Thanksgiving Break is right around the corner, and boy are we thankful. And hungry. But mostly thankful. It has been a great semester so far, but there is much more to come, so get involved!

This Thanksgiving, we are headed to the Appalachian Trail to go backpacking from Tellico Gap to Fontana Dam, bordering The Great Smoky Mountains National Park. We are also going to a fan favorite, the Red River Gorge of Kentucky to rock climb! The sandstone cliffs are just begging to be climbed.

Looking ahead to December, we are hosting our second bouldering competition! Registration for the competition is $5, register now to reserve your spot! All fees benefit The Trip Leader Club, funding training and professional development for trip leaders. Prizes will be awarded to top competitors.

Other features of this issue include Rachel Valle as our trip leader of the month, John Wesley Powell as our Ol’ Outdoor Leader, and headlamps as our featured gear item. Don’t forget to check out our upcoming trips, from Thanksgiving to Spring Break. Also, the Student Summit is an amazing opportunity to learn for anyone involved in the outdoors.
Once a month we recognize one of our Staff for their hard work and dedication.

Meet Rachel Valle!
Everyone say hello to Rachel! Rachel is a senior studying exercise science with a minor in psychology. She hails from Elkhart, IN and loves to do anything outside, but is really hooked on rock climbing.

Where did you get your interest in the outdoors?
As long as I can remember, I’ve always loved being outside. I loved helping my mom in the garden, playing with my dogs, tromping around the woods in my backyard, and exploring everything in sight. Being outside just makes me happy.

How did you start at OA?
I lived on the OA LLC floor my freshman year and went climbing for our field experience. After going on a spring break climbing trip the same year, I was hooked on climbing and experiencing outside with new people.

What is your favorite outdoor moment/trip?
Probably either of the spring break climbing trips that I have led to Shelf Road, CO. I had an incredible leader team both years, and I basically drowned in the beauty that is the sunrise at our cliff top campsite. Too much goodness for words.

Tell us about your next adventure.
My next adventure trip is Thanksgiving Break Climbing! We’re going to the good ol’ Red River Gorge for some end of season fun. We’ll have the gorge all to ourselves and we’ll cook up some Thanksgiving appetizers. Should be a great time.

What is your dream adventure?
Something in Iceland. Or Norway. Or Canada. I don’t make those kinds of decisions.

Three interesting facts:
- My family ran a business in Elkhart that had been in our family for 111 years
- I have done gymnastics since I was 18 months old
- I was once clotheslined by a clothesline while riding a tractor.

Most embarrassing moment?
Too many. One that sticks out is the time that I fell flat on my face in the middle of the 7th and Jordan intersection and laid there for a good 10 seconds before I even realized I was on the ground.
Ye Ol’ Outdoor Leaders

Take a moment to learn about John Wesley Powell, soldier, geologist, explorer.

John Wesley Powell is most well known for his epic three month expedition down the mighty Colorado River in 1869, before the river had ever been explored to such depth by Europeans, and much before the current tamer state of the river today.

Powell and nine other men set out onto the Green River on four wooden rafts in 1869, flowing into the Colorado soon thereafter. The group traveled through much of Utah and the Grand Canyon, documenting the glorious features formed by the river. Total, the party ended having traveled almost 930 miles of the river, mapping and taking notes on a previously unexplored landscape recently acquired by the United States.

Amazingly, Powell did all of this lacking his right arm. Having lost the arm during the civil war, Powell turned to exploration and geology as well as natural history. Predominantly self taught, Powell was instrumental in exploring and mapping the American West. Powell also contributed to physiography and geomorphology. Not to mention he founded the U.S. Geological Survey which now produces the most widely used and accepted maps for the U.S. Lastly, despite the amazing efforts in exploration and documenting the west, Powell prided himself on other things. Specifically, his work with Native Americans and his attempts at sustainable development of the West.

Featured Gear Item

Headlamps!

Light Up Your World this November

10% Off for the Month of November

Ever annoyed by darkness? The feeling that you just can’t see anything? Or maybe the hand-held flashlight taped to the bill of your hat just isn’t cutting it anymore? We have the solution for you. A headlamp. Petzl, Black Diamond, Princeton Tec. Your Choice. All 10% off in November. Now is your chance to see in the dark (kind of).
Events at IUOA

Winter Break and Spring Break Info Meeting
November 18, 7 pm

Thanksgiving Break
Sign Up Deadline
November 7

Bouldering Competition
December 5
11 am (Beginners)
1:30 (INT/ADV)

Everglades
Jan. 2-9
$600

Spring Break Preview

Horseshoe Canyon Ranch

Rock Climbing

Toledo Bend

Canoeing Kayaking

Talladega National Forest

Backpacking

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

IU Outdoor Adventures
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@iu_outdooradventures

outdoors.indiana.edu
812.855.2231
Relax after finals this winter and join us as we kayak the beautiful Florida mangroves. We will paddle through the Everglades and 10,000 Islands, watching for alligators, manatees, and more birds than we can count. Info Meeting November 18, 7 p.m. (Non-Mandatory)

To Sign up visit IUOA or Call 812.855.2231
Outdoors.indiana.edu
No Experience Necessary
BOULDERING COMPETITION
ALL SKILL LEVELS  DECEMBER 5, 11 AM
$5

IUOA's bouldering competition is back for its second year! No experience necessary. There will be divisions for Beginner, Intermediate, and Expert Climbers. All proceeds benefit the Trip Leader Club, which supports the training and development of student trip leaders. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of each division. Come climb with us in Eigenmann Hall at 11 AM!

To sign up visit IUOA or CALL 812-855-2231
Join us for the 5th Annual Heartland Region Student Summit! This year the Summit will take place at Bradford Woods in Martinsville, IN, November 13th through 15th.

This event’s mission is “to empower students to create their own professional mission statements to become better prepared, better informed emerging professionals.” To achieve this goal, the summit includes workshops where you can both present or attend. Also, there will be research presentations, a keynote presentation, social and professional development opportunities, and of course some thrilling evening entertainment.

Registration is live! $125 registration fee includes food, lodging, and conference fee. Call to register at 812/855.2231 today! More information on our website!
**Bouldering Wall & Gear Shop Hours**

- **Sunday**: 2-6
- **Monday**: 12-8
- **Tuesday**: 12-6
- **Wednesday**: 12-6
- **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!

IU Outdoor Adventures
@IU_Outdoors
@iu_outdooradventures

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