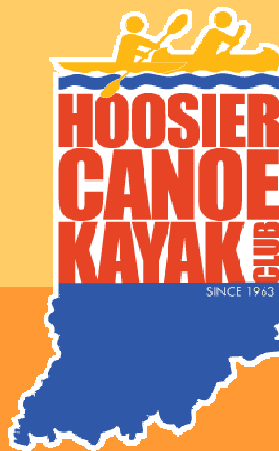


# The Hoosier Paddler

September 2012, Vol. 50 Issue 8 <http://www.hoosiercanoeclub.org/>



## A note from our skipper, Dwayne James:

The next few months will be an exciting and busy time for the Hoosier Canoe & Kayak Club. First, we have the annual Hoosier Outdoor Experience coming up on September 15 and 16<sup>th</sup> at Ft. Benjamin Harrison State Park. Please contact Sue Foxx if you are able to help register people, fit them with PFD's and paddles, or show them some basic strokes on the small pond. The same weekend (September 14-16<sup>th</sup>) is the Gauley Fest for our Whitewater Paddlers. And we have the Pirate Party October 13<sup>th</sup>. Please see the announcement in this issue. The mutinous group of blackhearts is preparing to make me walk the plank. BYOPG and help me fend them off. (Bring Your Own Potato Gun) In case you did not know, the Hoosier Canoe Club, of late known as the Hoosier Canoe & Kayak Club, is approaching its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Really—50 years as a paddling club!! We have a great new logo to roll out, a fantastic Annual Club meeting featuring paddler, author, chef, and outdoor adventurer Kevin Callan on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, and a new group officers and Board members who will lead us into our next half century of paddling. We are working on a slate of Officers to be presented in the October Newsletter and we need 4 or 5 members who would like to help lead the club as members of the Board. Please let any Officer or Board member know of your interest. We need a few people from the Whitewater group and I would like to see some of our older members serve again to keep us on track as we move into the future.

## And a Few Updates/Notes:

Introducing **WaterBlogged**: a new feature of the Hoosier Canoe & Kayak Club. As we move to a more web-based means of interacting with the club to publicize trips, activities and other outdoor events, I will start blogging through WaterBlogged. You may see these posted on our webpage or sign up to get these emailed to you as they occur. More details to follow.

Our paddling program for special needs students has worked out well for our first year and we are celebrating with a paddle for the students and their families. This short trip will run from Turkey Run State Park at the Narrows Bridge down to Jungle Park on US 41. This is the new Clements Canoe take out about a mile below the usual take out on Sugar Creek. The date is September 8<sup>th</sup>. Please contact me (Dwayne James) if you would like to help this group have a fun day on the creek. And let me know if you would like to help us expand this program for next summer. You really will enjoy it.

Take a look at the brief Trip Report on our venture north to Rutabaga's kayak symposium in Door County, WI. I would recommend this symposium to anyone who wants to learn more about sea kayaking, work on learning or sharpening skills, and having a good time on a beautiful bay on Lake Michigan.

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Be aware, pending a scouting trip of Raccoon Creek, I may have to cancel the annual Covered Bridge Festival Trip scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>. I hope to get down that way soon to check out what needs to be done to clear the way for a trip. If anyone has any current information on the deadfall or subsequent clean-up efforts after last year's storm, please let me know. Dwayne James [kanudreams@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kanudreams@sbcglobal.net)

# Hoosier Canoe & Kayak Club presents: Pirate Paddle & Party

Saturday, October 13, 2012

"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 Pirate Flotilla on the great White River on Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, followed by the Pirate Party. It's time to throw out the net and gather all paddlers, friends and blood relations! Yay, we be expectin' pirates and paddlers from the far seven seas to convene for revelry and good cheer! **All paddlers welcome!** We look forward to sharin' the grub n' grog with ye! "

**Afternoon:** **Pirate Flotilla on White River**  
*Paddlers are encouraged to wear pirate clothing and decorate boats. With boats carrying the Jolly Roger, parrots, skeletons, etc., the pirate flotilla is a memorable sight!*

Lafayette Trace Park  
(Strawtown Public Access Site)  
15796 Strawtown Ave,  
Noblesville  
**Evening:** **Pirate Party (rain or shine)**  
River Bend Camp-  
ground  
21695 State Road 37 North  
Noblesville, Indiana 46060

**Don't miss the camaraderie at the Pirate Party featuring:**

The music of **Next Degree**, one of Indy's best party bands!

**Byrne's** Gourmet Grilled Pizza

Local microbrewery **Triton Brewing Company**, the beer of pirates!

**Pirate Paddle & Party (includes the above)**  
**\$20**

**Camping available!**

Aye maties, you can anchor your vessel at River Bend Campground for the evening!

**Volunteers needed!** Shuttle Drivers; Registration volunteers for paddle and for party; Decoration Crew

**Sunday, October 14:** Optional Paddle Trip on White River including Potters' Covered Bridge

With thanks to the Sponsors:

**Morris Printing • Nurpu River & Mountain Supply • Rusted Moon Outfitters**

**Contact :** The Black Toad (Theresa Kulczak) [theblacktoad@lightbound.com](mailto:theblacktoad@lightbound.com) 317-409-6771



## **Volunteers Needed:**

**Hoosier Outdoor Experience**

**Saturday-Sunday, September 15-16, 2012**

**Coordinator: Sue Foxx**

The Hoosier Outdoor Experience at Ft. Harrison State Park in Indianapolis is just around the corner. It is the largest hands-on FREE outdoor recreation event around with over 50 activities for participants to explore. Of course we want them to try paddling so the Hoosier Canoe and Kayak Club (HCC) is helping provide a lake experience with kayaks and canoes. HCC is in charge of providing canoe coaches on the water and IYAK is recruiting kayak coaches. There are also positions to fit PFDs and to help load and unload boaters.

The shifts on Saturday, September 15, will run from 8 am-2 pm and 1 pm-6 pm. The shifts on Sunday, September 16, are the same: 8 am-2 pm and 1 pm-6 pm. We overlapped in case people had trouble with the shuttle but you will be able to leave when your replacement shows up. I am told that on Sunday, things are usually done by 5 pm so you may be able to duck out a little early. Dan Valleskey will have his RV there so you will have a place to lock up any valuables.

Lunch and drinks will be provided.

If you want to be on the water and want to use your own canoe, you will need to get it to Dan by Thursday, September 13 since cars will NOT be allowed into the park to unload. You could then pick up your boat on Sunday night or Monday. Boats will be onsite so you really don't need to supply your own unless you just want to. Parking for the event is behind the Finance Center (8899 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46249) where you can catch a shuttle into the park. If you need GPS coordinates, use the intersection of E. 56th Street and Post Road. No biking in will be allowed.

This year since we will only allow paddling on the lake (no river) our jobs will be a lot easier. Volunteer TODAY by emailing me the following information at [sufoxx713@aol.com](mailto:sufoxx713@aol.com) :

NAME EMAIL PHONE DATE (Sat. or Sun.) SHIFT (8-2 or 1-6)

JOB INTEREST (Canoe Coach on the water, Loader, PFD fitter, Pre-paddle canoe instructor)

Thank you!





## **Trip Report: Rutabaga Kayak Symposium, Door County, WI , July 13-15, 2012**

**By: Dwayne James**

I took the opportunity to attend this symposium after hearing great reviews from some of our members. Having recently purchased a touring kayak, I wanted to learn some safety moves, edging and paddling techniques, and just get out on Lake Michigan with a group of kayakers. Let me just say the Lake kicked my butt! On the other hand, fellow members Mariann Davis and Theresa Kulzack had several wonderful trips around Door Counties various bays and islands of Lake Michigan.

I think my experience can serve as an example of what not to do. First, I bought my kayak (a great boat which is now for sale, by the way) over the internet. I have bought and sold several recreational kayaks and canoes using the internet and recommend this to people. However, when buying a touring kayak, particularly one that needs to fit a large paddler, I would recommend that you paddle several brands of boats and styles of boats first. I did not do that. Second, before buying, talk to experts about your needs. Again, I did not do that. Finally, turn to experts in the local club for instruction and advice before looking elsewhere. I only partially did this.

I learned three important things at the symposium. First, I needed more time on the water before attempting this instruction on a large lake. Second, I had purchased a boat above my skill set. Yes, there were paddlers there who had not really paddled a kayak, but these were people who could fit into standard boats and focus on learning basic strokes. As someone who needs to stuff himself into a boat, I needed to make sure such large boats were available; seeing as how I thought I had one perfect for me, I did not look into renting one. And finally, I learned that our club has expertise to match the instructors at the symposium. We have several ACA touring kayak instructors who have put on safety and basic skills training for members locally. Attending these is free or low cost (\$5 is what they charged for one), local, and lots of fun. Basic forward stroke, edging, wet exits and re-entries?

No problem. Rolling? Hell we put on a clinic and have a pool available with at least 1 if not two world class instructors available every Wednesday eve (Saturday mornings in the winter).

So, try before you buy. Then try more. Look locally for instruction. Do not be afraid to try, in a safe environment, skills beyond what you already know. And have fun. Even after my 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> wet exit and re-entry, I never lost my hat nor my smile. And I now know I can get into and out of my kayak in a big lake. That is one skill I had set out to learn. Next year, I am going back with my new boat to take on those waves. I hope to see some of you out paddling while I learn to handle this new boat.

### **Flatwater Trip Announcement White River: Waverly to the Henderson Ford Bridge Saturday, September 8, 2012 Trip Sponsor: Mariann Davis**

Once again it's time to spend more time in your boat than on an endless Shuttle. Join me on September 8, so I can again prove this fact. This paddle is 9.2 miles long taking approximately 3-4 hours with Lunch –depending on whether you eat in or carry out. Eagles are often sited on this section of the west fork of the White River so be prepared with camera ready. For those of us more geologically challenged, it is worth mentioning this section of the White River is a former "Pleistocene glacial sluiceway"... I'm very serious. (Do not attempt to repeat this after a few beers...) but for further verification and explanation click on the link below:

<http://igs.indiana.edu/MarionCounty/GlacialGeology.cfm>

#### **Directions and Meeting Place:**

Meet at the Dairy Queen just off SR 37 and SR 144 (West side of 37) at 1030 AM. The Dairy Queen is about 20 minutes from the 465 south and SR 37 junction. We will run the 15 min shuttle after unloading our boats at the put-in 5 minutes away. Please contact Mariann @ [marianndvs@gmail.com](mailto:marianndvs@gmail.com) if interested and for any other communication call C-317-213-5600.

Look for a verification email Friday, September 7, as weather and water may not cooperate.

Hope to see you, then.



*Manitou Island , Sept. 2011*

## **Sea Kayak Trip Announcement**

### **Manitou Island Trip, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**

**Trip Sponsor: Brad Hughey**

**Friday-Sunday. Sept 14-16, 2012**

We will be paddling out to the Manitou Islands from Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Empire, Michigan. I will leave Indianapolis Thursday afternoon about 4 pm for the 7-hour drive up to the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and will camp at the D H Day campgrounds on the mainland. Some people will be driving up on Thursday during the day.

**Friday morning:** We will leave bright and early for the 8.5-mile open water crossing of Lake Michigan to South Manitou island. This island has everything a paddler could want: beachfront camping , self composting privies, a well for water, a lighthouse, and old growth cedars. There are also shipwrecks you can see from the beach or paddle to if it is calm enough. There are also 300-foot tall sand dunes.

**Saturday:** We can hike the island or cross the 4-mile channel to day trip to North Manitou Island depending on the lake conditions.

**Sunday morning:** We will paddle the 8.5 mile open water crossing back to the mainland and we should be back to Indy by 8 pm.

**Required Paddling Skills:** On this trip, we could have large wave conditions and the long crossing is through a shipping lane.

- You should be comfortable paddling in 2 to 3 foot waves.
- You should be able to maintain a 4+ mph pace for the 8 mile crossing.
- Self and group rescue skills are required.

**Required Equipment:** Sea or touring boats with spray skirts and safety equipment are required. You will have to carry your camping gear, clothes, and food with you in your kayak. Drinking water is available on the island.

**Contingency Plans:** If wave and wind conditions are too severe to make the crossing, there are plenty of bays, lakes, and rivers to paddle in the area.

**Contact Information:** For additional information, call Brad Hughey at (317) 848-9410.

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# **Keep Calm and Paddle On**

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