

# The Hoosier Paddler

Month March 2018, Vol. 56 Issue 3

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



## From the Skipper:

We had a well-attended planning meeting in January. We have a wide selection of Canoe & Kayak (Flatwater), Whitewater, and Sea Kayaking tips planned for 2018. This year we will have our Pirate Paddle in October! The events have been entered into our calendar on the HCKC website (<https://hoosiercanoeandkayakclub.wildapricot.org/events>). Note that all of the events will not be visible if you are not logged in. If you have any questions about a particular trip, contact the trip sponsor and they will be happy to answer them.

As the temperatures start to warm up, the water temperatures will still be cold. We have some good information on cold weather (and cold water) paddling on the safety page of our website at <https://hoosiercanoeandkayakclub.wildapricot.org/PaddlingSafety>. Be sure and check it out.

If you have trip reports or something else you'd like to share in the newsletter, send it to Dwayne James ([dwaynesjames1@hotmail.com](mailto:dwaynesjames1@hotmail.com)) by the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month. See you on the water!  
Thanks, Duane

Check out our new Facebook Page page at <https://www.facebook.com/hckcIN/>

## In this issue:

Page 1: Skipper's Note  
Page 1: New Facebook Page  
Page 6: Low Head Dam Project

## Trip Announcements:

Page 2: Summit Lake  
Page 3: Sea Kayak Thoughts  
Page 6: BWCAW Group Trip

## New Stuff:

Page 4: Watcha Packing?  
Page 5: Apple Iphone App  
Page 5: DNR boat permits



**Summit  
Lake  
Gang  
2017**

## The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

## **Trip Announcement**

### **Summit Lake Spring Paddle March 17, 2018**

#### **Trip Sponsor: Jim Eckerty**

The annual spring paddle at Summit Lake is fast approaching. Please come and join this group of hearty paddlers and celebrate the departure of hard water (AKA Ice) and the beginning of SPRING !

Sponsor: Jim Eckerty rentbsu@comcast.net

Schedule: Launch time: 11:00 AM From Main Boat Ramp (read on) Length: 2-3 hours, 6-8 miles

\* Please let me know via email by 6:00 pm on Saturday, March 16 if you plan to attend,

Registration: Please register on the club web site

Equipment Requirement: ≥14' Boat recommended. Wet or Dry suit and spray skirt HIGHLY recommended. Appropriate clothing plus Dry clothing in water tight bag.

Sit on top boats, SUP's are not appropriate for this trip. .

Skill Requirement: Experience with Cold Weather paddling. Please review Hypothermia Charts, getting wet could be lethal (see chart below). Many past trips have seen the ice dissipate just days before our arrival and sometimes we have encountered "HARD" water.

Hypothermia:

Water Temp Index Unconsciousness Survival Time

32.5 to 40 degrees SEVERE 15 to 30 minutes 30 to 90 minutes

GENERAL: Rest rooms at the dock/put-in have been open for this tri trips and we assume they will be available again this year. Since we are meeting at the boat ramp (pass the gate house and turn right at the first "T") you will be able to launch your canoe or kayak from the concrete ramp or shoreline. This early in the season there will be no gate fee but you will need a 2018 State Park Boat Permit, sometimes available at the park but I would not depend on that. We will probably stop about half way a brief lunch. The past few years we have had good weather and a great day so cross your fingers and dust off your gear.....

SUMMIT LAKE: Summit Lake is the major feature of Indiana's 19th state park. Established in 1988, 800 acre Summit Lake was formed by damming Big Blue River and other smaller tributaries. Summit Lake is very near the highest point in the state (hence the name Summit) so please be aware that wind and waves can be moderate...1-2 ft depending on the weather so a spray skirt is required.

Directions: Summit Lake State park is located northeast of New Castle and southeast of Muncie. From Mt Summit, IN (Highway 3 and 36 intersect here) travel 4 miles east on Highway 36 to Messick Road and then north 1 mile to the park. Getting There: GPS Info. (Latitude, Longitude): 40.02097, -85.30126 40°1'15"N, 85°18'5"W

Mailing Address: Summit Lake State Park 5993 N Messick Road New Castle, IN 47362

#### **Cold Weather Paddling Tips–**

During the winter, paddling is still enjoyable but you need to dress properly to be comfortable and safe. The Fort Wayne paddling group circulated the following links on how to survive if you fall through thin ice:

<http://www.archive.org/details/ColdWaterSurvival>

<http://www.archive.org/details/YoureOutNowWhat>

<http://www.archive.org/details/Gett...tSinkingFeeling>



Egmont Key, Tampa Bay, Feb. 2018

## Sea Kayak Thoughts

Jim Sprandel

The Sea Kayak Schedule is now complete and available on the [2018 Sea Kayak schedule](#). Please browse through it and see what trips appeal to you. Sea and Touring Kayak events are distinguished from Flatwater and Whitewater trips in the overall club calendar because the Event Title has "SK:" prepended to the event title.

Our first trip will be Jim Eckerty's Summit Lake First of Spring Paddle on Saturday, March 17 and its trip announcement is included in this newsletter. Our first overnight touring kayak trip will be our annual Spring Lake Monroe trip on April 3 and 4.

**Extended Trips in 2018-** The Sea Kayak fleet will have several extended trips this year – each trip lasting 7-10 days. I wanted to flag these trips in this article since people may have to schedule their vacation plans.

### **South Carolina Ocean Trip, April 22-26 (Dave Ellis)**

**Seabrook Island Training, April 27-29 (Jim Eckerty)** – Dave will again lead our trip to South Carolina during the week before the training course. This trip will dovetail with the Seabrook Island open water training that Jim Eckerty has set up with Ashley Brown, a Level 5 Open Water kayak instructor in the Charleston area.

**Lake Champlain, July 15-20 (Linda Decker)** – Some people feel that Lake Champlain is the sixth Great Lake with over 250 square miles of surface area. Lake Champlain maintains a kayak trail that we will use where we will camp at designated sites on the shore line.

**Apostles Islands, August 4-11 (Jim Sprandel)** – This will be our traditional Apostle Islands island adventure. We will day-paddle from Little Sand Bay on Saturday and then spend the next week camping in the islands of the National Lakeshore

Preliminary trip information should be distributed by the first of April via the Sea Kayak mailing list.

**Roll Training** – Rolling training is available at Thatcher Pool. Saturday pool sessions are available between now and the end of March. Sessions are held between 10:00 a.m. and Noon at Thatcher Pool. Check the [Pool Training Page](#) on the HCKC Web Site.

**2018 Training Events** – This year, we will again offer Introductory and Intermediate Kayak Skill sessions on Saturdays: May, 26, June 23, July 28, and August 18. We will have spots for at least 10 students in each class. More information will be available for these classes in the May Newsletter, the HCKC events calendar, and via the Sea Kayak Newsletter list.

We will also have an Open Water Rescue Clinic and Practice on Saturday – this class is recommended even if you have taken this clinic before since you need to keep these skills fresh. You don't want to have to think about what to do when you are in conditions where paddlers actually flip.

**Join our Sea Kayak E-Mail List** – The Sea Kayak fleet uses an E-mail list-

[IND\\_TOURING\\_KAYAKS@GOOGLEGROUPS.COM](mailto:IND_TOURING_KAYAKS@GOOGLEGROUPS.COM) to let members and friends with sea kayaks know about upcoming sea kayak paddling and training events. If you have a sea kayak and would like to be added to the list, please e-mail me at [merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net](mailto:merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net) so I can add you to this list.

## New Trip Ideas

Please let us know if you are interested in combining a canoe/kayak trip with hiking or biking. And how about getting in some fishing while paddling? Are you interested in attending a session on how to pack and what to pack for a canoe/kayak camping adventure? Please let us know. Contact the trip chairs or send an email to the newsletter editor. So many places to go, so little time!!

# The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

## Preparing for a Trip: Watcha Packing?

When you get ready to spend some time on the water what is on your list to bring? Are you kayaking across the lake or paddling a Class IV river? Over the next few months, I'm going to break down each section in detail so we can define each piece of equipment and how we can use it for multiple events. So to begin, let's start with the basic set up:

Boat

Paddle

PFD

Clothing appropriate for the water temperature and weather

Helmet if necessary for water conditions

Throwbag / Rescue Kit

First Aid / Survival Kit

Water / food

Map / compass if necessary

Sunblock

Anything else you feel you need to make your trip a memorable experience

BUT... the most important thing is **let someone else know your plans** so if you do not return in a timely amount of time they can call local authorities and come look for your group!

Also something that I have not mentioned yet: a mindset before, during, and after the trip.

As a trip leader or trip participant here are a few questions you should be asking yourself:

Do I have the appropriate skills necessary to paddle the body of water that I am about to paddle?

Am I prepared with all necessary gear for the duration of this trip?

Do I know where the closest place to get help if something happens?

Who is the trip leader?

Does he/she know the river or body of water we are going to paddle?

Who has another first aid kit (since you already have one)?

Who has another throwbag (since you already have one)?

Who is the lead and who is the sweep boat?

The message I'm trying to convey is that you need to be prepared when you go boating. Paddling and being out with others can be the most rewarding experience of a lifetime but things happen and we as a group need to be prepared to handle them. **See you on the water! John Gates**



Summit

Lake

2017

# The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club



## New HCKC Web Site Feature – Apple iPhone Member APP

HCKC members with Apple iPhones can now access much of the information on the HCKC web site using their iPhones. These members are now able to:

- View the events calendar
- Register for events
- View their existing event registrations
- Pay event registration fees
- View member information for other members.
- Send e-mails to other members

This App may be gotten at the Apple Store (search for "Wild Apricot for Members") or by clicking this link:



Wild Apricot has not announced when an Android version of this App will be available. This app is distinct from the Wild Apricot Administration App that is currently available.

More information is available at:

<https://www.wildapricot.com/blogs/newsblog/2018/02/08/member-app>

## Reminder—Get your 2018 DNR Lake Permit



You must have a 2018 DNR Lake Permit if you want to paddle your boat in Indiana state parks, state-managed reservoirs, or state forests. Annual permits are still only \$5 per boat per year. The fine for paddling on Lake Monroe without a sticker is over \$100 and is enforced by the state's conservation officers.

Permits may be bought at the Indiana Government Center (402 W. Washington St., Room W160) in Indianapolis or at the property offices or entrance gates at state parks, reservoirs, and forests when they are staffed. You can also buy them at the DNR booth at the Boat, Sport, and Travel Show in February. Alternatively, you can buy stickers on-line at:

<http://stores.innsgifts.com/watercraft-exp-12-31-15/>

**Note:** Early in the season, attendants will be available at some launch ramps. However, not every ramp and not every day so be sure to check at the park you are going to before you head out. You can also visit the DNR booth at the Boat Sport and Travel show and purchase your permits. Pet the bison while there.

# The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

## **Possible BWCAW Trip Dwayne James**

I have been thinking about doing a week long trip to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness on the northwestern edge of Lake Superior. I am considering this year perhaps in late May or early June. As it is difficult to schedule vacation times for a group please contact Dwayne James at [dwaynesjamesA1@hotmail.com](mailto:dwaynesjamesA1@hotmail.com) if you are interested or would like to find out more about this type of trip. Please suggest optional dates that you would be available. I am also wanting to do this for 2019, so put in your requested time frame asap.

Once I have a list of interested persons, we can set up a meeting to discuss potential entry locations, the type of trip—hard slog military march across endless portages each day vs. a nice loop with a few portages for the week vs base camping and doing lots of day trip options without having to portage more than fishing gear, lunch and canoes.

Are you wanting to learn about the BWCAW and tripping up north? I am happy to discuss details of getting a permit, outfitters, entry points, portages, gear needs, safety, and any other questions you may have. I have canoe camped this area many times, going up before fishing opener in early May to clear portages and check campsites, going in June during snow storms, baking in July in the heat, and enjoying the bugless, cooler weather of September/October. I have travelled lakes in the Sawbill area, the Gunflint Trail, and up the fire road north of Ely. I also have gear to borrow. So let's get this planned soon!

## **New HCKC Web Site Feature – Second E-Mail Address**

The HCKC web site currently sends notices and trip announcements to the primary e-mail address associated with your membership. Wild Apricot recently added a new feature that allows you to associate a secondary e-mail address with your account profile.

After you specify a secondary address, the HCKC will send all club e-mails to your primary e-mail address as before but will also copy your secondary address. For example, you might want to specify your spouse's or child's e-mail address as a secondary address so that they know about events as soon as you do.

### **To turn on this feature:**

Go to the HCKC Web Site and log in.

After logging in, click on your name in the upper, right corner of the web page.

You will now see your "My Profile" page.

Click "Edit Profile" in the upper, left corner of this page.

Go down this page until you come to the "Secondary E-Mail Address" field and enter your secondary e-mail address. After entering and checking the e-mail address, go to the bottom of this page and click "Save".

## **HCKC presence on MeetUp will be discontinued**

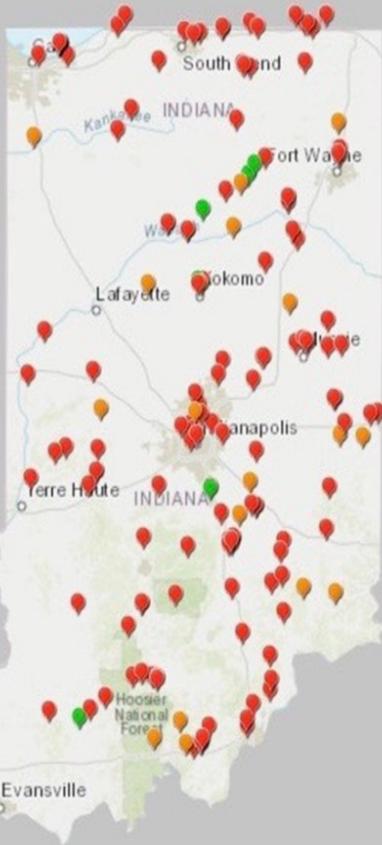
At the February HCKC Board Meeting, the board voted to terminate the club's presence on the MeetUp website. The club changed to our current [Wild Apricot web platform](#) about 1 year ago. Since Wild Apricot supports all of the features provided by MeetUp and since our trip sponsors strongly have preferred Wild Apricot, the board decided to drop MeetUp. Our MeetUp presence will be terminated by the end of February.

# HOOSIER CANOE & KAYAK CLUB LAUNCHES LOW HEAD DAM REMOVAL AND SAFETY INITIATIVE

LOW HEAD DAMS ARE:



OVER 150 DAMS IN INDIANA



## LOCATION OF LOW HEAD DAMS

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Initiate the removal of Low Head Dams in Indiana through public education and working directly with and engaging those organizations, clubs, schools, and public officials/legislature that can influence such results. River and water safety education is paramount in accomplishing this goal.

## CURRENT WORKING INFORMATION REGARDING LOW HEAD DAMS IN INDIANA:

Over 150 low head dams in Indiana. (the public is uninformed)  
Inadequate signage signaling the approaching dam.  
Little or no information available regarding the location of these dams to unsuspecting paddlers...and the dangers of encountering them.

DNR has designed an interactive app showing location of all known low head dams in Indiana

Many of the LHD are on private property requiring education and diplomatic negotiations with the owners...(maybe, offer incentives)

Many Indiana legislators may be uninformed regarding this issue: educate

Average age of drowning in a low head dam accident is 20.5 years.(youth education is paramount)

24 incidents in Indiana LHDs in 2017: 6 deaths and 18 recovered rescues

## THE HOOSIER CANOE AND KAYAK CLUB'S GOALS IN THIS PROJECT

Outreach to the paddling and on-water recreational clubs, organizations, liveries, etc, in Indiana by: working independently but cooperatively with the DNR & Silver Jackets.

Developing an interactive platform in order that information on the issues and initiatives can be accessed readily...*Currently, we are in communication with the Pelorus Project (Fort Wayne) regarding re-development of the Pelorus website, with a name change and enhanced mission...Pelorus has decided to give the club administrative rights and this will happen very soon.*

enabling all clubs to link to this site to access materials and information on the project

The Over, Under, Gone video in a 10 minute version will be available as a teaching tool for educational

## The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club



programs in schools and in other events. Link to the video: [\(click\) Over, Under, Gone video](#)

encouraging other Indiana clubs to carve out, in their organization, LHD education & safety on their website and Fb page and link directly to our platform

designing and building a Low Head Dam model—currently in process—as a working demonstration in educational venues. **Earl King, our project designer on this model is almost at completion: See model below.**

*[\*\*Our club's website is completely independent of the DNR website and will function as a singular voice for recreational clubs and its associate organizations and membership. We are not part of any governmental agency when performing club activities including outreach and education].*



**Follow Progress in the newsletter or on Fb until our website is up and running**

Direct any questions to **Mariann Davis**, [marianndv@gmail.com](mailto:marianndv@gmail.com), Subject: Low head dams



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