Swing of Things

Here we go, the 2017 paddle season for P4C is about to get underway. It is full paddle ahead for us as we have: completed our business plan, applied for grant funding and picked some dates for river clean ups. This paddle season is sure to bring clean waterways, smooth paddling, and FUN!

Again, this season, we will be participating in The Lakes Festival with Paddle Wars, Kayaks for Kids, Tippy River Clean Ups, and several float trips. We have room for you at every event so please do not be shy – sign up for some fun today. YOU are the major part of our success and we are so glad to have you on this adventure.

We hope that the temperatures are soon in the 70’s, your watercraft is out of storage, the water levels are perfect and you can hear the river calling your name. Not too much longer until the real fun begins.

To paddle without pollution,

P4C

Was this your 2017 Resolution too?

Dress for the water, not for the weather.

Consider the water temperature rather than the air temperature when deciding what to wear on the river. Layers of quick-dry clothing are ideal. So are hats, sunscreen, bug spray, and sunglasses. For footwear, sturdy strap-on sandals or water shoes work out well.
A Paddler’s Safety Checklist
from the American Canoe Association:

- Be a swimmer
- File a Float Plan
- Wear your lifejacket
- Assess your boat’s flotation needs
- Spare paddle
- Wear appropriate clothing—Always dress for immersion in cold water (wetsuits/drysuits)
- Wear a hat or helmet
- Compass and chart or map
- Whistle or sound signaling device
- Throw bags and other rescue gear
- “River” knife
- Bilge pump and/or bailer
- Self-rescue devices (paddle float, sling, tow rope)
- Sunscreen
- Drinking water & snacks
- Light/signal (for low light conditions)
- Proper footwear
- UV eye protection
- Drybag with extra clothing
- First-aid kit with matches
- Small repair kit with duct tape
- VHF radio and GPS locator

www.americancanoe.org

Know The Lingo:

PFD – No, not BFD – PFD!

A Personal Flotation Device is a fancy term for life jacket and yes, you should have one! PFD’s are an essential safety item. These ‘life jackets’ provide buoyancy to keep your head above water if you capsize. The USCG requires that every boater carry an approved PFD. While it is not required to wear while paddling, just remember they are hard to put after you capsize.

BONY

Bony: (also known as scratchy) - Shallow water that scrapes up your boat. The blue and green coating on the barely submerged rocks isn’t algae, its vinyl.

Bootles

Bootles: Neoprene socks worn on your feet. Also, make your car trunk smell like something died.

(Definitions provided by NRS.com, reprint of a Canoe & Kayak Magazine article, used with permission).
P4C held its FIRST Annual Meeting on January 28th for all of our club members. The afternoon provided fellowship among paddlers, good eats & sweet treats, door prizes, and a brief informational speaker. Lyn Crighton, Executive Director, of The Watershed Foundation, shared her passion for the environment and we got a sneak peek into all that good work that is getting accomplished with The Watershed Foundation. Our two groups share a common interest and hope to work together in the future. In fact, Lyn and her family signed up to be members of P4C.
If you missed her presentation, please go to their website: www.tippecanoewatershed.org and take a look around.
Also at the Annual Meeting, board members were appointed for another year of P4C fun. The following hold board positions:
- President: Ed Roberts
- Vice President: Scott Fetters
- Secretary: Michelle Roberts
- Treasurer: Lisa LeMasters
Committee chairs will also see some returning and a few new faces. We are glad to have the following on board:
- Safety/Security: Doug Light
- Float Event Organizers: Zach Netzley, Jim LeMasters, Andrea Baker, Ken Miller, Gary Schmucker, Jeff Mellott
- River Scouts: Ken Miller, Gary Schmucker, Zach Netzley, Scott Fetters, Doug Light, Ed Roberts
- Membership & Newsletter: Stacie Light
Peddlers Corner:

Below are three stripper strong-backs that a member has available. They include two Strip canoe forms and a strip kayak form, all as noted below:

1. The Kayak Form is a 17’ Guillemot (Nick Shade’s Design) “Great Auk”. A dentist friend of mine followed Nick’s Shade’s book and built the Strong-back and stations and made a very nice kayak to paddle around. He only made the one kayak on this form and did modify (lengthened) the cockpit area to fit his long legs. He was very particular in building it. He laminated the main beam, used 1/2” plywood on the stations and taped the edges. I have the strong-back assembled. It has been well hung in a climate controlled environment. I am asking $200 for this assembled form.

2. The first Canoe Form is an 18 1/2’ (Gilpatrick E.M. White Design) White Guide Canoe. This strong-back and stations have not been used. The Main Runners are 2-2’x6’x18’ W/2’x4” Cross Ties and 1”x4” lateral bracing. The stations are 1/2” plywood and been stored flat. I am asking $125 for the strong-back and stations.

3. The second Canoe Form is a 14’ (Gilpatrick Design) Puddle Duck Solo Canoe. This form has been used once. The main runners are 2-2’x6’x12’ W/2’x4” Cross Ties and 1”x4” lateral bracing. The stations are also 1/2” plywood and been stored flat. I am asking $100 for the strong-back and stations.

All the Strong-backs have been stored properly in a climate controlled environment. I do have pictures of the assembled Kayak form and also during its build process and final Kayak. I also have pictures of the Strip Canoe Main runners with the stations unassembled. I would be willing to deliver these strong-backs within 50 miles of Warsaw, IN.

Anyone interested, email John Kimpel at woodcanoe@embarqmail.com. Or call at 574-527-9493.

Meet our members:

Ed Roberts, P4C Club President

Ed Roberts, President of P4C has been a lifelong outdoor enthusiast and it shows! Anyone who knows Ed believes it was genetics that gave him his love for the outdoors and the environment. Ed’s father, also named Ed, had the same love and enthusiasm for the outdoors in which he instilled in all three of his sons and one daughter. What makes Ed successful as P4C’s President? It is his drive to provide an avenue of recreation, fun and education to the community involving the Tippecanoe River that has not been provided in the past. It is because of Ed’s passion that the P4C Paddle Club was founded and since then the club has made leaps and bounds through becoming a 501(c)3 Corporation, being awarded funding and donation by various local grants and local businesses. Ed led his P4C Members and team to a very successful year-end in 2016 far exceeding the goals that were set and is excitedly preparing for the 2017 goals. Some of his initiatives will be to include opportunities that are more educational for our local youth as well as provide local safety lessons to our community. Some of Ed’s interests are fishing, kayaking, hunting and woodworking. I bet you’ll be surprised to know he is also an internationally recognized realism artist, take a peek at his www.edrobertsart.com website to see some of his paintings.

Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land.

- Aldo Leopold
EXCITING NEWS - P4C HAS RECEIVED GRANT MONEY FOR EQUIPMENT PURCHASES! MORE INFO TO COME IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER.

**P4C Gear to Wear.**

**ORDER FORM**

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*Adult Sizes: sm, med, lg, xl, xxl, xxxl*

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

**ROBERTS SIGNS**

**p4cpaddleclub@gmail.com**

**P4C PADDLE CLUB, INC. P.O. BOX 634 WARSAW, IN 46581**

**Future paddler ready to sign up!**

**More info to come as the season progresses.**

**Member Float Trips:**

- July 8th, Tippe River CLEANUP
- July 9th, Full Moon Float Tippe River
- July 16th, St. Joe River (Montville to Bristol)
- July 30th, Missesenewa to Peru
- Aug 12-13th, Sugar Creek overnight camp
- Aug 26th, RIVER CLEAN UP
- Sept 9-10, Tippecanoe State Park overnight camp
- Sept 29 – Oct 1st, Pigeon River Clean up overnight camp
- Oct 15th, Chain of Lakes (Fall Foliage float)
- Nov 4th, Full moon float – Tippe river