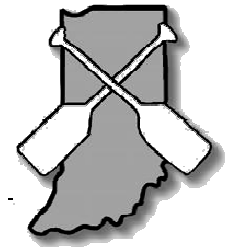


The Hoosier Paddler

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May 2012



A note from our skipper, Dwayne James:

Come out and join us at Eagle Creek on Tuesday evenings to paddle with friends and meet other club members. Remember to download and print your Eagle Creek Pass to get into the park for free for the Tuesday paddles, and remember to let Jim Sprandel know when you can help clean up the shoreline area. See you on the water.

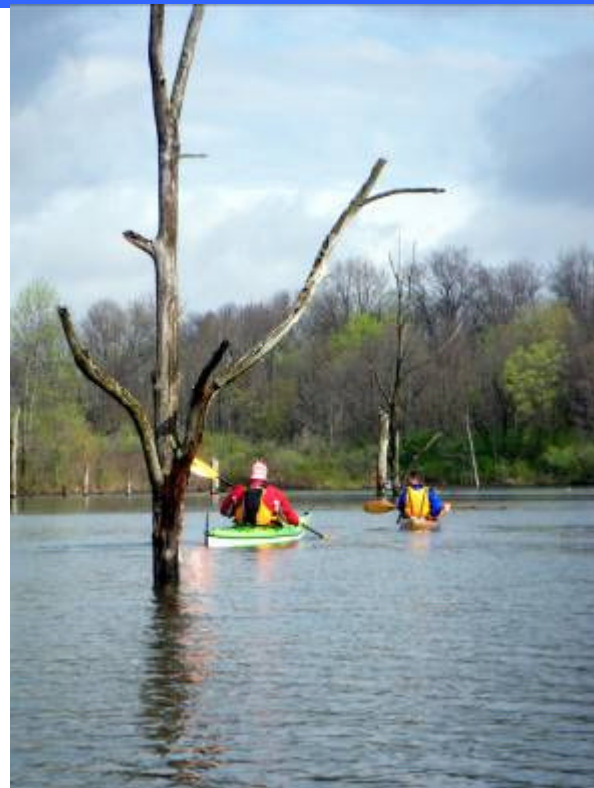
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Picture taken at Summit Lake trip by Jim Sprandel (see page 3 for more information.)

HCC Fall Creek Clean Up --- Volunteers Needed

Saturday, June 2, 2012

Sponsor: Dan Evard

Plans are underway for the HCC Fall Creek Clean Up on Saturday, June 2nd, 2012. Let's plan on meeting at 9:30 am at the old O'Malia's parking lot, just east of Emerson and south of 56th street. We should be off the water about 1:00 pm, and we will grab some pizza for anyone interested. If you are not familiar with Fall Creek, it runs from Pendleton above Geist Reservoir as well as below the reservoir, and down to about 10th street. Good websites are: <http://www.fallcreekindiana.com> and the Fall Creek Trail, Indy Greenways website at <http://www.indygreenways.org/fallcreek/fallcreek.htm>. The club will provide trash bags, gloves, drinking water, etc. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering.

What to Bring: Your boat and paddle (of course) along with your PFD, hat, sunscreen, bug spray and protective footwear.

Contact Information: Dan Evard (317) 753-1226, danevard@aol.com

The Newsletter of the Hoosier Canoe Club

White Lick Creek: March 17 Trip Report

Dave Ellis: The rain gods were being stingy. Since there was not enough water in the Big Walnut, I re-directed the trip to White Lick Creek from Mooresville to Brooklyn. This is about a 7.5 mile paddle. The trip highlight for me was seeing a mink along the bank. I think the other paddlers missed it. The low point was our folks choosing to load-up in a busy intersection disrupting local traffic. I asked for tweets from participants so I could simplify doing this write-up. The results follow. In addition to those who helped me out, Theresa Kulczak, Mariann Davis, and Greg Hecht paddled with us.

Here's hoping the Big Walnut will happen in 2013 – HCC's 50th year.

Dwayne James: I was really surprised by the creek. I never ran this section before, even though I live in Mooresville. Nice flow, wonderful rock bottom that would create wave trains with a bit more water. Fish abound and kingfishers flit about. A perfect day on the water with lots of new paddlers to get to know. And I claim first swim of the season.

Mark Cowser: Nice trip. Great weather, beautiful scenery, excellent lunch stop.

Linda Smith: Good Folks, Good Flow, Great Trip! Weather Gods there and 40 minute drive from Indy. WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE!

Don Hewitt :I really enjoyed the trip and meeting the other paddlers. The weather was great and there was enough water to get me through the shallow spots. I've been really impressed with the organization of the club and the excellent communication between the members.

Linda Reddington:
Hidden Arches, Sunny day
Breezy, modest current.
Fallen trees, some rushing water.
Lots of beaches, not much wildlife yet.
Section blocked by a fallen tree means
Happy lunch with chocolate.
A tipped canoe, maybe 2, but
no dampened spirits.

George Flexman:
Warm day cool water,
The songs of myriad birds,
Perfect spring paddle.

James Doty: It was very much worth the 2.5 hour drive south to boat on a beautiful river with such a fine group of paddlers. Throw a warm sunny day on top and it just can't be beat.

Flatwater Trip Report

South Fork, Wildcat Creek.

Saturday, May 19, 2012

Trip Leader: Jeff Matthews

Last year's high water put a damper on this trip. But, we try again. The South Fork is comparable to the Big Walnut in size, but can be run at low water levels. I have run it at 75 cfs, but for the benefit of all skill levels, 125 cfs will be the lower limit for this trip.

The upper limit for HCC tripper will depend on scouting prior to the 19th. In general, 500 cfs is the upper boundary for an enjoyable paddle. I have been down this stretch twice this year, once at 200cfs (perfect) and at 140 cfs (small challenge).

There is one new bank to bank log jamb a few miles below the put-in, that cannot be removed without some heavy machinery.

Thankfully the portage on river left is easy on a large gravel bar. Paddlers should be confident in their ability to hit a boat sized eddy.

The Put-in this year will not be at the Dayton access site. It will be downstream at the Fairfield Lakes access. This shortens the trip to 9 miles. The problem lies at the 200 S bridge, just upstream of Fairfield Lakes. There is a large amount of timber piled against the bridge. This spot has been a "swimmer producer"

in the past. Although there is a passable hole in the timber, it is not an easy one. Take-out is at Wildcat Park.

Always a good wildlife viewing opportunity, and one of the few places I paddle where we can see Great Horned Owls hunting during the day. The Bald Eagle sightings are also up. This a fast growing area for housing development. It is interesting from year to year to see the effects on the waterway.

Meeting time is 10 am at the Fairfield Lakes access. The directions are as follows;

Using I-65 as a reference point. From I-65 take the St Rd 38 exit, east. Drive through Dayton on 38. Just east of Dayton is the South Fork bridge. Just east of the bridge is County Rd 775 East. Turn north on 775, and drive north to the stop sign. Left at the stop, on 200 S. West on 200 S 1/4 mile to County Rd 750 E, just before the bridge. Turn north on 750, drive 50 yards to the access parking. This is a small lot, and is shared by fishermen, so find a parking spot that will not block the entrance if possible. The creek is a short carry from the lot. We will run in light rain, but not with lightning or extreme high wind.



Trip Report—Summit Lake—On March 23, Sue Foxx led fourteen other kayakers on our annual First of Spring paddle on Summit Lake. The weather was warm and the wind was calm so it was an easy, enjoyable paddle for everyone. On the lake, we saw large flocks of coots as well as Canada geese, red wing blackbirds, herons, mallards, and wood ducks. About half way, we stopped for lunch and some of Jim Clendenin's fantastic cookies near the dam. After that, we paddled around Big Island and Goose Island at the south end of the lake before heading back to our put-in after a 6-7 mile paddle. (Picture by Jim Sprandel)

Register Now for West Michigan Coastal Kayak Association (WMCKA) Symposium

The WMCKA Symposium will take place at Camp Pandalouan on Big Blue Lake over Memorial Day weekend (May 25th-28th). This camp is just slightly North of Muskegon, MI.

This is a fun symposium that has classes with excellent instructors and is known for being both Greenland and Euro paddle friendly. The symposium has something for everybody - a kids program, classes for recreational boaters, and great beginner and intermediate classes for sea kayakers. Classes are held on Big Blue Lake.

Last year, Jim Sprandel took a series of forward stroke classes for Greenland and wing paddles as well as a turning/edge class. I took their 3-day BCU 3 Star Training class with Bonnie Perry.

This year, Marsha Henson from Sea Kayak Georgia on Tybee Island will be the featured guest. Marsha is co-owner of Sea Kayak Georgia, an ACA Level 4 Coastal Kayak Instructor and a registered Okefenokee guide. Her recent travels include California, Florida, Michigan, North Carolina, Mexico, and Wales.

More Information is available at: <http://www.wmcka.org/symposium.php>

*note: at this time, the final 2012 class listing and schedule have not been posted, it is usually posted by the end of April/first week in May.

Eagle Creek Tuesday Evening Paddles

Jim Sprandel

This year, Eagle Creek paddles will be on Tuesday Night (not Thursday like last year). Members voted to move the date to Tuesday since several people missed Eagle Creek paddles getting ready for or driving to week-end paddling events.

These Tuesday Evening paddles are provided through a Partnership Agreement between the Eagle Creek Discovery Center staff and the HCC. Eagle Creek grants us admission to the park after 1:00 pm on Tuesday afternoons. We pay for these paddles by cleaning up the shore of the Eagle Creek Lake. Later in the year, I will be recruiting volunteers to help with this clean-up.

If you have never paddled Eagle Creek, it is an interesting and fun area with open water which can get "playful" (1-2 foot waves) for long boaters when the wind is up. Flatwater paddlers can feel at home on Eagle Creek above the Lafayette Road bridge or up Fishback Creek which are only a mile or so from the marina. There is a lot of wildlife around the lake—it's common to see ducks, geese, cormorants, egrets, herons, and even bald eagles on our paddles. Plus, we see an occasional beaver and osprey.

When: Tuesday Afternoons/Evenings - May 1, 2012 through September 25, 2012.

Starting Time:

There is no "official" starting time—last year, sea kayaker usually met up and paddled together after they get off work between 4:30 and 5:15 pm. However, members may come out and paddle anytime after 1:00 pm.

If you want to meet with people to paddle, I would recommend setting up a Bulletin Board Thread for this purpose or coordinating it using the IND_TOURING_KAYAK e-mail list..

Note: Be sure to look at the park closing time that is posted at each of the park gates. It changes throughout the year and you can be ticketed if you stay in the park after that time.

Where: Eagle Creek Park Marina—Enter the park at either the 56th Street or 71st Street entrance and follow the signs in the park to the marina. This pass is **not** valid at the ramp at the south end of the lake near Rick's Boat Yard restaurant.

Eagle Creek Pass: You **must** show the 2012 HCC pass to the Eagle Creek gate staff to get in without paying. Park admittance is normally \$8 for a car with one boat.

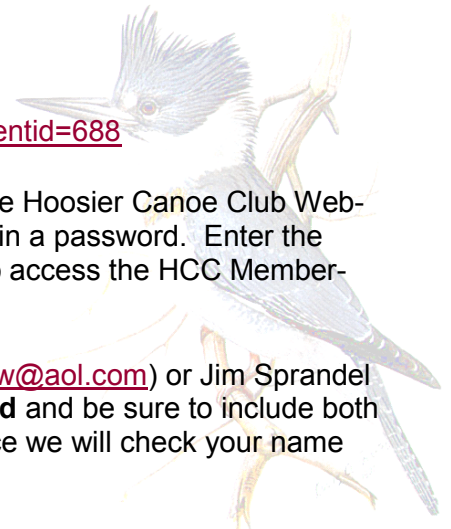
Directions to print the 2012 HCC Pass to Eagle Creek:

To access the 2012 Eagle Creek Park Pass, go to:

<http://www.hccbulletinboard.org/forums/attachment.php?attachmentid=688>

IMPORTANT: The Eagle Creek Park Pass is password protected on the Hoosier Canoe Club Website. Before you can display or print the pass, you will be asked to type in a password. Enter the same password that Dave Ellis e-mailed you on March 15 of this year to access the HCC Membership List.

If you have forgotten this password, please e-mail Dave Ellis (riverpapaw@aol.com) or Jim Sprandel (merlin-3d@sbcglobal.net). **Please allow one day to get the password** and be sure to include both your full name and e-mail address when requesting this information since we will check your name against the current HCC membership list.



Flatwater Trip Announcement

Driftwood River Trip

Trip Sponsors: Dan Evard, Linda Smith

Saturday, May 12, 2012

The Driftwood River, flowing from the confluence of the Big Blue River and the Sugar Creek, winds through farmland with wooded strips bordering both banks – very pretty. Our trip will begin in a secluded state wildlife preserve and con-

tinue through a part of Camp Atterbury wilderness area. Deer, beaver, heron, eagle, osprey and wild turkeys have been spotted along this area. Also not unusual to see aerial maneuvers from the military training ground nearby. We will travel from Furnas Mill Dam on the Sugar Creek to Heflin Park (8miles) or to Lowell Bridge PAS (15 miles) depending on water flow. Appropriate for all skill levels.

Meeting Place: The Shell Station at Exit 80 on I-65 South at the intersection of State Hwy. 252 and I-65 South

Schedule:

| | |
|----------|--|
| 9:00 am | Arrive at Meeting Place – Shell Station at Exit 80 |
| | Travel to Put In |
| 9:30 am | Run Shuttle |
| 10:30 am | Start Paddling |
| | Lunch Break |
| 4:00 pm | Landing at Take Out |

Contact Information: Please contact one of us by Friday, May 11th to confirm your attendance and to make sure the water level is sufficient for this trip to be a go.

Sea Kayak Clinic—Stroke Refinement

Saturday, May 5, 2012

Instructors: Dave Ellis Jim Sprandel, Jason Baugh

The goal of this full-day course is “to assist coastal kayakers ...in refining their basic strokes and maneuvers.” Students will practice and be coached on their arsenal of strokes and maneuvers to improve their efficiency, fluidity, and control in both forward and reverse directions. We will also focus on blending strokes together to expand their range of use as well as exploiting your kayak’s hull design using edging. The course will also look at ways to help turn and control sea kayaks in open water paddling conditions.

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2012

Location: Geist Reservoir—The meeting location will be e-mailed to participants with final course details one week before the course.

Schedule:

| | |
|---------|--|
| 9:15 am | Dressed to paddle—Boat ready to launch |
| 9:20 am | Start Class |
| 4:00 pm | Class Complete |

Be sure to bring a lunch since we will break sometime after noon.

Cost: Participants who are not ACA members will be required to pay a \$5 fee. ACA Members are requested to bring their ACA number with them.

Class Size: The class will be limited to 12 students. HCC members with proper equipment will be accepted on a first come-first served basis.

Recommended Skill Level for this Class: Before taking this class, you should be comfortable using all of the basic kayak strokes (i.e., forward strokes, reverse strokes, draws, and turning maneuvers) as well as bracing. I would recommend one year of experience after completing the Introduction to Paddling class.

Required Equipment:(Contact [Jim](#) or [Dave](#) if you want an exception to these equipment requirements since we may have extra equipment that you can borrow):

- Sea or Touring Kayak—Must be at least 14 feet long and have water-tight fore and aft bulkheads.
- Spray Skirt
- PFD, pump, paddle float, water, lunch, dry clothes in a dry bag.
- Paddle—These techniques work equally well with European (Standard) paddles or Greenland paddles so bring the paddle that you are most comfortable with.
- Recommended: Wet Suit or Dry Suit—People may capsize while working on these maneuvers so it’s good to dress for the water.

Contact Information: If you wish to sign up, send an e-mail to Kellie Kaneshiro at [knkane\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:knkane(at)gmail.com). To help the instructors plan the course, please include the following information in that e-mail: 1) name, 2) phone number, 3) boat that you will take the course with, and 4) your paddling experience

Jim Sprandel will send students an E-Mail with and final course details one week before the class.

See You on the River!