a trip was formed.

Jim Spandel, Dick Fetty and Shirley Gates met at the SR 18 Bridge northwest of Delphi to paddle. It had been years since any of us had paddled this section so we did not know what might be ahead. The launching area is an adequate size lot, gravelled for parking.

The trip was around 11 miles starting out on the Tippecanoe and ending up for a short paddle on the Wabash. Take out was at the old four-span blue iron bridge on St Road 225 south of Battle Ground. The river had plenty of flow--Class I. A few large rocks were encountered.

We were the only canoeists on the water---the other boaters were Fisherman, who were catching small mouth bass. Gravel and sand bars are scarce in the area. It was cooler on the water than off, but we were glad to end the trip at eleven miles. There were several vegetable and fruit stands along the shuttle route, so we all came home with corn, peaches, or cucumbers.

This is a nice section for families, so maybe we'll see more of you some other time.

Shirley Gates

Summary of September Board Meeting:

- (1) Roger Kugler is working on a solution for eliminating the password protection to the HCC newsletter. There may be problems with the past newsletters, but should not be a problem with the upcoming letters.
- (2) Membership total is 225
- (3) Reggie Baker suggested that the By Laws and Constitution be reviewed by the new Officers for 2007.

River "Booty"

The Missouri Rock

Several years ago there were three of us who paddled the Current River in Missouri for a week. Each day at the put-in, we climbed over this large, beautiful, porous rock at the river's edge. I thought each time that I would sure like to take that rock home with me and tried to lift it a few times, but could not budge it.

Finally, at the take-out one evening, I asked my friends to help me. After looking around for the where-abouts of the Park Rangers, I backed my truck down to the water's edge. Mary Anne Crismore and I lifted that rock out of the water and put it in the back of my truck.

Just as we finished the task, a boy around 12-14 years of age stepped from behind the livery canoes and said, "Gettin' ya a rock? Huh?!"

I was dumb-founded and couldn't speak. Mary Anne very sweetly says to the kid, "We're from the Missouri University Archeology Society and we are going to examine this rock". The kid had a look of doubt and confusion on his face as he said, "Oh?!"

After this, we jumped in my truck and sped off figuring it was probably one of the Park Ranger's kids. My payback for taking that rock was a truck bed full of river critters---crawfish, worms, snails, leeches,---you get the picture. They crawled out of that porous rock and were finding new homes in every box, bag, and container that I had.

This special rock sits on my patio. Now it's much lighter in weight because of giving up all the critters, sand, and water.

-Shirley Gates-

Trip Report

New Buffalo 15

July 15, 2006

“Beach Break? Is anyone ready for another Beach Break?” It’s hotter than the 4th of July, the water is cool and refreshing, so who wouldn’t want to pull over and test the floatation of our PFD’s? *“Jay, would you take off that rubber-gasketed Dry Suit Top before we all pass out from heat exhaustion?”* Jay was right though, if we did capsized far from shore those cool water temperatures would be working against us—real fast!

Last season, club member Brad Hughey led himself and Jay on an 8 mile open water crossing of the Manitou Passage from The Sleeping Bears Dunes to the Manitou Islands. So on this trip they both came fully prepared! Also joining us on our paddle were two sea kayakers from the St. Louis Paddle Club. They were parked on the same stretch of sand we were launching from, so I just assumed they were with us. At one of the beach breaks, Tom from St. Louis, staged an impromptu bracing and rolling demonstration; somebody had to take Earl King’s place (see the trip report: Buffalo ’04).

Our bravest paddler would have to be club member Sue Foxx in her “signature edition” Penobscot 16 canoe with novice paddler and guest Jim Clendenun. Yes, an open boat on big water!! We all stayed inside of the power boat lanes, so that meant plenty of confused and choppy waves for Sue to contend with. As Sue was steering to quarter only the larger set of waves, she demonstrated the reserve stability of the round bottom canoe, and that **boat handling skills** trumps all!

When club member Max Kidwell was arranging transportation for his kayak, he recognized and dealt with a new land obstacle for paddlers to overcome—the price of a tank of gas! Yes we can all pay it, but that just fuels the problem (pun intended). So Max kept one car off the highway by carpooling his Carolina 14.5 up with Brad’s Eclipse 17 and Jay’s new Epic Endurance 18 (a 46lb carbon rocket on water). Could a wave of the future be a multi-boat, trailer approach? The journey would be half of the fun.

Back out on the water, Stevie Addison’s little recreational boat from Wilderness System, the Blast, lived up to its’ salt water pedigree. With plenty of rocker in its body plan, her boat lifted to the waves with a quick and confident motion. Later in the weekend, this same kayak was able to blast out through the large rolling breakers and surf back in under complete control; all due to the full length keel/skeg and minimal deadrise in its broad rear quarter (the boat’s that is, not Stevie’s :)) (Earl said he likes to hear that kind of “nautical talk”, so have him explain that term next time you see him).

After lunch, we were more comfortable with the heat, even though the temperature was rising into the 90’s—beach breaking paid off. “Thank you Jim for that cooler of ice cold bottled water you brought”. (Every sea kayaking trip needs a canoe escort). Most of us had travel plans in different directions, so the meal was eaten on the road. Some of us headed up the coast to: camp on the beach, listen to the waves, watch the lightning show across the water in Wisconsin, and catch the star clustered night sky found only on Lake Michigan in the summer—an Indiana Tradition..

Rick Turney, Trip Sponsor

For a vicarious fun journey without leaving home, follow Jay Morrison as he paddles across Canada in his home made canoe:

<http://www.cpaws.org/canoe/map/index.php>

Please send a card or note to one of our own who is away from his family while serving our country: **1st Lt. John Gates.**

1LT John E Gates
Headquarters Platoon Co A 1
121st FA BN
APO, AE 09317



Newsletter Editor

Dwayne James is editing the HCC newsletters. Articles for the newsletter will need to be sent to him by the 15th of each month to make it into the next month's newsletter. Dwayne's E-mail address is:

kanudreams@sbcglobal.net Please mark your mailings as HCCNEWSLETTER ITEM. Dwayne can be reached at 317-834-3649 or at 317-232-9043. Please do not format your text. No colors, no graphics, no fancy indenting or lines. Times New Roman is a great font to use—please.

Items For Sale

**Any used equipment
or stuff you have
laying around you do
not need anymore?**

Post it here.



The Hoosier Paddler



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