Spring is here!

Spring is in the air and we are as busy as bees here at Outdoor Adventures!

We are happy to report that all of our spring break trips returned safe and sound! Great experiences, many laughs, good food, and epic adventures were shared by over 75 participants and leaders. Be sure to check out some of the photos and reflections from the trips on pages 4-6.

Didn’t get a chance to sign up for one of our Spring courses? Check out page 7 to look at what we are offering in the Fall 2014 semester. Our courses give students the chance to expand their horizons and reach out of their comfort zones, all while having fun.

Summer is right around the corner and we hope that you plan on spending most of it outdoors! We have loved sharing our stories with you this year and hope that you will share your adventures with us again in the fall.

Check out our website (outdoors.indiana.edu) for our summer shop hours and gear rental prices to accommodate all your exciting adventures.
Meet a Trip Leader

Once a month we recognize one of our Trip Leaders for their hard work and dedication.

Meet Sean Slattery!
Everyone say hello to Sean!
Brian is a Junior from South Bend, IN and is studying Outdoor Recreation and Environmental Science.

Where did you get your interest in the outdoors?
I grew up doing some camping as a youngster, then when I came to college I was lucky enough to find the outdoor lifestyle early. It all sort of came together for me when I started to realize the power that outdoor experiences can provide. These experiences are profound, and I have been lucky enough to not only experience this for myself, but help others discover this as well along the way. That’s what it’s all about for me.

How did you start at OA?
It all began when I decided to do an IU Beginnings trip. On that trip I met my dear friends Scout and Meredith, who were the trip leaders. Scout pointed me in the direction of OA. After taking ITWL the first eight weeks I had a meeting with my instructor, the incredible Kim Collins. She told me to keep going and I did. Best advice I’ve ever gotten.

What is your favorite outdoor moment/trip?
It would have to be spending ten days leading a backpacking trip across Isle Royale. ‘Twas the heaviest pack I’ve ever carried and through the worst weather Lake Superior could throw at us. However, my co-leader was one of my best friends and everything fell into place. The trip was filled with beautiful views, starry nights, fireside talks, chasing moose, and euchre. We tried to give our four teenage participants the trip of a lifetime, but in the end I think we ended up learning more from them than they did from us.

What is your dream adventure?
It would be getting the word that Meredith, a fellow trip leader, and I received our permit to raft down the mighty Colorado through the Grand Canyon. ‘Tis but a dream at this point, but my vision is a crew of our closest amigos and us shooting gnarly rapids in one of the most beautiful areas on the earth. Whitewater is the bomb, ya feel me?

Three interesting facts:
1. I was a baseball player my entire life until college where I discovered the outdoor life.
2. My life goal is to live simply somewhere in the mountains with a dog.
3. I don’t know how to use a space phone (smart phone). They freak me out.
Let’s face it, rain is something you cannot avoid, especially in the month of April. To make matters worse, those light drizzles and torrential downpours always seem to happen when you are least prepared. With umbrellas being so easy to forget and ponchos being unbearably unfashionable, the only reasonable solution to protecting yourself from this spring’s nonstop rain is purchasing a raincoat from IUOA’s retail shop!

IUOA has a wide assortment of colors and top brand raincoats including Mountain Hardwear, Columbia, and Red Ledge. To top it all off, a number of IUOA’s raincoats have been updated with the latest wicking technology. The breathable insides of these jackets will keep you cool and dry all season long!

Don’t let the next rain dampen your day, stop by the IUOA shop today to pick up your very own raincoat!

Ye’ Old Outdoor Leaders

Take a moment to learn about the **Civilian Conservation Corp**, a public works organization created by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The Civilian Conservation Corps, or the CCC was formed in 1933 by Franklin D. Roosevelt as part of the New Deal. It was a public works organization intended to provide jobs to young men ages 18-25 during the great depression as well as promote environmental conservation. The CCC was very close to FDR’s heart and he believed that this form of disciplined outdoor labor would build good citizens and keep these otherwise unemployed youths off the streets.

“I propose to create [the CCC] to be used in simple work, not interfering with normal employment, and confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control and similar projects. I call your attention to the fact that this type of work is of definite, practical value, not only through the prevention of great present financial loss, but also as a means of creating future national wealth.” –FDR

Between 1933 and 1942 the CCC had employed over 3 million men and provided them with food, shelter, clothing and a small wage of $30 a month; $25 of which had to be sent home to their family. The main focus of their work was planting trees on barren landscapes scarred by fires or the lumber industry and building new parks for the nation to enjoy. Their work also included stocking rivers and lakes with fish, digging trenches, building wildlife shelters, and blazing trails. The CCC provided a great service to the nation and helped the U.S. climb out of the deep hole that was the Great Depression. It also left us with a long lasting result of beautiful parks and miles of trails that we still enjoy today and will be enjoying for many years to come.

The CCC was responsible for thousands of projects and over 3 billion planted trees. The efforts from these young men made a huge impact on the people’s perspective of the importance of wilderness. With public access to these remote and beautiful areas came respect and awe from the populace and a desire to conserve out precious national forests.
Spring Break Recap
A reflection through photos by our Spring Break participants and Trip Leaders

Photo Contest Winner

Ryan Hines

Allie Gardner

Madi McNew

Eric Jiang
A reflection by participant Neha Kulknari on the Shelf Road, CO Climbing spring break trip

Have you ever climbed rocks when flakes of snow are flying around you? Have you ever looked down upon a valley from the top of a cliff, after climbing 80 feet up on it? Have you ever slept inside a tent when it's snowing all around you? Have you known the beauty of an orange sunset that showers the snowcapped peaks with its dying rays and mesmerizes you into staring at them till the darkness falls upon you, replacing the blankness of sky with star studded awesomeness? Have you gone out with a group of strangers and yet, experienced a warm camaraderie developed quickly through rigors of climbing and living in harsh weather elements, with dirt in your hair & sweat on the clothes? My week long rock climbing trip at Shelf Road, Colorado was nuanced with such beautiful moments and was one of my best climbing experiences in the outdoors.

Called a sport climber’s mecca, Shelf Road has about 1000 bolted routes on pocketed limestone, with difficulty rating varying from 5.5 to 5.13. In our 5 days long stay, we climbed in 3 of the 6-7 areas in which climbing at Shelf Road is divided. Everyone got a chance to push his/her limits by starting with routes they were comfortable with and slowly graduating to more difficult ones.

The Bank Campsite was atop cliffs overlooking the vast expanse of Cactus Cliff and Sangre de Cristo mountain range on the west. The campsite was in a great shape, with a toilet, benches and a fire ring for campers. A quick set up of the tents and an oatmeal breakfast later, we were on our way to the Cactus Cliff area for our first taste of climbing. We were in the capable hands of team leaders Sam, Greg, Andrea and Rachel and being on the rocks, no pun intended, felt great as the sun shone upon us brightly.

Beginning with the Cactus cliff, we climbed at the Bank and the Gallery. Everywhere, we were surrounded by limestone walls and juniper forest. Climbers greeted us at most of the sites and so did their dogs! We would get up, have breakfast and hike up to climbing sites. Next six hours would be spent in climbing, after which we would return to campsite. While half of us would light a fire to survive the cold, rest half would cook the dinner. We would cocoon ourselves inside our sleeping bags by 10 pm, some inside the tent, some preferring the open sky.

With all the camping, climbing, belaying, cheering, learning advanced techniques, cooking, chatting, tending to bruised fingers and enjoying the scenery, time passed quite fast. One day, it snowed and yet, we hiked and climbed in the cold, keeping a close eye on drastic weather changes. It was nothing less than thrilling and we were rewarded with spectacular views. The trip has only heightened my desire to do more of the same and keep climbing high!
Wild, challenging, and fulfilling. Those three words describe my Spring Break greater than any others. I was incredibly lucky to be apart of the Rio Grande canoeing trip this year! I have always been fond of nature, but this trip truly opened my eyes to all the beauty in our world. When heading to the desert, I anticipated a lot of dirt and maybe a few cacti. But the Rio Grande had so much more to discover! The views were incredible. Canyons towered thousands of feet above us, the river glistened lightly under the setting sun, and I was astounded by the abundance of wildlife. Grasses three times the height of my own dad lined the river, small yellow flowers covered cracks in the canyon walls, and the animals were everywhere. We saw hundreds of turtles, dozens of bulls watched us diligently from the shore, turkey vultures and herons graced the sky, and fish would reluctantly make an appearance or two each day. While attempting to agilely canoe, I found myself continuously gazing in all directions in order to see as much as possible. Everyday I was in shock of the sights.

Beyond the Earth’s beauty, I discovered the worth of random people. While on this adventure, my group, titled “Rio Deuces”, bonded deeper than I ever imagined. As we learned how to camp and canoe as a team, celebrated our mileage, and survived the journey together, everyone’s true colors quickly showed. Every member offered a unique perspective to each day and different skills to help us handle the tasks of the trip. Seeing previous strangers grow and embody the true meaning of “team” is not often seen and was a humbling experience for me. I learned to not judge people so quickly as every person has a greater potential than initially noticed. We were together for only week, but I could not imagine venturing through the Rio Grande with anyone but “Rio Deuces”.

IU has provided me with one of the greatest years of my life for many reasons, but going on this trip has definitely been the best experience yet! I hope to go on many more IUOA trips in the future to discover more about nature and life.

“RIO DEUCES FOR LIFE!”

Dyno Comp

Each of us reading this newsletter love the outdoors. We’re quite quick to admit it too. The outdoors give us a fix, a sense of excitement that sometimes we just cannot bring ourselves to describe. Inevitably, we resort to describing the river we just ran or the route we just climbed as “rad”, “totally stellar”, or just downright “awesome”. Yet all around us there are people hungry to experience awesome adventures in the outdoors, but are unable to given their financial situation.

Dustin Smucker was once heard saying, “It’s always great to give deeper meaning to our experiences in the outdoors.” On this past Saturday April 5th, 14 IU students participated in a Charity Dyno Bouldering Comp at Outdoor Adventure’s Bouldering Wall to do just that. Proceeds from the event will help expose youth in Rio De Janerio’s Centro Escalada Urbana to technical climbing on the rockfaces just outside their homes. Thanks to the combined efforts of Sean Buehler and Greg Welage, this event will support the usage of outdoor experiential education in providing Rio’s youth with an enriching activity they can leave feeling inspired and excited about the outdoors.
Fall 2014 Courses

Earn credits outdoors!

SPH-W Courses are one and two-credit classes designed to teach outdoor skills and promote personal growth through exhilarating group adventures. They are offered through the Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Studies within the School of Public Health.

Nearly all of the one-credit courses meet over a three-week period at varied times throughout the semester. The typical three-week format includes three evening classroom sessions plus one weekend field experience.

To see course listings for Fall 2014 SPH-W courses, http://registrar.indiana.edu/browser/soc4148/SPH/index.shtml

GET YOUR NEON FOR LITTLE 5!

All new summer inventory in stock!

Come check out the shop and buy your favorite neon clothing items today!
Join us on an exciting trip to Maple Canyon, Utah! Experience some unique rock climbing geared towards beginning to intermediate climbers, then spend a day off scuba diving and relaxing in nearby hot springs! Make this an epic summer by signing up today!

To Sign up visit IUOA or Call 812.855.2231
Outdoors.indiana.edu
Canoe Canada with us!

Summer 2014: July 14-24

Few trips take you as deep into the wilderness as this unique Canadian expedition. We will drive up to Quetico Provincial Park and spend a week canoeing and camping within the pristine wilderness. Quetico has been recognized as one of the top 5 places in the world to paddle and is well known for its scenery and remoteness.

A typical day could include paddling, fishing, beautiful campsites, cliff jumping, waterfalls, picturesque sunsets, and water so clean you can drink directly from the lakes. The park also boasts a variety of wildlife from moose to bald eagles and is recognized worldwide for its incredible fishing.

Join us for this journey whose origins are rooted in the traditions of the French fur traders, the voyageurs.

Don’t miss out on IUOA’s 2014 Canoe Canada adventure! It promises to be the trip of a lifetime.

“...You will get to enjoy picking blueberries from Blueberry Island, filleting the fish you caught yourself, hiking with a 60 lb canoe on your shoulders, and being three days away from civilization. I really think that everyone needs to experience perfection!” -Emily Darnell

Interested in more information?
Email Tyler Kivland
tkivland@indiana.edu

To sign up visit IUOA or Call 812.855.2231
outdoors.indiana.edu
Staff Directory

Bouldering Wall & Gear Shop Hours

Sunday  2-6  
Monday  12-8  
Tuesday  12-6  
Wednesday  12-8  
Thursday  12-6  
Friday  12-6  
Saturday  10-2

Where are we...?

Eigenmann Hall, Room 020  
1900 E 10th Street  
Bloomington, IN 47406

Submit an Article

Want to be featured in the newsletter? Submit an OA trip review, a gear review, a skills how-to, etc. to oareach@indiana.edu.

Connect with Us!

Trip announcements, shop sales, route setting dates, class openings, etc!

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