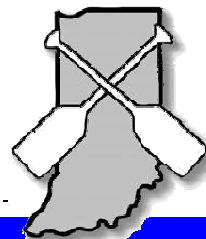


The Hoosier Paddler

Volume 47, Issue 8

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

September 2009



Second Annual Pirate Paddle and Party Theresa Kulczak

Aye me hearties, we be callin all river pirates past and present, lassies and scoundrels, as well as you land lubbers! Yes, the pirates will be gatherin' for the Second Annual Pirate Flotilla on the great White River on Saturday, October 3rd, followed by the Pirate Party at Northern Beach. It's time to throw out the net once again and gather all paddlers, friends and blood relations! Thanks to the support of so many HCC members, last year's inaugural flotilla and party was a wonderful success and we appreciated the many enthusiastic messages we've received throughout the year. This year, we hope to gather an even larger group of paddlers from far and wide!

Pirate Flotilla on White River

Flotilla Location: Forest Park Public Access Site in Noblesville to the Mitchener Creek Takeout at Northern Beach, 116th Street, Carmel.

The day will begin with a paddle trip on the White River. Paddlers are encouraged to wear pirate-like clothing and to decorate their boats. The pirate flotilla is a memorable sight as boats carry Jolly Roger flags, parrots, and other pirate rigging.

The meeting time is 12:30 at the put-in at the Forest Park Public Access Site on SR 19 (Cicero Road) in Noblesville. The take out will be approximately 10.7 miles downstream just south of the 116th Street Bridge, at the confluence of White River and Mitchener Creek on the backside of Northern Beach property behind Shelter #1 where the Pirate Party will be held.

Rentals of kayaks and canoes will be available thanks to our good maties at the White River Canoe Company. The WRCC is located on the river just south of our put-in at the Forest Park on SR 19. Call WRCC directly (317) 776-0129 by Wednesday, September 30, to reserve your boats and be sure to refer to the "Hoosier Canoe Club Pirate Paddle." By the way, WRCC has promised that no leaky boats will go out this year! The guy who let them out last year had to walk the plank! Renters must arrive 45 minutes early (11:45) in order to process rental paperwork and be ready to launch with the main Pirate Flotilla.

Note that the air and water temperatures may be cold and cold-weather paddling preparation is recommended.

Pirate Party at Northern Beach, 116th and Hazel Dell Pkwy

The Pirate Party will begin at 6:30 p.m. at Northern Beach, 5801 E. 116th Street, Carmel. ***It's not necessary to paddle during the day to attend the party, which will be held rain or shine, so feel free to encourage your non-paddling friends to attend!*** This year's party will feature your favorite classic rock and dance tunes from the 60's and 70's, performed by one of Indy's best party bands, RetroActive. Check out their great play list at www.retroactiveband.net. And our HCC's own Orange Crush has promised to light up the dance floor so we know it will be a fun evening!

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

The admission price per person is \$20 for the Dinner, Band and Pirate Brew (beer and wine), and \$15 for the Dinner and Band Only Option (no alcohol). No outside food or beverages are allowed. We have to guarantee payment for the meals in advance and therefore **reservations are required by Wednesday, October 1st.** We know paddlers don't like to plan early, but hey, please make your reservation now!

The HCC pirates be grateful that other paddling clubs and river organizations will encourage their fine crew and members to gather with us. Pirate event flyers will be available at Extreme Outfitters, Nurpu, Rusted Moon, White River Canoe Company, and Eagle Creek Kayaks.

We hope you'll spread the word as 'twere gold in it fer ye!

HCC Volunteers

Volunteers are needed to help with the following tasks:

- Traffic directors at Forest Park Put-In, Noblesville and at Northern Beach
- Lots of shuttle vehicles!
- HCC waiver signer gatherers at Put-In
- Safety boaters on the river
- Registration volunteers at party
- Volunteers at the beer kegs
- Décor crew



Part of 2008 Pirate Flotilla

Contact Information

To volunteer or to make reservations, please contact any of the following:

The Black Toad (Theresa)	theblacktoad@lightbound.com	(317) 570-0506
Dread Diabolo Foxx (Sue)	sufoxx713@aol.com	(317) 543-0222
Stinkin' John Sparrow (Dan)	danpaddles@gmail.com	(317) 257-9837

For detailed information and directions, visit the Hoosier Canoe Club website at www.hoosiercanoeclub.org.

Got Trash? Eagle Creek Clean Up

Kellie Kaneshiro

I'd like to plan an Eagle Creek shoreline clean-up later in the fall when the water levels get lower. Let me know if you're interested in helping me plan this event. If you do your own Eagle Creek Park clean-up, please let me know how much time you spend doing it so I can add it to my report to the Park Manager. If you need trash bags, I have lots of them!

As a trash collection incentive, there will be fun prizes for the following categories of trash: grossest, most useful (but then is it really trash?), most inventive/efficient method for hauling or collecting trash. Rules: I don't need to actually see the trash, I will take your word for it (though HCC witnesses and a digital photo wouldn't hurt). Please dispose of really gross trash as quickly as possible.

Questions? Contact Kellie at conserv (and add the following: @hoosiercanoeclub.org)

Raccoon Creek Cleanup—September 12-13, 2009

We will have a clean up on Raccoon Creek on September 12th and 13th. We already have some volunteers lined up but we could use a few more people on one or both days to help get Raccoon Creek ready for the Covered Bridge Festival trip in October. If you are interested in helping, contact Dwayne James for details at kanudreams@sbcglobal.net or (317) 834-3649.



Hello HCC! Volunteers needed September 26, 27

Dan Valleskey

Our own DNR is promoting a new event in our area. The Hoosier Outdoor Experience will be at Ft. Harrison September 25th, 26th, and 27th. Friday is given over to Third Graders, they will be bussing in kids from all over. However, Saturday and Sunday sessions are targeted at families in Central Indiana.

This event is important for the HCC for several reasons. It is in our back yard. If the HCC can be said to have a home river, it is Fall Creek. The event can help to bring many people to the river, either in kayaks, canoes, or holding fishing rods. The more people visit our rivers, the easier it is to find people that care about rivers. And this event can help us to find new people to paddle with.

Our contribution to the 2-day event will consist of putting people on Fall Creek. We will run groups of 8 canoes roughly every half hour. We can spend 10 minutes talking about where to paddle, 10 minutes talking about how to paddle, and 5 minutes loading people into boats for a very short trip on Fall Creek. They will float from approximately the western edge of the park to the gravel ramp at the Boy Scout camp, a distance of less than a half mile.

We will need 2 or 3 people to take turns chatting up Indiana opportunities and touching on skills. An additional 2 people can help fit PFDs and load paddlers into the boats. And it would be great if we had some paddlers on duty in the stream. The hours are 9 am to 6 pm on both days. I propose we break our contributions into 3-hour segments. You do not have to be any sort of expert paddler, we will supply a cheat sheet for presenters. Just wear your river shoes, you may have to wade out a bit to help people. We can take turns between the various jobs, I know I will want to spend a little time on the water, as well as talking my fool head off!

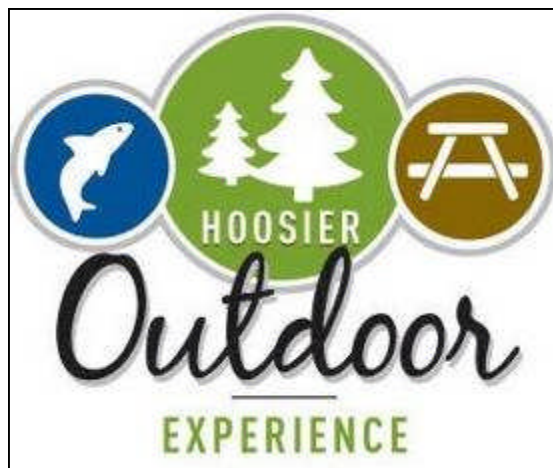
We should not have to load and unload boats from the trailers, the Boy Scouts have been tasked with that. (Whew!) There will be a shuttle bus running 16 people at a time back from the take out, once we see them landed at Camp Belzer our responsibility ends. There are other logistic challenges, but I think the DNR people we are working with will help us to keep everything working as smooth as possible. They are pumping a huge amount of effort into promotion. I think there will be a good turnout. This event gives us a great way to show off our club, and a safe easy way to let more people see what padding in Indiana is all about. I will be asking many HCC members to help. Please, head off my phone call with a call to me, 413-0324. We can use kayakers, poolies, touring boat people, or canoeists. If you have a strong preference about which job you want, whether instructing, seating guests in boats, or working on the river, let me know, we should be able to accommodate everyone. There will also be a recreational kayak event at the pond, the HCC is not committed to help with that, but I think they might be glad if we could give them a few extra experienced hands. And when you come out to help, you won't have any excuse to miss the whole event, plan a few extra hours after your time on the river banks to check out the rest of the park. You can get a preview at their page- <http://www.in.gov/dnr/5009.htm>.

Theresa and I will be working on a slate of Board members for 2010. If you want to learn more about how our club works, drop a note, or chat with us. We need some "new blood" on the board every year, or we can easily drop into a rut.

Arrrrrgh!! It looks like we will have another great Pirate Paddle this year, maties. There will be a flyer in this newsletter, put it on your refrigerator, mark your calendar, and get out to the river on October 3. This was one of the most popular events of all last year, I've heard people talk about it ever since. Don't miss it this year.

See you at the Hoosier Outdoor Experience!

Dan



Touring Trips

Patoka Lake Trip —Wickliffe, IN

Sat.-Sun., September 19-20, 2009

Trips Sponsor: Kellie Kaneshiro, Jim Sprandel

If you attended the sea kayaking clinic that Reggie and Debby held last year at Lake Patoka (or even if you did not) and want to explore this lake, this is your chance!

Lake Patoka is the second largest lake in Indiana with about 8,800 acres of water and over 160 miles of shoreline. Hoosier National Forest surrounds the lake with rolling tree-covered hills and rock outcroppings.

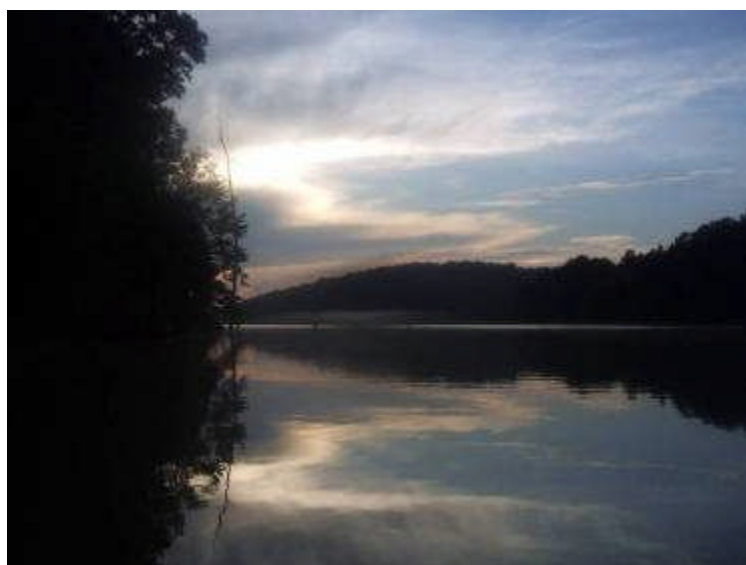
Since it takes over 3 hours to get to Patoka, we will camp overnight at Fisherman's Camp and paddle both Saturday and Sunday. This campsite is located near a limited speed section of the lake which should be kayak-friendly.

Patoka Lake Map: http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/files/patoka_trail.pdf

Fisherman's Campsite Map: http://www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/files/patoka_camp_fishermen_youth.pdf

Meeting Place/Put-In: Boat Ramp in the Fisherman's Camp at Newton-Stewart SRA. Newton-Stewart SRA is just north of Wickliffe, Indiana. There is a \$5/car fee to enter the SRA.

Directions to Meeting Place: (About 3 hours drive from the intersection of I 65 and I 465 on the south side of Indianapolis to Patoka) Drive South on I-65 and get off at Exit 6B (I-265 toward I-64/IN-62/New Albany). Take Exit 0 off of I-265 to merge onto I-64W toward IN-62/St. Louis. Go about 43 miles west on I-64 to Exit 79 and then go 7 miles North on IN-37. Turn slightly left on IN 64/IN 145. Follow IN 145 north 3.6 miles until you reach Indiana 164. Turn left (west) onto IN 164 for about 1.5 mile and then turn right (North) to enter Newton-Stewart SRA. Follow the signs in the SRA to the Fisherman's Camp and go to the Boat Ramp in that area.



Sunset on Lake Patoka

Note: This is the fastest route. There is a shorter, slower, but more scenic route through West Baden.

Camping Information: Fisherman's Camp is a primitive camp ground with water and vault toilets. One of us will get there on Friday but the ranger indicated that there are 45 sites and they probably won't be full after Labor Day. Try to get on Campsites 37-44 in Fisherman's Camp since they are nearest to the boat ramp. Each campsite costs \$8/night and the park only allows 2 tents per campsite.

What to Bring: Bring your camping gear including food (Saturday lunch, Saturday dinner, Sunday breakfast and any snacks you might need) and paddling gear. Be sure to bring your spray skirt since there may be some waves when the wind picks up.

Schedule: Saturday 10:30 am Arrive at Meeting Place. Unload boats and claim camp sites.
11:15 am Start Paddling

Sunday We will paddle 3-4 hours Sunday Morning and then head back to Indianapolis.

Contact information: Contact Kellie or Jim by 9:00 pm on **Thursday, September 17:**

Kellie Kaneshiro (317) 844-3650

E-Mail knkane@gmail.com

Jim Sprandel (317) 257-2063

E-Mail merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net



Whitewater Trips

Beaver River in New York (IV-V)

Trip Sponsor: Randy Parker

Sat.-Mon, September 5-7, 2009

There are three sections of the Beaver that will be run Labor Day weekend.

On Saturday Sept.5th, the Orion Power company will release water on the Taylorsville section of the Beaver. This section is 1.5 miles long and has six class 3-4 drops with one steep 30 foot slide called the Great White Slide. All the rapids are pretty straight forward and lots of fun. The water will be releasing from 10-2 local time. Last year, we made 2-3 trips down without having to run a shuttle each time; because you actually hike back on top of a huge water pipe back to the put-in, it was the coolest thing!!

On Sunday, we will start by doing the Moshier section of the Beaver. This is a 4 mile run that includes 2 runnable waterfalls, a number of easy class 3 rapids and concludes with a long, technical class 4-5 rapid composed of 4 discernable drops with the last drop being Moshier Falls. The Moshier Falls section will be releasing from 10-2 local time. After running this section, we then will head over to the Eagle Section of the Beaver.

The Eagle is short and demanding. Only a mile in length, the run starts off with 4 class 5 drops where the river drops the equivalent of 475 fpm. With one rapid being a really cool looking rapid, a huge slide for about 20-25 feet and wide enough for a kayak only called Eagle Falls. This section will be releasing from 1-5 local time

On Monday, they open the Taylorsville section again from 10-2 and with 1 quick run we pack it up and leave since for most its 10-12 hours of driving.

Camping will be at Camp O at 9340 Long Pond Road, Croghan, N.Y., 13327. Camping was \$25 per person for the whole weekend. There are hot showers and bathrooms available at the entrance. Last year, there were signs up for us to follow once we got to the campground taking a dirt road to the middle of nowhere, but actually ended up camping at a beautiful lake.

Contact Information: Watch the Whitewater Forum on the Bulletin Board or contact me at randall.parker@pepsiamericas.com



Orange Crush going over the first waterfall of the Moshier section of the Beaver

Gauley First Release, Upper/Lower Gauley (Class IV-V)

Trip Sponsor: Jordan Ross

Sat.-Sun, September 12-13, 2009

Each fall, when the US Army Corps of Engineers starts releasing water from Summersville Dam into the Gauley River, West Virginia becomes America's undisputed whitewater paddling destination. "Gauley Season" begins the Friday after Labor Day and runs for 6 weekends (2009 dates: Sept 12-13, 19-20, 26-27, Oct 3-4, 10-11, 17-18). This year, the last Saturday of Gauley release is also Bridge Day weekend at the nearby New River Gorge.



The HCC will kick off Gauley Season the weekend of the first release. We will camp together but, depending on who goes, will probably divide into separate groups to run the Lower (Class III-IV) and Upper (Class IV-V) sections of the Gauley River both Saturday and Sunday.

As described by American Whitewater (AW), the 11-mile Lower Gauley run is "big water" and "tons of fun." The Lower provides a real challenge for intermediate whitewater paddlers and remains a favorite scenic and playful run for seasoned boaters.

The Upper Gauley is a 10-mile expert run with world-famous rapids that, AW cautions, "are big, steep, demanding, and can have a serious bite for the paddler in the wrong place." Bomb-proof bracing and rolling on both sides, along with big water skills and precise maneuvering, are required to have reasonable assurance of a safe and enjoyable run on the Upper Gauley.

Friday night, we will camp at Swiss, the Lower Gauley take out. The privately owned field at Swiss has primitive camping (port-a-pot only) and no running water so bring your own. They only charge a few bucks per vehicle to park or camp. Bring small bills. Those who prefer to stay elsewhere should plan to arrive at Swiss by 9:00 a.m. to meet the group.

To save time and reduce shuttle woes, we may pay for a commercial shuttle so bring cash (\$10 should do it) just in case. There are no breakfast places, gas stations, or convenience stores near the Swiss takeout or Lower Gauley put-in, so bring your own breakfast stuff for Saturday morning, as well as drinks, lunch or snacks for the river trip.

I like to run a "Gauley Marathon" (Upper, Middle & Lower - 26 miles) on Saturday if I can find anyone sturdy enough to try it with me. Let me know if you want to give it a go. I could also use an experienced Gauley paddler to lead on the Lower one or both days.

We'll likely have dinner in Summersville Saturday evening and, depending on the group, return to Swiss for camping. That will reduce shuttling time Sunday morning for Lower Gauley paddlers. Remember to bring breakfast and lunch grub to Swiss.

Directions to Swiss (Lower Gauley Take Out): From US 60 at Gauley Bridge, WV, take Rt. 16 towards Belva. At Belva, take Rt. 39 towards Summersville which follows the railroad and the Gauley River on your right. It's about ten miles from Gauley Bridge to Swiss. At Swiss (unincorporated), Rt. 39 turns left sharply and leaves the river. Don't follow the main road to the left; instead continue straight, down onto a narrow two-lane road. Pass a white church on the left, go over a hill past some houses and the road will become gravel. You'll be following alongside the railroad tracks. Go several hundred yards until the first right turn you can make across the railroad tracks (you might scrape a bit). After you cross the tracks, drive down into a grassy field. This is the Swiss takeout. Park/camp along the trees by the railroad embankment or at the back of the field.

Contact Information: Check the Whitewater Forum on the HCC Bulletin Board the week before the trip for more information. Please post there or let me know by email/phone if you're thinking of coming.

Jordan Ross, Phone: 317-460-7000, E-mail: jross@iquest.net (please put the word "kayak" in the subject line)

Upper/Lower Gauley (Class IV-V) – Gauley Fest!
Trip Sponsor: Suzi Rapp

Fri.-Sun, September 18–20, 2009

In case you didn't know, Gauley Fest is the paddling world's biggest party. Started in 1983 to celebrate the victory against a hydro-electric project that would have disrupted whitewater flows on the Gauley River, Gauley Fest has grown over the past 26 years to become the largest river festival in the world. The 3-day festival — which features live entertainment (including the HCC's own Bob Heckler at the campsite Friday and Saturday night) and a large vendor marketplace where you can pick up great deals on paddling and outdoor gear — is also the biggest fundraising event for American Whitewater's national



river stewardship work. And it's a great opportunity to paddle some of the biggest and best whitewater east of the Rocky Mountains.

For those of you who have been wanted to try out riverboards, a local outfitter will be offering riverboarding demos to the public on Saturday, September 20th during the Gauley Fest celebration. The demos will be offered at Fayette Station on the New River and will last from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm. Participants should bring swim attire, a towel, and a water bottle. Minimum age is 12, and if a participant is very thin or has a small head, please bring own PFD and helmet to make sure to have one that will fit. Reservations are not required but be prepared to wait during peak hours.

For more information on riverboard demos contact:

Kevin Yount

Appalachian Riverboarding: owner and guide

Face Level Industries: team rider and east coast rep.

828 514 2374 or

kevinyount@facelevel.com

www.KevinYount.com/appalachianriverboarding.html

No details have been set into place at this time for meeting times and locations for shuttles for the Upper and Lower groups. Please check the Whitewater Forum on the Bulletin Board as the date approaches for more details.

The Fest will be held again this year at Nicholas County Veterans Memorial Park on US-19 in Summersville, WV. Camping is available on the festival grounds Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights at a rate of \$5 per person/night. Dogs are discouraged but camping is available for dogs at a rate of \$5 per dog/night. No reservations are taken on camping; first come, first served. Camping has been known to sell out, so plan to get there early.

American Whitewater needs volunteers for Gauley Fest. For more information on volunteering:

http://www.americanwhitewater.org/content/Wiki/do-op/id/aw:events_gauley_volunteer

Contact Information: E-mail: susan_rapp@yahoo.com Phone: 317-289-7480

October Gauley Paddling: Sat.-Sun., October 3-4, October 17-18, 2009

Trip Sponsors: Jordan Ross & Sharon Schierling

October is a fabulous time to run the Gauley. The water is warm and the changing foliage gorgeous. Colorful leaves tumble in the green water and the weather varies from spooky fog to sparkling sunshine, often in the same day.

Two weeks after Gauley Fest, October 3-4, people will have recovered enough to make another trip. (Remember, there are only 6 weekends in Gauley season.) The HCC Pirate Party is scheduled the same weekend but non-pirates are welcome to join us as we savor summer easing into fall in West Virginia.

The last weekend of Gauley Season, generally when the fall colors begin to peak, corresponds with Bridge Day this year. Paddlers running the New River Gorge on Saturday, October 17, get the best seat in the house to watch BASE jumpers and rappellers (including Sharon and me) descending from the 876 foot bridge. Kayakers, canoers and rafters running Fayette Station Rapid are part of the show for the thousands of Bridge Day spectators. The next day, Sunday, October 18, Sharon and I will join everyone for a season-finale paddle on the Gauley.

Check the October HCC Newsletter and the HCC bulletin board for details about both of these October Gauley weekends.



Trip Report: New River Gorge, July 18-19, 2009

Jordan Ross

We had a nice mix of paddlers and boats on the New river. Saturday, we had fourteen boaters, three open boats, nine kayaks and a Topo Duo. Sunday, we had fifteen paddlers and a different mix of boats: one open boat, nine kayaks and a raft. Do we count the dog?

Paddlers were Jordan Ross, Sharon Schierling, Dave and Greg Timm, Bill and Kyle Mandler, Doug McKnight, David Swingley, Henry Frechen, Susi Rapp, Monica Davis, Josh, Liz and Chloe (the ten-month-old rat terrier / chihuahua mix) Ellis, and Ken Wright, plus Rhonda Wright the ever-cheerful, perfect shuttle bunny. We were joined by Monica's friend Rob from North Carolina and "Special" Ed from Chillicothe, Ohio.

Saturday was Monica's and Josh's first run on the Gorge and they paddled well. Bill and Kyle were flawless in the Topo Duo and amazed raft customers with their practice tandem rolls. Sunday, Dave Timm's raft attracted kayakers and canoeists to abandon their craft for a rubber ride, and allowed Liz to ride in the middle with Chloe in her arms, safe in a harness and biner to Liz's PFD. Tiny Chloe was very brave, watching all the kayakers and letting out just a little yelp when huge Lower Keeney waves pummeled her and the crew. No one could recall a dog rafting class IV whitewater with the Hoosiers before.



Henry Frechen, David Swingley, Liz and Chloe Ellis, Dave Timm, and Susi Rapp rafting on the New River.

The weather Saturday was cloudy and unseasonably cool for mid-July. Happily, the water was warmer than the air. We were lucky that abundant rain this season plus a weekend release boosted the New River level to over a foot instead of the usual one or two feet below zero. A plan to try rappelling on the Gorge bluffs after paddling didn't work out but we did enjoy the sunset from the top of the Bridge Butress Trail cliffs, a very popular climbing spot with great photo ops overlooking the New River Gorge Bridge.

Camping at Rifrasters was very convenient to Fayetteville. There was a bit of excitement (and irony) when the police were called (not by us) to silence a heavy metal band that cranked up loudspeakers in the neighboring campsite. They brought amplified instruments to a campground. Can you imagine that?? (snort). Ken fired up a good blaze for us in the evening to circle around for stories and, of course, videos of the day.

Sunday defied the weather forecast and was warm and brilliant. The paddle trip that took four hours the day before was accomplished in just over two hours and folks got off plenty early for the long drive home.



Trip Report: Salt Creek, Saturday, July 25 2009

Joel DeLashmit

Trip Sponsor: Joel DeLashmit

Participants: Joel DeLashmit, Frank Chiao, Mary Keith, Susi Megathlin, Michael Miller, Kellie Kaneshiro, Don H., and Tom Warriner

Time: 10:30 am – 2:30 pm

Length: 8 miles .

I woke up to a nice Saturday morning about 7 am to head down to Elkinsville. I live around Shelbyville and the weather was dry and partly cloudy. As I drove between fields of soybeans, I noticed heavy cloud cover towards Indianapolis. It looked as if the cloud had burst open underneath.

I arrived at Story and it was sunny without a cloud in the sky. Some of the wildlife seen from Story to the launch include box turtles which had to be avoided in the road, a family of wild turkeys, some hummingbirds, and a few birds of prey. I received a few calls to cancel because of the weather. However, eight paddlers did not let the rain chances stand in their way. The access was pretty muddy from the rain the night before but the local outfitter had put down a tarp and some plywood.

We started our paddle around 10:30 am, although



Fog in the Trees



Frank and Gino investigate a Rock Ledge

the water was muddy the scenery was still beautiful. A light fog was visible around the treetops on the hills surrounding us which created a nice accent. After a mile or so, we ran into some moderate rain for a short time which helped to keep us cool as the temperature started to rise. On the way to Lake Monroe, we saw many tributaries that one could explore if they wanted as well as a few fishermen that weren't having much luck this day.

We paddled for 4 miles when we came upon several islands and decided to have lunch. Some people in our group didn't like snakes so they chose a larger island that happened to have a snake right where we came on shore. The snake moved—I guess getting crushed by a canoe is not favored by snakes. After lunch, we paddled through a narrow grassy channel to explore a small lagoon. We saw another snake sunning on a log on the way back.

Overall, everyone agreed that the trip was quite enjoyable despite the rain and mud.

Additional pictures of our journey can be found at:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/JoelDeLashmit/SaltCreek072509#>



Trip Report: Westwood Lake, August 8, 2009

Joel DeLashmit

Participants: Joel DeLashmit, Bob Burkhardt, Jim Sprandel, Theresa Kulczak, Michael Miller, Barry & Amy Titus.

Trip Length: 5-6 miles (my GPS batteries went dead)

Around 8:30pm August 8th, seven paddlers gathered at the Westwood Lake boat ramp for an exciting expedition into the darkness. Only a few paddlers had experienced this lake in the daylight, so it was mysterious for most paddlers. Three of us were camped at the campground and were able to launch from the waterfront trails at the back of many of the sites.

The darkness enveloped us pretty quickly as we paddled down the lake and soon we could see nothing without the aid of a light. During the evening, we were able to spotlight some wildlife including a few cormorants perched on a dead tree standing in the water. Our ears were also alert to some owls calling around the lake.

The moon finally peeked over the trees surrounding the lake and alas we could see our way by the rippling reflection of the moonlight on the surface of the water. One paddler commented "it was the best evening on the water so far this year." and commented that most "moonlight paddles" or "sunset paddles" were over before the sun even goes below the trees!

We were pleased to welcome two new HCC members, Barry and Amy Titus, who participated in their inaugural HCC trip and spent the weekend camping and paddling at Westwood. Paddling in darkness has its dangers but if the proper precautions are taken it is great to be out in the cool of the night on a hot summer day.

A few pictures can be found at: <http://picasaweb.google.com/JoelDeLashmit/WestwoodLake080809#>



Dressed for Night Paddling

Giving Back to Eagle Creek Park

Kellie Kaneshiro

As part of our agreement in exchange for paddling on Tuesday evenings, HCC members have been providing support for Eagle Creek Park's Wednesday evening canoe paddles. I worked with coordinators Brittany Wierda, Park Naturalist and Carrie Williams, Supervisor of Nature Centers to set up a schedule of HCC volunteers for this event.

What we did during the paddles was determined by who showed for them! Sometimes we were asked to stay with those who paddled ahead of the main group, and sometimes we kept an eye on the new or slower paddlers. It was a great opportunity to talk to people about paddling and enjoy a leisurely paddle to Fishback Creek to view the bald eagles. The last Wednesday evening canoe paddle was August 12th.

Next year, there is talk of the Park and Marina contractor adding more evening canoe paddles and there is a possibility that HCC may be asked to help with staff training. A big thank you to Dwayne James, Jon Bruce, Wendy Riling, and Jim Sprandel for being great paddlers and for making my job an easy one. HCC had two members present at every paddle!





Debby demonstrating C-to-C Roll

Report – Mojo Rolling Clinic, August 15, 2009

Clinic Leader: Debby Baker

Participants: Patty and Garry Bledsoe, Kellie Kaneshiro, Ben and Dan Valleskey, Cheryl and Todd Sullivan, Shawn Tresselt, Dave Porter, Ed Ragsdale, Joel DeLashmit, Frank Chiao, Kevin Dogan, Todd Crago, Jack Mitenbuler, Jim Sprandel, Clark Kahlo, Denise Szocka

Eighteen paddlers joined Debby Baker to work on their kayak rolling. People showed up in boats ranging from 20-foot sea kayaks to whitewater playboats. Some people already had reliable “bomb-proof” rolls, some had not attempted to roll for several years, and some had rolls that were a coin toss (i.e., they ended up either heads or tails).

Debby started by explaining the need for proper kayak outfitting to us—you have to pad your boat so that it fits you snugly. She then had us work on our hip snaps off the bow of a partner’s boat—this became important later since it let us recover from missed rolls and braces without having to wet exit.



Executing Hand Roll

Next, we then worked on bracing. That is, we heeled our boats to their tipping points and hopefully recovered using either a high or low brace. After that, Debby moved on the C-to-C roll since the high brace is a major part of this roll. Lastly, she introduced us to the Sweep Roll.

At the end of the day, Debby had everyone demonstrate their rolls which she critiqued.

The bottom line is that we each had a chance to tweak up our rolls and learn what areas we need to work on. We all had an enjoyable although wet time which was great given the temperature. After paddling, we settled down to exchange paddling stories over pizza before going out on Dan’s pontoon boat for a tour of Lake Maxin hall.

Many thanks to Debby for leading the clinic and to Dan Valleskey for sharing his yard and lake with us.

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Upcoming Events

Tues. Evenings	Paddling at Eagle Creek (through end of September).	June Issue
Wed. Evening, 7 pm	Pool Sessions— Check the Bulletin Board for Pool Location!	August Issue
Sat.-Mon. Sept. 5-7	Whitewater Trip: Beaver River in New York (IV-V)	Page 5
Sat.-Sun. Sept 12-13	Clean-Up: Raccoon Creek	Page 2
Sat.-Sun Sept 12-13	Whitewater Trip: Gauley First Release, WV (III-V)	Page 5
Fri.-Sun. Sept 18-20	Whitewater Trip: Gauley Fest - Gauley River, WV, (III-V)	Page 6
Sat.-Sun. Sept 19-20	Touring Trip: Patoka Lake Paddle, Wickliffe, IN	Page 4
Fri.-Sun. Sept 25-27	DNR Hoosier Outdoor Experience, Ft. Harrison	Page 3
Sat.-Sun., Oct. 3-4	Whitewater Trip: Gauley Fall Colors, Gauley River, WV, (III-V)	Page 7
Sat. Oct. 3	2nd Annual Pirate Paddle & Party, White River, Noblesville, IN.	Page 1
Sat.-Sun. Oct 17-18	Whitewater Trip: Gauley October Paddling	Page 7

October Newsletter Deadline: Please submit articles to Jim Sprandel by Tuesday, September 15, 2009. Please e-mail articles and pictures to merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net or call him at 317-257-2063.

