

## Mark and Katy's Wonderful Canoe Weekend

Mark and Katy Stewart offered their new ranch in Ocala as Headquarters for a WCTSS weekend of canoeing and kayaking down three different rivers. The Silver River, Juniper Spring Run and the Ocklawaha. Each day was a different challenge with after paddling cookouts at their home. And what a nice rancho they have! Here's Mark's wrap up of the weekend:

" Katy and I had a wonderful Ocala Canoe/Kayak Weekend. Friday Bill Fite and I paddled the Silver River with Steve Wood alongside in his skiff with 1939 outboard . Saturday we had a great turnout for Juniper Springs Run. My best guess is that we had 17 paddlers on the water. Ron Hoddinott, Ted Jeans, Ed and Becky Combs, Frank and Hileary Wentzel, Phil Reed, Chuck Wicks, Bill Fite, Eric and Jane Devoe, Glenda Libby and friend Mel, Art Gregory, Brenda Bell, Miriam Staveley, Mark Stewart. We had an absolute riot going down the creek. Several were baptized in the waters but came up smiling. I won't name them but you know who I refer to. The cookout party that night was my best ever. We were all excited and talkative after a fun day, especially me, my apologies. Everybody drank, talked, ate, built friendships and made new ones. Sunday came early and the few that could still move paddled 12 miles down the Ocklawaha escorted by Steve in his skiff with his 1929 outboard this time. We received many thanks from our gracious guests and visitors. Thanks to all of you for visiting. I probably had more fun than anyone and met and talked endlessly with lovely people I want to see again!"

*Mark and Katy*

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## F.I.S.H. - Florida Inshore Sailing Holiday

### Indian River Lagoon - Honest John's Fish Camp by John Johns

We departed Cape Coral about 7:30 Friday Morning. It was a pleasant 4 hour trip plus lunch and a stop to clean off our windshield after 100 miles of smacking love bugs. Amazingly, there were none on the return trip. Guess they don't do orgies on Sundays.

## (F.I.S.H. continued)

Arrived at HJFC about 1PM. It is a great place. Our heart rates immediately slowed to a crawl and we leisurely rigged our boat. Simon and Kristie were rigging their Proton. Dean drove in and rigged his slider Cat in about 2 minutes. Glenda Libby drove in and Bill Fite arrived. About 4 pm, we were all on the water. Looked around and Jonathan and Petra were sailing off. Pretty soon we were all sailing south. Winds were about 8 knots. Bill tells me, as he was sailing by, that 12k is where Ron's Tri has the advantage.

It was a pleasant sail except for watching Dean's slider slide by us after hanging back for an hour or so. The slider is a great boat and very fast. That is unless his jib comes untied on the return trip. I am sure it wasn't sabotage, right Tom, but Dean did not pass us on the return trip Sunday. However, he did remind us when he was leaving and we were still preparing for the trip home that he was leaving first. Actually, Dean is a great guy and a lot of fun to hang out with.

We arrived at a long, thin spoil island about 7 miles from HJFC. It was a great place to hang out. We had all carried wood out from HJ's and we had a great fire. Saturday morning we sailed around. Some were talking of sailing out Sebastian Inlet into the Atlantic around the campfire but rethought that in the AM and decided to play around in the inland waters. When I saw the surf, the narrow channel, and power boat traffic, as we crossed that bridge Sunday, I'd say they made the right choice. Saturday afternoon some sailed and some just hung out on the island. Glenda got a snow cone from the ice cream barge. I wanted an ice cream but Colette reminded me we had strawberry shortcake and whipped cream on the evening menu and ice cream really doesn't go that good with beer anyway.

Slept great Saturday night except occasionally when one of the yahoo's on the north end of the island would yell for his dog. Sunday morning, said dog, a big pit bull sauntered into our camp and was as gentle as a lamb. Whew! We pulled anchor about 6:30 Sunday morning, Colette sailed us back to the camp and we departed for home about 11 AM.

Favorite part of the trip was HJFC and learning a little of its history from Jonathan's lovely mother. The water is a little clearer close to the Atlantic than in SW Florida. The shore line along Indian River is straight and quite a few nice homes, all in all, a beautiful part of the world.

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## Squadron Summer Events !

**1. Lake Eustis Summer Sailstice Celebration - June 19th - 20th.** Glenda Libby, who is a member of Lake Eustis Sailing Club and the WCTSS, has arranged a weekend at the lake for all the local sailing clubs including the WCTSS! We are invited to bring our boats, sail the lake, pitch a tent, sleep on our boats at the dock or on the lake, or even bunk down in their clubhouse !

There is an official registration form that can be found on our web site and downloaded. They are feeding us, and need to know how much food to purchase, so please fill out the form and send it in, or at least contact Glenda Libby at: [qtsailing@yahoo.com](mailto:qtsailing@yahoo.com).

On Saturday there will be a "Poker Run" on the lake with a Skipper's meeting of 10AM. Pot luck and BBQ dinner is at 4:30 PM - Bring Stuff! On Sunday there's a 9:00 to 10:30 Pancake Breakfast, and a tour of a local boat builders shop with time to be announced.

Lake Eustis is the lake just to the north of Lake Harris, and they have their own ramp at the club. Going north, stay on SR 19 going through Eustis until you see County RD 452 - turn left and left into the club. Lake Eustis Sailing Club - 1310 County Rd 452 - Eustis, FL 32726

**2. Lake Tarpon and the Jack Willy Tarpon Turtle Restaurant - July 17th!** Launch at Anderson Park off of US 19 at 9:30 and sail Lake Tarpon until 11:30 when we will pull into the Tarpon Turtle Restaurant for a delicious lunch and cool off before continuing our sail in the afternoon depending on afternoon rain and thunderstorms. If coming by car the address of the "Turtle" is: 1513 Lake Tarpon Avenue Tarpon Springs, FL 34689-5327 It is accessed via Tarpon Ave from the west - which is Keystone Road from the east. Look for a sign.

For photos of our events, please direct your web browser to: <http://ftp.ij.net/wctss/wctss/>