

# The Hoosier Paddler

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



## From the Skipper:

We had another great year of paddling in 2018. I want to thank everyone who came out and paddled with us this year and even more so want to thank everyone who volunteered with their time to sponsor a trip this year. Without the help of trip sponsors, we would not have all of the great trips this club hosts each year. Look for announcements about the annual planning meeting early in 2019 for your opportunity to give input on what we will be doing in 2019. If you have not sponsored a trip in the past, please consider doing so next year. If you are not sure how to sponsor a trip, feel free to contact the fleet chairs or other board members, and they will be happy to give some guidance.

We had a great annual meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Lonnie Bedwell gave an inspiring presentation about his life and adventures including being the first visually impaired person to kayak the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon ([lonniebedwell.com](http://lonniebedwell.com)). Brad Beaubien also gave a short presentation about the White River Vision Plan. We have solicited input from the club for input on the White River Vision plan. A summary of this input can be found in this newsletter. If you have and done so already, go to [mywhiteriver.com](http://mywhiteriver.com) and take the survey. The more input from paddlers, the more we will be heard.

See you on the water!

## Trip Announcement New Year's Day Paddle January 1, 2019

Dwayne James will be leading a paddle again this year. We will pick a location near Indianapolis, such as Fall Creek or the White River sections we have done the last few years, and send out trip details just after Christmas. Look for an email. Please contact Dwayne if you have any questions on gear, suggestions for location, or concerns over your ability to get out and have some fun with the club.  
[dwaynesjamesA1@hotmail.com](mailto:dwaynesjamesA1@hotmail.com)

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## Volunteers Needed! 2019 Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show

Plans are well under way for the 2019 Ford 65th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show. The Club & Organization Group Area will continue for the 2019 event. We will need people for 4 hours shifts Friday Saturday and Sunday February 15-17 and 22-24th at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. Dwayne James will send out an email in January with further details.

## Annual Election of Officers and Board Members November 10, 2018

Please welcome the following Executive Officers and Board Members elected to the 2019 HCKC Board (new members are bolded) during the Annual Club meeting 11/10/2018.

### Executive Officers:

Skipper: Duane Garloch

XO - Toni Harris

Purser - Jim Sprandel

Yeoman - **Linda Decker**

Past Skipper - Natalie Needham

### Board Members at large:

Dave Ellis - Membership

Judy Thompson

John Carlson

Jim Clendenin

**Richard Clapham**

**Brent Saucerman**

Jon Reneberg - Website Coordinator

Earl King

Mariann Davis

Deb Wilson

**John Gates**

**Jeff Stejskal**



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The White River Vision Plan is a joint effort by several regional development groups to enhance the 58 miles of the White River in Marion and Hamilton counties. The goal of the vision plan is to create an accessible, recreational, and cultural environment that encourages a unique sense of place for the community as a whole. From an HCKC perspective, this project is important and offers many opportunities to improve paddling in the Indianapolis area.

The White River Vision Plan site indicated that it aims to promote:

- Access to the White River for residents and visitors

- The environmental value and ecological quality of the river corridor, including its water quality and natural habitats

- Connection to attractions, arts and entertainment venues, hiking and biking trails, and neighborhoods

- Cultural heritage experiences along the water

The project has completed Phase 1 (Discovery) of its one-year evaluation process. This is the first of three phases where they reviewed plans previously created for the White River, identified current land ownership along the river, demographics trends, environmental systems and relevant stakeholders. One result of the first phase is that they identified recreation as a primary driver for the project.

There are currently in Phase 2 (Envision) and have held a series of public meetings identifying how the public feels that the plan should be implemented. You can view the slides that they presented during their Phase 2 public outreach meeting at [this site](#).

HCKC members has gone to several of these meetings for the project to share how they felt this project should evolve. In addition, a representative from the plan spoke at the HCKC's Annual Meeting and solicited our ideas.

Discussion within the club has identified the following areas of interest:

- Increased safe access points along the White River.

- Mitigation of low-head dam risks for this stretch of the river. This may include developing whitewater features at one or more dams as they did in [Dayton, Ohio](#) or [redesign of dam spillways](#) to reduce the risk of drowning due to hydraulic effects.

- Preservation of the natural environment that surrounds the White River.

### What can you do?

**Learn about the project** – You can get more information at their website:

<http://mywhiteriver.com/>. You can read through their presentation from the Phase 2 public meeting at [this site](#).

**Let them know what you think** – The Vision Plan Committee is still looking for public input. You can complete their input survey at:

<http://mywhiteriver.com/#maptionnaire>

**Tell the HCKC what you think** – The HCKC will stay involved as this project moves into Phase 3 (Action) in the February timeframe. Speak with an officer or board member and let them know your priorities. Alternatively, you can also post your ideas to the HCKC's [Club Forum](#).





# Overcoming Adversity

How one man overcame blindness  
to become National Geographic's 2015 Adventurer of the Year



**Lonnie Bedwell**, a former Navy Petty Officer 1st Class, was injured in a hunting accident that took his sight instantly. Thirteen years later through a chapter of Disabled Sports USA, Lonnie became the **first-ever** visually impaired kayaker to complete the entire 226-mile stretch of Colorado River through the Grand Canyon. Hear the incredible journey that led to Lonnie's passion for adaptive sports -- from climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro to kayaking some of the planet's most challenging whitewater rivers.

**Hoosier Canoe and Kayak Club Presents the Annual Party, Nov 10, with guest presenter and Blind adventurer/kayaker, LONNIE BEDWELL**

We had a great annual meeting with over 50 members in attendance. Lonnie put on a great presentation relating how he was injured, how he first got involved with sports for those with disabilities and how he has turned that into an effort to get others involved in doing the sports, overcoming disabilities, and helping people to learn to help others to do that. We will have a further write up and contact information on programs and an effort to bring a program to the Indianapolis area in the near future.

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## Sea Kayak Thoughts

Jim Sprandel

We have wound up another year of paddling. 2018 has been great with extended trips to South Carolina, Lake Champlain, the Apostle Islands in Lake Superior, and South Manitou Island in Lake Michigan. Some of these trips were to places not previously explored by the club. These extended trips are in addition to our normal complement of shorter local trips on Indiana lakes, Lake Michigan, and Grayson Lake (Kentucky).

**2019 Trip Planning – Tell us your Ideas**– We are already planning a fun schedule for 2019 with a few new locations in addition to our old favorites. If there is someplace where you like to go, let us know. Linda Decker and I will be collecting trip ideas between now and the trip planning meeting in January. Send a note or call either of us to get your ideas on the list.



While preparing for the Annual Meeting, I realized that the Sea Kayak fleet had 17 different people sponsor and support fleet events in 2019. Thanks to everyone! Having different people step up brings us new ideas, new jokes, new-different places to paddle, and new energy.

You don't have to be an expert paddler to sponsor a trip – you just have to want to share some place with other paddlers in the club. You can get a mentor in the club to coach you on how to publicize your trip or to provide technical paddling, safety, or navigational expertise.

## Trip Report - Lake Monroe Overnight, Nov. 3-4, 2018

Fall on Lake Monroe is always special. Due to the odd weather this year, the trees were still in color.

On Saturday, we paddled from Cutright over to the tip of the peninsula in Deam Wilderness where we set up camp. After pitching tents and eating lunch, we explored the North Fork of Salt Creek up to Pine Grove Ramp. Conditions started out almost glassy with the wind building slightly in the afternoon. During the trip, we saw and heard loons which were migrating through and an occasional eagle. A total paddle of slightly over 11 miles.

Four of us camped out overnight and we had a great camp fire since Gil had come out the night before and collected a lot of wood while waiting for us Saturday Morning. The weather was in the 40 and 50s compared with 30s the previous night. A great night topped off by Jiffy Pop.

Sunday Morning, we paddled over to Cutright where we met up with Kevin and then explored the area west of the 446 causeway. We paddled down to Ransburg Boy Scout camp and out to the tip of the Allen's Creek peninsula. By the time we headed back, the wind was gusting up to 15-20 mph and we were pushed back up towards Cutright. A fun paddle with 1' trailing waves to play in. I always feel that west side feels more like "big water" and enjoy being able to paddle there safely without the recreational motor boat traffic.

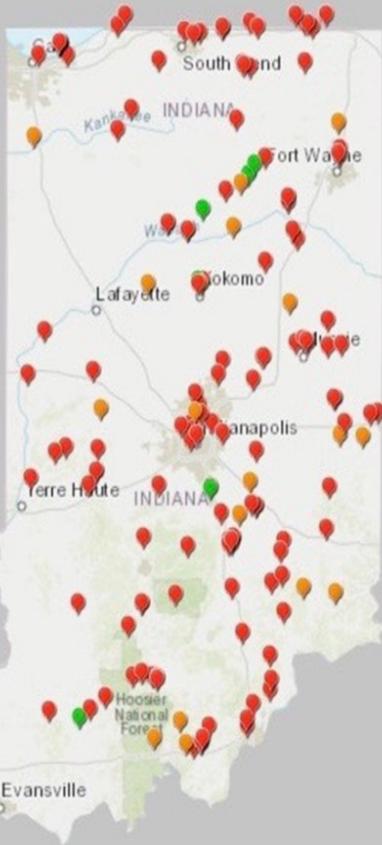
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# HOOSIER CANOE & KAYAK CLUB LAUNCHES LOW HEAD DAM REMOVAL AND SAFETY INITIATIVE

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

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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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