Welcome back to another exciting year here in beautiful Bloomington! We hope your summers were as adventurous as ours.

We kicked off the year with a flurry of activities, the most exciting of which were our IUBeginnings trips. These trips went to wild locations across the Eastern United States, from Kentucky to North Carolina. The students on the trips were incoming freshmen, looking to start off their IU career by connecting with other students who had a thirst for adventure. See page 4 for a reflection piece by one of our trip leaders.

Excitement is in the air here at IUOA, as we begin to plan a semester full of adventures! We have already had classes for whitewater rafting and kayaking. Planning has already begun for our quickly approaching fall break trips, check out page 5 to see where we are going.

Summer may be coming to a close, but fall is right around the corner. That only means that it is time to gear up for the outdoors! We have a great sale occurring throughout September, so make sure you stop in while supplies last.
Meet a Trip Leader

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

Meet Megan Harsh!
Everyone say hello to Megan! Megan is a Senior from Valparasio, IN and is studying Spanish and Anthropology. Megan also had the wonderful experience of leading our annual Canoe Canada trip and loved it!

Where did you get your interest in the outdoors?
Growing up and camping with my family, I was always interested in the outdoors. When I went to Quetico Provincial Park in high school for a 10-day canoe trip, I fell in love with it.

How did you start at OA?
I started college with an IUBeginnings trip, did Canoe Canada the summer after, and knew that I just wanted to be more involved.

What is your favorite outdoor moment/trip?
Every Quetico trip I’ve been on has been my favorite! White water canoeing the Rio Grande this year was also a highlight.

Tell us about your next adventure trip.
Canoeing the Wild and Scenic Little Miami River in OH for fall break! We’ll be canoeing by wooded bluffs and seeing beautiful views just as the leaves change color for the fall. It’s going to be so much fun.

What is your dream adventure?
My (latest) dream adventure is sailing across the globe – after I learn to sail.

Three interesting facts:
1. I can’t whistle.
2. I have a pepper plant.
3. I studied in Lima, Peru for 5 months.

Most embarrassing moment?
The first time I filled my car up with gas, I pulled up, realized I was on the wrong side, moved my car only to get out and realize I was right the first time.
Featured Gear Shop Item

Backpacks! Essential for every adventure and any school day. How else are you going to carry your gear with you? In honor of backpacks everywhere, the IU Outdoor Adventures Gear Shop is offering 30% off the regular retail price on our 22 Liter Columbia Treadlite packs!

These backpacks are outfitted with lightweight cushioning and support. The unique system designed by Columbia offers a sturdy backpack that distributes weight effectively while still remaining a measly 36 ounces. In addition to this, the backpack is protected with Omni-Shield Advanced Repellency. This offers extra protection against rain and stains. If you’re tired of a sweaty back while walking in this humidity, you may need the Backdraft Aerating System that the pack has. Air is able to flow freely behind your back, preventing overheating that occurs in most backpacks. Backpacks like this are perfect hot days and rainy days alike when on and off campus, especially when you have much to carry.

This sale ends on September 7, so hurry in! Also, do not miss our September long sale, with apparel 20-40% off, paired with weekly gear items on sale.

Ye’ Old Outdoor Leaders

Take a moment to learn about John Muir, one of the first preservationists of American history.

Climb the mountains and get their good tidings. Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. The winds will blow their own freshness into you, and the storms their energy, while cares will drop off like autumn leaves. -- John Muir, Our National Parks, 1901, page 56.

John Muir was one of the first preservationists of american history. Living in the sierras of California, he fell in love with the wild terrain and the creatures that resided there. Due to this love, he became one of our most famous and influential naturalists that managed to begin conservation on a national scale. Considered by many as the father of our national park system, John Muir is an icon for outdoor leaders.

Once he came to America from his Scotland home, Muir spent much of his life in the west. He traveled throughout what are now national parks, but were then unprotected area. His travels ranged from Sequoia, Grand Canyon, Mount Rainier, and, most notably and importantly, Yosemite. During these travels, Muir wrote many books and poems, while also fighting for the protection of these lands. His work was not wasted, his passion for these beautiful landscapes inspired Theodore Roosevelt to take action. Through Roosevelt, our first national monuments and national parks were established, setting a precedent for future protection, both nationally and globally. It is important to remember, though, that this would not have happened without the inspiration Muir provided Roosevelt.

Unfortunately, Muir was not always successful. While he fought against the damming of Hetch Hetchy, considered to be the second Yosemite, his efforts failed. This is a reminder that even the greatest may fail, that land will fall to development and alteration. Despite the dam, the structure did, in the end, inspire more conservation efforts. People realized what was lost and decided to fight for more protection in the future.

All things considered, John Muir was one of the first wilderness explorers turned preservationist. He loved for all things natural and found value in solitude in the woods. Muir was a renaissance man of the wilderness of sorts, being knowledgeable in plants and creatures as well as exploration. He will serve as role model for years to come.
IUBeginning trips are more than your average adventure trips. It has more meaning to the students as well as the leaders. For the students, it was their first introduction to what college life is to them. There is adventure, friendship, learning, laughter, and growth to be had in the outdoors and at their new home. I was fortunate enough to lead the Roca trip this summer.

Rock climbing in the Red River Gorge was a brand new experience for all of the students I had the opportunity to lead and teach. None of them had experienced the glory of climbing a rock face and cracking the puzzle that the route poses. By the end of the trip we had budding Chris Sharma’s, Adam Ondra’s, and Sasha Digiulian’s, accompanied with grunts (TSSATT!) and all. More than climbing, the students made plenty of new friendships. It was great to see my group form a tight knit bond as they discussed their lives, past and future.

For myself, it was my epic return to the Red River Gorge, a home away from home, and a climber’s paradise of the Midwest. Rock climbing in The Red offers a huge array of styles of climbing, for beginners and seasoned veterans alike. I loved getting back the rock and it got me excited for the courses as well as the personal trips I plan to take down there this fall. Personally, I was able to learn and grow during the trip as well. My climbing technique and knowledge grew through the help of my co-leaders Greg and Lynn and I was also able to develop a new sense of confidence in my leadership. However, my favorite part may have been quoting Monty Python and the Holy Grail throughout the trip.

After days of rock climbing and witnessing the beautiful views of the gorge, we returned to Indiana for a vigorous Iron Chef Competition. Unfortunately, I was only a consultant, but the students were able to compete in the IUOA classic, where meals were judged on taste, presentation, and nutrition, among other things. Roca competed with valor, but alas, even with our trusty percolator in hand, we were defeated by the unruly Cascada group. It was the perfect return to IU and Outdoor Adventures. I cannot wait to lead more climbing trips and courses, from the Red River Gorge to Horseshoe Canyon to Hueco Tanks. Fall 2014 will be quite the adventure indeed.
Fall Break Trips

Climb  Jackson Falls, IL  Oct. 9th-12th  $168

Take your fall break to one of the most unique climbing areas in the Midwest! Jackson Falls offers three waterfalls surrounded by climbing routes and bouldering problems. The sandstone pockets, slabs, slopers, and free standing boulders are calling your name.

Canoe  Little Miami River, OH  Oct. 9th-12th  $165

Considered one of Ohio’s most beautiful waterways, the Little Miami Scenic and Wild River provides paddlers a chance to experience the wilderness in a unique way. Rarely does one get to pass through an area so serene, but still see so much of it. So join us this fall break, and connect with the river and the wild.
Indiana University Outdoor Adventures  September 2014

Upcoming Trips

Start planning early for all the amazing trips happening this year!

Thanksgiving Break

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Backpacking</td>
<td>Appalachian Trail, VA</td>
<td>Nov 21st-25th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coastal Kayaking</td>
<td>Outer Banks, NC</td>
<td>Nov 21st-25th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Climbing</td>
<td>Horseshoe Canyon Ranch, AR</td>
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Winter Break

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<tr>
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<td>Hueco Tanks, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Backpacking</td>
<td>Florida Trail</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Coastal Kayaking</td>
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Take Advantage of our Welcome Back September Sale!

20-40% off through September
Shirts, Shorts, Jackets, Hats, Pants, Socks, and more!!!

Featured Gear item on sale every week through September
Check out our Facebook page for more details!

Also take advantage of $10 off our year-long bouldering pass
Staff Directory

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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!

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