



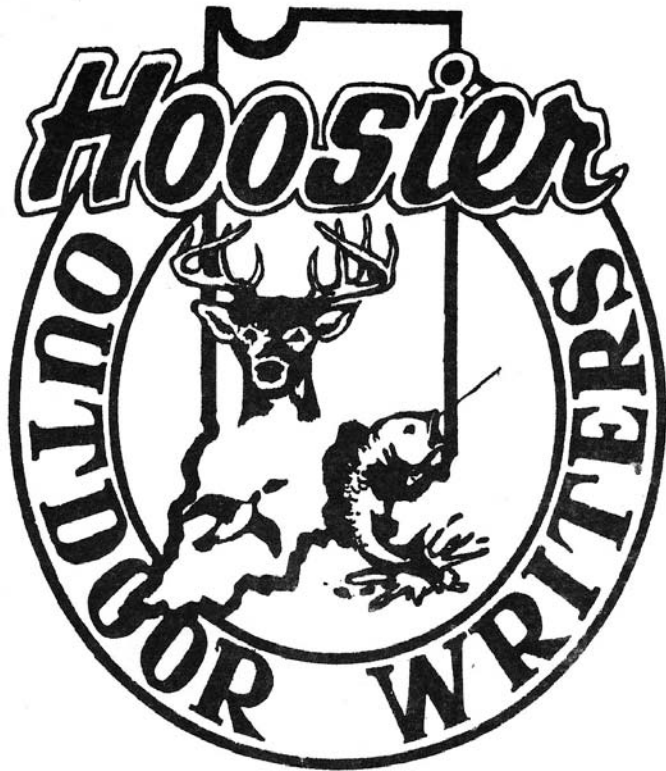
The Blade

2011 Pre-Conference Issue

March - April 2011

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers

"Splendor At Clifty Falls", photo by Tom Berg



Hoosier Outdoor Writers

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers was formed in 1969 and has brought together many diverse groups and individuals with shared interests. The Hoosier Outdoor Writers, known among its members as HOW, is a group of dedicated media professionals who are keenly interested in the wise use of natural resources in the Hoosier State.

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2012
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Region 4 – Jack Spaulding
2012

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James Keldsen – 2012
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On the cover: This graceful waterfall at Clifty Falls State Park near Madison, Indiana is a favorite of park visitors. If you haven't visited the park yourself, this is a great year to do it! Photo by Tom Berg.



President's Message

by John Maxwell

Hey HOW, this missive should be my last HOW President's Message. I'll be turning the presidential reigns of our organization over to our young and spunky Vice-President Brandon Butler at our April meeting.

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers have come a long way in the last several years. Under the able presidency of Bryan Poynter, we hired our first Executive Director. And the ensuing improvement in organizational continuity and booming business sponsorships are the early dividends.

HOW also began holding our annual meetings in different interesting places in Indiana. Last spring, we met at the Inn of the Fourwinds on Monroe Lake. Highlights included the Friday Funshoot, planned by HOW member Captain Mike Schoonveld, which was held at the Presnell Plantation near Morgantown.

The Funshoot last year was - well -- really fun. HOW shooters played PIG and HORSE and Knockout. As I said in an earlier report, I don't remember who won most of the contests, but I do remember Mike lost once. Also on Friday, member Jeff Hammond provided members with a fantastic Monroe Lake sunset cruise.

At the meeting, the HOW board voted to join the Indiana Sportsmen's Roundtable, which should provide HOW sportsmen and women timely information on active hunting, fishing, trapping and other natural resource or outdoor recreation legislation.

This year's meeting will be at Turkey Run State Park in scenic Parke County (more meeting details later in this issue of *The Blade*). I'm excited our Vice-President Butler landed (or boated) internationally-known smallmouth fishing expert, instructor and author Tim Holschlag as our main speaker. Holschlag is also planning to fish with us on a canoe trip down Sugar Creek on Sunday. Butler also helped land the Indiana Smallmouth Alliance as a meeting sponsor, and organized a canoeing outing for members on Sunday morning. Our Executive Director, Tom Berg, has also secured sponsors for this conference, including Toyota Motor Sales, the National Shooting Sports Foundation and the Sportsman Channel.

HOW's biggest improvement over the past year was spearheaded by member Eric Stallsmith. HOW, with Eric's expert guidance, launched its first website. Members can now access *The Blade* newsletters, member and sponsor directories and more online, while the public, publishers and prospective members can now easily learn more about HOW. Having an online presence has really increased HOW's professionalism and public exposure.

We're still discussing how to better use our Facebook page for communication, and how to possibly build individual HOW webpages for each member. These pages would give each member a web presence he or she could use to help market or show-off writing or photography, all under the umbrella of a professional outdoor communications organization.

There are still a few things to do this spring. During the 2011 HOW Board of Directors Meeting, I plan to introduce a motion to create an annual Bayou Bill Stewardship Award, funded from a small part of the proceeds from our raffle. And I hope to convince the board to give a pay raise to our Executive Director. An Executive Director, especially one as organized and competent as Tom, should be rewarded for increasing income and cutting costs, as well as for increasing the professionalism of our newsletter, building the membership and better tracking of financial accounts.

Hope to see you down the trail soon.

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

**HOW extends a warm
welcome to our growing
ranks of outdoor
communicators:**

Mike Berg (Associate)
Cedar Lake, IN
Sponsor: Tom Berg

Bryan Jensen (Associate)
Fort Wayne, IN
Sponsor: Ray McCune

Patrick McCune (Associate)
Fort Wayne, IN
Sponsor: Ray McCune

Brian Waldman (Associate)
Coatesville, IN
Sponsor: Tom Berg

Memorial to Deceased HOW Members

Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

Jack Alkire – President of HOW 1979

Bill Beeman – Executive Director

Ed Blann

Charlie Brown

Gary Carden

Jim “Moose” Carden – President 1982/83

George Carey

John Case

Bill Church – President of HOW 1972

Jack “Big Jake” Cooper

Mark Cottingham

Jerry Criss

Dick Forbes

Tom Glancy – President of HOW 1977

Dale Griffith

Fred Heckman

Jack Kerins

Mike Lyle – President of HOW 1981

Ralph “Cork” McHargue – President 1976

Bob Nesbit

Jack Parry

Harry Renfro

“Bayou” Bill Scifres – President of HOW

George Seketa

Al Spiers

Robert “Doc” Stunkard

Butch Tackett

Joe West

Past Presidents of HOW

“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1969
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1970
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1971
Bill Church	1972
Rick Bramwell	1973
Jack Ennis	1974
Phil Junker	1975
Ralph McHargue	1976
Tom Glancy	1977
Bob Rubin	1978
Jack Alkire	1979
Louie Stout	1980
Mike Lyle	1981
Jim “Moose” Carden	1982
Jim “Moose” Carden	1983
John Davis	1984
John Davis	1985
Ray Harper	1986
Ray Harper	1987
Ray Dickerson	1988
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1989
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1990
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1991
Jack Spaulding	1992
Jack Spaulding	1993
John Rawlings	1994
Phil Bloom	1995
Marty Jaranowski	1996
John Martino	1997
Mike Schoonveld	1998
Jack Spaulding	1999
Jack Spaulding	2000
Sharon Wiggins	2001
Phil Junker	2002
Larry Crecelius	2003
Bryan Poynter	2004
Phil Bloom	2005
Brian Smith	2006
Brian Smith	2007
Brent Wheat	2008
Bryan Poynter	2009
John Maxwell	2010

2011 HOW Conference Preview

As you should all know by now, the 2011 HOW Conference is scheduled for the weekend of April 15-17, 2011. This marks the second year of our newly expanded conference format during the warmer spring months. Many members have said that they really like the new spring format which lends itself to more outdoor activities!

The main meeting will take place on Saturday, April 16th at Turkey Run Inn (the Lusk Room) inside Turkey Run State Park near Marshall, IN. There is a map and directions in this issue, along with a registration form. The registration deadline has actually passed, but if you have suddenly realized that you can make it this year, please call or email Executive Director Tom Berg ASAP and we'll make every effort to get you on the list (email thomas.berg@comcast.net or call 219-322-8328).

For those HOW members who are interested, we will be holding our annual HOW Fun Shoot on Friday afternoon, April 15th. We will meet at Wallace Traps near Wallace at 1:00pm (about 12 miles northeast of Turkey Run). See page 9 for directions and more information.

On Friday evening, we will gather at the Tennis Court Shelter inside Turkey Run State Park for a 6:00pm barbecue and get-together. This will be a great time to see old friends and make some new ones! Besides the food, we are planning to have a variety of beverages available, so come thirsty!

The annual meeting itself will take place on Saturday, April 16th. HOW members who can't make it Friday night or who can't stay until Sunday should feel free to come for the meeting on Saturday. It is "The Main Event", and a lot of people will be coming on Saturday only.

John Maxwell, Brandon Butler, Bryan Poynter and Tom Berg have been working hard to recruit speakers for the breakout sessions, and they have lined-up a great slate for us once again. Our Keynote Speaker will be Tim Holschlag, an internationally-known smallmouth bass angler, lecturer, author, fishing guide, educator and conservationist. He will discuss smallmouth bass, and his presentation called "Tips, Tricks and Techniques for Stream Smallmouth" is sure to be interesting and informative. He is also planning to bring his customized smallmouth bass "Fishing Machine" canoe into the meeting room so that everyone can see it and get some ideas for their own fishing canoes! HOW would like to thank the Indiana Smallmouth Alliance for sponsoring Mr. Holschlag's lecture. Please see their website (www.indianasmallmouthalliance.org) for more info on INSA.

We will also have several other speakers and presenters. A representative from Sugar Valley Canoe Trips will be on hand to give us a current report on water conditions for Sugar Creek. He will also describe the areas that we will be canoeing on Sunday, since Sugar Valley Canoe Trips will be providing complimentary canoe rentals for all HOW members interested in canoeing or fishing on Sugar Creek Sunday morning. Nate Mullendore from the Indiana Smallmouth Alliance will also give a short talk about his organization and smallmouth bass conservation in Indiana. Rhett Wisener, the District 4 Fisheries Biologist for the DNR, will discuss the gamefish populations (especially smallmouth bass) in Sugar Creek, including changes that have occurred in the past decade. Our final speaker will be veteran Indianapolis hiker Joe Lawson, and he will recount some of his adventures while hiking the Seven Summits from around the world. The Seven Summits are the highest mountain peaks on each of the continents. Indiana hikers can learn a lot from his extensive experience!



(continued next page)

The annual conference has traditionally been a time to renew old friendships and make new ones, but it is also a time to honor the achievements of our members with the annual Awards-In-Craft contests. This year we will award prizes for outstanding writing, photography and broadcast media. A special thank-you goes out to Toyota Motor Sales, USA for sponsoring this year's contests again.

THE ANNUAL HOW RAFFLE

Listen-up, raffle hounds! The annual HOW Raffle is shaping-up to be another fabulous one. Although last year we had a record number of companies (68 in total) that contributed products or services to the raffle, this year will be even better. This is the third year in a row that we have set a new record for contributions. This year we have already received donations from more than 80 contributing companies, and quite a few more have indicated that they are in the process of sending outdoors-related products. So even though there is less than two weeks to go before the conference, the number of contributing companies is sure to grow.



The annual raffle is the highlight of the meeting for some of our members, and they won't be disappointed this year. For those who can't wait for the big day to hear what we will be raffling off, here is a partial list that should convince you to bring along a little (or a LOT of) extra cash:

Firearms enthusiasts will be happy to hear that we will have a Mossberg lever-action .22 rifle, a Ruger .22 rifle, a Gamo .22 air rifle with scope, and a very cool muzzleloader from Blackpowder Products. There will also be a great Horton crossbow with scope, an awesome camp stove/oven, a guided pheasant/chukar hunt at Flatrock Hunting Preserve, fishing rods, fishing reels, hunting calls, turkey hunting gear, outdoor apparel for both summer and winter, lots of icefishing gear (including icefishing rod/reel combos), shooting supplies, ammunition, gun cases, lots of fishing lures, premium sunglasses, hunting gear, waterproof binoculars, a spotting scope, knives, a lure-making kit and a top-quality gun vise system. And that's just a sample!

So make sure you attend this year's conference and buy plenty of raffle tickets. You can't win if you don't play, and winners must be present! Good luck!

SATURDAY EVENING NATURE HIKE

After the meeting adjourns on Saturday, all interested HOW members may gather for an afternoon Canyon Nature Hike in Turkey Run State Park led by one of the DNR naturalists. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about the park and its inhabitants from someone who really knows the area well! Be sure to bring your cameras, too, as there will probably be some great photo opportunities along the trail!



Please be aware that we plan to hike to the Punch Bowl, and the footing can be tricky and wet. Wear hiking boots or other quality footwear that you won't mind getting wet. We will post a sign-up sheet for the hike on the Registration Table during Saturday's meeting.

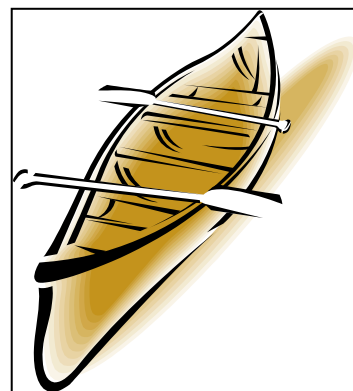
SUNDAY HIKING, CANOEING AND FISHING OUTING

HOW members who stay for the activities on Sunday will not be disappointed. There are miles of beautiful hiking trails in Turkey Run State Park, and HOW members should feel free to put them to good use. You can hike through canyons, along the creek and through the woods. Trails range in difficulty from easy to very rugged, so choose the trails that sound good – and that you are physically able to endure!



Hikers will be on their own on Sunday, or HOW members can plan to hike together in groups. It's totally up to you. All of those HOW members who would like to do some canoeing and/or fishing on Sugar Creek, however, will meet for a more structured outing. See below.

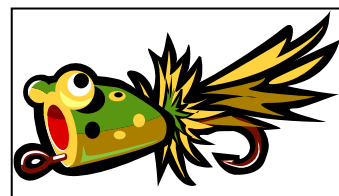
We plan to meet our contacts from Sugar Valley Canoe Trips at 9:00am, so we will probably gather in the lobby of Turkey Run Inn between 8:30-8:45am. You will have your choice of taking a simple canoe trip down Sugar Creek, or canoeing and fishing on your own, or canoeing and fishing with our Keynote Speaker Tim Holschlag.



Tim has agreed to spend some time on the water with us on Sunday to give us some first-hand lessons on how to fish for stream smallmouth bass. As you will find out at the meeting on Saturday, Tim is a real expert. If you have never fished for stream smallies before, you will want to spend some time with Tim and learn a few of his tips and tricks! It will also be interesting to see his customized smallmouth craft on the water.

For all of those planning to join us for the canoeing outing on Sunday, please send Tom Berg an email to let him know. We need to let Sugar Valley Canoe Trips know how many canoes we will need for our Sugar Creek expedition.

If you plan to do some fishing on the creek, you will need to bring your own fishing gear (fishing rod, lures, etc). Do you prefer to chase smallmouth with a fly rod? No problem! Bring it along! It would also be a good idea to bring along some sunscreen, polarized sunglasses, a camera, a jacket, etc. Hopefully it will be warm and sunny enough to need sunscreen! Since all HOW members are students of the outdoors, you probably know exactly what to bring. If you have any questions, though, please feel free to drop Tom Berg a line at thomas.berg@comcast.net. And don't worry, there are no dumb questions!



We hope to see all of you on Sunday morning!



Hoosier Outdoor Writers Annual Conference Registration



Turkey Run Inn at Turkey Run State Park, Parke County – April 15-17, 2011

This registration form is for the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 16th
(8:00am – 4:30pm)

Information to appear on badge:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Are you a first-time HOW conference attendee? _____

Conference Registration Fee per person:

HOW Members (and spouses): \$25.00 each (\$25 X number attending) = _____

Non-HOW Members: \$30.00 each (\$30 X number attending) = _____

Conference fee includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch on April 16th.

Please print this application and mail it along with your check for each person attending (make checks payable to “Hoosier Outdoor Writers”) to:

**Tom Berg
HOW Conference
2142 Nondorf Street
Dyer, IN 46311-1829**

Questions? Email all conference questions to Tom Berg: thomas.berg@comcast.net

HOW Fun Shoot

The HOW Annual Conference always begins with the HOW Fun Shoot. At least, that's how it has been for the past several years (or more). This year will be no different. And since the conference will be held at Turkey Run State Park, we needed to find a shooting facility nearby where we could meet and break some clay targets.

Our facility this year will be Wallace Traps, located 10 or 12 miles northeast of Turkey Run. Some people say it is even closer than that, but they probably know some secret back roads that get them there quicker than us out-of-towners.

This year's shoot will take place on Friday afternoon, April 15th. We will meet at Wallace Traps at 1:00pm, shoot a few rounds of trap and enjoy the great outdoors. This will be a great chance to get together and renew old friendships, while spending quality time outside at the shooting range.

You may bring your own gun or use a loaner from the Wallace Traps Gun Club this year, but you won't need any shotgun shells. Mike Schoonveld says that Winchester has graciously offered to supply the ammunition for the shoot, so HOW members who are interested in shooting will only need to show up with their smiling faces! We will need to pay a small fee for using the facility and the clay targets, though. The cost will be \$4.00 for every 25 rounds that we shoot (a bargain!). We'll probably shoot 100 rounds.

Once we are done shooting, we will head south for Turkey Run and get ready for an evening of fun at the Tennis Shelter barbecue. Here are the directions to Wallace Traps:

From Turkey Run State Park, turn right onto IN-47. Make another right onto US-41, and go north to IN-234. Turn right on IN-234 and take it to IN-341. Turn left and go about 1.5 miles to E. Schoolhouse Road. Turn right and go a half mile (or less). If you reach S. CR-675 E. you went too far. The Wallace Traps clubhouse is 2551 E. Schoolhouse Road, Hillsboro, IN (if you want to get directions online).



Photos from last year's Fun Shoot: Bryan Poynter shoots while John Maxwell & Gene Clifford watch.

2011 HOW Conference

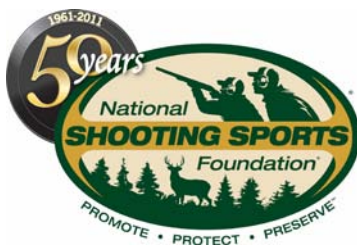
The Hoosier Outdoor Writers
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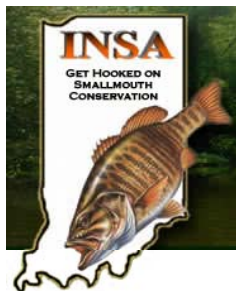
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Keynote Speaker Sponsor

as the official sponsors of the
2011 HOW Annual Conference

HOOSIER OUTDOOR WRITERS

Annual Meeting on April 16, 2011
Turkey Run Inn (Lusk Room)
Turkey Run State Park

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00-9:00am

Registration, continental breakfast.

8:30-9:00am

HOW Board of Directors meeting.

9:00-9:20am

Opening remarks by outgoing President John Maxwell and briefing about the day's schedule. Parke County PCI official will also welcome HOW members.

9:20-9:30am

Representative from Sugar Valley Canoe Trips will give a current description of creek conditions and discuss the areas that we will be canoeing on Sunday.

9:30-9:40am

Break.

9:40-10:00am

Presentation #1: Nathan Mullendore from the Indiana Smallmouth Alliance will make a presentation on the group's mission, activities and achievements.

10:00-11:00am

Presentation #2: Keynote Speech by internationally-known author, guide and instructor Tim Holschlag: "Tips, Tricks and Techniques for Stream Smallmouth". He will also demonstrate his customized smallmouth "Fishing Machine" canoe.

11:00-11:10am

Break.

11:10-11:30am

Business meeting, Slate of new officers, presentation of President's Award.

11:30-12:30pm

Buffet lunch and social time for members.

12:30-1:10pm

Presentation #3: DNR District 4 Fisheries Biologist Rhett Wisener will discuss gamefish populations (especially smallmouth bass) in Sugar Creek.

1:10-1:20pm

Break.

1:20-2:15pm

Presentation #4: Indianapolis hiker Joe Lawson will talk about his adventures while hiking the Seven Summits from around the world. The Seven Summits are the highest mountain peaks on each of the continents.

2:15-2:45pm

HOW Awards-In-Craft presentation.

2:45-3:15pm

Break. Raffle tickets go on sale!

3:15pm

Annual HOW Outdoor Writer's Raffle.

4:30pm

Meeting adjourns.

4:45pm

Afternoon Canyon Nature Hike in Turkey Run park for anyone interested, led by one of the park Naturalists (wear footwear for wet, rocky trails!).

6:00pm

Dinner on your own for those staying until Sunday.

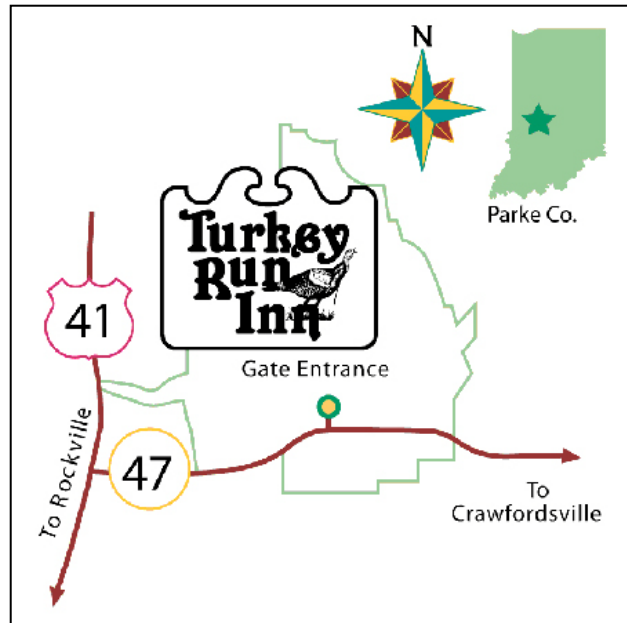
Directions to Turkey Run State Park:

From Indianapolis: Take the Rockville Road exit off of Interstate 465, then west on I-465 to Rockville Road exit. Go west on Rockville Road (US36) about 51 miles to Rockville. Turn right at US41 then 9 miles to Hwy 47. Turn right and go 2 miles to the Turkey Run State Park gate house. Enter the park and follow the signs to Turkey Run Inn.

From Chicago: Take I-80/94 east to US41. Take US41 south approximately 157 miles to Hwy 47. Turn left and go 2 miles to the Turkey Run State Park gate house. Enter the park and follow the signs to Turkey Run Inn.

From Evansville: Take US41 straight through Terre Haute approximately 142 miles to Hwy 47. Turn right and go 2 miles to the Turkey Run State Park gate house. Enter the park and follow the signs to Turkey Run Inn.

From Clarksville, IN/Louisville, KY: Take I-65 north to Indianapolis, then west on Rockville Road (US36) about 51 miles to Rockville. Turn right at US41 then 9 miles to Hwy 47. Turn right and go 2 miles to the Turkey Run State Park gate house. Enter the park and follow the signs to Turkey Run Inn.



Turkey Run State Park Entrance:

Turkey Run Inn is located inside Turkey Run State Park. When you enter this state property, there will be an attendant who will want to collect fees for the state. HOW members will be required to pay the gate entrance fee, so if you visit Indiana's parks very often you may want to buy a yearly state park pass ahead of time. The fee for in-state vehicles is \$5 and for out-of-state it is \$7. If you are staying the night at Turkey Run Inn, you'll only have to pay once and then use your room key to come and go as you wish.

Reality Check:

Caution: This map and directions to Turkey Run State Park was taken from the internet. As always, do a reality check when mapping out your course. Road closures, construction projects and inaccurate internet information may affect the accuracy of these directions. Please plan accordingly!



SPECIAL KIDS FISHING OUTING INVITATION TO ALL ACTIVE HOW MEMBERS

Indiana's North Coast Charter Association (INCCA) will be holding its annual Special Kid's Fishing Outing on May 7, 2011. One of the event organizers is Lake Michigan charterboat operator and HOW member Mike Schoonveld, and he is looking for journalists, broadcasters and photographers to help cover the story.

The fishing outing will be based out of East Chicago's Pastrick Marina, which is easily reached from Interstate 80/94 via Cline Avenue. Youngsters with handicaps and debilitating diseases will head out on Lake Michigan for a morning of fishing fun with the captains from INCCA, then return to the Indiana Harbor Yacht Club to weigh and brag about their catches at a backyard picnic. After the festivities, participants will be able to take the filets home to provide a savory entree for their family.



Any active member of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers who would like to attend is welcome. In addition to the fishing outing for the kids, HOW members who arrive early enough on Friday will have an opportunity to do a little salmon fishing of their own. The charter association will host a Friday afternoon fishing outing for visiting HOW'ers, and an area hotel will provide a room for you on Friday night. On Saturday morning, you will be assigned to one of the boats to give special coverage to one or more of these special kids.

Judging from the reactions of the kids from the fishing outings in previous years, Lake Michigan salmon fishing is an experience that they will never forget.

We will have a great time, too, and this trip will be sure to generate plenty of story material and photo opportunities. Contact Captain Mike Schoonveld as soon as possible via email (mike@bronature.com) or by phone (219-394-2123) for additional details or to reserve your spot to cover this special kid's event.



The Legendary Hayes Buck

by Rick Bramwell

It has been six years since I harvested a deer. I like to hunt where there are signs of big bucks and just seeing a monster whitetail is reward enough. Twice last season, I saw a magnificent buck on property next door to where I live. I saw him the first day of archery season and missed him the first day of gun season.

I had taken my daughter's Remington 870 Youth Model slug gun to stand hunt. I jumped the buck bedded just 60 yards from my truck after a morning of seeing no deer. The buck was bedded with a doe. I had a decent shot, but missed. I blamed it on the short stock. It made me sick. There was no sign that the old buck was still around until the night before the 2010 gun season came in. That is when I saw his tracks in a bean field.

The buck is legendary. A few folks have seen him crossing the road after dark near the Hayes' barn. To reference this huge deer the locals called him "The Hayes Buck." The property he often visited is owned by John and Debbie Hayes.

Saturday morning found me in a fencerow tree stand watching a three acre bean field that separated two apple tree-laden thickets. Just after first light, a doe and twin fawns came from the north woods to feed across the field. A half-hour after they disappeared into Hayes' woods, a six-point buck came from the same direction and hurried across the field and melted into cover.

The young buck found what he was looking for in short order. The doe came running full bore out of the woods, with the six-pointer in hot pursuit. Behind them, some 85 yards back, was the Hayes Buck. He looked mad that the small buck had beaten him to the doe and was closing in for a fight.

I let out a couple of loud burps and finally had to yell to get the enraged whitetail to stop. He turned, facing me at 50 yards. I shot and missed. Luckily, the buck turned back the way he came giving me four running broadside shots. The first two shots connected, but did not bring him down. The big whitetail crashed into the woods and disappeared.

I waited about an hour and began tracking. One sapling looked like someone had painted an eight inch section with blood. Unfortunately, the blood told me the hit was high. I should have given the deer more time. He jumped out of a bloody bed and never left another spot. I left the woods and waited another three hours.

With the help of John Hayes, the search began again. Rustling sounds on the other side of heavy wild roses made us wonder if that might be the buck. A search revealed nothing. During our search, John and I became separated. He heard a wheezing sound, but thought it was me trying to call the deer. Hayes is not a deer hunter. He didn't tell me what he had heard until the next morning. We called off the effort when it began to rain about 4:30 p.m.

When I got in, I called the best deer hunter I know. Larry Lawson has taken 15 whitetail bucks that scored 150 or more. He once held the world record for an Indiana muzzleloader buck that scored a net 187 B&C typical.

(continued next page)

When I told Larry that I had wounded the Hayes buck, he was excited and asked, “Will he go in the 160s?” I told him, “I think so.”

The next morning, my plan to find the buck involved asking Larry Lawson and his two friends from Florida, Clint and Chris Schweers, to help. Lawson knew all about this legendary buck. He told his friends “We have got to help Rick find this deer.” They agreed.

I got in my stand before first light. My friends arrived at 8:30 a.m. Lawson dropped the Schweers off on the south side of the woods. He then drove around to cover the east side. If the big buck was still on his feet, we would get him.

I was ready and was scanning the wood line for any movement. A doe had been feeding across the bean field and was about to enter the thicket. I watched Lawson walk down the lane and get into position. The doe’s tail came up and she turned and ran. Then my cell phone vibrated. It was Lawson; he had just received a call from Clint. “Unload your gun and get out of your stand slowly and carefully,” he said.

“What are you talking about,” I snapped.

“They found your deer and he is huge.”

Lawson and I drove around to find the Schweers. John and Debbie Hayes were right behind us. The Hayes buck had everything: long tines, mass and an inside spread just shy of 19 inches. The main beams were 27 inches and the longest G2 was 12-7/8 inches. He had a gross green score of 179-4/8 and netted 175. It was a Boone and Crocket trophy and new Madison County typical record. Lawson, an official scorer, measured the buck and Taxidermist Aaron Goen (765-208-0107) had it mounted in 17 days.

Of all the hundreds of miles, motels, camps, and cabins, the most magnificent buck of all was in my own backyard. The legendary Hayes buck.



Editor’s note: Rick Bramwell from Pendleton, Indiana has been a HOW member since 1970. He served as President of HOW in 1973 and has attended many HOW conferences and functions over the years. He is an avid hunter and fisherman and loves the outdoors. Photo courtesy of Rick Bramwell.

DNR News

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 W. Washington St. W255 B
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748
Phone: (317) 232-4200

Raptor Day at Charlestown State Park, April 9

Hardy Lake Raptor Rehab Center is presenting a live birds program featuring hawks and owls on April 9 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Clark Shelter House (near Trail 2).

Birders and naturalists will lead bird watching activities at Clark Shelter House, the Trail 5 trailhead, and near the Ohio River on the west end of the park.

Children's activities include coloring, dissecting owl pellets, creating bird-related crafts and more. Participants should bring a picnic lunch.

This event is sponsored by the Naturalist at Heart volunteer program, Falls of the Ohio State Park and Charlestown State Park.

For more information about this program contact Alan Goldstein at (812) 280-9970 or via email at: agoldstein@dnr.in.gov.



Tom Berg photo.

Indiana Portion Of Lake Michigan To Get Supply Of Brown Trout

Anglers who seek brown trout should put Indiana's waters of Lake Michigan on their future trip list. The big-lake waters will soon be stocked with 35,000 brown trout, which are roughly four months old and 3-4 inches long.

Beginning in 2002, Indiana DNR made arrangements with the Illinois DNR to provide brown trout for stocking the Indiana waters of Lake Michigan. The nine years of brown trout stockings since then have occurred typically in June at four different locations along Indiana's 45 miles of shoreline.

"This program improves the diversity of fishing opportunity in Lake Michigan," said Indiana DNR's Lake Michigan fisheries biologist Brian Breidert. Brown trout feed extensively on the large, near-shore forage base of round goby.

(continued next page)

“Some years we have witnessed higher harvest on the lake and lakefront,” Breidert said. “Other years have dropped below pre-2002 levels. Indiana stream anglers have also enjoyed the mixture of species but again the harvest has not increased dramatically as a result of these stocking efforts.”



Indiana would like to rear these fish to a larger size to increase survival rate once stocked but there is limited space within the hatchery program for doing so. “Annual reviews of rearing practices have fine-tuned our facilities to maximize growth, fish health, and numbers for the current suite of species that are part of Indiana’s coldwater hatchery program,” Breidert said. “Any production changes would require reductions for one species to accommodate another.”

Media contact: Brian Breidert, Indiana DNR Lake Michigan fisheries biologist, (219) 874-6824.

Muskie Stockings Supported at Upper Long Lake

ALBION – Local residents and avid muskie anglers have agreed to a five-year commitment to continue a club-sponsored muskie stocking program at Upper Long Lake in Noble County. The agreement, along with approval from DNR, calls for 170 muskie fingerlings to be stocked each year to maintain muskie fishing opportunities at the 86-acre natural lake. The muskies will be purchased by the Webster Lake Musky Club from a commercial hatchery in Wisconsin. Since 2002, the club has stocked nearly 3,700 muskie fingerlings in the lake at a typical rate of five per acre per year.

Last year some lake residents complained too many muskies were present, and the stocking rate was too high. Opponents also were concerned that muskies were of little interest to most anglers, were harming other fish, and were reproducing at high levels. To address these concerns, DNR biologists conducted a study at Upper Long Lake last year and held discussions between the two groups.

Based on data compiled by the DNR, 33 percent of anglers who fish at Upper Long Lake fish for muskies. Muskie anglers made 542 fishing trips to the lake, generating \$35,000 of estimated economic value through their purchase of bait, tackle, fuel and other items.

Anglers caught 145 muskies, 17 of which were 36 inches long or longer. The anglers typically fished an average of 10 hours to catch one muskie. Although muskie fishing was more popular among visiting anglers, 65 percent of all anglers favored the stocking program.

According to the DNR, no major shifts have occurred among other species in the lake. The data suggested that bluegills and crappies increased in number after the muskie stocking program began. The total number of bass decreased, but numbers of 12- to 14-inch bass rose 48 percent and numbers of 14- to 18-inch bass nearly tripled after muskies were stocked. Biologists found no evidence that muskies have reproduced in the lake, although redbfin pickerel are present. These fish resemble small muskies.

Media contact: Jed Pearson, DNR fisheries biologist, (260) 244-6805.

HOW Member News

Brent Wheat Goes Tactical (Not Postal!)

Many of us know that HOW Past-President Brent Wheat is partial to guns, shooting and tactical equipment. Besides his regular hook-and-bullet articles, Brent is also a law enforcement and gun writer, and one of his favorite publications is S.W.A.T. Magazine. We weren't terribly surprised, therefore, when he sent in the following report for HOW Member News:

"I just recently returned from a February trip to the Wasatch Mountains near the Utah-Idaho border on a writer's trip sponsored by Surefire Flashlights," reported Wheat. "Surefire brought several gun writers to Sniper Country Lodge, a new military sniper training facility operated by Nick Young, owner of Desert Tactical Arms (DTA). The writers underwent a 4-day training course that involved a variety of evolutions and exercises including a night shoot using the latest in Night Vision Optics, shooting to 1800 yards, improvised positional shooting and even high-angle target engagement after a 'Via Ferrata' mountain climb! During the course, Desert Tactical Arms graciously supplied their SRS rifle system in .338 Lapua, paired with Schmidt & Bender scopes and Surefire suppressors."



Brent Wheat in the snowy Wasatch Mountains of northern Utah during Surefire Flashlight's *Operation Winter Fury*. Brent is holding a Desert Tactical Arms SRS rifle in .338 Lapua (ask him what that means!).

"Also, in May I will be traveling to Colorado to film the upcoming Season #3 of S.W.A.T. Magazine Television on the Outdoor Channel." Sounds like fun!

Alan Garbers Finds WI Grouse And Lots of Story Assignments

"The recent AGLOW conference in Ashland, WI really jump-started my writing," said Garbers. "With all the interviews and activities I did, I got some great fodder for articles. I have since sold an article on Wisconsin grouse hunting to the Bird Hunting Report, and the Outdoor Guide Magazine is going to run my review of the 2011 Dodge Ram Outdoorsman and an article on high-energy foods for hunters. I'm also going to be in the April, May, and June issues of Indiana Game & Fish with articles on crappie, smallmouth bass and catfish. Michigan's Woods N Water even picked up my article on flats fishing on Chequamegon Bay with Roger Lapenter." Keep up the great work, Alan!



Alan Garbers (left) with grouse hunting partner and world-renowned outdoor photographer Doug Stamm.

Poynter Likes Outdoors Gadgets



“When you find something that is good, you want to share it,” said HOW Chairman Bryan Poynter. “Here are a couple of new items in my day pack:”

“The first is one of Coghlan’s newest products for 2011. As an avid hunter, I love ‘stuff’. However, ‘stuff’ can be clutter or critical. This axe is great for many camp needs and was awesome this past hunting season for several reasons. It is extremely functional, compact and has an incredibly hardened blade which holds a very sharp edge. It is small enough and light enough to pack in for the day and tough enough for all camp work...all for under \$20. I will pack it in when I camp, hunt or venture anywhere in the outdoors.”



“The second is another must have! If you know me, I love flashlights. I can’t get enough of them, especially when they are functional and practical. I stumbled across the new Stanley ‘Dip it, Drop it, Dunk it’. It is perfect for overcoming my shortcomings in the field. This is a lightweight, extremely bright LED light with an adjustable dimmer for the spot, it’s waterproof and it holds a charge for hours. I turned it on to test the charge and it last over 7 hours – continuous. This has not left my truck since I got it. It was awesome on a duck hunt this past fall when I dropped it in water in the bottom of the boat and I had absolutely no issues with it.”

Martino Puts Hoosier Walleyes (and other fish) On Ice

Long-time HOW member and Past-President John Martino is addicted to icefishing. During the winter, he can often be found standing on the ice at any one of a number of local lakes and ponds around Kokomo. He gave this report recently:

“The photo at right shows a friend of mine (Jim Baker) with a five pound walleye he caught from the Kokomo Reservoir,” he said. John and his friends caught a lot of walleyes during first ice, taking several limits early in the season.



He also had time to share the wealth: “On a good note, I did have an opportunity to introduce quite a few newcomers to icefishing this season.

Hard water anglers had a good year as our long winter provided ample time for ice fishing opportunities.”
Icefishing photos by John Martino.



LESSONS IN YOOPER-LAND

by Mike Schoonveld

I imagined the people who settled in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan had been called Yoopers almost since the end of the Toledo War which ended up with Toledo being a part of Ohio and the state of Michigan owning a vast chunk of real estate which looks as though it would be a better fit for Wisconsin. Little did I know, the term Yoopers (U.P.'ers) didn't come into common use until the late 1970s.



Since then, residents of this part of Michigan have embraced the name and are as proud of being a Yooper as we are of being Hoosiers. In fact, they say, being a Yooper is more than just being from the Upper Peninsula, it's a lifestyle.

I spent a week in Yooper-land in early February on a travel-writer's outing sponsored by Travel Michigan and the Marquette/Munising/Ishpeming/Negaunee area tourism agencies. It's an interesting and vibrant destination, even in the winter. Yoopers don't endure winter, they embrace it.

If you should ever find the opportunity to travel there, remember a few things. You don't warm up after a day outdoors in a sauna – it's called a "sow-na." No matter if you vacation in a pup tent or a 10-room mansion, your vacation retreat is called a "camp" – not a lodge, resort, cottage or cabin. They put blueberries in their beer and it's the only place in the world to get an authentic Cudaghi sandwich.

Once the snow gets so high you can no longer shovel or blow it because of lack of space for the piles, no problem. You pank it! That means you pack it down, drive on it, walk on it and don't worry about it until the spring thaw!

The photo to the right shows our group of well-bundled Yooper adventurers.....I'm on the far right.



WELCOME TO TURKEY RUN

by Don Bickel

Spring is having a hard time coming to this part of Indiana. I and my friend, Hal Bench, were glad to see the ice on farm ponds and Lake Waveland melt, so we could have reason not to go ice fishing. But now, here we are at the end of March and nearing the first part of April and they are talking about a hard freeze. But this too shall pass and the crappies will come back to the shallow waters.

Hal said to welcome the writers to Turkey Run State Park in April. Hal and the Missus live on Sugar Creek and he said you are welcome to stop by. Just take the paved road out of town southwest and go by Mitch's Bal Hinch Country Store. Turn off on the tarvy and aim towards Sugar Creek. When you get to the gravel, just watch for the mailbox that says "Bench".

Hal said, "On thet Sunday when sum of them writers try fer smallmouth in th' Creek, jist remember we live on thet part of the Creek afore hit goes into Parke County. Iffen hit's a warm afternoon, me and th' Missus sumtimes set on the bench back along the riffle on the Creek. But they's gonna be busy adodging them rocks in thet big riffle. Folks afloating down, most often don't see us, they's too busy a-scrapin' rocks."

"And if we git sum warm weather - we had a good amount of rain - them black and gray roons should be up. Mebbe if hit warms up quick enuff, them big yallers might git started in Shades State Park jist up the Creek from Turkey Run. And tell them fellers and gals they's welcome to hunt here in th' woods."



Morel photo by Tom Berg.

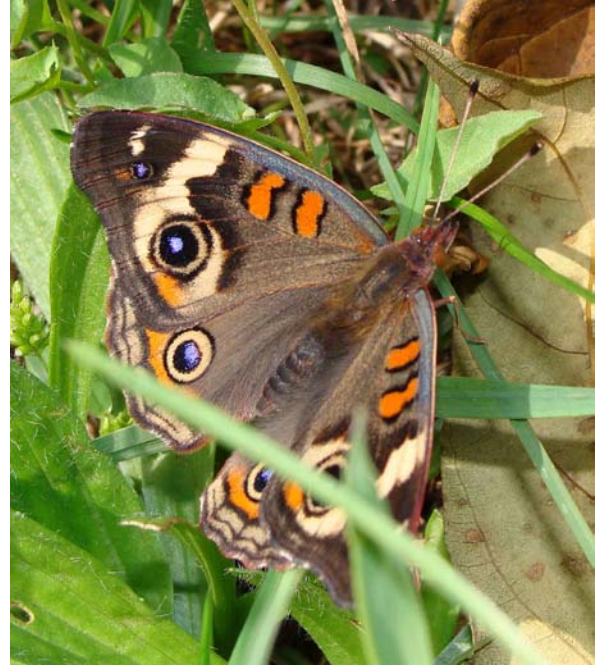
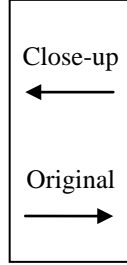


Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors

Sponsored by Leupold

Buckeye Butterfly Has Distinctive Eyespot Markings

The “What is it?” question from the last newsletter was supposed to be easier than some past questions, although some HOW members still found it to be pretty tough. We did have a total of seven HOW members who guessed it, though. PJ Perea, John Maxwell, Don Bickel, Mike Berg, Brian Smith, Bill Keaton and Ray McCune all guessed the right answer, and Bill Keaton was the lucky winner when we drew names for the G.Loomis fly rod (donated by John Mazurkiewicz from Catalyst Marketing and G.Loomis).



As you can see, the mystery creature was a very colorful Buckeye Butterfly. The large eyespots are thought to scare away predators. Although it is a common species, it is probably not as well-known as other more familiar butterflies like the Monarch or the various Swallowtail butterflies. This photo was taken near the end of last September while salmon fishing in one of NW Indiana’s streams!

Our friends at Leupold have agreed to provide a very nice prize (valued at over \$200) to the HOW member that guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question (see below). This time the prize will be a pair of high-quality Leupold 10X42mm Acadia binoculars. See additional contest details below.

Berg Poses Another “What Is It?” Question



Here’s another Nature Photo mystery. The photograph shown to the left is a close-up of the natural color pattern of a common creature that lives right here in Indiana. It probably does NOT live in your back yard, but it can be found throughout the state. Have you ever seen these sky-blue markings? Can you guess what the creature is?

This creature has a very distinctive look, so it should be a little easier to identify than some of the previous ones. However, to be in the running for the prize you must be very specific in your identification. If you think it is a particular species of snake, for example, don’t just guess “Snake”. Give the actual species, like “Garter Snake”. Of course, this is not a garter snake! If you think you know what it is, send the answer to me via email at thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you will be in the running for the Leupold Acadia binoculars. If you don’t know, you’ll just have to wait for the next issue of The Blade to find out!

As mentioned above, Leupold will be donating a very nice pair of binoculars as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. If more than one person guesses the right answer, we will draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck to everyone and start straining your brain!



HOW Supporting Member News

These pages are devoted to the loyal supporting members of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers. Brief descriptions of new products, award-winning products and press releases are listed here. HOW members interested in reading more can visit the supporting member websites or call or email the company contact for more information.



Bass Pro Shops Outfits Serious Turkey Hunters For Spring Season

Springfield, MO: Bass Pro Shops has some new products for turkey hunters that are sure to please even the toughest customers. The lifelike posturing and lustrous, high-definition finishes of RedHead turkey decoys will hoodwink any trottin' tom into range. Year-after-year durability, perfect paint-jobs, and truly amazing affordability are the hallmarks of BPS turkey decoys; and now they've added even more! True taxidermy eyes, two-piece metal stakes with foot assist for hard ground, a new advanced flexible EVA copolymer for much longer life without much more weight, all new updated molds for true-to-life textures, and two stake grommets in each turkey (except relaxed Hen) for different angles of presentation with each bird! Decoys move subtly in the wind for a more convincing flock, too.

Any way you work it, you'll find that the value, quality, and effectiveness of these light, durable decoys just plain can't be beat! And don't forget the new RTX box call – see below!

NEW RedHead® Turkey Decoy - Look Back Hen

- Look Back Hen inspires a gobbler to approach while he "still has the chance".
- Lifelike posturing True taxidermy eyes.
- Two-piece metal stakes with foot assist for hard ground.
- Lustrous, high-definition finish.
- Flexible EVA copolymer for longer life.
- Updated molds for true-to-life textures.
- Light yet durable.



NEW RedHead® RTX Purple Push/Pull Turkey Box Call

- Super-premium purpleheart call.
- Delivers perfect purrs and clear clucks.
- Requires a minimum of movement.

This super-premium purpleheart call delivers perfect purrs and clear clucks with a minimum of movement, enhancing your ability to bring them in close.



For more information, HOW members may contact Katie Mitchell at Bass Pro Shops (kamitchell@basspro.com or 417-873-5618) or visit the BPS website: www.basspro.com.

HOW Supporting Member News

Muzzy Launches New Super-Compact Broadheads



Cartersville, GA: You've asked for a super-compact 3-blade broadhead, and Muzzy has delivered with a Bone Bustin' duo. New for 2011, Muzzy's 125 grain and 75 grain MX-3s may be compact, but they pack a giant punch.



These new MX-3 broadheads provide the hunter with the ultimate selection of weights paired with Muzzy's rock solid 3-blade design in an ultra-compact build. Muzzy designed this lethal combination to use the same blades in both broadheads, but to use different ferrule materials. The gold 75 grain MX-3 features an aircraft-grade aluminum ferrule, and the silver 125 grain MX-3 is designed with a steel ferrule. Both models boast the same Muzzy Trocar Tip, fixed-blade accuracy and dependability that hunters have come to rely on season after season.



Don't be fooled by the compact stature of this gruesome twosome, though. Both models pack all of Muzzy's legendary "Bad to the Bone" power into their ultra-compact design while increasing accuracy and minimizing wind planing at high speeds.

For additional information on the new MX-3 broadheads, or any of Muzzy products, visit the company's website at www.muzzy.com. You may also contact Fred Settles at fsettles@muzzy.com or call 770-387-9300.



Alpen Optics Introduces New Spotting Scopes

Rancho Cucamonga, CA: Vickie Gardner, Vice President of Marketing for Alpen Optics, announced recently that the company will be offering three new ED HD Rainier Spotting Scopes (Model #851ED, 20-60x80 with straight eyepiece, Model #853ED, 20-60x80 with 45 degree eyepiece, and Model #857ED, 25-75x85 with 45 degree eyepiece) to its product lineup for 2011.

Alpen Rainier Spotting scopes feature ED HD technology which utilizes extra low dispersion (ED) high definition (HD) optics delivering superb optical clarity and color fidelity while defining the best in quality viewing performance. UBX fully multi-coated optics, BaK4 prisms, and SHR metallic coating combine to provide the brightest and sharpest image possible. The large objective lenses collect huge amounts of light that allow the high magnification zoom lens elements to deliver a clear and sharp image. Rainier spotting scopes offer an adjustable body collar allowing you to turn the scope for optimal positioning when viewing astronomical or terrestrial objects. O-ring sealed and nitrogen filled fully waterproof and fog-proof construction allow use in any weather condition.



For more info on Alpen Optics and Rainier Spotting Scopes, write Vickie Gardner (vickie@alpenoutdoor.com) or call 877-987-8370. You may also visit www.alpenoptics.com or check out Alpen's FACEBOOK page!

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

3M Scientific Anglers - www.scientificanglers.com
Acli-Mate Mountain Sports Drink - www.acli-mate.com
Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Bill Lewis Lures - www.Rat-L-Trap.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Blackpowder Products, Inc. - www.bpiguns.com
Brunton - www.brunton.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bundy Ducks - www.bundyducks.com
Cabela's, Inc. - www.cabelas.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Clam Corporation - www.clamcorp.com
Coleman Company - www.coleman.com
Columbia Sportswear - www.columbia.com
Creative Outdoor Products - www.hunterdan.com
Crimson Trace - www.crimsontrace.com
Crosman Corporation - www.crosman.com
CTI Industries - www.zipvac.net
Danner Boots - www.danner.com
DeLorme, Inc. - www.delorme.com
Eagle Claw - www.eagleclaw.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Federal Premium Ammunition - www.federalpremium.com
Flambeau Products Corp. - www.flambeauoutdoors.com
Flatrock Hunting Preserve - www.flatrockhunting.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
Frabill - www.frabill.com
Freedom Group Companies - www.freedom-group.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com
Godfrey Marine - www.nauticglobalgroup.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Hoppe's - www.hoppes.com
Howard Communications - www.howardcommunications.com
HT Enterprises - www.icefish.com
Hunt's Photo & Video - www.huntsphotoandvideo.com
Hunter's Specialties - www.hunterspec.com
Indiana Conservation Officer Magazine - www.icoo.com
Indiana Outdoor News - www.indianaoutdoornews.net
Jewel Bait Company - www.jewelbait.com
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - www.johnsonoutdoors.com
Kwiikee Kwiver Co. - www.kwiikeekwiver.com
L&S Bait Co. - www.mirrolure.com
LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com
Lamiglas - www.lamiglas.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
Lightfield Ammunition - www.lightfieldslugs.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com
Midway USA - www.midwayusa.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
Muzzy Products Corp. - www.muzzy.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com
Ono's Trading Co. - www.onostradingcompany.com
Orange County CVB - www.historicsouthernindiana.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Promotions - www.crappieusa.com
Plano Molding Company - www.planomolding.com
Poor Boy's Baits/Lurecraft - www.lurecraft.com
Pradco Fishing - www.lurenet.com
Primos Hunting Calls - www.primos.com
Proline Fishing, Inc. - www.prolinefishing.com
Pure Fishing - www.purefishing.com
Quaker Boy, Inc. - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Ranger Boat Company - www.rangerboats.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
Rocky Brands - www.rockyboots.com
Savage Arms - www.savagearms.com
Sebile Lures - www.sebileusa.com
SHE Outdoor Apparel - www.shesafari.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Snosuit - www.snosuit.com
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
Star Brite - www.starbrite.com
Strikemaster Corporation - www.strikemaster.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
Taylor Brands - www.taylorbrandsllc.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
Tri-Tronics, Inc. - www.tritronics.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
Vortex Optics - www.vortexoptics.com
W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - www.wrcase.com
WaveSpin Reels - www.wavespinreel.com
West Marine - www.westmarine.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Wildlife Research Center - www.wildlife.com

HOW members are encouraged to contact our supporting members' websites for general information and answers to product and service questions.

Hoosier Outdoor Writers

Application For New Membership

(Check Desired Classification below)

- \$30 _____ Active
- \$25 _____ Associate
- \$50 _____ Supporting
- \$15 _____ Active Student
- \$10 _____ Associate Student

Personal Information:

Name: _____
Company (Supporting members only): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Professional Information:

Employer (if outdoor-related): _____ Position: _____
Business Address: _____
Business Phone: _____

1. Describe your work in the outdoor field: Full Time _____ Part Time _____

2. Check your field(s) of outdoor work:

_____ Newspapers	_____ Magazine	_____ Photography
_____ Books	_____ Radio	_____ Lectures
_____ Television	_____ Teaching	_____ Trade Journals
_____ Artist	_____ Public relations	_____ Government Info - Ed
_____ Other (Specify): _____		

3. Are you paid for your outdoor work? Yes _____ No _____

4. Your work is published or disseminated: Daily ____; Weekly ____; Monthly ____; ____ times a year

Attach samples or other proof of your work in the outdoor field: newspaper clips, letters from station managers attesting to frequency of radio or TV broadcasts, lecture schedule or publicity clips, photo clips or artistic prints, title of latest book, masthead of trade journal showing your position, etc.

Send completed application and article copies to: **Tom Berg, 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311.**

I have read the principles and membership requirements of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers and would like to enroll in the classification checked above.

Signature: _____

Sponsor: _____

Who We Are

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers was formed in 1969 and has brought together many diverse groups and individuals with shared interests. The Hoosier Outdoor Writers, known among its members as HOW, is a group of dedicated media professionals who are keenly interested in the wise use of natural resources in the Hoosier State.

What We Do

These are the purposes of HOW:

1. To improve ourselves in the art, skill and effectiveness of our craft, and to increase knowledge and understanding of the whole state.
2. To help ensure the wisest and best conservation of Indiana's resources, and the most wide-spread fair use of Indiana's recreational potential.
3. To provide a vehicle for bringing together and joining in common cause all Hoosiers who by profession, hobby or interest are devoted to the outdoors.
4. Conduct an annual Awards-In-Craft Contest among its members. The award winners are announced each year at HOW's annual conference.

What We Stand For

These are what we strive to accomplish:

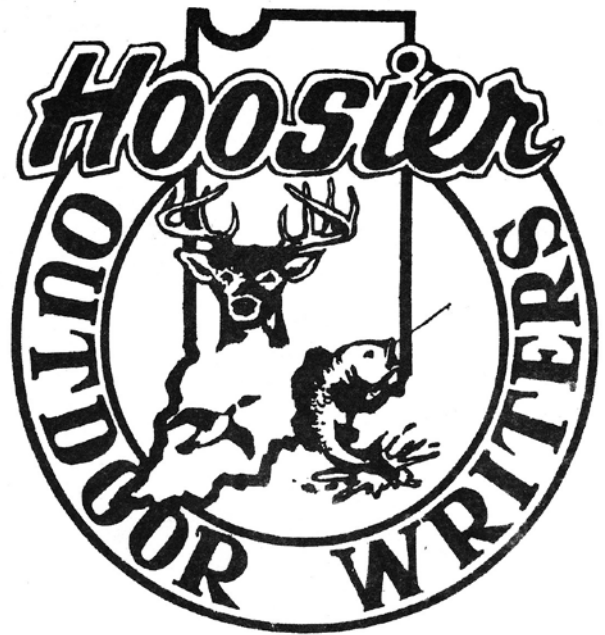
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor information.
4. To help friends and fight the foes of wisely conserved Indiana resources.

Membership Requirements

Membership is open to anyone who meets one of the following:

1. Active

Members are those regularly engaged in the paid dissemination of outdoor-oriented information via newspapers, radio, television, magazines, trade journals, books, photographs, art, lectures, or other fitting media. (Basic guidelines of "regularity" of dissemination are: 20 newspaper articles, photos or broadcasts a year; two national or four regional



magazines or specialty journal articles a year, or one book, 10 lectures, or 20 bona fide outdoor news releases a year.)

The legal advisor for the association shall be an active member without meeting the basic guidelines.

2. Associate

Members are those who have a strong direct interest in the outdoors, either professional or personal, such as conservationists of all kinds; public employees in outdoor fields; educators teaching related subjects; certain sportsmen and retail-level dealers in outdoor goods, equipment or facilities.

3. Supporting

Members are those engaged in major commercial efforts directly related to the outdoors, such as manufacturers, distributors, service providers, manufacturers' representatives, or advertising agencies serving any of these.

4. Active Student

Members are those between the ages of 18 and 24 years who are bona fide college students with a major in journalism, communications, or natural resources sciences.

5. Associate Student

Members are those who are students who have an active interest in the outdoors in the areas of hunting, fishing, ecology, or in preserving the environment in general.

Calendar of Events

- HOW 2011 Annual Conference:** April 15-17, 2011
(www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org)
Turkey Run Inn, Turkey Run State Park
Parke County, IN
- AGLOW 2011 Spring Cast & Blast Event:** April 19-21, 2011
(<http://aglowinfo.org/>)
Lake Barkley, KY
- NRA 2011 Annual Meeting:** April 29-May 1, 2011
(www.nra.org)
Pittsburgh, PA
- OWAA 2011 Annual Conference:** July 9-11, 2011
(www.owaa.org)
Salt Lake City, UT
- POMA 2011 Annual Conference:** August 10-13, 2011
(www.professionalooutdoormedia.org)
Ogden, UT

HOW members may submit upcoming events, along with dates, locations and other details to the newsletter editor at: director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org for possible inclusion in future issues of The Blade.