



# ***Around the Bend***

**Summer 2001  
Volume 19 Number 2**

## **From the Editor,**

Is it just me, or has this been a really long winter season? I hope summer gets here by the Summer Outing.

When it gets to be time for me to start thinking about the newsletter, I gather stuff I have stashed around from the last newsletter, some things that people send me over the computer, and I start looking through our little library for interesting things to write about. Sometimes it is easy; sometimes it is not.

Planning an outing can be a challenge as well. Trip planning starts in November at the planning meeting. Members in attendance brainstorm which rivers to paddle and volunteer to lead trips. So, in November, you decide to try a particular river. If it is one you are familiar with you will already have an idea of put in and take out points. You probably have a camping site in mind and know whom to call to secure permission. Close to the trip you'll go out and scout the river to see if there are any significant hazards that may have changed since the last time you paddled there. Then you wait and hope that we don't have one of those all too frequent extremes in Ohio, really high water or really low water. Now this was a scenario for someone planning a trip on a river they know. Imagine what it takes to volunteer on an unfamiliar stretch of water. You need to look for put ins and take outs, find a place to camp near the river, make time to paddle the river to get familiar with it, make a map and mail it me in time to get it in the newsletter, and still hope the weather holds out and gives you good water. Then you wait to see who comes out to play. All of this work starts in November of the previous year. I guess what I am getting at is, it takes an effort to plan and execute our trips, even the easy ones. The rewards of a good trip with great friends will make that effort worth it. Try it.

I guess that'll do it for now, see you on the water.

Bert & Ernie



"To trace the history of a river or a raindrop, as John Muir would have done, is also to trace the history of the soul, the history of the mind descending and arising in the body. In both, we constantly seek and stumble on divinity, which like the cornice feeding the lake, and the spring becoming a waterfall, feeds, spills, falls, and feeds itself over and over again." – Gretel Ehrlich, *Islands, the Universe, Home*

## Ohio Historical Canoe Route Association All-Ohio Canoe Adventure

In 1983, the Ohio Historical Canoe Route Association (OHCRA) was formed to retrace the travels of the Native American Indians and French Voyageurs across the state of Ohio, from Lake Erie to the Ohio River.

Twenty years later, in 2003, we want to re-do our first across-Ohio trip. The trip plan is to canoe the Sandusky River from Upper Sandusky to the mouth of the Sandusky River during weekend trips (Saturday and Sunday). We will then portage to the Scioto River near Marion and continue to a point in Columbus. At Columbus we will begin a weeklong trip to Portsmouth, Ohio and the Ohio River.

We will camp along the river and carry our gear with us in our canoes. The trip will take about five weekends and a full week of paddling. The trip is about 300 miles long. We do it in sections so that more people can get away to do the trip. While we would like to see you do the whole trip, you are welcome to come along for the parts that you can do.

When we did this trip in 1983, we had people of all ages (4 to 75) and we hope to repeat this cross section of people this time out.

Along the way we plan to have historical stops. Some of us will dress in period outfits, such as Voyageurs, Native Americans or other period individuals.

Why don't you join us for this trip? We are looking for people interested in canoeing and history to canoe with OHCRA. This will be a celebration of our 20-year existence in conjunction with a 200-year celebration for the State of Ohio.

## Judge to Decide Cuyahoga River Questions

Four communities and Portage County are taking the City of Akron to court over control of the Cuyahoga River. Akron claims it has control of the river. A dam built on the river 75 years ago to form Lake Rockwell is part of that control. Akron has recently started the process of possibly building another dam on a different section of the river to create another reservoir effectively destroying yet another expanse of woodland and marsh area as well as wildlife habitat.

The Plaintiffs want Akron to release more water into the Cuyahoga to keep the river flowing and prevent the stagnation and odor that comes with dry weather. This could prove even more important to the cities of Kent and Munroe Falls, where there is discussion of removing dams in those communities. The plaintiffs would like Akron to release at least 10.9 million gallons a day from Lake Rockwell. Akron counters that it releases 5 million gallons now, and loses another 5 million through leaks and seepage from the existing dikes.

25 miles of the Cuyahoga in this area was designated scenic on June 26, 1974. The whole 100+ miles of the Cuyahoga was also recently designated as an American Heritage River.

### Gold Mining in Ohio

*Did you know that it's possible to find not only gold but also diamonds in Ohio? Look in streambeds along glacial boundaries. Ohio diamonds have a "greasy" look to them.*

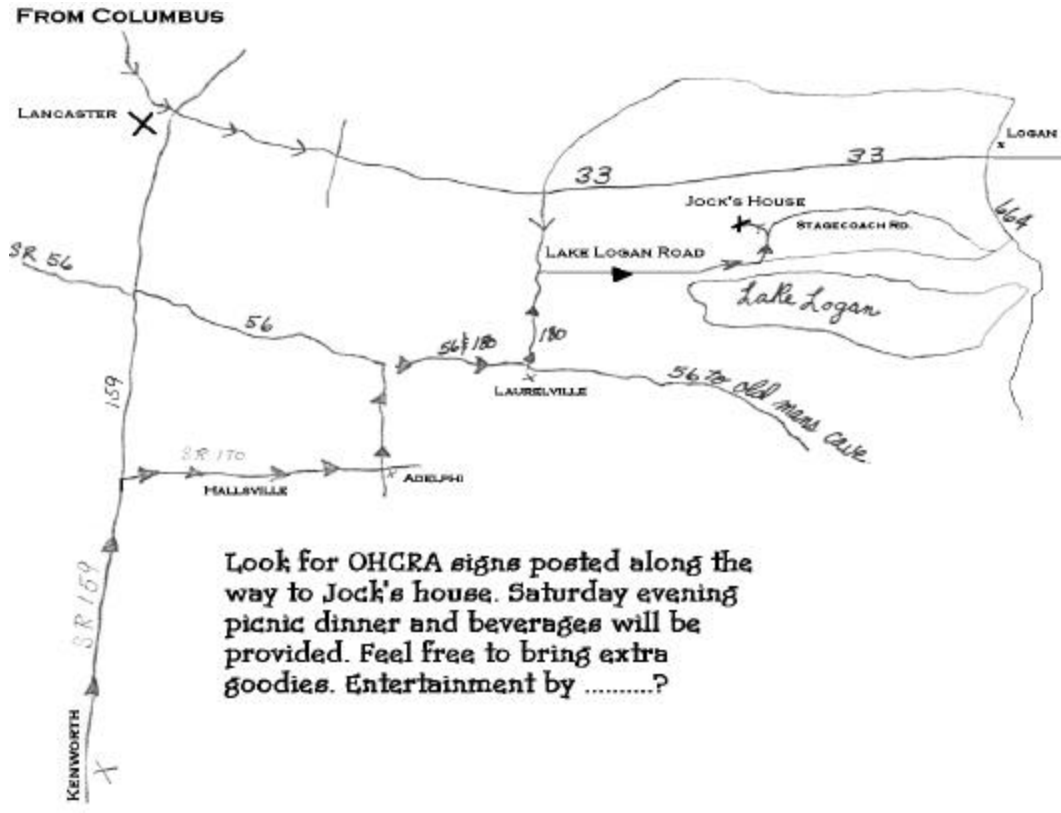
# OHCRA Summer Outing 2007



July 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>

*On the Hocking River, In the Beautiful Hocking River Valley*

We're getting together at Jock's this summer for a weekend of horrible paddling, terrible food, and lousy company. Hope to see y'all there!



**Scioto River OHCRA Outing June 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>**



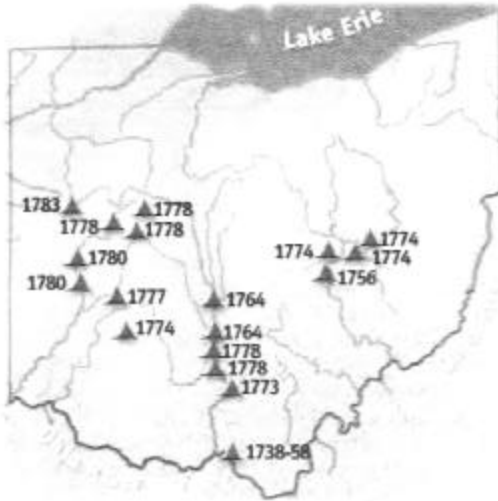
The Scioto River system is the second largest drainage basin in Ohio. It provides nearly 200 miles of paddling opportunities. It is a river, like most all in Ohio, rich in early American history.

Some of the most famous early inhabitants were the Hopewell Indians. Named after Capt. Mordecai Hopewell on whose farm part of an earthworks site was excavated in 1891, the Hopewell settled along riverbanks in present day Ohio and around the Great Lakes region. It is thought that a "Great Hopewell Road" was built by them between present day Newark and Chillicothe. Fort Ancient on the Little Miami River is yet another well-known Hopewell site in Ohio.

Mingos, a group of Native Americans related to the Iroquois made one of their homes along the Scioto near what is now Columbus. Captain

William Crawford later drove them out. Notes from Thomas Jefferson in 1784 indicate that there were 60 Mingo living on the Scioto, along with Shawnee. The name "Scioto" allegedly is a Shawnee expression meaning "range of the deer". The Shawnee were both feared and respected as fierce warriors. Tecumseh was their greatest leader.





**Shawnee Settlements in Ohio**

We will be camping at Lake White State Park. The park entrance is on the south side of the park, off of State Route 104. Ted estimates Saturday's trip at around 15-20 miles and Sunday's at about 8 miles, depending on how far folks wish to paddle, and water levels of course. Shuttles at 0900, and potluck Saturday night for dinner.

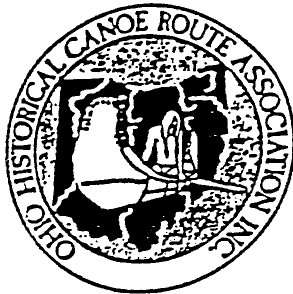
**Little Miami River OHCRA Outing August 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**



If you have never been on an OHCRA outing, you might consider making this your first trip. The Little Miami is one of Ohio's premier paddling spots. There are many exciting aspects **Covered Bridge over the Little Miami River**



to this river. The setting is beautiful; the water is exciting, but never too much for an average paddler to handle. It is generally never higher than a Class I+ paddle. Ted has mapped out different sections that can be combined for a short days excursion or a longer one. The Little Miami was the first waterway in Ohio to be designated a federal wild and scenic river.



OH CRA

# OH CRA

2001

## LITTLE MIAMI RIVER OUTING

AUGUST 25/26

- CAMP:**
- At Morgan's Riverside Campground (Gilmour Rd., Off St Rt. 123), Fri & Sat night. (1-800-932-2663) [Item 'C' on map].
  - Take exit 32 off I-71. From north, turn left (east). From south, turn right (east). Follow St Rt 123, about 2 miles, watch for Morgan's sign. Turn left onto Gilmour Rd. Campsite on left at bottom of hill, along river. Watch for OH CRA signs.
- COST:**
- Expected to be ~\$7.00/person/night (nice campground on river with clean showers/restrooms, snack bar, shelter available, etc.).
  - Canoe rental available, arrange with Morgan's Canoe Rental. They should provide shuttle to match our trip, or we will shuttle.
- SAT :**
- 0900, begin shuttle for a planned 10 mile trip, from Caesar Creek Canoe Access (#5 on map) to campsite. Since some have expressed desire to do longer trips, I will shuttle anyone to Spring Valley Wildlife Area Canoe Access (#6 on map). That would be a 19 mile trip. The planned group trip is as indicated above.
  - We will have our pot-luck, group meal around 6 pm. Everyone should bring a dish to share. I plan to deep fry chicken wings, biscuits and potatoes.
  - There's some possibility for a speaker Saturday evening.
- SUN**
- 0900, begin necessary shuttles for various length canoe trips as desired. Pick a put-in and take-out from map. See chart on map (and above chart) for different mileage.
  - Bring your bike and do any portion of Little Miami Trail you desire. 40(+) miles available, from the campsite.
  - Hike/bike from campsite to Fort Ancient, or a shuttle can be arranged.

(Trip Leader - Ted Spradlin, 513/742-2459)

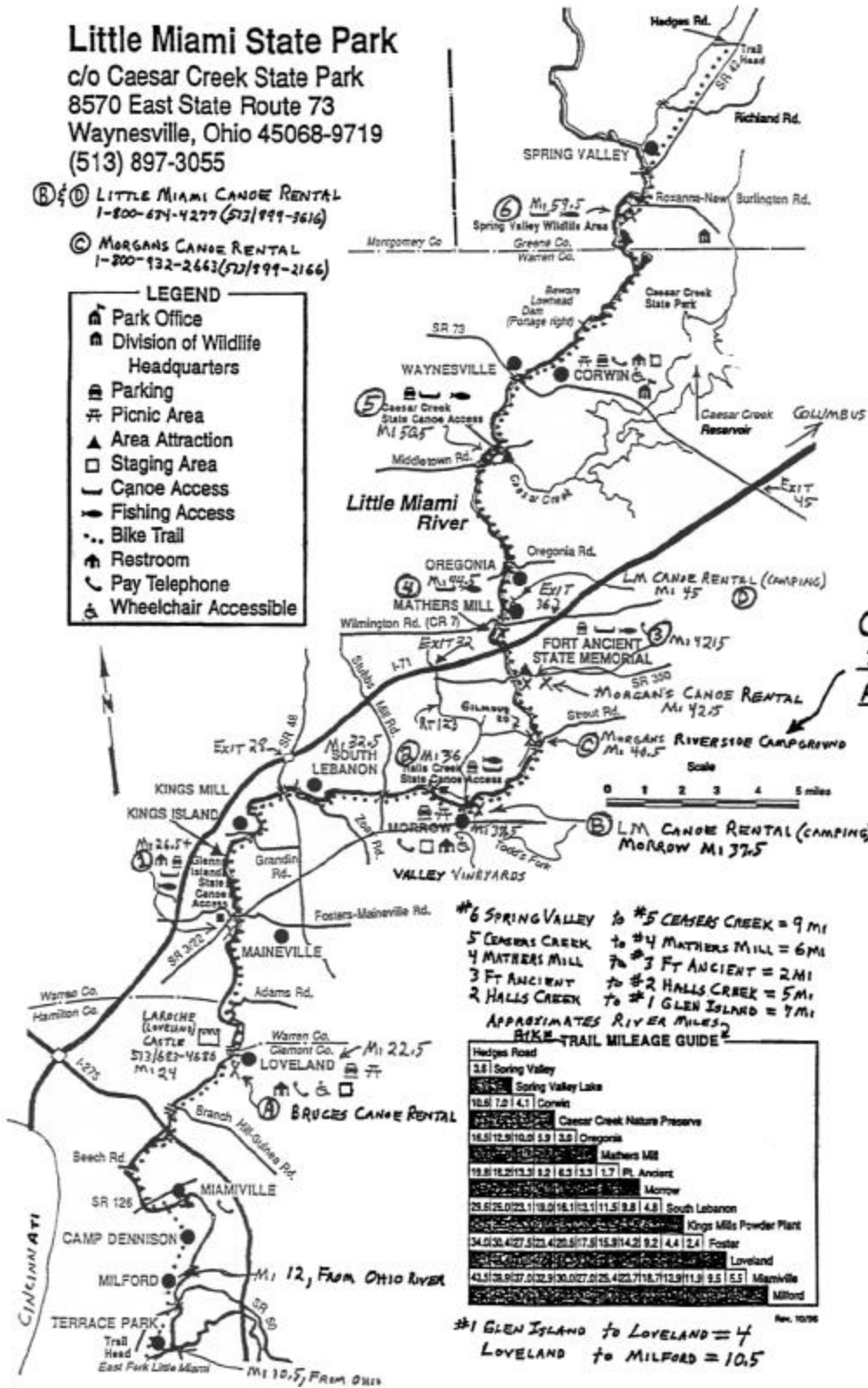
# Little Miami State Park

c/o Caesar Creek State Park  
8570 East State Route 73  
Waynesville, Ohio 45068-9719  
(513) 897-3055

- Ⓡ Ⓢ Ⓣ LITTLE MIAMI CANOE RENTAL  
1-800-674-4277 (513) 999-3616
- Ⓢ MORGAN'S CANOE RENTAL  
1-800-932-2663 (513) 999-2166

**LEGEND**

- 🏠 Park Office
- 🏡 Division of Wildlife Headquarters
- 🚗 Parking
- 🌳 Picnic Area
- 🏞️ Area Attraction
- Staging Area
- 🚣 Canoe Access
- 🎣 Fishing Access
- 🚲 Bike Trail
- 🚻 Restroom
- ☎ Pay Telephone
- ♿ Wheelchair Accessible





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### **Wanting to Buy**

Custom outboard motor bracket, sailing rig  
(mast, sail, side boards, rudder, etc.)

Any condition

for 17' Grumman aluminum canoe  
Carl Filer, Jr., 1.614.870.7048

### **For Sale**

18' Old Town Wooden Canoe with Fiberglass  
Hull - \$1,200 1.419.626.3872 Tim Balduff

### **OHCRA STORE**

T-Shirts (logo on the front, picture on  
the back)

Adult sizes - \$8.00 (add \$2 for s&h)

Embroidered patches - \$2.00

Decals (limited supply, may not be  
available) -\$1.00

See Paul at an outing or order by  
mail

### **The Mind of A Six Year Old...**

A true story

One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of the 3 Little Pigs to her class. She came to the part of the story where the first pig was trying to accumulate building material for his home. She read, "...and so the little pig went up to the man with a wheelbarrow full of straw and said, "Pardon me sir, but may I have some of that straw to build my home?" The teacher paused then asked the class "And what do you think that man said?" One little boy raised his hand and said, "I think he said 'HOLY COW!! A talking pig!'" The teacher was unable to teach for the next ten minutes.

### **Safety Tips for Paddlers**

- **Do not go into fast current unless you are sure you can paddle through.**
- **Walk around any hazard about which you have doubts.**
- **Wear proper clothing to avoid hypothermia – synthetics are best.**

### **Very Interesting...**

Percentage of American men who say they'd marry the same woman if they had to do it over again: **80%**

Percentage of American women who say they'd marry the same man: **50%**

Average number of people airborne over the U.S. at any given moment: **61,000**

**Polar bears are left-handed.**

Sources used for material in this issue: "Canoeing and Kayaking Ohio's Streams" – Rick Combs and Steve Gillen, "The Ohio Nature Almanac" – Stephen Ostrander, the Plain Dealer, [www.ohiokids.org](http://www.ohiokids.org), [www.swcp.com](http://www.swcp.com), [www.firstcapitalohio.com](http://www.firstcapitalohio.com)