

The Hoosier Paddler

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Skipper's Message

With the holidays upon us this is a great time to reflect on 2013. We had great trips...thanks trip leaders. We had wonderful participation at activities designed to let folks know about the club...thanks volunteers. We had good leadership...thanks chairpersons and board. Finally, thanks to all members who supported the club and participated in our activities during our 50th Anniversary year. Our club has been blessed over the years with wonderful people who have shared friendship and the wonders of our rivers and lakes. In 2013 we reflected on our amazing past. Now with 2014 upon us, spend some time thinking about how to make our next 50 years even better. Finally, there is no better way to start the year than to join us for the New Year's Day paddle on White River. Hope to see you there and have a happy holiday season. Sue Foxx, Skipper

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Officers and Executive Board 2014

The following club members were elected as officers and board members for 2014:

Skipper: Jim Clendenin
Ex O: Mariann Davis
Purser: Duane Garlock
Yeoman: Jim Sprandel

Immediate Past Skipper Sue Foxx

Members of the BOARD:

Jordan Ross	Dave Ellis
Shirley Gates	Matt Slagel
Konstantin Louganski	Natalie Needham
John Wainscott	Anna Riley
Theresa Kulczak	Dwayne James
Greg Rathnow	Todd Barrett

Congratulations!!

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Trip Announcement
Annual New Year's Day Trip
January 1, 2014
Trip Sponsor: Sue Foxx

For the New Year's Paddle we plan to do the White River from Hazel Landing to Sandy Point. We will send out an email with specific put in and take out directions after Christmas. Meet at the put-in at 11 A.M. We will run the shuttle at 11:30 and then paddle and have fun: cold, wind, snow or sleet. If it is raining or high water, forget it. Please be sure to check in with Sue since we need to make sure we have enough, but not too much, water for the trip. We will post an update to the bulletin board by 7 pm 12/30/2013 and let you know if it is a go or if the trip will be cancelled due to water or weather.

Please consult our cold water paddling tips for ideas on gear. You need to have a dry bag with a change of warm clothing. Dress in layers—an outer, wind and waterproof layer, fleece or silk inner layer, and fleece or silk underlayer for your top and for your pants. Waterproof gloves are a must—I love my chotas with a fleece lining. A warm head covering should also be included with your gear. And wool socks and waterproof, warm boots. Because Dwayne is known to swim, he usually brings two changes of extra clothes.

Also bring something to drink and a snack, although we likely will not hang out on the beach long enough to eat lunch. I bring a peanut butter sandwich, a granola bar or two, and some nice iced tea or powerade/Gatorade. If it is really cold, I include a thermos of hot coffee. Some stash a thermos of hot soup as well. Please contact Sue Foxx at sufoxx713@aol.com or call 317-363-4074

TRAINING: Wilderness First Aid Class

January 25, 2014

Registration Required

Paddlers don't miss this great opportunity to be a lifesaver on trips! The HCC is proud to offer its own wilderness first aid class (WFA). WFA is the assessment of and treatment given to an ill or injured person in a remote environment where definitive care by a physician and/or rapid transport is not readily available. Participants will learn how to assess, treat, and (when possible) contain emergencies within the scope of their training. Think how important this could be when you are on the river and far from help. This training is being provided by a certified instructor and includes the cost of the class and books.

An 8 hour class will be held on January 25th in Indianapolis. The class will start at 8:30 am and is expected to complete around 5 pm. Limit of 30 attendees with a minimum of 12. The cost will be \$20 per HCC member. Lunch included. This is a GREAT DEAL as similar classes often cost over \$200.

Location: This will be held in the Church Basement of Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 5692 Central Avenue, Indianapolis 46220. Access the basement from the backside of the church off the parking lot. Payment is due at time of registration. To register please contact Sue Foxx at sufoxx713@aol.com or call 317-363-4074.

Trips Planning Meeting

February 8, 2014

Sponsor: Mariann Davis

Any interested HCC members and the Board are invited to the annual trip planning Meet-up. We will discuss and create the 2014 calendar of events and exciting paddling trips for flatwater (easy river paddles), whitewater (scary river paddles) and open water (beautiful, long paddles on the great lakes and lesser). All trips are planned with the goal: there are exciting, challenging, and relaxing paddles for any paddler's ability.

So come prepared--or just to learn--to contribute ideas about great paddling possibilities or volunteer to be a trip leader on one of your favorite trips.

This is your club...Make that difference by letting us know where you want to paddle next year and, for sure: "Let's see you on the water."

Location: Mariann Davis' home...13120 Hazelwood Ct., Carmel IN 46033. 1 mile east of N. Keystone Ave (on Main St.), then, turn North onto Hazelwood Dr.; then, first Right onto Hazelwood Ct.

Date & Time: Saturday, February 8; 1-4 PM

Snacks...Of course!...bring a snack to share...bring your own adult beverage but other beverages will be provided.

I know we are all looking forward to an exciting paddling year...Let's make that happen.

See you Saturday, February 8th

Mariann Davis, Ex O

The HCC Begins Another 50 Year Run Mariann Davis

I'm not sure our founding fathers (and mothers) could have predicted a 50 year life for the Hoosier Canoe Club. In this day and age of a short attention span and multi-tasking, one might think that the energy to sustain our paddle club would have dwindled in favor of the next big adventure. Not so. We are still here creating exciting paddling adventures, offering paddling instructions and recruiting potential paddlers. I know I won't be writing the next 50 year history of the HCC in 2063. Let's ensure that someone else will.

Leadership Then and Now

The club has had twenty-nine different skippers from 1963 through 2013; fourteen accepted two-year terms and only two, Shirley Gates and Reggie Baker, had more than two terms with the gavel: Shirley Gates with three terms and Reggie Baker holding the all-time record with eight years of skippering.

Successful leadership has many qualities: Clarity of vision, creativity, fairness and magnanimity are essential, but dedication seems to be a primary trait. The club leadership flows with seamless transition as many executive officers stay on to become skippers and many previous skippers maintain positions on the board. These skippers articulate the mission of the club and provide leadership in sustaining membership and defining and promoting the

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club's agenda. A good leader will correct for a fragmented course that can swamp any organization. Sometimes unpopular decisions are made in favor of the whole and sometimes personal agendas become popular agendas. All is done thankfully for the future success of an organization without reimbursement of time or compensation.

Dan Valleskey (1992) past skipper (2009-2010) has been a large presence in the club for almost 20 years. In the late 80's, after meeting his wife, Julie, he moved to Indianapolis from Fort Wayne. Surprisingly, Dan joined the Wildcat Canoe Club, Garry's Lafayette-based club, years before joining the HCC. He was a member of the WCC board for a few years, became a trip leader, and subsequently became their newsletter editor. Apparently, Dan was establishing a strong base (with the WCC); from that early leadership experience, he would begin to build a healthy resume for the HCC. Dan has held executive positions in the HCC on three occasions: publicity chairman in 1995, safety chairman ('96), and skipper ('09-'10).

His vision for the club consistently brought members to focus on many challenging projects: The Hoosier Outdoor Experience, a huge organizational project, proved that the HCC can support a state-wide effort that encourages water sports to a large part of the community. Because of the HCC, the two-day event introduced hundreds of Hoosiers to paddling one of Indiana's beautiful streams. Dan organized the volunteers within the HCC and encouraged the IYAK meet up group to volunteer their own members. Personally, Dan continues to work with the Friends of the White River, through their "River School" to lead paddling trips and provide teaching to interested kids. He encouraged the techno-advanced method of on-line membership payment through PayPal, which was achieved through the tireless efforts of Jim Sprandel (2005), our past newsletter editor.

The reduction of our instructor base, with the loss of Reggie Baker and the semi-retirement of Debby Baker, brings concern to Dan. He understands the dedicated effort involved in the ACA certification necessary to develop quality safety paddling classes. Currently, the club has three certified paddling instructors, Joel DeLashmit (2008), Dave Ellis (1969) and Jim Sprandel (2005). (I am uncertain if any other members have been certified since 2011). The club certainly commends them on their important contribution through their advance training.

He reminds us often that this is a recreational paddle club and that we're here to have fun and paddle with friends. However, many trips have few paddlers or the same paddlers. Dan has repeatedly raised the question: "How do we get more of our members on the water?" Dan hopes that by providing more educational opportunities and by advertising Jordan Ross's roll classes at the Thatcher Pool we may encourage more people to get out. Under Dan's skippering, a safety education task force was also established in 2009 and continues with waning effort to develop a safety outreach educational program to help reduce the number of accidents and drownings on the rivers. The project consists of intelligently humorous and educational signage placed at river access sites, liveries and retailers. Theresa Kulczak, Terry Busch, Dan Valleskey, Mariann Davis and Jordan Ross have worked to produce safety education materials available for teaching paddle safety.

Moving Ahead

Through the efforts of countless members, the HCC has survived and prospered just over 50 years. Today, the club enjoys a membership just under 300 paid members and from that number many talented and creative people will be recruited to the executive positions, the board, and committee positions necessary to sustain and grow the club. As members understand their personal connections to the sport of paddling, I'm sure they will contribute their talents accordingly and generously. Without you, the paddler, the club would not exist. The club's best insurance against extinction is members showing up on the river to paddle. Besides, the small membership dues, the only price an HCC member has to pay to keep the club vibrant is doing what paddlers already love doing—Paddle!

So as they say in the paddling world: See you on the Water!

Time Line Events

- 1969 through 2006**—with a few interruptions, the HCC provided the end-of-year awards at the annual meeting.
- 1986**—HCC hosted the first flat-water national championships at Eagle Creek Reservoir sponsored by the ACA.
- 1987**—HCC had volunteers at the Pan AM games in Indianapolis.
- 1988**—Olympic team trials were held on Eagle Creek Reservoir prior to the Seoul Olympics—many club members

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volunteered.

1988—The DNR contacted the HCC for recommendations on which rivers and streams to monitor by gauges.

1989—multiple drowning on Indiana Rivers prompted Bob Kirkman to strengthen his education to liveries on educating the paddling public.

2000—there were 250 paid member in the HCC.

2008—The 1st annual Pirate Paddle on the White River was held inviting club members and the community at large to participate; a very big success through the efforts of Theresa Kulczak.

2009—In November, we began to develop a huge state wide safety campaign involving placement of safety signage and literature in liveries and retailers.

2009/2010-2012—participated as large presence in the Hoosier Outdoor Experience, a state-wide event, to introduce Hoosiers to the kayaking experience. HCC Volunteers lead hundreds of first-time paddlers down Fall Creek.

February 2010— Dan Valleskey and several HCC members have testified before a Senate committee on House Bill 1232 – Log Jam Removal to keep the present IDNR permitting process in place. Without this there is the potential for inappropriate dredging and mudslides. Flood control concerns could be exacerbated.

2011—one of the largest trip calendars, offering 82 different trips: 25 flatwater, 27 touring, and 30 whitewater events. The HCC continues to support the triathlons at Eagle Creek

2011-2013—The HCC participated in a very successful 9-day event at the Boat and Travel Show with many displays and multiple roll demonstrations and other educative talks...

2012-13—Dwayne James continued the club tradition of bringing paddling to special needs groups (for example: Jordan Ross' program paddling in the pool with students from the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired or working with quadriplegics at Eagle Creek Reservoir) through a 4-5 week summer kayaking program for special needs children. Students met weekly at Eagle Creek Park and were chaperoned and instructed by volunteers from the HCC. This was a very rewarding experience for both the children, instructors, and the parents many of whom got into kayaks and paddled with or alongside their children. With your help, we continue in June 2014...

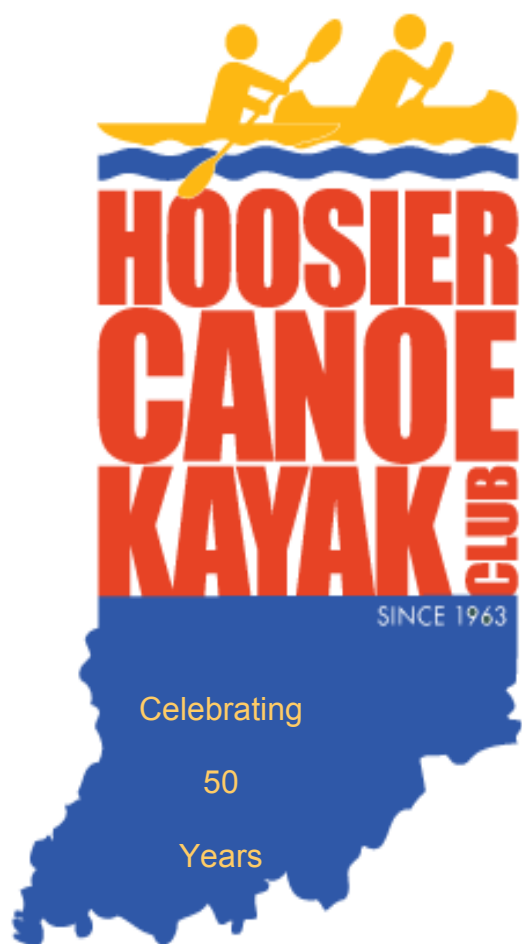
6/2013—The Hoosier Canoe Club celebrates its 50th anniversary with a gala party and evening paddle at Eagle Creek Park. Paddlers /members who made some notable and sustaining contributions to the club were recognized by individual presenters who shared their stories.

The End Beginning

An Event of Interest!! The Yukon 1000 Canoe and Kayak Race 2014

This is a seriously hard core race for long distance paddlers/adventure racers. It runs from Monday the 21st of July for a week, or ten days, or maybe 2 weeks, however long it takes the fleet to paddle the 1000 miles, 1600 Km from Whitehorse down the Yukon River to the last road access point where the Alaska Pipeline crosses the river North and West of Fairbanks Alaska. There is almost no white-water on this river. A brief class 2 rapid is all there is. But the race is not without its challenges. The biggest challenge is pushing yourself to paddle 18 hours a day, day after day in the very empty wilderness.

This race has been dominated by British and Australian paddlers. It is time we had more Americans in the race. For information please contact: Peter Coates, Race organiser Yukon1000 2014 pcoates@yukon1000.com or visit the website at <http://yukon1000.com>



V olunteer Opportunity Annual Indiana Boat, Sport and Travel Show

Once again the club and many others from around Indiana will participate in the Quiet Sports exhibition booth over the weekend of Feb 14-17th. I will be contacting people to work shifts as I have in the past. This year we will only be manning our booth the one weekend, so let me know quick as I will take first volunteer, first scheduled! I hear Cliff Jacobson will be speaking again. More details will be provided in the next Hoosier Paddler. Contact Dwayne James at DwayneSJamesA1@hotmail.com

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