

Dam Safety Tips for Paddlers

submitted by A. J. Johnson

In light of the recent tragic drowning of three people on the Fox River, the [Illinois Paddling Council](#) has made available on the web an 8 minute video that explains the dangers of low head dams, how they can be modified to remove the hydraulics, and demonstrates visually through a dam simulator what occurs under water when a boater, swimmer, or wader gets caught in the hydraulic.

This video can be watched and downloaded for free at the following website:

[Dam Safety Video](#)

For your information, the dam simulator as well as the video was made possible through a generous grant from the Baxter Allegiance Foundation some years back to the [Midwest Division of the American Canoe Association](#) with whom the [Illinois Paddling Council](#) is affiliated. IPC is the state organization representing paddlers' interests in Illinois.



Main Library – Poplar and Walnut Grove
Always the First Wednesday of each month at 7 P.M.
Except in December

North Fork of the White River

August 5-6 2006

Hello Fellow Water Dogs!

As an alternative to the August heat in Memphis - Leanne, Jacob and I plan to float in the Missouri Ozarks on the North Fork of the White River.

A very **CLEAR** and **COOL** waterway that is spring borne with refreshing breezes from the densely forested surrounding hills.

The wildlife is abundant and treats you with many layers of viewing possibilities. From high flying raptors and turkey vultures, to canopy dwelling birds and various mammals. Tree frogs for sound effects.

The life aquatic, with trout catching - snake viewing - crawfish chasing - beaver dodging - snail darter watching, and otter playing opportunities.

And what about swimming? There are virtual fountains of youth along the way to refresh your spirit.

Join us as we seek new adventures in and on the North Fork August 5 & 6.

Waterdog Rendezvous Location: We will be camping at Riverside Canoe Rental & Camp. And they to have a Saturday and Sunday breakfast for a small fee for those who don't wish to cook, also dinner (fried chicken ?) is available on Saturday night.

North Fork Trip Info Cont'd

You must sign up in advance with your reservations. Susan at Riverside has sites on hold for BCCC paddlers. Call 417-284-3043 for reservations. Riverside has a good website with maps and lots of information:

www.RiversideCanoe.com

Directions: From US Hwy 63 in West Plains take Highway 160 to Caulfield, then Hwy H to the North Fork and cross the single lane Patrick Bridge, then a left about a mile or so at the sign to their campground.

Driving map:

<http://www.riversidecanoe.com/contact.html#drivemap>

I hope to see you on the river.

Waterdog 😊

Trip details @ August meeting or contact AJ @ 489-2258

or Waterdog@aol.com

or James.Johnson@coors.com



BCCC Minutes – July 2006

President Naomi Bourne opened the meeting with an explanation for starting a little late. No one really cared because we were all busy “building” and downing our banana splits and sundaes!

Membership - Sharon Adams signed on NEW member Claire Ruddy and we welcomed her to the club!

Hospitality - Linda Hatcher thanked everyone for toppings. Our annual Ice Cream Social was a cool treat.

Safety - This position is still vacant. Give Naomi a call if you're interested in helping with this. 759-9615

Currents - Mary Finley is doing the newsletter and needs articles/trip reports e-mailed to her ASAP.

Publicity - Tom Iverson requested ideas/venues to help promote the club. Naomi thanked Mike Goode for keeping our calendar up to day and available in Health and Fitness Magazine.

Conservation - Linda Weghorst shared that “One River Mississippi” was a nice tribute to our river. Celebrated on Mud Island. It featured kayak “dancers” and music with dancing. She invited all to check out their site: one.mississippi.org. Linda announced a public forum at Shelby Farms on July 23rd at 3 pm

Maine Adventure And Canoe Trip

When: September 25th to October 7th.

Where: Millinocket Maine and the Acadia National Park

We will canoe a couple of 1 day trips on maybe the Mattawamkeag River and Molunkus River. We will also do a 2 day overnighter on the Saint Croix River. A hike is planned to the top of Mount Katahkin which is the beginning or end of the Appalachian Trail and another short hike will be done to Niagara Falls. This will be the rapid falls on Nesowadnehunk Stream. Details and itinerary will be confirmed in the near future. ACA Waiver policy will apply on this trip. Jack Chambers @377-6817

Welcome New Members/Visitor

Patricia Primrose
D. Jack Smith
Claire Ruddy (Visitor)

Web Site Latest

John Adams says that our BCCC web site "number of Unique Visitors: 621 (up from 350 in January)"

BCCC Minutes – Cont’d

Waterways - Dan Powell asked for trip reports. On the Spring River trip, Dan said that Mike Albers should be awarded our Prestigious fish plaque for the “bloodiest swim.” Elmore Holmes will again be available to help any one wanting to paddle the Mississippi on the first Saturday following our meeting. You can meet him at the Auction Ave. boat ramp Bridge at 10 am. Follow the entrance to the Coast Guard station.

Thanks to Elmore for offering this opportunity. 726-6543

Linda Weghorst has an email list of paddlers so call her if you want to be added. 725-3801

Pot Luck Pool Party at Dale Engelberg’s July 15th, 511 Goodland 458-6949

July 22 **Current River** (Bill Rehberg) Round Springs Campground 725-9747 (Bill compared the pro’s and con’s of the Current River trip with the Buffalo River trip.)

Aug 2-7, paddle Sat/Sun. **North Fork of the White, MO.** (AJ Johnson) Riverside Campground 489-2258

Call and make reservations The White River cuts down thru the Mark Twain Nat’l. Forest....cool.

Sept. 25-Oct.7- Any one interested in going to **Maine** this Fall to camp, hike, paddle and other activates. Call Jack Chambers for more information. 229-0139

August/Sept - Sandy Stacks says she may offer **Sunset Floats on the Mississippi River** in August. Information will be posted on our BCCC website.

BCCC Minutes – Cont’d

ACA - Naomi emphasized that when a trip is published in the Currents, we all need to sign ACA insurance Waivers or have one on file with the ACA if we are a current ACA member. Also, we have 2 different waivers. Go to the ACA website to find your membership info and to renew. John Adams mentioned that a Single ACA member fee is \$40. You may download your waivers from the website and sign them prior to your float trips.

Respectfully submitted by
Marilyn Upchurch



Spring River Trip Report 6/11-12

A great time was had by all. Our fearless leader was Dan Powell. He did a great job of organizing our large group. We met at the Spring River Oaks Campground at around 1 PM. Many of us ran into a down pour driving through Jonesboro. I was sure glad that I had placed my kayak in its cradle upside down.

There were 20 happy paddlers heading for the Dam 3 put in Saturday afternoon. Most were paddling canoes but there were a few kayaks. Just before our break for a snack, the bottom fell out. I am still not sure if was a planned break or a forced "break." We stopped at this little island. Either way, it worked out great for huddling together in the rain, stretching our legs and eating a bit. We were so fortunate that there was no thunder, lightening or hail. After emptying the rain from our boats, the "drowned rat patrol" (at least we looked the part) headed down river enjoying it all. We do have such a great group of people.

There were three "swimming" incidents on Saturday but, all in all, everyone, including the new paddlers and rookies, did well on all the ledges and falls.

We really enjoyed our paddling on Sunday with only one small shower. All but AJ and Jacob stopped for ice cream along the river. They were holding back fishing. We passed lots of people wading and in boats fishing for trout both days.

Spring River Trip Report cont'd

Some of the group headed back to Memphis Saturday evening but there were 9 in our troop for Sunday. Celeste came up late Saturday and joined the Sunday float in her new 10' kayak. We really enjoyed our paddling on Sunday with only one small shower. All but AJ and Jacob stopped for ice cream along the river. They were holding back fishing. We passed lots of people wading and in boats fishing for trout both days.

I, for one, was trying to remember how we made it down the different challenges the day before but decided it was better be a like a baby duck and follow the more experienced in our group down the falls/ledges. Better to trust their experienced than my memory. I was also trying to have eyes like an eagle in order to follow their track.

Again, we all have a great time. Thanks to Dan for leading the trip. I amazed myself that I didn't swim even once. M. Finley



2006 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - BLUFF CITY CANOE CLUB

Please check one block on each row below so that we may properly process your application

Status: () New () Renewal () Change of Information

Are you a member of the ACA (American Canoe Association) () Yes () No

MEMBERSHIP: () BCCC Only \$30 () BCCC + Single ACA \$50 () BCCC + Family ACA \$55

(New ACA only, the ACA will contact you regarding renewals)

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: HOME _____ WORK (HIS) _____ WORK (HERS) _____

E-mail (please print) _____

CHECK APPROPRIATE DESCRIPTIONS:

BOATING () Beginner BOAT () Canoe

SKILLS: () Intermediate () C-1

() Advanced () Kayak

PARTICIPATION, WAIVER AND RELEASE AGREEMENT

Please Read Carefully Before Signing - This is a Release of Liability and Waiver of Certain Legal Rights.

In consideration for my being permitted by the Bluff City Canoe Club, BCCC, to participate in its activities, I agree to the following waiver and release:

I acknowledge that boating, biking, hiking and outdoor activities have inherent risks, hazards and dangers that cannot be eliminated.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THESE RISKS, HAZARDS AND DANGERS INCLUDE WITHOUT LIMITATION:

(1) risks arising from any activities in areas where no outside services are available or provided; where rescue and emergency medical care and services, if available at all, are limited and will be slow to respond; where land and river conditions vary, are not maintained or controlled and are unpredictable and changeable; where hazards and dangers may not be obvious, visible, or predictable; where weather is changeable and unpredictable;

(2) risks involved in negotiating boats (canoes, kayaks, rafts) around, through or over obstacles; risks involving collisions with river hydraulics, boulders, logs, other participants, and other manmade and natural objects where water hazards that exist in a wild river environment may not be obvious; risks where control of the boat may be lost, and risks associated with the decision-making and conduct of participants of BCCC activities;

(3) risks involved with; being caught under a boat and being unable to escape, being separated from a boat, immersion in cold and freezing swift flowing river water, hypothermia (significant loss of body temperature), and drowning;

(4) such other risks, hazards and dangers that are inherent in and integral to outdoor activities including without limitation those associated with paddling, swimming, diving, hiking, climbing, fishing, biking, camping and transportation to and from the sites of the activities.

I understand that the inherent risks, hazards and dangers listed are only a partial description of those that may exist.

I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE BLUFF CITY CANOE CLUB WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE INHERENT RISKS, HAZARDS AND DANGERS INVOLVED AND HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE, ASSUME AND ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY, PARALYSIS OR DEATH AND STATE THAT I HAVE THE PHYSICAL AND MEDICAL CAPABILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ACTIVITIES I CHOOSE TO ENGAGE IN.

Lastly, for myself, my heirs, successors, executors and subrogors, I hereby **KNOWINGLY AND INTENTIONALLY WAIVE, RELEASE, INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS THE BLUFF CITY CANOE CLUB**, its directors, officers, members and affiliated organizations, collectively known as **THE BCCC**, from and against any and all claims, actions, causes of action, demands, liabilities, suits, damages, losses, costs, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) and **ORDINARY NEGLIGENCE** of any kind or nature, whether foreseen or unforeseen, arising directly or indirectly out of any damage, loss, pain, suffering, mental anguish, emotional distress, injury, paralysis, or death to me or my property as a result of my participation in the various activities of **THE BCCC**, the use of its equipment and the traveling to and from areas for recreational activities, whether such damage, loss, pain, suffering, mental anguish, emotional distress, injury, paralysis or death results from the **ORDINARY NEGLIGENCE** of **THE BCCC**, or from some other cause. **I FURTHER AGREE NOT TO SUE THE BCCC AS A RESULT OF ANY INJURY, PARALYSIS, OR DEATH THAT MAY OCCUR WHILE PARTICIPATING IN ITS ACTIVITIES.** The venue for any dispute arising between the parties shall be in a court of competent jurisdiction in Shelby County, TN. This release is intended to be a comprehensive release of liability but is not intended to assert defenses that are prohibited by law.

I HAVE CAREFULLY READ, CLEARLY UNDERSTAND AND VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS PARTICIPATION WAIVER AND RELEASE AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTAND THAT NEITHER I NOR ANY MEMBER OF MY FAMILY OR OTHER PERSON ACTING THROUGH ME WILL HAVE THE RIGHT TO MAKE A CLAIM OR FILE A LAWSUIT AGAINST THE BCCC.

DATE ___/___/___ **SIGNATURE(s) of All Members listed on this Application**
(All Members) _____

August Program

A DVD "Kilowatt Ours" will be shown. It's a documentary discussing energy alternatives to our continued dependence on foreign oil. It reveals the consequences of our coal powered economy and shares practical answers. It discusses the dangers of coal-generated electricity. It explores ways to create an energy efficient home. Come and join us for the timely and relevant topic and presentation. A sea kayaking DVD will also be shown. And as always, trip adventures abound with everyone catching up on the latest trips and adventures.

CURRENTS
Bluff City Canoe Club
PO Box 40523
Memphis, TN 38104

First Class Mail

BCCC meetings are held
the first Wednesday of
every month at 7 p.m. at the
Main Library at 3030
Poplar.

Guests are welcome.