

John and LaNae Abnet

Paddling with Gators: Canoeing the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge

With Gary and Linda De Kock



In February, Gary, Linda, John, and LaNae traveled by canoe through the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge on the border of Florida and Georgia, home to countless species of birds, fish, mammals, and reptiles. They camped on "chickies" (platforms in the swamp) and on one island along the way. They will share their adventures and misadventures! Both couples are known for their encounters with law enforcement. And this trip was no exception!

John and LaNae Abnet are the first couple to kayak the 1600-mile source-to-sea journey from the headwaters of the Wabash River to the Gulf of Mexico. LaNae is an avid gardener and uses food hunted and grown on her property to dehydrate and vacuum pack healthy and affordable adventure meals. LaNae has gone on to write the first of multiple books about their adventures.

Together the Abnets have train hopped through the interior Canadian wilderness, paddled the big waters of Lake Huron, and kayaked in the arctic. After completion of their source-to-sea kayak trip, the couple developed their 32 acre property into a federal wildlife habitat program, gave away many of their belongings, and built a small 750 sq.ft. home where they now live and work.



