The Blade 2011 Post-Conference Issue May - June 2011

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers

"Turkey Run State Park", 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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On the cover: The canyons at Turkey Run State Park near Marshall, Indiana hold a special beauty. If you attended this year's conference, you probably viewed this scene first-hand! Photo by Tom Berg.

President's Message

Greetings, and H.O.W. are you? I sure hope you're doing well. If you had a chance to attend our conference at Turkey Run State Park in April, then please join me in thanking our Executive Director, Tom Berg, and pastpresident, John Maxwell, for all the hard work they put into making our annual conference one to remember. We had a great time, with great speakers, in a great location. If you weren't there, I'm sorry we missed you, and hope to see you at the conference next spring.



We are all busy people, some even more so than most. Believe me, I understand how hard it is to get away for an entire weekend. Those who did take part in the Friday, Saturday and Sunday aspects of the conference though, sure enjoyed the opportunity for fellowship and the chance to strengthen friendships that in many cases remain neglected for the better part of the year. At our next conference, I hope more of our members can commit to a little time around the fire on Friday, and to participating in whatever our Sunday outdoor adventure ends up being.

Aside from stimulating activity amongst our current membership, HOW must gain new members to ensure the future of our organization. We all know that the number of traditional outdoor writers is on the decline. Outdoor newspaper columns have been cut, magazines have folded and those remaining are overworking their staff writers. It's during difficult times in any industry though, when changes surface and new opportunities unfold. Blogs, web videos, E-zines and more are new means of communicating the outdoor experience. We need to reach out to those communicating through these platforms and inform them of the benefits of joining HOW.

Traditionally, HOW has looked for established outdoor writers to grow our ranks. My suggestion is to look just as often to those who dream of becoming outdoor communicators. Two such friends of mine, cousins Don Cranfill and Tom Cranfill, attended our recent conference. For the past few years, Don has expressed interest to me about getting started as writer. He has the stories and the determination, but until attending a HOW conference, lacked the vision for getting started. At the conference he met folks, like Alan Garbers and Alan "Grizz" Smith, with whom he shared interests. Their support and well wishes meant the world to Don and he now grasps what he needs to do, and is moving forward one article at a time.

Just think if we could all bring one new person to the fold. Think of how good it would be for the outdoors of Indiana to have more voices promoting all our wonderful opportunities. Think of how good it would be for HOW to gain new, dedicated members. Therefore, with the support and permission of the Board, I have created the **"Everyone Get One"** program. All you have to do is sign up one new Active or Associate HOW member this year and your 2012 dues will be waived. Please don't think of this as an opportunity to save money, though. Think of it as an opportunity to serve; the new member, the outdoors of Indiana and HOW. What an exciting opportunity!

For information on this new program, see page 5. For details on what constitutes an Active or Associate member, please refer to your HOW Directory or visit our excellent HOW web site: <u>www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org</u>.

See you down the trail...

The Blade

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

Ken McBroom (Active) Indianapolis, IN Sponsor: Tom Berg

Nate Mullendore (Associate) Crawfordsville, 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 AI 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

"Everyone Get One" Program Can Really Help HOW Grow

As announced at the HOW Conference this spring and mentioned in Brandon Butler's President's Report on page 3, we are initiating a new program this year that we hope will help swell the ranks of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers. That program is called "Everyone Get One".

The idea is very simple. Every HOW member that signs up a new Active or Associate member this

year will have their dues waived for 2012. Although it may seem like a wash when you look at it from a narrow viewpoint (like for the year 2012 only), this program has the potential to significantly grow our membership over time. The numbers may look like a wash in 2012, but in 2013 (and beyond) they could be doubled!

Hopefully, after a new member joins HOW, they will decide to stay and continue their membership for many years. In fact, they may be able to attract other aspiring writers, photographers, broadcasters and other communicators which will help us grow even more. The HOW Board of Directors feels that once a new member joins our group, he/she will realize that the benefits easily outweigh the cost of membership. We hope that each new member becomes a long-term member, and in the long run that will allow HOW to grow.

Where can you find prospective new HOW members? The answer is easier than you might think. Most outdoorsmen have a group of friends (or even relatives) with whom they share their outdoor experiences and exploits, and that's a good place to start. Most of those people would be qualified to join HOW as an Associate member. Do they love the outdoors? Are they passionate about conservation, fishing, hunting, trapping or wildlife in general? Let's get them involved! Whether they remain an Associate member indefinitely or become an Active member in the future, they can help strengthen our group.



HOW President Brandon Butler describes the "Everyone Get One" program during the annual meeting at Turkey Run State Park.

As already mentioned, new members do not have to be writing and selling magazine articles before they join HOW. We are willing and able to help them get started and show them the ropes. Many of HOW's Active members started as Associate members and quickly worked their way up to Active status.

So get out there and sign up a new member or two in 2011. Use the same New Member form that is printed in every newsletter and on our HOW website. Send the forms, checks and tearsheets (if applying for Active status) to HOW Executive Director Tom Berg at the address on the form. Thank you for helping to grow the Hoosier Outdoor Writers.

The Pre-Conference HOW Fun Shoot

by Tom Berg

The annual HOW Fun Shoot becomes more interesting every year! For many years, it was held at the Indiana Gun Club off of Olio Road on the northeast side of Indianapolis. When we started moving the annual conference site to different locations around the state last year, we had to start finding new shooting locations, too. Finding this year's site was a bit of an adventure!



Gene Clifford, Tom Berg and Phil Seng stand near the shooting line at Wallace Traps, hoping the rain will quit. John Maxwell not shown.

This year's Fun Shoot was scheduled to be held at Wallace Traps Gun Club in Wallace, Indiana, just a few miles north of Turkey Run State Park. According to the online map that I found, it would be easy to find. Wrong! The map took me down a lonely country road with lots of twists and turns, dilapidated buildings and abandoned shacks, and although I heard no banjos, I suddenly started imagining scenes from the movie **Deliverance**.

Was I still going the right way? I drove right past the turn that led to Wallace Traps, but somehow I figured it out and back-tracked until I found it. The road sign that I was looking for was well-hidden, sitting right in the middle of a huge overgrown lilac bush that had blocked it out years ago. The local residents certainly knew where Schoolhouse Road was located, so it didn't bother them at all that the

sign had disappeared inside the lilac bush. It slowed the HOW members down just a tad, though!

Once we all arrived at Wallace Traps, however, we felt right at home. We met Charlie Bryant, the owner and operator of the establishment, and he was a great host. He gave us a tour and explained that he has been in business at this site for more than 50 years. There was a lot of history in that building!

It was just starting to drizzle when we started shooting, and after a few rounds of trapshooting the rain became more steady. The shooters finally gave in to the rain and we went inside the clubhouse to wait it out. We heard more stories from Charlie and told a few ourselves, too.

After a while the rain quit altogether, and we got back to shooting. We had a great time. Gene Clifford prefers to shoot a 20 gauge shotgun, and he is pretty darned good. But don't get in a shooting contest with Phil Seng – he missed the target very few times indeed!



HOW would like to thank Jonathan Harling from Chevalier Advertising and Winchester Ammunition for supplying the ammunition for the shooters this year. We would also like to thank Charlie Bryant from Wallace Traps for allowing us to visit his fine facility. It was much appreciated and we wouldn't hesitate to return. Thanks again!

If you want to get in on the adventure next year (not to mention the fun shooting and great camaraderie), don't miss the 2012 HOW Fun Shoot!

2011 HOW Conference Another Great Success!

The 2011 HOW Annual Conference is now nothing but a memory – but what a GREAT memory! If you missed this year's event at Turkey Run State Park, you might still be kicking yourself. If you you're not sure what you missed, check out the next few pages of this newsletter to get a glimpse of the fun we had!

Our new weekend-long conference format worked very well again this year, and we plan to continue this arrangement in the future, too.

Once again, the conference officially started at 1:00pm on Friday afternoon with the annual HOW Fun Shoot. Interested HOW members met at the Wallace Traps Gun Club just north of Turkey Run State Park, and those who attended had a great time. The weather could have been better, but we didn't let a little rain keep us from breaking a lot of clay targets! More information is on the preceding page.



John Maxwell and Bob Sawtelle showed-off their cooking talents at the Friday evening barbecue as they served-up salmon fillets and BBQ pork chops.

After the Fun Shoot, more HOW members converged

on the Turkey Run Inn inside Turkey Run State Park to check-in and prepare for the Friday evening barbecue and get-together. This Parke County state park was the perfect location for our conference, with its well-appointed inn, pavilions and shelters, and Sugar Creek located within a very short walk.

At 6:00pm on Friday evening, a total of 18 HOW members and guests converged on the Turkey Run



The opening barbecue was attended by 18 HOW members and guests (CW from left): Keynote speaker Tim Holschlag, HOWers Phil Seng, Bob Sawtelle, Phil Bloom and Dean Shadley. Conference photos by Tom Berg unless noted.

Tennis Court Shelter for a barbecue and some socializing. John Maxwell and Bob Sawtelle handled the barbecue tongs, and John also prepared the other side dishes. As the food was cooking, coolers with water, soft drinks and adult beverages were cracked open and everyone had something to drink. Stories were told and friendships were rekindled!

Once the food was ready, everyone sat down inside the shelter to continue visiting and telling tall tales while they ate. The food was great and the company was even better. The air was pretty chilly, though, so a couple of the attendees started a nice fire in the shelter's stone fireplace.

We had members at the barbecue who hadn't attended a HOW function in years, and we had another long-time



HOW members attending the 2011 conference included (standing L-R): John Martino, Mike Ratter, Tom Berg, Rick Bramwell, Bob Jennings, Eric Stallsmith, Phil Seng, Bob Sawtelle, Brandon Butler, Gene Clifford, Dean Shadley, John Davis, Brent Wheat, Phil Junker, Don Bickel, Rich Creason, Bill Keaton, Alan Smith, Jack Spaulding and Sharon Wiggins. Front row (kneeling L-R): Dean Farr, Roger Hunter, Alan Garbers, Bryan Poynter and John Maxwell.

member who had never attended a HOW conference before at all! Happily, everyone said they had a good time. A big thank-you goes to John Maxwell for doing a large part of the planning and all of the shopping for the barbecue (not to mention the cooking). Thanks!

The annual meeting began at 8:00am on Saturday morning, and more than 40 HOW members and guests assembled in the main meeting room. The first hour of the meeting was set aside for registration and social time, and a simple continental breakfast along with coffee and juice was available for all present. At the registration table conference attendees were provided with welcome bags compliments of Howard Communications, complete with goodies from Aquateko International, Birchwood Casey, BoatUS Angler and the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

While members talked and got ready for the day's events, the HOW Board of Directors and Executive Committee conducted their annual board meeting. Incoming President Brandon Butler proposed the "Everyone Get One" program and it was approved by the board (see page 5).

At 9:00am outgoing President John Maxwell called the meeting to order and provided opening remarks, then briefed the meeting attendees on the day's schedule. A representative from Sugar Valley Canoe Trips also greeted the membership and gave a current description of creek conditions on Sugar Creek. He then talked about the areas that HOW



HOW member Don Bickel examines Tim Holschlag's customized "Smallmouth Angler" canoe prior to Tim's keynote speech. Don lives pretty close to Sugar Creek!

members would be canoeing on Sunday during the fishing/canoeing outing, including where we would put in and where we could be picked up. Luckily for us, water levels and creek conditions were perfect all weekend!

The first presentation was delivered by Nathan Mullendore from the Indiana Smallmouth Alliance. He gave a very interesting talk and presentation which described the group's conservations mission, their activities (both fun and volunteer work) and their recent achievements. He also described what we as HOW members can do to help smallmouth bass in Indiana. For more information, check out their website: <u>www.IndianaSmallmouthAlliance.org</u>.

Our Keynote Speaker was internationally-known author, guide and instructor Tim Holschlag from



Keynote speaker Tim Holschlag talks about smallmouth bass tactics for waters like Sugar Creek.

Minnesota. Tim's speech was titled "Tips, Tricks and Techniques for Stream Smallmouth". His presentation included a variety of ways that anglers can become more productive when fishing for smallmouth bass on moving water. He also brought along his customized smallmouth bass "Fishing Machine" canoe, and we set it up in the meeting room so all conference attendees could get a good look at it.

Tim not only demonstrated some of the features of his special craft, he also promised to join us on Sugar Creek the following day to give some on-the-water tips to all who were interested during the HOW Sunday Fishing and Canoeing Outing.

The HOW Business Meeting was called to order at 11:15am by President Maxwell, and HOW Nominating Chairman John Martino presented the proposed slate of new officers for the coming year. Brandon Butler was elected President, Josh Lantz was elected Vice-President and John Maxwell will become the Board Chairman. Our new Board members include: Mike Schoonveld, Alan Garbers, Don Bickel, PJ Perea and Dean Shadley. Thank you to our new volunteers! HOW E.D. and Treasurer Tom Berg then gave a Treasurer's Report on our finances. See page 25 for details.

As the kitchen staff at Turkey Run Inn was getting ready to serve lunch, outgoing President John Maxwell presented HOW member Eric Stallsmith with a special award plaque in appreciation for all of the work that he did in setting up and maintaining the HOW website. Now our newsletters can be viewed and downloaded online, along with the HOW Membership Directory and other useful information. Best of all, HOW now has an online presence so that people can find us when they search the web.

Incoming President Brandon Butler then took the floor and presented Tim Holschlag with a speciallyengraved Keynote Speaker knife to show our appreciation. The knife was generously provided by our friends at Buck Knives.



Outgoing President John Maxwell presents Eric Stallsmith with a special "President's Award" for his excellent work in setting up the HOW website in 2010. Photo by Brandon Butler.

An excellent buffet lunch was served by the Turkey Run Inn staff, and there was plenty of time for HOW members and guests to socialize.



At 12:30pm, the next seminar speaker was scheduled to be DNR District 4 Fisheries Biologist Rhett Wisener. He gave a very interesting presentation on nearby Sugar Creek's smallmouth bass population and its diverse fishery. There is an impressive number of different fish species that call Sugar Creek home. Past DNR surveys have shown up to 71 different species living in the creek!

The final seminar presentation of the day was led by veteran Indianapolis hiker Joe Lawson with assistance from his wife Raena. Joe gave a slide presentation and talked about his experiences and adventures while hiking the Seven Summits from around the world. The Seven Summits are the highest mountain peaks on each of the continents. The HOW hiking enthusiasts in the crowd learned a lot from him, including the fact that it takes great determination (and a lot of pain) to reach the summit of even one of these mountains!

Next on the agenda was the HOW Awards-In-Craft presentation. John Martino announced the awards for the writing, photography and broadcast divisions for the past year, recognizing the best writing, photography and TV/video broadcasts. This year the contests were once again sponsored by Toyota Motor Sales, and a big thank-you goes to them for their participation. Check the contest results in the next few pages to see who the big winners were.

As usual, the final activity of the day was the annual HOW Raffle. For many HOW members, it is the most anticipated event of the day! Raffle chairman Tom Berg organized an amazing event again this year, easily surpassing last year's record-setting number of contributing companies. This year he and his helpers secured product and service donations from a whopping 94 companies and organizations – an absolutely amazing feat during these tough economic times!



Some companies donated major products and others donated smaller items, but all were muchappreciated. Thanks go to Tom Berg, Rich Creason and Gene Clifford for their help in securing, storing and transporting the raffle items this year. It really is a huge job!

We started selling raffle tickets before our final presentation, and that may have been a mistake! A line of buyers formed in the corner where Jack Spaulding was hawking tickets, and we had to shut them down so that our speaker had everyone's attention!

Not to worry, though. As soon as the Awards-In-Craft presentation was over, raffle ticket sales resumed

at a frantic pace. Jack Spaulding and his helpers were hard-pressed to keep up with demand. The fact that we had plenty of good items to raffle off made it very easy for them to sell tickets, too. Some HOW members bought more than 100 tickets in an effort to win the best prizes! In the end, Spaulding and Associates sold enough tickets to satisfy nearly everyone. The only ones who were still unsatisfied were those who forgot to bring enough cash...and Jack himself! (He always wants to sell more



Ticket-Master Jack Spaulding in action! Photo by Brandon Butler.

tickets)!!!!



Firearms aficionados were especially happy with this year's raffle prizes, as we had a Mossberg lever-action .22 rifle, a Ruger .22 rifle, a Gamo .22 air rifle with scope, a Benjamin .22 air rifle with scope, and a very cool muzzleloader from Blackpowder Products. There was also a great Horton crossbow with scope and a certificate for a Savage rifle of the winner's choice at a great discount.

A few of the other raffle items included an awesome camp stove/oven, a guided pheasant/chukar hunt at Flatrock Hunting Preserve, a carved Bundy Duck, fishing rods, fishing reels, terminal tackle, targets, hunting calls, turkey hunting gear, outdoor apparel for both summer and winter, raingear, lots of icefishing gear (including icefishing rod/reel combos), archery equipment, shooting supplies, ammunition, gun cases, lots of fishing lures, premium sunglasses, books, cookware, gun care products, camera equipment, hiking boots, hunting gear, waterproof binoculars, lights, gift certificates, tackle boxes, hats, gloves, a spotting scope, knives, software, maps and atlases, a lure-making kit and a top-quality gun vise system. It took 6 or 7 full-sized conference tables to hold all of the merchandise!

Tom did a great job securing the raffle items, but Jack really outdid himself selling tickets this year. The 2011 raffle was another huge success!

For a complete list of this year's raffle donors, please see page 16. Please support them in your work whenever possible!





HOW Executive Director Tom Berg displays one of the chunky smallmouth bass he caught while canoeing Sugar Creek during the Sunday outing.

The HOW Sugar Creek Fishing and Canoeing Outing Was Outstanding!

The Sunday fishing and canoeing outing following the annual meeting on Saturday, April 16th was enjoyed by several HOW members. Although clouds filled the early morning sky and the temperature was chilly, the sun came out by mid-morning and it turned out to be a great day!

John Maxwell, Tom Berg, Lori Berg, Brandon Butler, Tim Holschlag, Eric Stallsmith, Cara Stallsmith and Mike Ratter all participated in the Sugar Creek fishing and canoeing outing. Mike Ratter decided to fish from shore, so the rest of the crowd met at Sugar Valley Canoe Trips and headed for the creek.

Once we were all on the water, we slowly started heading downstream to enjoy the scenery. The water level of the creek was perfect – not too high and still fairly clear. Canadian geese honked loudly at us as we passed, and a variety of small birds chirped in the shoreline trees. We saw large groups of suckers

swimming near the gravel bars as they prepared for their spring spawning run, too, and that reminded some of the paddlers that it was time to start fishing!

Brandon Butler and Tim Holschlag both planned to fish with fly rods, so they shared Tim's canoe. They stopped at likely-looking pools and used a variety of flies to try to tempt the resident bass. Tom Berg was the first to catch a smallmouth, however, and it hit one of his favorite lures: a small Rapala Shadrap. The fish put up a fantastic fight in the fast-moving current, and the lack of a landing net just added to the excitement! After a few photos, the bass was released unharmed.

John Maxwell was fishing alone in his canoe, and he found a quiet bend in the creek where he attempted to



Eric and Cara Stallsmith enjoy their time on the water. Eric is preparing his camera equipment to get some shots of this section of Sugar Creek.



Brandon Butler fishes with Tim Holschlag in Tim's custom "Smallmouth Angler" fishing machine. Photos by Tom Berg.

catch a good-sized smallmouth bass that chased his lure on the first cast to this spot. Unfortunately for

John, the fish was not interested in giving him a second shot. Once he moved on, however, his luck changed. He caught a spunky 16-inch smallmouth at a secret spot downstream, and caught another smaller fish later, too.

Eric Stallsmith was not fishing on this trip. He was far too busy taking photos and video footage of Sugar Creek for his website work. He had a perfect day for it, too!

Tom Berg found another spot that held a willing smallmouth, and it also smashed his Shadrap. After a brief battle and another short photo session, he released this fish to fight another day, too. It measured between 16-17 inches in length and had a bulging belly!

Although Sugar Creek is relatively shallow throughout the stretch that we canoed, there were some deeper holes and runs where fish were hiding and waiting to ambush their prey.

Mike Ratter reported that he landed a couple of the spawning suckers that were running during his shorefishing excursion, but he didn't find any of the smallmouth bass that he was looking for. He was just happy he wasn't skunked!



Here is one of the nice-sized smallmouth bass caught by John Maxwell. Fishing alone makes it pretty tough to take your own fish pictures!

Our day on the water was very pleasant, despite the cold wind that buffeted us relentlessly. The resident turkey vultures watched us closely, but they disappeared when a bald eagle flew overhead. It was cool!

HOW would like to thank Sugar Valley Canoe Trips for supplying the canoes and equipment for our day on the water and for transporting the HOW members back and forth from the creek. They run a nice outfit and were very helpful. Check out their website at: <u>www.sugarvalleycanoes.com</u> or visit them the next time you need to rent a canoe to explore Sugar Creek!



John Maxwell paddles his way along the sandstone cliffs that straddle much of the creek in this area. This was a very beautiful spot. Photo by Tom Berg.



Tom and Lori Berg explore Sugar Creek during the outing. Brandon Butler photo.

Comments on 2011 Turkey Run Conference

"Fantastic experience at Bob Sawtelle: Turkey Run - thanks you all!"

Bryan Poynter: "The Turkey Run location was ideal for our conference - beautiful Inn with great accommodations, ease of access to the meeting room, super opportunities for outdoor activities. This was a very well organized and useful meeting and I am looking forward to next year already. Best raffle to date!"

Bill Keaton: "GREAT CONFERENCE!"

Don Bickel: "Thanks for a great conference."

John Martino: "I just wanted to pass along my sincere appreciation for everything you guys did in making this year's annual conference a huge success. I found this meeting to be one of the most



enjoyable and informative. Being a smallmouth fanatic myself, I thought the speakers were extremely informative and enjoyable."

Rick Bramwell: "I enjoyed myself and I thought everything was well organized. It was good to visit with people I didn't know that well. Had it not rained, I would have hunted morels."

Nate Mullendore: "I had a great time and made several good connections."

Dean Farr: "Great conference - my only regret is that I did not stay until Sunday to enjoy the fishing and canoe trip. I hope the fish were biting."

2012 HOW Conference Announcement!

TAKE NOTE: You can already mark your calendars for the 2012 HOW Conference because we have chosen the date. It will be May 4-6, 2012 (Friday-Sunday), with the main meeting taking place on Saturday, as usual. You may attend the Saturday meeting only, the entire weekend or any portion of the weekend. It's up to you!

The location hasn't been picked yet, but we're confident it will be a great one. Be sure to save the date!!

The Blade

2011 HOW Conference

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers would like to thank the following companies and organizations:









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The HOW 2011 Awards-In-Craft Contest

The results are in! The winners of the 2011 Awards-In-Craft contest were announced at this year's annual conference at Turkey Run State Park, and we had many excellent entries. As usual, the writing portion of the contest garnered the most interest, as HOW members submitted a total of 84 entries from 11 different HOW members. The photography contest included 26 entries from six HOW members, and the Broadcast contest featured three entries from two HOW members. Writing and Photo entries were required to be submitted electronically this year, and in general it went very well. Next year promises to be even better!

Once again this year the Awards-In-Craft contest was sponsored by Toyota Motor Sales, so the winners were awarded checks along with certificates to commemorate their achievements. We would like to thank Toyota for their generous sponsorship in 2011. HOW members are encouraged to logon to the Toyota website (<u>www.toyotanewsroom.com</u>) to find out more about their products and recent news releases.

A special thank-you also goes to our contest coordinators who donated their time and energy to secure judges and get each of the entries reviewed and scored in time for the annual conference. Dealing with a large number of submissions which are typically sent right before the deadline makes coordinating the entries/judges difficult, but this year's online submission rules minimized the pain! The 2011 Awards-In-Craft coordinators were: Eric Stallsmith (Writing), John Martino (Photography) and Tom Berg (Broadcast).

Here is a complete list of the winners (along with the number of entries for each contest):

WRITING (total of 84 entries from 11 HOW members)

Less Than 1000 Words	More Than 1000 Words
Hunting/Trapping	Hunting/Trapping
1st: Gene Clifford, "It's All in the Asking"	1st: John Martino, "Sportsmen Not Immune
2nd: Mike Schoonveld, "Ganging Up on	From 'iHunting' World"
Tie Raccoons"	2nd: John Martino, "Special Kids Get Special
2nd: P.J. Perea, "Best Day on Balsam Mountain"	Weekend Outdoors"
3rd: Brandon Butler, "Lightweight Decoy Handy	3rd: Mike Schoonveld, "Billboard Sets For Farmland
When Hunting Antelope"	Tie Coyotes"
	3rd: Mike Schoonveld, "Raccoons High and Dry"
Fishing	Fishing
1st: Tom Berg, "Fishing For Miniature Trophies"	1st: Brandon Butler, "Beaver Island MI: Northern
2nd: Jack Spaulding, "Stripes, Hybrids and	Island Angling Paradise"
Whites"	2nd: Jack Spaulding, "Just Juggin"
3rd: Gene Clifford, "Knots – Your Weakest Link	3rd: Tom Berg, "Lake Michigan's Smallmouth
When Fishing"	Bonanza''
Whites" 3rd: Gene Clifford, "Knots – Your Weakest Link	2nd: Jack Spaulding, "Just Juggin"3rd: Tom Berg, "Lake Michigan's Smallmouth

(Continued on next page)

Less Than 1000 Words	<u>More Than 1000 Words</u>
Conservation	Conservation
1st: Lisa Metheny, "What If?"	1st: No entry
2nd: Brandon Butler, "State Downplaying Carp	2nd: No entry
Invasion"	3rd: No entry
3rd: Jack Spaulding, "Carp Wars"	
General Outdoors	General Outdoors
1st: Jack Spaulding, "Back Yard's for the Birds"	1st: Brandon Butler, "The Bear's Den"
2nd: Jack Spaulding, "A Report Card On America"	2nd: Alan Garbers, "The Floods of 2008"
3rd: Lisa Metheny, "Annie Get Your Gun"	3rd: Jack Spaulding, "The All-Amazing
	Hummingbird"

<u>PHOTOGRAPHY</u> (total of 26 entries from 6 HOW members)

Hunting/Trapping

1st: John Maxwell, "Roush Lake Turkey Hunt"2nd: P.J. Perea, "Golden Boy"3rd: P.J. Perea, "Story Time"

Outdoor Scenic

1st: P.J. Perea, "Wildwood Sunrise"
2nd: John Maxwell, "Lake Lenape/Shakamak State Park"
3rd: Tom Berg, "Fall Salmon Stream"

Fishing

1st: John Maxwell, "Mississinewa Lake"2nd: Tom Berg, "Mountain Stream Flyfishing"3rd: John Maxwell, "Fishing Cataract Falls"

Outdoor Recreation

1st: P.J. Perea, "Board Boy"2nd: P.J. Perea, "Moonlight and Marshmallows"3rd: Tom Berg, "Rock-Climbing Fun in the Creek"

BROADCAST (total of 3 entries from 2 HOW members)

Best TV Broadcast

1st: Evie Kirkwood, "Outdoor Elements – Pesky Critters"
2nd: P.J. Perea, "Turkey Call TV – Rio Pavo, Part 1"

3rd: P.J. Perea, "Turkey Call TV – Rio Pavo, Part 2"





THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US



John "Duke" O'Malley, Friend of many HOW Members January 1, 1935 – May 27, 2011

Chicago's South Side, Illinois – John "Duke" O'Malley, age 76, died on Friday, May 27, 2011 at the Meadowbrook Manor nursing home in Naperville due to complications from a stroke he had suffered in January.

Duke O'Malley was born January 1, 1935 and lived in Chicago's Mount Greenwood community. He graduated from St. Phillip High School and was a veteran of the U.S. Army, serving overseas in the Korean War. He was a lifelong South Sider, and loved fishing and hunting – especially fishing along Chicago's beautiful lakefront.



Duke married his wife Joan in 1958 and they had six children together. After 42 years as a Chicago firefighter, he pursued his love for the outdoors as an outdoor columnist for the Daily Southtown newspaper. He made many fishing and hunting trips, and it was on these trips that he met many of our HOW members. He was also a dedicated conservationist who lobbied politicians in Illinois on the importance of preserving our natural habitats.

Mr. O'Malley was perhaps best known for the annual free kids fishing derby he oversaw and hosted for more than 20 years. He organized the event and solicited local businesses to donate supplies for the fishing derby to make sure each child had a chance to fish. Many kids went home with their own fishing rods, fishing reels, tackle boxes and fishing lures. Most went home with a smile on their faces, too.

In addition to writing weekly columns for the Southtown newspaper for many years, Duke also hosted "Let's Talk Fishing" programs throughout the winter months to promote fishing and to raise money for the kids fishing derby. When he attended his final kids fishing derby in 2008, he estimated that more than 20,000 kids had participated in the event over the years.

Also in 2008, Duke O'Malley was inducted into the Illinois Conservation Foundation's Illinois Outdoor Hall of Fame.

Duke O'Malley was preceded in death by his parents and his wife, Joan. He is survived by five daughters, one son, 16 grandchildren and a great grandson. He will be missed by his many friends and his loving family.

Visitation was held at Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home, 11028 Southwest Highway, Palos Hills. A funeral Mass was held at St. Symphorosa, 6135 S. Austin Ave., in Chicago, with burial at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 6001 W. 111th St., Alsip.

HOW Member News

HOW E.D. Chases Crappies With B'n'M Pro Staff

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg never seems to be able to find enough time to go fishing these days (just ask him), but he did make it out a couple of times this spring to pursue one of his favorite



fish: crappies (just ask his wife). And who would be better to fish with than some of the Pro Staff members of B'n'M Poles? B'n'M has been a HOW Supporting Member for several years, and they make some of the absolute best fishing rods on the market. What is their specialty, you ask? Crappies!

Berg fished with B'n'M Pro Staffer Tim Gibson (seen at right) at southern Indiana's Patoka Lake in mid-May, and despite stormy weather and unusually cold temperatures, they caught lots of nice-sized



crappies up to 15 inches in length. Gibson (812-936-3382) has been a full-time fishing guide on Patoka Lake for many years and he knows all the best spots to fish!

At the beginning of June, Berg also joined B'n'M Pro Staffer Bob Raymer (above left) at Geist Reservoir outside Indianapolis for a day of crappie angling. The weather was perfect and they caught loads of crappies, the largest measuring just over 14 inches. Raymer enjoys fishing crappie tournaments, and he helped form the Indiana Slab Masters crappie club last November. Check it out at their new website: <u>www.indianaslabmasters.com</u>. You can also check out the B'n'M website at <u>www.bnmpoles.com</u>. Photos by Tom Berg.



Bill and Rita Keaton are happy to greet the newest member of the clan. Photo courtesy of Bill Keaton.

Bill and Rita Keaton Celebrate with Newest Grandchild

HOW Legal Counsel Bill Keaton and his wife Rita welcomed the arrival of their newest grandson recently. William Bohannon Keaton was born on May 30th to Bill and Rita's son Will and his wife Nicci.

"William Bohannon Keaton is our sixth grandson," said Bill. The name Bohannon is an old Keaton family name, so Bill is justifiably proud!

Junker Pens Outdoor Blog



Phil Junker from Cloverdale has recently joined the ranks of the online bloggers who write a daily (or regular) message that is available for anyone to view online. Phil, of course, writes about his outdoor experiences.

"Thanks to the HOW Facebook page and a helpful HOW member (Eric Stallsmith) for helping me start a blog," said Junker. "It was simple; at least what I have done so far. If I can do it, anyone – and I mean ANYONE – can do it!"

"It ain't great, but with Eric's direction I developed a simple blog. If anyone is interested, please view it at <u>www.outdoorscribe.blogspot.com</u>." Photo courtesy of Phil Junker.

New HOW Member Makes Unusual Catch With Slithering Eel

New HOW member Mike Berg from Cedar Lake made a remarkable catch recently while fishing the Kankakee River here in Indiana. He caught a good-sized American Eel. Here is his report:

"I was fishing the river from shore," said Berg, "and I saw a submerged tire laying on the bottom near the riverbank. I always check out submerged tires when I'm shorefishing because they usually hold at least one fish: a catfish, bullhead, rockbass or green sunfish – you never know what you'll catch. The water was murky



The American Eel. Photo courtesy of Mike Berg.

and I couldn't see much inside, so I dropped a baited hook into it. I felt a strike right away, and after I set the hook I pulled out this long, squirming eel!"

The ironic thing was that Mike just happened to be fishing for unusual fish species that day. He was participating in a contest from <u>www.roughfish.com</u> where anglers try to catch as many species of fish as possible in a 30-day period. He was very surprised (and happy) when this fish struck!

Although uncommon in Indiana, American Eels can actually be found throughout the entire eastern half of the United States (they are more common in coastal rivers). They migrate out of the Atlantic Ocean into our river systems to live out their lives, eventually returning to the ocean to spawn. Not only do they migrate upstream for hundreds or even a thousand miles, they can also leave the water and slither over land on wet nights to continue their north/westward journey. Pretty amazing!

If any other HOW members have caught an American Eel in Indiana waters over the years, please send Executive Director Tom Berg a note describing the catch. He is interested in hearing about it!

Young Nicholas Martino Bags First Wild Turkey

"My son Nicholas is at it again," said HOW member Joe Martino. "I took him to Pike County, Illinois, turkey hunting in early April, and let's just say he outdid himself. We were hunting with Xtreme Management Hunts (<u>www.xtreme-hunts.com</u>) and



on the second morning of his hunt, he killed a 27 pound longbeard sporting 1¹/4" spurs! He shot the bird at 12 yards as the gobbler came into the decoys. The gobbler looked as though he was just seconds away from giving our jake decoy a cheap shot, too."



"What a proud moment for both of us. He must be taking after his dad, because upon retrieving the bird and admiring it for a few minutes, he said, "Man, this might be better than deer hunting!"

"His Mossberg 500 Super Bantam youth model 20-gauge did the

trick on this boss gobbler. Now, I'm not old, but I am also not 20 anymore, either, and I might just be packin' that little lightweight gun on a few of my upcoming turkey hunts!"

"Nicholas has really taken to fishing and hunting and has accomplished many feats any adult hunter would be proud of. And this is all by the age of nine! I hope he continues to enjoy the outdoors as he gets older."

"Also, me and a friend were able to introduce several newcomers and youngsters to hunting this past fall. We got 6 out of the 15 boys on Nicholas' football team started in hunting this year (as well as their fathers). Remarkably, each one of them killed a deer while they were with us, too. It wouldn't have mattered if they all killed a deer, and honestly it was very unexpected that they each did, so long as they got interested in what we were doing. Needless to say, they all were!"

"Oh yeah, that photo of Nicholas with the bird over his shoulder was hilarious. It was all he could do just to hold it over his shoulder for one photo!"

Membership Changes and New Email Addresses

The following HOW individual members have reported a change in email addresses or postal addresses. Please make a note of them:

Gary Redmon: New mailing address: 1498 W. CR 125 S, Greencastle, IN 46135

If your email address or other information changes, please notify HOW Executive Director Tom Berg at <u>director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org</u> or by mail at 2142 Nondorf St., Dyer, IN 46311 as soon as possible. You won't receive important HOW updates if we don't have your current contact info!



HOW Members Bag Plenty of Turkeys This Spring

Joe Martino from Kokomo (left) was successful again this season. "I followed behind my son Nicholas and tagged a bird in Illinois in mid-April," he said. "Mine wasn't quite as big as his, though!

"My bird wasn't a Rio Grande sub-species, either, but he sure looked like it with this unique color phase (which I think is cool as heck)!"

Rich Creason from Anderson (below right) was even luckier than Martino. He attended the AGLOW Cast & Blast event at Lake Barkley, Kentucky in April and came up the big winner.

"Out of around 18

hunters, I was the only one who killed TWO turkeys," said Creason. "Both were jakes, but at least I finally got my first (and second) birds." Two turkeys in one hunt makes for a great trip in anyone's book!

Rich had better be careful, though. He might get hooked!



Bill Keaton (left) from Arlington is another one of HOW's turkey hunting addicts. Luckily, he is an expert and usually doesn't have much trouble tagging a nice turkey every season.

"Conditions were really tough this year, though, with rain most of the day," said Bill. "I shot this tom at 2:55 pm."

"Now this is what I call a good turkey hunt," exclaimed Bill. Wild turkeys and morel mushrooms!

"I got better at

finding the morels," he said. "Yesterday I found 15. Today I found 42. I left quite a few in the woods, too. I think from Thursday to Saturday hunting only about an hour a day, I found 64 giant morels! I'll bread and freeze them. There are too many to eat at one time!"



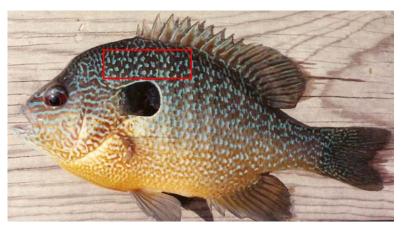


Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Hunter's Specialties

Longear Sunfish Is Very Colorful And Fun To Catch!



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 six HOW members who identified it, though. PJ Perea, Brian Waldman, Mike Berg, Phil Seng, Ken McBroom and



John Maxwell all guessed the right answer, and Mike Berg was the lucky winner when we drew names for the Leupold binoculars (donated by Patrick Mundy from Leupold).

As you can see, the mystery creature was a very colorful Longear Sunfish. More than a few HOW members thought it was a pumpkinseed sunfish, and although that was an excellent guess, it wasn't quite right. Longears are usually smaller than pumpkinseeds and they lack the red patch on the rear edge of the gill plate's black ear spot. The black ear spot on longear sunfish is usually bordered by white as shown in this photo, too.

Our friends at Hunter's Specialties have agreed to provide a very nice prize (valued at more than \$100) 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 "i-Kam Xtreme" video eyewear, where the sunglasses incorporate a tiny digital video camera in the glasses. See below.

Berg Poses A Very Difficult "What Is It?" Question For Those Who Like A Challenge!

Here's another Nature Photo mystery. The photograph shown to the right 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 yellow and black markings? Can you guess what it is? <u>Hint:</u> This creature cannot fly and it doesn't hop.



This color pattern is pretty unusual, so this creature is probably going be a lot harder to identify than some of the previous ones. But maybe I will be surprised and several HOW members will guess it. However, to be in the running for the prize you must be very specific in your identification. If you think it's a particular species of bird, for example, don't just guess "Bird". Give the actual species, like "Goldfinch". Of course, it's not a goldfinch! If you think you know what it is, send the answer via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you're right, you will be in the running for the Hunter's Specialties



video sunglasses. If you don't know, you'll have to wait for the next Blade to find out!

As mentioned above, Hunter's Specialties will be donating some very nice video sunglasses as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue's "What Is It?" nature question. If multiple people guess the right answer, we will draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck and have fun!

The Blade

May – June, 2011

Treasurer's Report Hoosier Outdoor Writers

January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010

\$11,305.24

Balance beginning January 1, 2010:

Income:	
Dues (Member renewals & new members)	\$2,651.50
Presnell Plantation shooting fees	\$60.00
Annual Meeting Fees (Members)	\$525.00
Annual Meeting Fees (Non-members)	\$430.00
Conference Keynote Speaker Sponsor (IN Hunter Education Assoc.)	\$1,500.00
Awards-In-Craft Sponsor (Toyota Motor Sales)	\$1,000.00
HOW Raffle	\$1,808.00
Total Income:	\$7,974.50
Expenses:	
Executive Director Stipend	\$3,000.00
2010 Awards-in-Craft contest:	\$1,450.00
2010 Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker:	\$1,500.00
2010 Annual Meeting (Fourwinds Resort Conference Meal):	\$370.71
Conference Keynote speaker lodging & expenses:	\$229.50
Conference E.D. lodging:	\$199.36
Conference E.D. travel expenses:	\$254.56
Conference Calls (Board of Directors):	\$218.06
Directory printing & mailing:	\$374.03
Newsletter Copies (Manual Copies):	\$205.13
Memorial to Indiana Wildlife Federation (Renfro):	\$100.00
Memorial to Presnell Plantation:	\$100.00
Membership in Indiana Sportsmen's Roundtable:	\$150.00
Conference supplies (raffle tickets):	\$15.92
Dues Reimbursement:	\$5.00
Office Supplies:	\$127.91
Postage:	\$158.37
Deposit on Turkey Run Inn (for 2011 conference):	\$300.00
Total Expenses:	\$8,758.55
Balance ending December 31, 2010:	\$10,521.19

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.



Aquateko's InvisaSwivel Is A Real **Breakthrough For Serious Fishermen**

Ponte Vedra Beach, FL: New HOW Supporting Member Aquateko is the producer of the amazing new InvisaSwivel - the first and only transparent, neutrally buoyant swivel. Rather than being hammered-out and bent into shape, the InvisaSwivel has been engineered and constructed using an advanced fluorocarbon material called "Fluoro-Clear." InvisaSwivel blends seamlessly with the fishing lines it unites, as well as vanishing within the underwater environment itself.



When Aquateko founder and owner Keith Kessler demonstrated the InvisaSwivel's superior qualities at last year's ICAST show, reactions were inevitable and predictable. "Wow!" "No way!" "That is unbelievable!" InvisaSwivel bends, even folds; it actually flexes a full 180-degrees in your fingers, before quickly popping back to normal. Watching a swivel bend and flex 180-degrees in all directions is one thing. To see the same swivel recover with no adverse affects to the transparent material or its free-spinning rotation is something else entirely. The fact that InvisaSwivel is also corrosion-proof, self-lubricating, neutrally buoyant, and virtually invisible underwater, makes it the obvious choice when you need the most natural presentation possible.

HOW members who attended the recent conference at Turkey Run State Park received a sample InvisaSwivel and should give it a try this summer. Anglers who are interested in trying a colored aquatek version are in luck, too. For 2011-12, the InvisaSwivel will be available in two new translucent colors - Bloody Red and Nuclear Chartreuse.

For more information, HOW members may contact Keith Kessler (sales@aquateko.com) at Aquateko, 140 Deer Haven Drive, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082. Phone is (904) 273-7200. Website is www.aquateko.com.

Flying Fisherman Adds New Bifocal Sunglasses

Islamorada, Florida Keys: Flying Fisherman® recently added two new polarized bifocal styles to its Master Angler Series. Ideal for those hard to see knots and charts, the bifocal is out the way until needed and the shatterproof RhinoLensTM provides unbeatable protection.



The AcuTint[™] Lens Color System eliminates glare and enhances contrast without distorting natural color.

The Falcon wrap around TR90 frames have non-slip rubber nose pads and temple pads, and come in matte



black with AcuTintTM amber or smoke. The Cape May provides ultimate coverage, with polarized side windows, recessed nose pads and temple pads, and slotted temple tips for optional lanyard attachment. They're available in Shiny Black or Tortoise with AcuTint™ smoke or amber lenses. Both styles come in three magnification powers, +1.50, +2.00, and +2.50, and include a microfiber case. Check out their website: www.flyingfisherman.com.

HOW Supporting Member News



Pure Fishing's Berkley Brand Wins Prestigious International Award



Columbia, SC: EFTTEX, the European Fishing Tackle Trade Exposition, recently concluded their 30th anniversary show in Amsterdam, Netherlands. The gala closing ceremony included the announcements of the new product award winners. Leading the awards announcements was the naming of Berkley NanoFil as recipient of the first-ever category for Innovation of the Year.



Stated one of the EFTTEX judges: "NanoFil did not fit into either our monofilament or braid category, yet it scored enough votes to have won either category. It is a worthy winner of our inaugural Innovation of the Year award."

"We are elated," exclaimed NanoFil Product Manager Joe Meyer at the event. "We've worked with the folks from Dyneema for seven years perfecting NanoFil and the end product is unlike any fishing line we've ever invented. The unifilament process allows us to produce a fishing line that is thinner, stronger and more manageable than ever thought possible."

Berkley® NanoFilTM with its thin smooth texture allows anglers to effortlessly cast further with unsurpassed precision. It is the ideal fishing line for light to medium action spinning tackle.

Pure Fishing, Inc. is a leading global provider of fishing tackle, lures, rods and reels with a portfolio of brands that includes Abu Garcia®, All Star®, Berkley®, Fenwick®, Gulp!®, Mitchell®, Penn®, Pflueger®, Sebile®, SevenStrand®, Shakespeare®, SpiderWire®, Stren®, Trilene® and Ugly Stik®. With operations in 19 countries and a dedicated workforce conversant in 28 languages, Pure Fishing, Inc. is part of Jarden Outdoor Solutions, a leader in developing outdoor and active lifestyle products and a subsidiary of Jarden Corporation. Additional information can be found at <u>www.purefishing.com</u>.

For more information about Berkley or other Pure Fishing brands, feel free to contact Kevin Jarnagin at Blue Heron Communications. His email address is <u>kevin@blueheroncomm.com</u>. You may also contact him by phone at (800) 654-3766.

Average Diameters in Inches Per Pound Test Rating			
6 lb.	0.005	0.009	0.010
8 lb.	0.006	0.010	0.013
10 lb.	0.007	0.011	0.015
12 lb.	0.008	0.013	0.016
	Berkley NanoFil	Leading Mono	Leading Extra Strength Mono

NanoFil is remarkably strong at the thinnest diameters!

HOW Supporting Member News

Trimble Acquires MyTopo to Provide Unique Outdoor Content on GPS Phones for Outdoorsmen



"I am pleased to announce that HOW Supporting Member MyTopo is now a wholly-owned subsidiary of Trimble Navigation, Ltd, a Sunnyvale, California-based company," said Paige Darden from MyTopo. "Trimble is one of the world's leading innovators in developing commercial applications utilizing GPS technology. MyTopo will be a part of the Trimble Outdoors division, based in Tempe, Arizona. Trimble Outdoors is the developer of GPS-on-cellular applications for consumers – AllSport GPS, Trimble Outdoors, Geocache Navigator and Backpacker GPS Trails. Trimble recently partnered with Cabela's to release the Cabela's Recon Hunt app to serve the hunting market."

MyTopo provides print-on-demand maps and mapping software for recreational and professional use. The company's Terrain Navigator Pro mapping software is widely used by Search and Rescue organizations, and is the mapping software of choice for leaders in the public safety arena throughout the United States. MyTopo's print map products include custom-centered topographic maps, aerial photos, and hybrid maps of the US and Canada. In the Western U.S., the company provides a public lands overlay option for all of its printed map products, as well as hunting unit maps specifically designed to fit an entire hunting unit on one map sheet. Printed maps can be ordered online 24 hours a day and ship within 48 hours.

"HOW members are welcome to call me and identify themselves as a HOW member and I'll help them order a custom MyTopo map for their walls or backpack and/or provide them with a great discount on our mapping software, Terrain Navigator Pro," said Darden.

If HOW members have any questions about MyTopo or this acquisition news, please feel free to contact Paige Darden via email (paige@mytopo.com) or by phone (877.587.9004 x102).

Horton Archery Presents "Hunt Masters Mondays"

Horton Archery, the leader in crossbow technology and innovation, announces an exciting new block of actionpacked programming on the Outdoor Channel. "Hunt Masters Mondays" brings you three solid hours of nonstop hunting action that you won't want to miss. Follow top professional hunters as they pursue big game bowhunting adventure across North America.

"We've put together an incredible lineup of the industry's top shows and top pro hunters, and we're very excited to offer this great mix of adventure, personalities, and over-the-shoulder bowhunting footage," said Gregg Ritz, CEO of Horton Archery. "These shows demonstrate Horton's commitment to the outdoor industry, and our desire to deliver only the most entertaining programming to our viewers."

Tune in and turn your Monday evenings into prime-time hunting adventure with Horton Archery Hunt Masters Mondays, exclusively on Outdoor Channel, America's Leader in Outdoor TV.

For more Horton info, check <u>www.crossbow.com</u> or contact Lee Zimmerman at: <u>lzimmerman@hortonmfg.com</u>.

The Blade

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com Back Mountain Outdoors - www.bmoproducts.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 BoatUS - www.boatus.com Brownells, Inc. - www.brownells.com Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com Bundy Ducks - www.bundyducks.com Cabela's, Inc. - www.cabelas.com Camp Chef - www.campchef.com Carbon Express - www.carbonexpressarrows.com Castalia Outdoors - www.castaliaoutdoors.com Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com Clam Corporation - www.clamcorp.com Coleman Company - www.coleman.com Costa Del Mar - www.costadelmar.com Creative Outdoor Products - www.hunterdan.com Crosman Corporation - www.crosman.com CTI Industries - www.zipvac.net DeLorme, Inc. - www.delorme.com Dreamweaver Lures - www.dreamweaverlures.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 FLW Outdoors - www.flwoutdoors.com Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com Frabill - www.frabill.com Freedom Group Companies - www.freedom-group.com Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggsraingear.com G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com Gamo USA - www.gamousa.com Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryrepeating.com Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com Hoppe's - www.hoppes.com Horton Archery - www.crossbow.com Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - www.hmhco.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 Ind. Smallmouth Alliance - www.indianasmallmouthalliance.org Jewel Bait Company - www.jewelbait.com Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - www.johnsonoutdoors.com KG Enterprise, Inc. - www.kgenterprise.com Koppers Fishing & Tackle - www.livetargetlures.com Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com Kwikee Kwiver Co. - www.kwikeekwiver.com

L&S Bait Co. - www.mirrolure.com LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com Lamiglas, Inc. - www.lamiglas.com Leupold - www.leupold.com Lightfield Ammunition - www.lightfieldslugs.com Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com Muzzy Products Corp. - www.muzzy.com MyTopo - <u>www.mytopo.com</u> National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org Normark Corporation - www.rapala.com O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com Okuma Fishing Tackle - www.okumafishingteam.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 Predator Innovations - www.hangonbuddy.com Primos Hunting Calls - www.primos.com Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu Proline Fishing, Inc. - www.prolinefishing.com Pure Fishing - www.purefishing.com Quaker Boy, Inc. - www.quakerboygamecalls.com Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com Rocky Brands - www.rockyboots.com Savage Arms - www.savagearms.com SHE Outdoor Apparel - www.shesafari.com Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com Slammer Hunting Innovations - www.slammerhi.com Snag Proof Manufacturing - www.snagproof.com Solar Bat Sunglasses - www.solarbat.com South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com Sportsman Channel - www.thesportsmanchannel.com Sportsman's Connection - www.sportsmansconnection.com Star Brite Distributing - www.starbrite.com Strikemaster Corporation - www.strikemaster.com Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com Taylor Brands - www.taylorbrandsllc.com ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com Thundermist Lure Co. - www.thundermistlures.com TomBob Outdoors - www.tomboboutdoors.com Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com Tri-Tronics, Inc. - www.tritronics.com TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com Uncle Josh Bait Co. - www.unclejosh.com Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - www.wrcase.com WaveSpin Reels - www.wavespinreel.com Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com Wrangler Rugged Wear - www.wranglerruggedwear.com Yakima Bait Co. - www.yakimabait.com Z-Man Fishing Products - www.zmanfishing.com

HOW members are encouraged to check these websites for general info and answers to product and service questions.

Hoosier Outdoor Writers

Application For New Membership

(Check Desired Classification below)

	(Check Desired Classification belo	ow)	
	\$30 Active		
	\$25 Associate		
	\$50 Supporting		
	\$15 Active Studen	t	
	\$10 Associate Stud		
Personal Information:			
Name:			
Company (Supporting members of	nly):		
Address:			
City:	State:	Zıp:	
Phone:			
Email:			
Professional Information:			
Employer (if outdoor related).		Desition	
Employer (if outdoor-related):			
Business Address:			
Business Phone:			
1. Describe your work in the outdo	oor field: Full Time	Part Time	
1. Desenbe your work in the outd			
2. Check your field(s) of outdoor	work.		
2. Check your herd(s) of outdoor	WORK.		
Newspapers	Magazine	Photography	
		Lectures	
		Trade Journals	
		Government Info - Ed	
Other (Specify):			
3. Are you paid for your outdoor w	work? Yes No		
4. Your work is published or disse	minated: Daily; Weekl	ly; Monthly;	_ times a year
Attach samples or other proof of	-		
managers attesting to frequency		-	
clips or artistic prints, title of lates	t book, masthead of trade jou	rnal showing your position,	etc.
a			T
Send completed application and an	rticle copies to: Tom Berg , 2	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

OWAA 2011 Annual Conference: (<u>www.owaa.org</u>) Salt Lake City, UT	July 9-11, 2011
POMA 2011 Annual Conference: (<u>www.professionaloutdoormedia.org</u>) Ogden, UT	August 10-13, 2011
AGLOW 2011 Annual Conference: (www.aglowinfo.org/) Honey Creek Resort State Park Rathbun Lake, IA	September 19-22, 2011
Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Boat Show: (<u>www.hartproductions.com</u>) Cincinnati, OH	January 20-22 & 25-29, 2012
Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show: (<u>www.renfroproductions.com</u>) Indianapolis, IN	February 17-26, 2012
NRA 2012 Annual Meeting: (www.nra.org) St. Louis, MO	April 13-15, 2012
HOW 2012 Annual Conference: (www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org) Site to be determined	May 4-6, 2012
AGLOW 2012 Spring Cast & Blast Event: (www.aglowinfo.org/) Niagara County, NY	May 14-17, 2012

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