

The *NEWSLETTER*

Volume 38, Issue 7

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July 2000

HOOSIER
CANOE
CLUB



New Indiana Boating Laws Impacts all HCC members with boats over 16' long

House Enrolled Act 1075 was signed into law by the Governor on 3/15/00. Representatives Leuck and Kruse were the authors of this legislation. The changes to Indiana Boating Laws will become effective July 1, 2000.

DNR: There is a change in the carriage requirements for Personal Floatation Devices (PFDs) or better known as life jackets on inland waters. The old law was that any US Coast Guard approved PFD was sufficient for boating. The new law requires a wearable type PFD. And, on boats over 16 feet in length, a throwable Type IV has to be carried too. This will be important to those who canoe in say, 17 foot canoes.

A "USCG Approved PFD" is a life jacket that has been approved by the US Coast Guard. A "Wearable" PFD is any Type I, II, III, or V PFD.

Reggie: The impact upon canoeists and kayakers in Indiana is that the seat cushion Type IV PFD will no longer suffice as your primary PFD. There must be a "Wearable" PFD for every person in every boat. In reality, this probably is not a bad change. The change that has the greatest impact is the requirement for every canoe or kayak over 16 feet in length to carry a Type IV throwable device such as a seat cushion or life ring. Federal law exempts human powered watercraft from the Type IV throwable requirement. Again, in reality, it probably isn't much of a burden to carry an extra seat cushion in a canoe, but it definitely is a burden to carry such devices on a sea kayak that is 22 - 24 inches wide and 13 inches deep.

Tuesday Evening Paddles July 4, 11, 18, 25 (Tues)

July 4 - NO PADDLE

July 11 Meet at 6:00 PM at 82nd Street & Fallcreek east of the bridge-immediate left (coming from West) for a paddle to 56th Street & Fallcreek (O'Malia area). Bring a sandwich. In case of rain we will reschedule. RSVP please.

July 18 Eagle Creek Marina 6:00PM Solo boat demonstration by Reggie Baker.

July 25 Eagle Creek Marina 6:00PM For free entry to Eagle Creek, tell the Eagle Creek gate personnel that you are with the Hoosier Canoe Club.

Shirley Gates
317-852-9809

...new boating laws (cont)

The Professional Paddlesports Association is already involved in this issue and they will be involving the American Canoe Association. This is already an Indiana Law so there isn't any opportunity to get it changed until the next legislative session. What I do find highly objectionable is the fact that the DNR made no attempt to involve the human powered boating community in any dialog about the Type IV throwable PFD issue.

Report from
Reggie Baker



Paddle in the Park July 22-23 (Sat-Sun) Twin Lakes Recreation Area Palatine, IL

Do you know someone who is new to the sport, would like to try different boats of various vendors, or want a mini lesson to see if the sport would appeal to them? Then Paddle in the Park is a great place to start. This ACA Midwest event is to introduce the sport to people in our division. For a small fee of \$5.00, you can test paddle as many vendor demo boats as you care to try. Also, mini (2 hr) intro classes are offered in kayaking, canoeing (solo & tandem) and sea kayaking and hopefully freestyle canoeing. The courses will be offered both days at various times, so you can take more than one at \$10.00 each for adults and \$5.00 each for children. Also, a voyager canoe will give you a guided group paddle with a feel for the fur trade era, if you have either tested boats or taken a class. If you or someone you know wants to try a different style of paddling have them e-mail donnis@iquest.net or call Donnis Kirkman at 317-773-6216. I will mail you a brochure with a map. If interested call me for a brochure or call with questions.

Donnis Kirkman
317-773-6216

NEW TRIP: Whitewater River, July 15 (Sat)

This Whitewater River trip is from just north of Nulltown to the Laurel Feeder Dam. Meet at the McDonald's at Interstate 70 and IN1 at 9:00 AM. This is a short trip on the river, and there are a lot of

attractions in the area for non-paddlers, so bring the family. Please RSVP.

Andy Ratermann
317-845-9069

Indiana Trail Advisory Board News Update

On February 21, 2000, Reggie Baker, Skipper of the HCC, was appointed by DNR Commissioner Larry Macklin, to serve a 2 year term as the Water Trails Representative on the Indiana Trails Advisory Board. This board was created to assist the Commissioner in making informed decisions on all Indiana Trails issues. Reggie replaced Chuck Weis whose term of service had expired.

Any Indiana paddlers who have thoughts or ideas on how conditions can be improved regarding water trails, put-ins, take-outs etc, please contact Reggie at: rbaker@dem.state.in.us

At the June 1, 2000, Indiana Trails Advisory Board Meeting, Reggie made a motion to the Board that a recommendation be made to Commissioner Macklin to waive the

\$3.00 per boat launch fee for all human powered watercraft. The motion was unanimously passed, paving the path for the elimination of this highly discriminatory fee.

Reggie cited the following reasons for the waiver of the fee:

1. Canoeing and kayaking are by far the lowest environmental impact user group, leaving behind only swirls in the water from the paddle stroke.
2. Canoes and kayaks require virtually no conveyances or ramps, only a small access site to the water.
3. Canoes and kayaks require no space to park trailers.
4. The \$3/boat fee is not needed for operation and maintenance of any facilities needed by canoes and kayaks.
5. All of Indiana government should be actively supporting healthy and non-polluting lifesports and not treat

canoes and kayaks the same as powered watercraft.

6. The lost boat launch fees revenues from the canoes and kayaks would be partially offset by the increased park entrance fees by paddlers who are currently choosing not to use State facilities because of the excessive fees.

7. The boat launch fee of \$3/canoe or kayak is way out of line with the \$1/horse trail fee and no charge for bicycles.

If you would like someday to pull up to the gate of an Indiana State Park and not have to pay the \$3/boat launch fee, please send a letter expressing your thoughts to:

*Larry Macklin, Commissioner
Department of Natural Resources
402 West Washington Street, C256
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2212*

Submitted by
Reggie Baker

Trip Report Coastal North Carolina Sea Kayak Trip May 13-21 (Sat-Sun)

Thirteen eager HCC paddlers converged on Swansboro, NC, on May 13 for a week of fabulous fun and frolic in the coastal waters. Each day brought new surprises under sunny skies, and each night's campfire blazed beautifully under a full moon and bright stars. The long drive (14 hours) was worth the effort as we plied our paddles toward barrier islands with miles of unspoiled white sand beaches, caught glimpses of wild horses grazing in island marsh grass, laughed as jumping fish hurled themselves at us -- one even smacking Patty in the mouth!

Cedar Point US Forest Service Campground was the HCC base of operations. Reg and Deb Baker led daily adventures for the enthusiastic group: Garry and Patty Bledsoe, Steve and Beth Wilson, the Winslow

family (Ed, Dee, Christine, and Emily), Jeff Haskett, Marvin Sharp, and Susie Evans. The first day's outing to the north end of Bear Island, intended to be an "easy warm-up cruise," turned into the most challenging and harrowing paddle of the week due to unexpected winds and strong tidal currents. We experienced first-hand why the area is named Cape Fear and is known for its many shipwrecks as "The Graveyard of the Atlantic"! First-time sea kayakers, the Wilsons and the Winslows braved the elements in fine form. In fact, throughout the week 19 year old Christine made it look way too easy as she effortlessly kept pace with Reggie (much to our beloved Skipper's chagrin)!

Highlights of the week were great paddles to Bear Island (twice), Shackleford Island, Cape Lookout lighthouse, and the Beaufort waterfront. We toured the North Carolina Maritime Museum and heard a great presentation on the

infamous pirate Blackbeard and the archeological excavation of the wreck of his flagship, the Queen Anne's Revenge. We gorged ourselves on shrimp bought at dockside for \$3.49/lb and succulently prepared in camp -- the first HCC shrimp boil!

It was a wonderful week of fun, laughter, fellowship, and great paddling thanks to the able leadership of Team Baker and the adventuresome spirits of the hearty crew!

Submitted by Patty Bledsoe
Co-sponsor



July & August Trip Schedule

| Dates | Trip | Type | Sponsor | Phone |
|---------------------|--|-------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Aug 19 (Sat) | Lake Monroe | Blue | Bret Robinson | 317-883-1056 |
| Jul 15 (Sat) | Whitewater River (Nulltown to Laurel Feeder Dam) | Flat | Andy Ratermann | 317-845-9069 |
| Jul 22 (Sat) | Triathlon (Call Fletcher for details) | Flat | Fletcher Graham | 317-257-7787 |
| Jul 22-23 (Sat-Sun) | Paddle in the Park (Palatine, IL) | Flat | Donnis Kirkman | 317-773-6216 |
| Jul 29-30 (Sat-Sun) | Indiana Paddlers' Rendezvous | Flat | Garry Hill | 765-628-3155 |
| Aug 5 (Sat) | Kids' Trip - Eel River by Ben & Bradley | Flat | Dan Valleskey | 317-257-9837 |
| Aug 15 (Tue) | Full Moon Paddle | Flat | Tues Nite Sponsors | |
| Aug 17 (Thu) | Open Water Swim | Flat | Fletcher Graham | 317-257-7787 |
| Jul 15-16 (Sat-Sun) | Lower Youghiogheny (PA) Class II, III | White | Dave Kimmey | 219-482-8521 |
| Aug 5-7 (Sat-Mon) | Upper Youghiogheny (MD) Class V | White | Jordan Ross | 317-293-3949 |
| Aug 19-20 (Sat-Sun) | East Race Last Weekend also camping @ Potato Creek State Park | White | Lori Gates | 317-293-3383 |
| Aug 25-27 (Fri-Sun) | Women's Easy Whitewater Trip Class II, III | White | Joan Perry Mary Anne Crismore | 317-849-4609 317-329-4729 |

RSVPs are generally expected. All paddlesports entail risk. Your choosing to paddle on any of these trips is a sign of your acceptance of those risks. After all trips, the sponsor must mail legal release forms to HCC Yeoman Shirley Gates.

Membership List Information - Changes Since 5/20/2000

| Name | Mailing Address | HPhone | WPhone | email |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Barrett, Bill | 5031 Arabian Run, Indianapolis, IN 46228 | 317-388-8783 | 317-278-3494 | awmbaret@aol.com |
| Carlaccini, Jim | 4615 Cameron Ridge Pl Apt 123, Indianapolis, IN 46240 | 317-407-5584 cell 317-566-9869 | 513-891-2338 x337 | jim_carlaccini@ibi.com |
| Crismore, Mary Anne | 5166 Winterberry Circle - A, Indianapolis, IN 46254 | 317-329-4729 | 317-887-9220 | macrismore@mindspring.com |
| Evans, Chuck | 3860 N 950 E, Brownsburg, IN 46112 | 317-852-0338 | 317-635-9606 | evansc1@earthlink.net |
| Hale, John C | 9855 Crosspoint Blvd, Indianapolis, IN 46256 | 317-577-5884 | 317-845-9242 x243 | halejc@ori.net |
| Hess, Rod & Sherry | 14252 11th Rd, Plymouth, IN 46563 | 219-936-4490 | 219-784-8900 | |
| Higgins, Harlan L | 608 C Lions Head Ln, Indianapolis, IN 46260 | 317-257-5543 | 317-580-4009 | repete36@earthlink.net |
| Holtzman, Stacy & F L Sylvester | 3 Duxbury Dr, Bloomington, IN 47408 | 812-876-8121 | 812-855-7674 | sholtzma@bio.indiana.edu |
| Jones, Bob | 511 E 114th St, Carmel, IN 46032 | 317-843-9262 | 317-843-5414 | rpj@javadba.net |
| Leipus, Erica | 8491-B Whippoorwill Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46256 | 317-596-9002 | 317-822-8701 | eureggie2@aol.com |
| McBroome, Leonard | 1921 Steven Ave #290, Bedford, IN 47421 | 812-278-8369 | 812-854-5281 | lm1413@kiva.net |
| Moore, Justin | 546 Roxbury Ln, Noblesville, IN 46060 | 317-877-2142 | | moorej@gte.net |
| Neel, Dave & Nancy | 980 Williamsburg Ln, Zionsville, IN 46077 | 317-733-0035 | 317-276-1572 | neel_david_a@lilly.com |
| Ripper, Nancy | 11 N LaVista, Battle Creek, MI 49015 | 616-963-2454 | | rippem@kelloggcc.mi.us |
| Smith, Joe | 8305 Rumford Rd, Indianapolis, IN 46219 | 317-897-2281 | | josephsmith@iquest.net |
| Stephenson, Marijean | 6595 Hancock Ridge Rd, Martinsville, IN 46151 | 765-537-0537 | 765-651-6210 pager | marijeanst@aol.com |
| Swingley, David A | RR # 1 Box 139, Carbon, IN 47837 | 765-548-2671 | | dswing@prodigy.net |
| Vecsey, Don | 163 Gettysburg, Coatesville, IN 46121 | 765-386-7542 | | |
| White, Chebon | 702 W Main St, Thorntown, IN 46071 | 765-436-7498 | 765-483-0052 | |
| Wilson, Monty | 1039 Rosner Dr, Speedway, IN 46224 | 317-241-5877 | | montyjoe@msn.com |



Bright skies match bright smiles for the HCC paddlers in North Carolina. Paddlers left to right are Christine, Emily, Dee and Ed Winslow, Jeff Haskett, Beth Rubin-Wilson, Steve Wilson, Susie Evans, Debby Baker, Gary and Patty Bledsoe, Reggie Baker, and Marvin Sharp (not pictured). The beautiful handcrafted boats were made by Ed and daughter Emily from Pygmy kits.

Dave Ellis Reports

Free at last, I'm free at last. My left arm long cast, Is a thing of the past.

Now, if I can just get it working again.

Also, my thanks to the club for the yellow mums which Dwon and Joy Miller brought to the funeral home. I'll plant them in my yard and remember him. -Dave-

Trip Report Pigeon/Fawn Rivers June 10-11 (Sat-Sun)

Participants included---Sat: Jose' Joven, Joe Smith; Sat & Sun: Jack & Charlene Binion, Bill Reed, Lori Gates & Bradley and Dick Fetty; Sun: David & Cindy Reed, Dennis Northrop, Pat Dilts, Dan & Ben Valleskey & Dan's Dad.

Saturday we paddled Pigeon River above the campground. We picked up a couple of extra paddlers on the shuttle that were lost Prairie State Paddlers. We had beautiful weather and spent a warm day mostly in the shade. We wound and twisted our way around all day. We had a few obstacles to overcome, but this just added to the fun. The canoe livery people provided entertainment all day. At lunch time we hooked up with the Prairie State Paddlers based out of Chicago.

Saturday night several of us made a trip to Topeka for a buffet dinner prepared mostly by Amish. Everyone watched their step out in the parking lot around the horse and buggies.

Sunday we paddled the Fawn River from Greenfield Mills to the town of Fawn River. We started kind of slow and Dan Valleskey had an unhappy

camper in Ben. We encountered several downfalls on the first stretch of the trip. We got lucky at lunch and found an excellent spot with tables and all. We had to portage one set of culvert pipe and were able to run another set. We had a great day and somehow missed any rain.

Dick Fetty
Trip Sponsor

Trip Report Fall Creek Cleanup June 3 (Sat)

Four C-2's (Dick Fetty, Fletcher, Graham, Gordon Lepley, Earl King) along with Jon, Tim, and Jay Reeves filled all crafts to the gunnels and covered the section from 79th to just past I465, about 4 1/2 miles of water. With good weather and fellowship we cut through four log jams along the way, an accomplishment for a small crew.

Submitted by Earl King
Trip Sponsor

Cheers to our Cheer Person

Best wishes and a speedy recovery to Joy Miller, our HCC Cheers Chairman, who recently had knee surgery. Dwon reports that Joy is doing well.

Lower Youghiogeny Class II, III July 15-16 (Sat-Sun)

Register early....the river has a \$2 or \$3 permit fee to limit access.

Jul 15 (Sat) will be the Loop and Low Yough...bring a lunch. July 16 (Sun) will be the Loop and off the river by noon. Camping is being planned at Riversport. There is a loud train every couple hours that goes by. Light sleepers be prepared.

Please have air bags in your kayak. ..stern a mustbow a plus.

Focus will be skill building on eddy hopping for boat control while running rivers with a lot of play practice.

PREREQUISITE: I will be pushing everyone's skills on the Loop section in a fun way. If you can not make 1/2 of your combat kayak rolls, I will ask that you please take off the river at railroad rapid. It's only a short walk back to the car from there. The river steps up in difficulty after railroad rapid and I would not want anyone to get hurt. So no hard feelings, there is always next year if you play it safe and have fun. To get your permit in time call

David Kimmey
219-482-8521
dkimmey@us.ebsworld.com

Trip Report - East Race River Rescue & Paddle Workshop - May 20-21 (Sat-Sun)

Once again the workshop drew an enthusiastic turnout. Participants were Jordan Ross, Mark Banjak, Callan Hale, Charlotte Jones, Michael Alsin, Jack Mittenbuler, Larry Alsop, Don Clark, Dan Clark, Joe Smith, Mark Bickel, Terry Kinsvatter, Rod Hess, Jane Robinson, Harly Meister, Nancy Ripper, Kim & Chris Mast, Chebon White, Stephanie Haines, Chris Burkhart, Ryan Tragesser, Chuck Evans and Earl King.

Cold temperatures (upper 40°'s Saturday morning) threatened to curtail activities in the water, but the undaunted Hoosiers were soon in the water wading, swimming, tossing their throwbags and plucking "victims" out of the course. There was the inevitable "throwrope macrame" here and there, but every one was having fun and gaining valuable practice time.

Later, with the experienced help of Don Clark, we practiced the use of advanced rope techniques with a rescue harness. Sunday morning the safety activities included a strainer simulation and for fun and experience we set up several zip lines.

In the afternoons we practiced paddle skills. The newest boaters worked on their basic peel-outs, S-turns, ferries and rolls. The advanced paddlers explored the more playful aspects of their boats. We also set up one of the head gates to create a gentle hole to teach side-surfing. Jack Mittenbuler and I stood close by on the gate to coach the surfer. At our direction Chuck Evans operated the gate to gradually increase or decrease the size of the hole. The system worked great. It was a learning experience for me, too, as I realized that while the new surfers could quickly learn to balance themselves they lacked the aggressive sculling strokes needed to move laterally and exit the hole. Getting out of holes is a valuable self-rescue skill for river running, so in the future we'll practice aggressive sculling prior to this exercise. The Club is indeed fortunate to have the use of the East Race for these workshops. For those who missed it, we will return to the East Race for a Fall Rescue and Paddle Skills Workshop September 23-24. Hope to see you there. Jordan Ross, Trip Sponsor.

Trip Report Pine and Manistee June 3-8 (Sat-Thu)

Good weather, good water, good camping, and good company...the only thing missing was a good turnout. Only five people showed up for this trip. The rest of you missed a good time. In attendance were members Joe Smith, Jose Joven, Jeff Matthews, and myself, along with guest Mick Wood from the Detroit area. Jeff Matthews was only able to paddle Sunday. The rest of us made it an extended trip and paddled a total of 70 miles on the Pine and Manistee rivers.



Sunday, June 4th we paddled the Pine River from Lincoln Access to Peterson Bridge. The river level was up and a little clouded from recent rains. We had one logjam to portage around, but the rest of the river was open. The river through this section is 30-50 ft wide and has very tight turns with moderately fast current. Jeff Matthews had to leave the group after this run, but joined us later at camp and helped with Monday's shuttle.

Monday we ran the Pine from Dobson Bridge to Low Bridge. Lots of riffles and Class I-II water through this section. One new Class I riffle has appeared near the end of the run due to the ongoing removal of Stronach Dam. When complete this will add about 15 feet of gradient to the lower river. The dam is about half way removed, and is due to be completely gone by 2003. Everyone enjoyed the challenge of this section, which is also the most

remote and least developed section of the river. Several miles of nice standing waves and tight bends made for lively paddling.



Tuesday we floated the "Between the Lakes" section of the Manistee River. This is a scenic 10-mile run between Hodynple Dam and Tippy Pond, located within the Manistee National Forest. None of us had paddled here before. The water is easy Class I and very clear. We caught rainbow, brown, and brook trout, perch and smallmouth bass. There are numerous springs feeding the river and some waterfalls up to eight feet high. The North Country National Scenic Trail and the Manistee River Trail each parallel the river.

Wednesday through Thursday was an overnight trip on the Manistee River from Smithville to US 131. The river was slow to moderate moving flatwater and was another new float for all of us. Camping was streamside primitive with all of the gear carried in the boats. We were awakened twice Wednesday night by snorting from a herd of deer crossing the river. They passed right by our campsite. The sound was a little unnerving until we realized what it was. Early Thursday morning we met a canoeist traveling solo from Lake Huron to Lake Michigan by way of the Au Sable and Manistee rivers. This is about 300 miles of paddling, almost half of it upriver on the Au Sable. We were impressed. Jose & Mick decided to camp an extra night on the Manistee and made a three day trip out of this section.

The list of critters seen on the trip

HCC NEWSLETTER JULY 2000 - Insert

consisted of many deer, including newborn fawns still with spots, bald eagles, blue heron, wood ducks, mergansers, wood turtles, muskrat, mink, beaver and a hummingbird. One mother duck had eleven ducklings. We were lead down the river more than once by a mother duck with a 'broken wing' trying to protect her offspring. Several times we heard the drumming of ruffed grouse back in the woods. It's a sound you feel as much as hear. I love the northwoods in the spring. The place just teems with brand new life.



I wish more of you could have enjoyed this trip with us. I've made some new friends with whom I hope to share many more paddling adventures. After the trip Jose sent me an email. In it he wrote the following:

The Pine runs swiftly through north woods.

*Water building...tumbling waves.
Deer gaze anxiously at my passing.
Cross draw the canoe into an eddy
While the river hurries around the bend.*

I'd say that just about says it all. Everyone said they will do the trip again next year. Maybe you can come too.

Submitted by Jeff Kuhn
Trip Sponsor

Trip Report Whitewater River May 6 (Sat)

During the planning session for trips last January we had a vision of a May trip consisting of paddling with good friends, in great weather, on a mighty fine river, and later eat at a classy restaurant. All of this proved to be true. Joining the sponsors were Bill, David and Cindy Reed, Andrew Ratermann, Joe Smith, Charlene and Jack Binion, Joe Koenig, Gordon Lepley, Sara and Annie-Dog Hare, Dan Clark, Ken and Rhonda Wright, and Jeff Matthews.

The first half mile section contained a few scratchy chutes and a log cluster that required an easy portage. With the confluence of the Green Fork River the volume doubled, and there was ample clear water for the rest of the trip. Gravel and sand bars were plentiful and there were no problems finding one for lunch and rest stops. On the down side some people along the river have replaced trees with concrete slabs, old cars, and other junk as erosion correcting devices. It was a good idea to have tunnel vision paddling through these areas.

Animals observed were turtles and fish, blue herons, and several geese - one nesting on a log in the middle of the river. Three Baltimore Orioles flew over the river and through the trees for a special treat.

Unfortunately the sponsors missed one of the better events. It seems as though Sara and Annie-Dog had a dispute as to their positions in the kayak. Annie won and solo surfed the wave. As witnesses Andy, Dan and the two Joes can better enhance the incident. For starters Joe Koenig named this section *Dog Leg Left Riffle*.

There were some distant boomers by mid afternoon. The storm didn't materialize, but we did have a light rain. Besides cooling us off a bit, the shower cleansed our bodies for an evening of dining.

After a day on the river several of the group traveled to Hagerstown to dine at Welivers. Mary Anne Crismore and Dave Ellis met us there. It was amazing just to sit back and observe the appetites of HCC members. Joe Smith developed a form of lockjaw after barely escaping entrapment his third time at the hot bar. Dave Ellis got stuck in a dessert hydraulic searching for his lost metabolism. Mary Anne, Rhonda and Sara scouted all of the food bars and portaged none. There were no sneak routes for David and Cindy Reed as they cruised for food. Joan carried on in the tradition of her grandson's version of the Basic Four - one of each item as she surfed the dessert bar. Ken and Joe Koenig eddy-hopped the whole area thoroughly sampling every food item. Meanwhile Bill Reed got sucked into a shrimp laced chocolate hole.

Happy Eating and Paddling
Joan and Dale Perry
Trip Sponsors



2000 Budget Approved

The following yearly budget was approved by the Executive Board at the 6/12/2000 meeting.

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Newsletter | \$2200. |
| Training | 100 |
| Bank Fees | 20 |
| Incorporation Fee | 10 |
| Misc Expenses | 25 |
| Purser | 20 |
| Awards | 200 |
| Publicity | 250 |
| Membership | 200 |
| AWA | 50 |
| Social | 350 |
| Cheer | 50 |
| Total | <u>\$3475</u> |

Yearly income is projected to be approximately \$4500.

Submitted by Dan Clark, Purser

Trip Report Blue River May 13-14 (Sat-Sun)

The Hoosiers found their way again to enjoy the only scenic river of Indiana. The Blue River is a deep cut river into the Mississippian limestone starting in Washington County and ending at the Ohio River at Leavenworth.



Milltown Dam

The Saturday trip started below the dam at Milltown to the Rothrock Mill (mill not there now), a 13-14 mile trip. On Sunday we started at the Rothrock to proceed down to the Stagestop takeout and campground. The whole river is a meandering stream, filled with lots of rocks and ripples. The gradient is reported to be approximately 14 feet per mile. There are two broken out dams in this stretch of the river.

Those joining me for Saturday were Jack & Charlene Binion, Nancy & Mike Ranstead, Jose & Fe Joven, Wayne Jones, Doug Moran & Kyle Moran & friend Nick, Shirley Gates, Joe Smith, Julie Ramey, Janet Eger, Bonni Browning, Linda & Roger Ritchie and Donna & Fred Sanders. Sunday paddlers were Ginny Baker, Roger & Linda Ritchie, and Shirley Gates.

Camping was at the Stagestop Campground. Everyone had a good time. The weather was great. The water was down, but adequate.

Submitted by Shirley Gates
Trip Sponsor



The Fletcher Graham Personal Edition Insert

Trip Report

Memorial Day 2000

An Unexpected Surprise x 2 on Memorial Day I had the opportunity to do a solo float on Eagle Creek above the reservoir - something I had wanted to do for a long time. One of my much earlier descents of this stream was doing a New Year's Day float trip and I must tell you there was more wild life visible on this Memorial Day.

I put on this stream at the O'Neil Road bridge - north of Zionsville, and suspect that I might have been able to go even further north to the Michigan Road (US421) bridge, especially given the rain which had occurred just a day or two earlier. Other potential access points are the dead end loop of Turkey

Foot Road north of the Zionsville Golf Course or the bank of the creek at the Lions Park on 334 in Zionsville. I took out above the Lafayette Road bridge on the upper reaches of the reservoir.

The First Unexpected surprise - the still seemingly remote feeling you have been on this stream, even though close to housing development and other signs of civilization. I spotted some blue herons flying away and the stream was quite clean for being so close to so many people. It was relatively easy to shuttle and get onto this stream for this pleasant and relaxing paddle. It truly is a hidden treasure and little used gem of a stream. Truly an unexpected surprise.

The Second Unexpected Surprise - during the course of this float, of

course one or two logs obstructed the way a little (could use a little saw work) but, a massive log jam, the type it takes Cat D-6's and dynamite to clear (or perhaps many, many chain saws) was encountered behind the Jones Locker Plant in Zionsville. My canoe was 6 feet above the water suspended between 2 large trees across the creek before sliding the canoe over another tree on the way to getting the canoe back onto the water. Perhaps the HCC would like to consider a meeting of the Chain Saw Gang to clear this one out. Just a thought. At any rate, a second unexpected surprise.

An unexpected surprise on a stream which turned out to be a real gem and treasure as an unexpected surprise.

Trip Report

Shelbyville Triathlon Fundraiser

June 4 (Sun)

I want to express my appreciation and thanks to those of you who came and floated as safety boats for this Triathlon. Tuxeudo Brothers Event Management began organizing this event series - and I received a call for help after the June newsletter deadline. I called some of you and recruited several others at the Fall Creek Cleanup. We had the opportunity to float around the small lake at the Fairland Recreation Center and inspect a water ski training course close up - including the ski jump and the straight-line course.

The eyes and craft for this event were Chris and Brett Robinson, Dan Valleskey & Ben, Dick Fetty, Gordon Lepley, and the guy who got the phone call, Fletcher Graham. We could have used 1 to 3 additional boats for this course. Maybe next time. At any rate the HCC is \$125 richer.

Trip Report

Long Distance Swim Fundraiser

June 17 (Sat)

Boats and eyes were present for this swimming event where 5 waves of swimmers started at the Marina and swam 1600 meters to the Swimming Beach and Rowing Course Finish Line. This meant there were swimmers spread out all over this course which is more than 1 mile in length. We had 16 craft with viewing eyes to make sure no swimmer got left in the lake. And we were successful! All finished and we were off the water at about 10:30 -10:45 AM to adjourn to the Sunshine Café to frustrate, overload and confuse the poor overworked waitress.

Members and friends/guests who helped in this effort were Lindy McBroome, Garry Bledsoe, Earl King, Andy Ratermann, Karen Koutsky, Bruce Herold, Dwon Miller, Lori Gates, Jose Joven, Gordon Lepley, Dave Brown, Cathy and Dan Cunningham, Terry Haughton, Traci Haughton, Michael Wine, Chris and Brett Robinson, and your organizer, Fletcher Graham. Thanks to all of you who responded and helped with this effort. The HCC is also \$250 richer for our efforts.

WANTED: desperately - A set of tower type gutterless racks and bars to fit a '91 Ford Taurus. I'm not fussy about brand - just something that will fit and work. Please call Fletcher Graham at 317-257-7787 if you have racks that you don't use anymore.

**Another Triathlon
Another Fundraiser
July 9 (Sun)**

Tuxeudo Brothers Event Management took over the management of the Shelbyville Triathlon series - and they know how to find the Hoosier Canoe Club - and they know it will cost them money.

So, I'm looking for about 6 - 8 craft with eyes to help with the 2nd of 3 Triathlons in the Shelbyville series on Sunday, July 9.

This Triathlon is held at the Fairland Recreation Center in the southeast corner of the I74 and Fairland Rd in Shelby County. This is between I465 in Indy and IN9 at Shelbyville.

Please plan to arrive by 7:45 AM to launch your canoe, check in, get a shirt, and receive deployment instructions. To launch and park go to the east side of the main recreation building, close to the high dive stand (which you can see) and

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JULY 2000**

drive into the area where it says "Official Vehicles Only Beyond This Point". You are now an "Official Vehicle" and you can drop your craft at the boat ramp close to the main building and then park behind the camper vehicles which are there. After we finish this gig we are done and can leave usually by 9:30AM if we've received the "ALL CLEAR" from the Waterfront Director.

So, I'm looking for just a few good sets of eyes up to the needed number. The club treasury will also appreciate your efforts too (for all the reasons noted in the 'other' Triathlon article).

Please call Fletcher Graham at 317-257-7787 by Saturday evening July 8th and include t-shirt sizes of all who will be going out on the water. Thanks in advance for your support and assistance.



**July Triathlon Fundraiser
July 22 (Sat)
Eagle Creek Park**

The second of three Triathlons at Eagle Creek will be Saturday, July 22nd. The Triathlon organizers have asked us to be present to provide on-water observation and assistance and the canoe club will receive at least \$250. So, paddlers, I need your eyes in a craft on this date, at this time, and this place.

Poolies - you qualify too, because your eyes work just as well as those in canoes. The club uses the money to guarantee the pool usage fees if needed. Keep dues where they have been for awhile as postage costs for the newsletter keep going up and provide support for our club's instructional program.

So, please come and help us earn these bucks as well as provide the requisite observation for the Triathlon athletes.

There should be t-shirts for all who are on the water, so give me your t-shirt sizes for everyone who qualifies.

To get the t-shirt I need to hear from you by Thursday evening, July 20th. The race will go in all kinds of weather except lightning - and a brief pause usually gets a storm system like that out of the area. If you can't decide by Thursday evening, please come anyhow - there won't be a t-shirt for you, but we still need your eyes.

Plan on arriving in the park office parking area about 6:45 AM. Please paddle over to the swimming beach (50 yards from the launch area) to be there by 7:00 AM for deployment instructions. The park office parking area is the next drive west - past the 56th street entrance to the park - across from Dandy Trail - just before you cross the lake causeway and caddy-corner from the Water Treatment Plant.

We will perform our activity and then

wait for the "ALL CLEAR" to be released. This usually occurs by 9:00AM after which we adjourn to a nearby restaurant in an attempt to overload and confuse overworked waitresses.

So, please volunteer your eyes and your craft by calling Fletcher Graham at 317-257-7787 by Thursday, July 20th, with t-shirt sizes required. The club treasury will enjoy it too. Thanks for your help and support.

