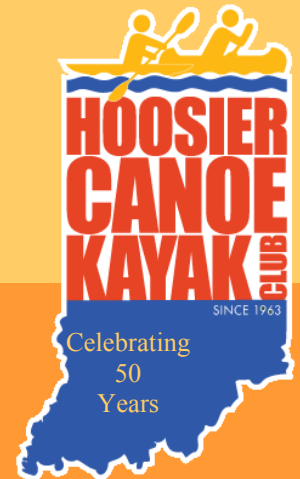


The Hoosier Paddler

July 2013, Vol. 51 Issue 6 <http://www.hoosiercanoeclub.org/>



Skipper's Message

A note from our skipper, Sue Foxx:

What a celebration!!!! Our club marked it's 50th Anniversary with food, fellowship and a trip down memory lane as we heard about all that the honorees and living legends had done for the Club. It was great to see many new members as well as to visit with many who had been active in the early days. I do want to set the record straight since I misspoke in my remarks and let everyone know that Sue Conklin was the first female skipper in 1975. Shirley Gates was the first female skipper to serve 3 terms. Both served the Club in many capacities and were an inspiration to other female paddlers. A big thank you to Linda Smith for promotion, decoration and organization, Theresa Kulczak for the location and band, Anna Riley and Dan Evard for the awesome calendars and to the set-up and clean-up crews who made everything run smoothly. I heard more than one person remark that we should do this every year but I'll leave that decision to the next skipper.

Be sure to read about the July trips and sign up for the Wilderness First Aid Class being offered at the end of July. I am moving in the next couple of weeks so I won't be on the water but I hope you are...paddle on!

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Eagle Creek Marina Sunset/Concert and Moonlight Paddles

The Eagle Creek Marina Staff and Jeff Coates will again offer Moonlight Paddles on Friday - Saturday nights one weekend per month as well as Sunset/Concert paddles on some Wednesday evenings.

I have created a Bulletin Board thread with complete details and a list of available dates at:
<http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/showthread.php?4848>

If you would to help out this year, please e-mail with the date that you would like to help and I will add you to the schedule. We will particularly need help on the Friday and Saturday night paddles.

When you register, you might give me your cell phone numbers so that I can give them to Jeff in case there is a cancelation due to weather conditions. Note: Your cell number will only be used to contact you in case of a cancelation Jim Sprandel

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

EAST FORK WHITE RIVER (BAREFOOT CRUISE)

SATURDAY JULY 20th

Trip Leader: Richard Tekulve

Flowing 189.9 miles the East Fork White River is Indiana's third longest stream taking a backseat to only the Wabash and the White River (West Fork). It also has the second largest drainage area in square miles at 5,746. The watershed basin drains 25 of our 92 counties. Scattered along its route through southwestern Indiana are 19 conveniently located DNR Public Access Sites making for easy day long trips. From Columbus to Sparksville (65 miles) there are over 150 evenly spaced out sandbars that provide the Hoosier states finest riverside camping opportunities. The river also consists of more historical and longest bridges than any other stream in this part of the Midwest= fourteen over 300 feet in length and over 100 years old.

Over the last three years we have paddled different a section from Bells Ford (Seymour) to Sparksville. Continuing with that tradition this year we will host a "Barefoot Cruise" from Azailia to Rockford. Consider from the concrete on the put-in and take-out boat ramps you will not experience anything but sand and sandbars for the entire 12.1 mile trip therefore claiming the slogan of "Barefoot Cruise" so leave the shoes at home. This will be an easy, lazy and relaxing float under normal mid-summer conditions that normally exist. Last years near record drought conditions still provided a steady 2 mph current from Medora to Sparksville while ten paddlers from three states attended. The river is one and perhaps the only stream in the state that can abide by the 24-7-365 rule per having an adequate flow to be paddled at anytime. Even the Wabash and White in their upper reaches run dry leaving the St. Joseph (South Bend) with its numerous dams, Kankakee (dredged and channelized in Indiana) and perhaps the Maumee (often dry) as its only competition for this claim. The section we will float contains 21 sandbar "beaches" that run from 500 feet to over a quarter of a mile in length.

-- INFORMATION --

MEETING TIME: 930 AM , Saturday July 20th

MEETING PLACE AND LOCATION: Azailia DNR Public Access (Delorme Atlas page 51, C-11) Located @ Azailia Bridge over river on Bartholomew Count Road 800 South, 1 mile East of SR 11 and/or 1 1/2 miles West of US 31. TAKE OUT: Rockford DNR Public Access, 1/4 mile West of SR 11.

SHUTTLE:17 MILES (Round Trip) TRIP DISTANCE" 12.1 miles LUNCH: A sandbar,

WIDTH Varies from 100' to 225' TIME ON RIVER: 4-5 hours

CURRENT: 2-2 1/2 mph under normal mid-summer conditions

SCENERY: Nearly two dozen long sandbars some a 1/4 mile in length

DIFFICULTY: Easy, lazy relaxing Class I with steady current under normal conditions.

FROM CENTER OF INDY: Take I-65 South to Exit # 64. Turn Left (EAST) onto Co. Rd. 450 south also called Southern Crossing and proceed for 2 1/2 miles to flashing light at SR 11. At SR 11 turn right (South) and go aprox. 4 miles (at the top of a hill on a curve) turn left (east) onto CO RD 800 South. There is a brown Public Access Site sign located on St,Rd. 11 before the turn. This is the only hill you will be on while on SR 11. While on Co. Rd. 800 South proceed East for one mile and cross long concrete (Azailia) Bridge over river . The boat ramp is located immediately to your right with a gravel parking lot on the Southeast corner. If you go into the small town of Azailia-turn around and go back to the bridge. Google Earth shows this location along with an overview of the numerous sandbars located on the rivers course.

CONTACT: Richard Tekulve, cell= 812 767-2842, home 812 346-7921, email= CANOEINDIANA@YAHOO.COM Please notify me by 10 pm on Friday July 12th. I will have my cell phone with me on Saturday AM if lost or any questions.



Fire Up for the Fourth of July!

Wednesday, July 3rd

White River, Broad Ripple Park, Indianapolis

7:30 p.m.

One of my favorite ways to get ready for the Fourth in Indy is to enjoy the fireworks from my boat on White River in Broad Ripple while the fireworks and smoke are descending directly overhead from the fabulous show put on by the White River Yacht Club! It's not for the faint of heart nor those not confident in their boat in a bit of wake from the pontoons and party boats alongside us. Everyone who participated last year had a lot of fun and said the fireworks show was as good as the big one downtown. We'll meet at the Broad Ripple Park Boat Ramp at 7:30 p.m. *(Please check in with me a couple of days beforehand in case the weather calls for an alternate plan).* We'll leisurely paddle a couple of miles upstream, watch the fireworks, and then take our time paddling back downstream to the boat ramp. A light (or lights) for your boat is a requirement. One year the water patrol stopped us, not for the beverages we had, but because one of our boats didn't have a light. Bring fun snacks, drinks, bug spray, and long sleeves for possible cool temps later on. **And don't forget your old-timey sparklers!** And your boat! – kayak, canoe, whitewater boat – it's a short trip on a wide river so all boats are welcome!

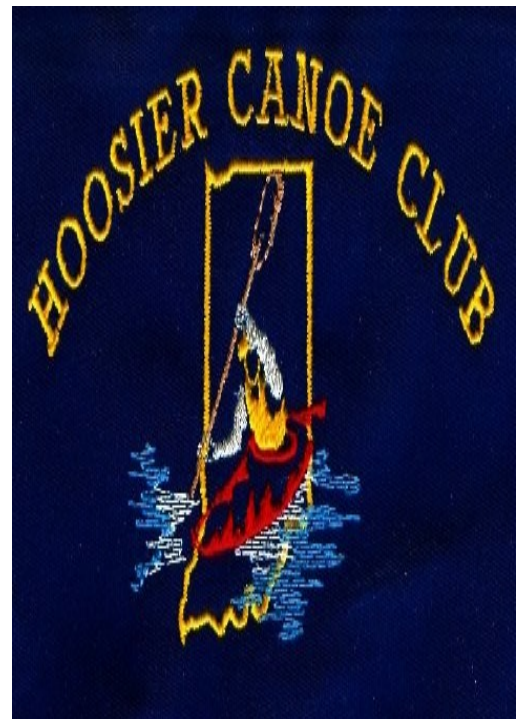
Location: Broad Ripple Park (boat ramp) 1550 Broad Ripple Avenue, Indianapolis, 46220

Sponsor: Theresa Kulczak

tkulczak@comcast.net

Home: 317-570-0506

Cell: 317-409-6771



The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

Sea Kayak Trip Announcement

Lake Michigan Paddle with NWIPA— Friday, July 5, Saturday, July 6, and Sunday, July 7, 2013
HCC Coordinator: Jim Sprandel

Northwest Indiana Paddler's Association (NWIPA) is once again having their annual Lake Michigan shore-line paddle. So far, we have 7 HCC folk coming up for the paddles. Like last year, you will have the opportunity to paddle one, two, or all three days—

Friday (July 5) - St Joseph, Michigan to Warren Dunes (15 miles)

Saturday (July 6) - New Buffalo to Michigan City (15 miles)

Sunday (July 7) - North from New Buffalo (6-8 miles)

It's a great opportunity this year. With the 4th on Thursday, skipping work on Friday is a great way to create a four-day weekend and take advantage of all 3 days of paddling. In addition, New Buffalo is about 3-4 hours from Indianapolis so that you can drive up on Friday or Saturday Morning to paddle that day since the paddles don't start until 11:00 EDT.

Check full details for the trip on the Bulletin Board at: <http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/showthread.php?4858>. I will send out the full trip description to the Sea Kayak mailing list as soon as I receive it.

Paddler Skill Level: This event is for intermediate to advanced paddlers who have a reliable self rescue, who comfortably paddle in 2-4 foot waves, and who can maintain a minimum of 3 mph for 15 miles. You must have a 15 ft or longer kayak with deck lines, watertight bulkheads or flotation and carry appropriate safety equipment.

Camping Arrangement: If you are interested in camping with us near New Buffalo, please let me know by ASAP. Room at our campground may or not be available at this time but I can check if you contact me.

Contact Information: Jim Sprandel (317 257-2063, merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net)

Note: These plans are subject to lake conditions - I will check on-line lake conditions during the week prior to the event and send results out to all participants as well as post them on the Bulletin Board.



Entrance to Michigan City Harbor—2011

Happy Birthday, HCC...AGAIN? (Part 6 of 11)

Mariann Davis

Samuel Johnson (probably, never—a kayaker) argued with the great historians that an impartial history could be written in the lifetime of those who have experienced the events. He reasoned that a person, by talking with those of different sides and by recording all that he hears, may in time collect the materials of a good and accurate narrative. I must say, four hundred years later, Sam's recipe lends credibility to this writing. After spending many months sifting through hundreds of dusty newsletters and club minutes, I found that the oral history of the Hoosier Canoe Club members provided an element to the historical record that the archives could not. Hopefully, I was able to weave both the oral and written history creatively together so as to blur the difference.

Our 50th anniversary celebration at the Indianapolis Yacht Club brought so many of our early members together in such a joyful commemorative way. We understand that there are many more members that give of their time and talent so as to sustain our most worthy organization. Those people are the backbone and life blood of the club and often fall silent with recognition. Make no mistake, we know who you are and there is time yet to sing your praises...It will be in the Key of "G" for gratitude.

How paradoxical to continue forward in our History...But let's do just that and return to the middle 80s where we find Shirley Gates ready to pound the gavel:

Heading Towards Modernity—(Middle 1980s)

The time is right and it comes as the transfer of leadership passes from **he** to **she**. I make this gender distinction only as a lead into one very prominent **she** of the HCC. Shirley Gates (1979) was not only one of only four female skippers in our club to date (the first being Donnis Kirkman in 1975...the fifth being our current skipper, Sue Foxx). But she was also inexhaustible in her talents. Shirley was one of very few club members that could be comfortable in a multitude of administrative hats. She could be seen everywhere in the HCC ranks, spanning 25 years as if she were the progenitor of every office in the club, holding at least 3 different executive positions including three terms as skipper, three as club secretary, and multiple board positions. Shirley offered her home as the location for many Christmas parties, HCC meetings and after trip parties. It seemed that she carried the annual awards ceremony chairmanship many times and was the impetus for its rebirth. This piece of the club's itinerary started around 1969 had survived extinction on a few occasions until finally succumbing around 2007. She continued, for many years, organizing and sustaining the Eagle Creek weekday evening paddles until passing it on to Kellie Kaneshiro (2004).

She has led as many as six trips per season and her last mystery trip was in 2007— members are still unsure of their destination. For Shirley and her three young children, canoeing/kayaking was a family affair which began quite precipitously. Her first instructional class and introduction to kayaking just happened to be a roll class. No, she didn't roll on that first day, although she did eventually accomplish the feat. She credits her young son, John Gates, as having enough desire to be upside-down in a kayak for the both of them. John is now living in Maine...still.

The nostalgia for a family adventure in paddling is all that remains in the club today as individual memberships are the rule. Shirley remembers many family trips with her daughter, Lori and son, John, and remarks how different paddling skill levels could commingle even on white water trips. While the fearless white water paddlers were daring Class 4-5 rapids, the other flatwater paddlers found more manageable water in rafts or duckies or paddled on tamer rivers nearby.

Shirley credits Jerry Schoditsch (1973), Chuck Lunsford (1974), and the omni-present Dave Ellis (1969) as gifted paddlers and par-excellent instructors who contributed not only to her and her family's paddling skills but to many HCC members'. Bob Kirkman (1983) dubbed this trio the paddling "trifecta" and praises their indomitable spirit and ability in the sport. Continued to next page:

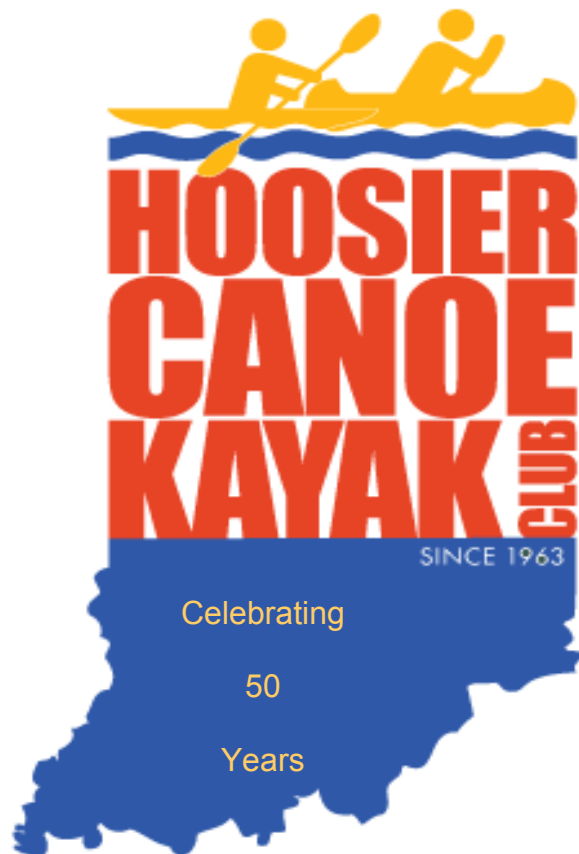


Happy Birthday (part 6 of 11) continued:

Shirley was always available, manufacturing time for volunteering in endless quantities. Fortunately, for the HCC, Shirley provided both service and leadership with an organizational aptitude that was so apparent on my visit. The diaries that she kept of her 25-year paddling timeline were chronicled beautifully and annotated with numerous pictures that delivered a quarter century of history, seamlessly. I'm sure her life long career as a registered nurse afforded those qualities of service most enviable in her character. Much to the surprise of an HCC source, Shirley was sighted a few years ago on Raccoon Creek with the club, but as far as kayaking on a regular basis, she defers to some medical issues to determine her future sightings on the river.

We will pause again with more History to come.

***There will be a correction made to the History: Our HCC Skipper was incorrectly referred to as Dennis Kirkman...She is hereafter entitled to her real first name: "Donnis" Kirkman, the Club's Skipper from 1987-1988. Please accept our most sincere apology.**



A Toast To Life Membership!

By Garry Hill

Here's To You and Here's To Me

And Here's to Life Membership in the HCC

I just don't care how many years that might be

Cause there's still new Rivers that I'd like to see

So Keep this Club goin'

Keep the membership growin'

Keep leading trips to all the new Streams

And Never give up on your hopes

For new Paddling dreams !

**See You On The River,
Muskrat**

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club