

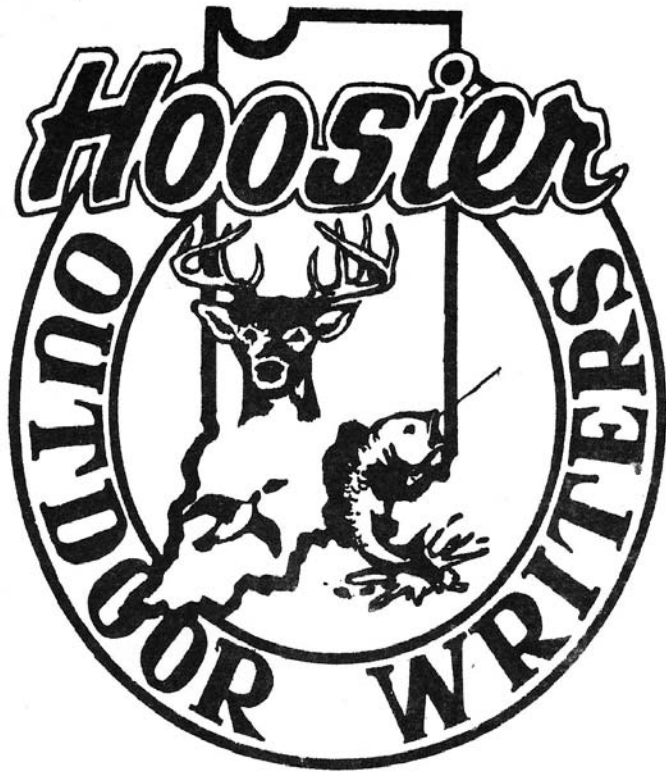
The Blade

September - October 2013

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Eastern Chipmunk On High Alert", 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 Eastern Chipmunk is a common sight for Hoosier nature enthusiasts. These small striped rodents are very common in back yard habitats, especially when bird feeders are nearby. Chipmunks take advantage of seeds dropped by feeding birds whenever they can. Photo by Tom Berg.*



President's Message

by Ben Shadley

Photography Revisited

At the last HOW conference, amidst the striking landscape of the Ohio River, I delivered a very marginal talk on photography. I made the mistake of disgorging as much information as I could at breakneck speed with virtually no context. (Tom Berg nicely warned me beforehand I was covering “a lot of information” – I did not listen).

Coincidentally, much of the readily available information on photography and photo equipment follows the same pattern: plenty of facts, figures and key terms, but not much advice on real-world application. So I'm using this space afforded by my high office to have second go. Here's what beginning and amateur photographers need to know in 1200 words or less.

What to buy:

Cameras: Outdoor-oriented photojournalism requires a good, general-purpose camera. Overall, there's never been a better time to buy a camera. Great equipment is available at every level from a variety of manufacturers. Prices will almost always be lower on the Internet, but purchasing from a good camera shop at a slightly higher price is worth the personal support. Here are my recommendations by price point:

Low: Olympus TG2 (\$360) – Good to great image quality. Multiple modes and scene settings allow user to have some manual control, or let the camera do all the thinking. Key features: Waterproof (to 50 feet!) and shockproof, so it's perfect for outdoorsmen and women – not to mention cool underwater images. Also makes a great second camera.

Mid: Fujifilm Finepix X100 (\$950) – Extraordinary image quality in medium to small package. Full auto to full manual control options. Comparable to top-quality, full-size cameras with interchangeable lenses (DSLR) in many respects. Has a sharp, fixed 35mm lens, which is great for general photography. Key features: Great quality for the price, small enough to be very portable – plus it looks really cool.

High: Nikon D800e (\$2800, body only) – Hands-down a world-class camera with no real competitors until you get into medium format cameras (which are 10 times as expensive and not as versatile). Huge files from an amazingly sharp sensor in a rock-solid body built for working professionals. Works with full range of Nikon F-Mount lenses and accessories. Key features: Superlative sensor in already exceptional body.

Accessories:

Tripod: (\$50 to as much as you want to spend) – Buy a decent tripod that has a removable mounting plate. The heavier the tripod, the more stable it will be; find a balance between portability and weight. Key uses: Anytime camera-shake is likely to affect image quality (low light situations, time exposures). Self-portraits, panos (images created by digitally “stitching” multiple images together), and whenever you want to attain maximum image sharpness regardless of circumstances.

Monopod: (\$25 to as much as you want to spend) – Buy a monopod that telescopes down compactly and is strong enough to use as a walking stick. Take it everywhere you take your camera – or at least keep it close. Monopods can stand in for tripods in many circumstances (providing stability in low light situations, panos, providing more sharpness in general), but are infinitely more portable. Key uses: Great as pivot point for horizontal panos and vastly improving photos taken with shutter speeds too slow to hand-hold.

(continued next page)

Software: There's no shortage of photo editing software on the market, and I'm sure much of it is very good. But Adobe products are the industry standard, so stick with them and you can't go wrong. One benefit is that instructions (often videos) on how to do anything from mild to wild are just a Google away.

Adobe Photoshop (\$20/month) – The undisputed champion of image creation and editing software. Photoshop is much more than just a photo editor, yet it's the most capable and full-featured software available in the category. It's big, complicated and can be intimidating, but learn it and the sky's the limit. Being talented in Photoshop is an art unto itself. Key features: It combines cutting edge technology with old school art skills seamlessly.

Adobe Lightroom (\$150) – Lightroom was designed by Adobe specifically for photo editing. It has the lion's share of Photoshop's capabilities in a much more approachable package. Key features: Great for photographers who want exceptional editing capabilities without the learning curve.

The software that came with your camera (\$0) – Many cameras come with editing software (on a CD or free download). These programs are typically simplistic, but usually feature the basics of photo manipulation. Not a bad option if your interest is primarily in photo-taking and not post-production. Key features: Cheap and still able to make significant improvements to straight-from-the-camera files.

How to shoot:

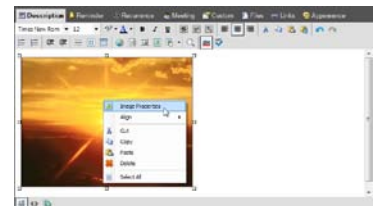
Camera operation – First thing: turn your image setting to the highest possible quality. There's no reason not to capture as much information as possible. Bigger files are better, period (with respect to settings). Digital storage space is cheap and you will have to take an obscene number of images to cost you much in cloud storage or external hard drives. After you've told your camera to record the highest quality images possible, it's time to learn its functionality forward and backward. Whether you choose to read the manual, experiment, or both, you have to know your equipment to get the most out of it. Run through every option on the shooting and settings menus; you should have at least a faint grasp of what each one does. The idea is for you to understand the overall capabilities of your camera and maximize them in any given environment.

Philosophy for improvement – For what it's worth, my advice is to shoot what you love and celebrate your successes while always striving to improve. Don't think too hard about the first part, you already know the answer: What is it that just fascinates you, what are you drawn to? For many reading this, myself included, it's some aspect of the sporting life. Take that interest and work toward making images that resonate with you emotionally. Let your interests lead you to the subject matter and then hone your craft to pluck those heartstrings just right. Take your camera everywhere that could lead to an opportunity, shoot it, and then review/critique. Lastly, make a habit of looking at the work of other photographers. Few of us are breaking new ground, but rather adding to an established tradition.

The business:

Selling your images (and all the minutiae that goes along with it) is worth an article unto itself. Pricing and selling creative services is by nature very subjective, and there are a few ways to do it right and many more ways to do it poorly. I've been on both sides of the equation and would be more than happy to work with you on your own situation.

Please feel free to contact me at bshadley@gmail.com with questions on any topic covered – or not covered – in this article. I'd be glad to help however I can.



The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

Memorial to Deceased HOW Members

Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

Jack Alkire – HOW President 1979
Bill Beeman – Executive Director
Ed Blann
Charlie Brown
Gary Carden
Jim “Moose” Carden – HOW President 1982/83
George Carey
John Case
Bill Church – HOW President 1972
Jack “Big Jake” Cooper
Mark Cottingham
Jerry Criss
Gary “Dox” Doxtater
Dick Forbes
Tom Glancy – HOW President 1977
Dale Griffith
Fred Heckman
Jack Kerins
Mike Lyle – HOW President 1981
Ralph “Cork” McHargue – HOW President 1976
Dick Mercier
Bob Nesbit
Hellen Ochs
Jack Parry
Harry Renfro
“Bayou” Bill Scifres – HOW President – **6 Terms**
George Seketa
Hal Shymkus
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
Brandon Butler	2011
Josh Lantz	2012

HOW Conference Announcement

2014 HOW Conference Site And Conference Dates Chosen

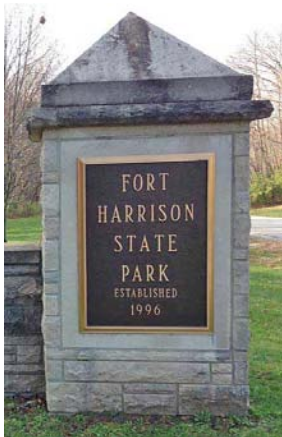
We are pleased to announce that the 2014 HOW Conference will be held on the east side of Indianapolis, IN at Fort Harrison State Park.

The annual meeting will take place at The Garrison, and we have reserved a block of rooms at the Fort Harrison State Park Inn for members who would like to stay overnight. The conference will take place on the weekend of May 2-4, 2014, with the main meeting occurring on Saturday, May 3rd.



A view of The Garrison at Fort Harrison State Park. HOW members may remember visiting The Garrison more than once when our conference was held here in February. It has been five years since our last meeting here.

The date of this conference was selected very carefully to minimize conflicts with Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and AGLOW events, so hopefully most HOW members will be able to plan their schedules ahead of time and attend. So be sure to **SAVE THE DATE!**



We chose Fort Harrison State Park as the conference site this year in an effort to provide a central location so more HOW members can attend and join the fun. Conference sites in the past couple of years have been at the extreme northern and southern ends of the state, so returning to Indianapolis should allow a shorter drive for most of us. As a matter of fact, we are hoping for a new attendance record this year!

As usual, we will have plenty of interesting seminars and speakers at this conference. We will also announce the winners of our annual awards-in-craft contests and elect new officers.

For everyone who has come to love the HOW Raffle over the past several years, we are planning to make it even bigger and better this year. It will be hard to top the quality and quantity of the last few years, but we will do our best! If you haven't attended a conference recently, come see what it's all about!

More details will be forthcoming in future editions of The Blade. Besides our annual Fun Shoot on Friday, May 2nd, we will have a Friday evening BBQ and we are planning a fishing outing for Sunday, May 4th. Whether you plan to attend the entire weekend or just the annual meeting on Saturday, the trip to Fort Harrison State Park will definitely be worth it. Don't miss the 2014 HOW conference!

Save The Date!

Conference: May 2-4, 2014
Annual Meeting: May 3, 2014

HOW Awards-In-Craft Winner

(1st Place in the Writing Contest – Under 1000 Words)

(Fishing category)

“New Angler Poses Intriguing Question”

by John Martino

The questions came in rapid-fire succession. How many fish have you caught? How many fishing poles do you have? How long have you been fishing? What's the biggest one you've ever caught? How old are you?

I had committed to taking a friend's nine-year old son fishing for the first time. I could use a relaxing evening - or so I thought. In the beginning, his questions were non-stop and I was amazed how long he could talk without stopping for a breath.

“Just relax and enjoy what's going on around you,” I told him, as I baited our hooks with plump beemoths. Then the questions came again. “What kind of fish will we catch? Are there big ones here? Have you ever hooked a goose? Each inquiry came without giving me a second to answer any of them. “Why do fish jump?” he asked immediately after a small largemouth bass had broken the surface, dimpling the placid water.

His last question intrigued me. Why do fish jump? I think most of us agree that a chunk of sharp steel lodged unforgivably in the mouth and the resistance of fishing line pulled tight by someone on the other end would cause any fish to jump.

Through the years I can personally testify through experience that being impaled by a hook is not a pleasant way to spend your time. Actually, getting hooked isn't so bad - it's yanking it out that makes me jump.

What Jarrod meant was why do fish rocket out of the water for no apparent reason, then dash back under the surface only to do it again and again.

There is not a fisherman around who hasn't seen it happen and with every species of fish. From sailfish to sunfish and barracuda to bluegills, we have seen them all become airborne.

I am sure there are many common explanations for this type of behavior. Stalking prey from underneath like an orca to a seal is one reason. Fish are opportunistic feeders and take a variety of prey floating on or near the surface. On the other hand, some fish may hurdle themselves into the air to keep from being dinner themselves.

Another reason fish jump could be because they are just playing. Have you ever seen how many domestic and wild animals frolic? Dogs run around playfully, cows kick and buck, sometimes for no apparent reason. Hunters have watched as young deer run around playfully kicking up their hooves. Even children run and skip around simply because it feels good.

Another reason for this jumping behavior could be because our aquatic adversaries are disrespecting us. We have all spent considerable time either casting live bait and bobbers or chunking artificial lures churning the water to a creamy froth with no success. But at the same time fish are jumping all around. You know they are there yet refuse to hit anything in our arsenal. I personally think they are flipping us the fin. After all, they don't have any fingers.

After sitting with Jarrod for over an hour with little to show for our outing we both watched as fish surfaced everywhere. His questions slowly subsided. I believe his body was becoming deprived of oxygen and he needed the break to breathe.

I firmly believe that Mother Nature is truly wonderful and sees to it that every organism above a certain point in the food chain is given enough sense of self to enjoy being what they are.

One universal expression of this joy has to be the exuberance of physical activity. This could be one reason why we stretch after waking from a long night's sleep. It's pleasing to feel that sweet range of motion as we extend supple muscles. Maybe it's the harmonic intricacy of skin and ligament, tendon and bone as we discover our physical limits. The fluid range of emotions your face undergoes as we fight a trophy fish - first surprise, followed by concentration and determination, then pride.

After considering all of this it was time to answer my young fishing partner's question and I wanted to do it with detailed well-thought-of accuracy. “Jarrod,” I finally said, “fish jump because they can!”

YOU'RE INVITED

Asian Carp Educational Forums

October 22, 2013

INDIANAPOLIS

3:00-4:45 pm EST
IN Wildlife Federation
708 East Michigan St.
Indianapolis, IN 46202

The Indiana Wildlife Federation in partnership with the Little River Wetland Project, the Indiana Chamber of Commerce and the Northwest Indiana Forum, Inc. announce three educational forums to be held this fall.

The meetings will cover the progress of control efforts to keep Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species out of the Great Lakes. The forums will also provide background information in preparation for the Army Corp of Engineers report expected to publish in January, 2014, which will present alternatives for stopping Asian carp and all aquatic invasive species transfers between the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River Basins.

***All stakeholders and the public are invited to attend.
Registration is not required.***

November 6, 2013

PORTAGE

3:00-4:45 pm CST
Northwest Indiana
Forum, Inc.
6100 Southport Road
Portage, IN 46368

Agenda and Presenters:

November 14, 2013

FT. WAYNE

6:30-8:30 pm EST
Allen Co.
Public Library
900 Library Plaza
Ft. Wayne, IN 46802

- **Asian Carp Control Progress**—John Goss, Asian Carp Director, White House Council on Environmental Quality
- **Asian Carp in Indiana**— John Davis, Deputy Director, Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources
- **Great Lakes Commission “Restoring the Natural Divide” Report**—Matt Doss, Policy Director, Great Lakes Commission (Nov. 6 Forum only)
- **Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Interim Report**—What to expect in the January 2014 US Army Corp of Engineers report
- **Eagle Marsh Invasive Species Barrier**—Jerry Roach, Assistant State Conservationist, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- **Q & A**





Louisiana Alligator Extravaganza

by Brandon Butler

Yes, it was just like the television show *Swamp People*. Thought I'd go ahead and get that out of the way because no matter who I am speaking with it always seems to be the first question asked.

There are different methods of hunting alligators across the south. In Louisiana, you set lines just as you would when limb-lining for catfish. Usually you set the lines in the evening and come back to check them in the morning. You can set them during the day and continuously watch them if you wish, but the overnight method is the most popular.

The setup is fairly simple. If a tree is available, you use it. If not, a post of some sort is driven into the bank or the bottom of the swamp. A rope is tied to the tree or post. The ropes we were using were about 25 feet long. At the end of the rope is a large hook. I mean

large, like bigger than your finger curled over. Next to the post, a pole is placed at a 45-degree angle. We used bamboo. A clothespin placed farther up the pole is clipped to the rope, leaving the bait dangling above the water. In our case, the bait was chicken.

"I like to use chicken because it's not expensive, it stays on the hook and as it heats up it drips an oily residue on the surface of the water," said Captain Doug Miller, my guide. "Gators smell that residue and come looking for the source."

Once a gator takes the bait, it'll stretch the rope out looking for a place to hide. This could be in the cattails next to shore or simply down on the bottom. If the rope is not in view, you search for it with a small rake. Once located, you pull the rope in by hand bringing an angry alligator to the side of your boat mere inches from your feet. Then all hell breaks loose.

The goal is to quickly and humanely dispatch the gator with a single bullet to the head. We used a .22 magnum lever action rifle. You must put the bullet in an area directly behind the gator's eyes, roughly the size of dollar bill torn in half. Miss your mark and you'll have one angry beast beating at the side of your boat.

Once you have a gator close to the boat, it will typically begin thrashing to get away. Its powerful tail may slap the boat causing it to jolt, knocking you off balance. The fear of falling over the side into the water with a creature that can easily take off one of your appendages is a

(continued next page)

constant scare. Alligator hunting is thus best done in teams. One person works the gator on the rope while the other tries to put a well-placed bullet in its brain.

If you've ever watched *Swamp People*, then you're familiar with the expression "Choot 'em." This is what one of the show's stars constantly yells as he's wrestling the gator rope waiting on his mate to shoot the gator. Shooting the beast is no easy task. I learned firsthand just how hard it is to get the shot. The gator is constantly moving, thrashing and rolling, and you're trying to be precise with your shot placement. It's tough and exhilarating.

My alligator hunt took place at Grosse Savanne. This magnificent lodge is situated on 75,000 private acres. The accommodations are impeccable, the food exquisite and scenery unimaginable. Gators were everywhere. My boat baited 23 lines and took in 11 alligators ranging in size from 7 to 10 feet long.

If you've dreamed of going on an alligator hunt, I highly encourage you to do so. The experience is like nothing I've ever done before. Being in the swamp chasing modern day dinosaurs is as unique and heart-pounding as hunting gets. Every piece of the gator is used, too, from the meat to the skin.



Above: HOW Past-president Brandon Butler traveled to the swamps of Louisiana to hunt gators. Here is one of six gators he harvested that day.

A Quail Hunt To Remember

by Ken McBroom



I remember the days when November was still cold and there were still enough quail to stumble into while just walking through the woods. I remember many times, back then, nearly jumping out of my boots as a large covey exploded around me. Those were the days.

I was thirteen when my cousin Tommy and his wife Wilma invited me to live with them in Lynchburg. Tommy was known for training bird dogs and never turned down the chance to train a cur that someone else had given up on. Needless to say, we followed many dogs many miles through bean fields and creek bottoms. Some dogs did well, others not so well, but the great thing was there were enough quail around that with enough patience even the bad ones could be trained.

We were beginning to notice fewer and fewer quail in places where we had always found them. Finally the training stopped and we found ourselves with two magnificent bird dogs: Rusty and Sally. When alone, Rusty hunted perfectly. He hunted within sight and checked back periodically. There is nothing like watching a bird dog work birds, and Rusty was a treat to hunt with. Sally was a great bird dog as well, but she loved to hunt wide, real wide. Sally was great and would hunt in close once we flushed the covey. It was always the most fun hunting the singles as both dogs stayed in close and did their thing, but in the end Sally's desire to cover a whole farm in thirty minutes or less came in handy when the quail became harder to find.

I can remember our best quail hunt like it was yesterday; unfortunately as I recall it was our last quail hunt as well. Sally had run off on a familiar farm. We waited to let Rusty out so we could keep him close. We slowly hunted up to where Sally was pointed and Rusty backed her. Tommy and I both missed easy shots as we often did on the rise for some reason. Sally and Rusty watched the singles zig zag through the cedars and light in some nasty stuff. They both looked back at us as if to ask "what happened, boys?" then loped off along the sage-covered hillside and disappeared into the steep thick woods below.

We entered the thicket as the dogs worked the rocky slope. Tommy was toting a Browning automatic and me a sixteen gauge single-shot Winchester. It was my first gun and Tommy had given it to me on my birthday. The dogs worked that thicket perfectly, and before we were out we both had four birds in our vest. Tommy mentioned that the sun was setting and we better call it a day. My reply was that he wanted out of there before I topped his four birds with my single shot Winchester.

We were making our way to the truck when I jumped a single. Swinging to my right, I took a quick shot as the bird disappeared into the top of a cedar tree. Tommy and I both saw the shot part the cedar. Tommy was sure I had missed and probably secretly prayed that I had, as I was known to "rub it in" a little back then. We were both laughing as I told Tommy I had killed that bird and Rusty was heading down there to get him. I honestly thought I had missed but then I spotted Rusty trotting up the hill, head held high, with a fat bobwhite in his mouth. I laughed as I bent down and took the bird from Rusty's mouth and slid it inside my vest with the others. Tommy just shook his head.

We made it back to the truck and popped the top on a couple ice cold Cokes, or Coke colas as we called them back then. I can remember how good a cold Coke tasted after walking over all those Tennessee hills and through fields of nasty briars. Um Um, I can taste it now. We shed our vests and unloaded the shotguns as we relived the hunt and savored the moment. Rusty and Sally drank from the creek and half-heartedly hunted around the truck. The tips of their tails were bleeding from the briars, but they were wagging back and forth, a sign they were happy. If we had tails we would be wagging them, too. This was one of those moments that deserved a little time to make certain that it all made it to that place, reserved in our minds, for special moments in our lives.

We finished our Cokes. It was almost dark now and the air was cold as we loaded the dogs, commending them on a great day afield. I can still hear the gravel popping beneath the tires as we slowly rolled down the gravel road on our way home. It is hunts like this that need to be remembered, and this one tends to rise to the top when I reminisce of the days of hunting the Bobwhite Quail and growing up in Lynchburg, Tennessee.

DNR News

Division of Forestry

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748

For immediate release: Sept. 30, 2013

Inventory provides better understanding of state forests

The Department of Natural Resources has released a new tree inventory designed to better inform Indiana residents how State Forests are used.

Some highlights from the DNR Division of Forestry's Continuous Forestry Inventory (CFI) report include:

- 149,727 of the 155,725 total acres of State Forest land are forested, with the balance being water or open areas such as campgrounds and service areas.
- 95 percent of forested acres are hardwoods.
- There are 59.4 million live trees on Indiana's state forests, totaling 337.4 million cubic feet of volume.
- Sugar maple trees and seedlings are the most abundant species.
- Tree growth exceeds timber harvest on State Forests by at least a 2-to-1 margin.
- Multiflora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, and stiltgrass are the most common invasive plants found in State Forests.

The inventory is based on a sample of 3,860 plots located randomly across approximately 156,000 acres of State Forest lands, with a sampling rate of about one plot for every 40 acres.

The full report is in the "State Forest Management" section at dnr.IN.gov/forestry/3631.htm.

The inventory reports tree measurements on live and dead trees, including identification of species, diameter, height, damage, and tree quality. It also assesses regeneration in State Forests, and includes estimates of growth, mortality, removals and general stand characteristics.

This information will be used as baseline data to compare to future inventory studies.

Indiana State Forests provide both foreign and domestic markets with the finest quality hardwood in the world. Since 1966, the Division of Forestry has harvested 200 million board feet of timber, generating \$41 million to help support the division's missions, including recreation and resource management. The current estimated value of standing timber on State Forests is \$400 million. Indiana's State Forests also provide habitat for wildlife, clean air and water, and protect soil from erosion.

Indiana State Forests have been recognized by both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and Forest Stewardship Council as meeting rigorous national standards of well managed forests.

Media contact: Jack Seifert, state forester, DNR Division of Forestry, (317) 232-4116.

HOW Member News



Phil Bloom Receives OWAA J. Hammond Brown Award

At its recent annual conference in Lake Placid, NY, the Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) honored some of its members with its most distinguished awards. Among the honorees was HOW Past-President Phil Bloom from Fort Wayne.

During the OWAA banquet on September 16th, Bloom received the 2013 J. Hammond Brown Award. The award is OWAA's most prestigious recognition of a member "for devoted past service to the organization over a period of continuous years."

Phil Bloom joined OWAA in 1991 as outdoors editor at the Fort Wayne Journal Gazette. He attended his first OWAA conference that year in Niagara Falls, NY, and has attended 20 more OWAA conferences since then. Bloom was elected to OWAA's Board of

Directors in 2001, and later served terms as Secretary, 3rd-, 2nd- and 1st-Vice President. He was elected President in 2008.

Bloom was also program chair for the 2007 conference in Roanoke, VA, and has served on and/or chaired numerous OWAA committees, including board nominating, officer nominating, contests, development, education, ethics, national affairs & environment, sections, and strategic planning.

In presenting the award to Bloom, past recipient Rich Patterson said: "Some board work is visible, especially at conferences, but many tasks must be completed at home. Sometimes they are difficult. On a couple of occasions Phil stepped in to prevent what could have become significant organizational problems."

"Back in 2006 my wife and I had packed our car and were ready to head for Bismarck, ND, where I'd end my year as president," said Patterson. "It had been a snowy winter followed by a rainy spring. The Corps of Engineers told the residents of Cedar Rapids not to worry about flooding. Then seven inches of torrential rain fell in a couple of hours. The river surged 13 feet higher than ever recorded. We still thought we could make the OWAA conference. Then one bridge went out. Then another and another. Finally, only one bridge remained and the National Guard only let emergency vehicles cross the river. We couldn't leave town. We weren't going to the OWAA conference. I called Phil and told him I was in a bind. 'No problem, Rich. I'll handle it. Do what you can to help flood victims.' So, with almost no notice Phil did my jobs, then a year later in his year as president he did it all again."

Bloom retired from The Journal Gazette in 2007 and joined the Department of Natural Resources as director of communications, a position he still holds today.

For more information on OWAA, as well as the J. Hammond Brown award and other award winners from this year's OWAA conference, visit www.owaa.org.



J. Hammond Brown Award recipient Phil Bloom (left) with presenter Rich Patterson and Board President Mark Taylor (right) at the 2013 OWAA conference in Lake Placid. Photo courtesy of OWAA.

Rick Bramwell Likes New Crossbows Made In Indiana

HOW Past-President Rick Bramwell was very impressed by the crossbows being produced by Hoosier archery manufacturer Native Crossbows. He liked them so much that he quickly bought one for himself!

“The new Native Crossbows are being manufactured in Alexandria, Indiana by Kennedy Tool & Die,” said Bramwell. “These folks had been making the Maxus Crossbow (they ran a full-page inside cover advertisement two years ago in the DNR Hunting Regulations magazine). The parent company, a Canadian firm, went bankrupt leaving the Kennedy’s holding the bag.”

“Being avid deer hunters, Ben and Brian Kennedy made improvements to the Maxus and have applied for two new patents. The Native crossbows are Hoosier-made and come in two models, the Rampage and the Renegade. They shoot at 340 and 320 fps, respectively. The Rampage has a fold-down stock. Both bows weigh eight pounds.”



“Myself, former DNR Director Kyle Hupfer and Colts kicker Adam Venaturi each own a Native Crossbow. They shoot great and have a very smooth trigger. Both have an anti-dry fire safety, too. Hupfer took an eight-pointer with his bow last season at 40 yards.”

“Ben and Brian are willing to sell these bows to outdoor media members at a discount. If you are interested, check out www.nativecrossbows.com (or

phone 765-724-2273). You can go to the factory to shoot these fine weapons indoors at up to 80 yards. These guys will also have a booth at the Deer & Turkey Expo next February.”

Garbers Finds Interesting Website

HOW member Alan Garbers recently found a new website that other members might find interesting and useful:

“Here’s a website I thought HOW members might be interested in: <https://www.outdoorprolink.com/> I had to send them paystubs from magazines to prove I worked in outdoor media, but they did approve me. Most of the gear is camping and hiking related, but I was able to find a tent I wanted by Big Agnes for \$100 less than retail, which is a huge savings.”

Check it out for yourself and see what you can find!

Garbers and Schoonveld Fish With A Legend

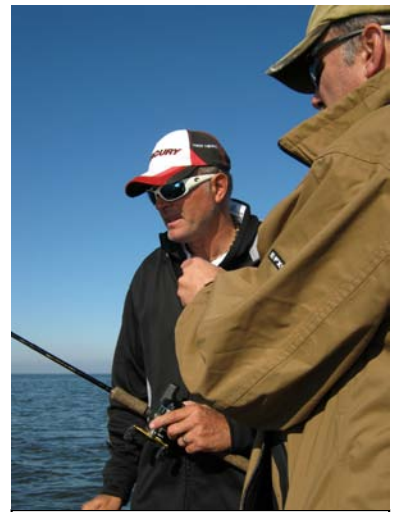
HOW Past-President Mike Schoonveld and Past-Board member Alan Garbers were lucky enough to go fishing with a legendary angler one morning while attending the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers (AGLOW) annual conference in Fond du Lac, Wisconsin in September. That well-known angler was Dale Stroschein.

Stroschein first made a name for himself as a professional walleye angler. Since then, he's become a resort owner and fishing guide



Schoonveld lifts a nice-sized white bass that he caught in Lake Winnebago. Photo courtesy of Mike Schoonveld.

operating out of Sturgeon Bay, WI. In the summer of 2013, he was inducted into the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame.



Dale Stroschein (left) talks about Lake Winnebago's renowned walleye fishery as Alan Garbers prepares to wet a line. Photo by Mike Schoonveld.

Although they were targeting walleyes on Lake Winnebago with Stroschein, Schoony and Garbers caught some of everything – except ol' mister marble-eye. White bass were abundant, and they also angled good numbers of perch, crappies and freshwater drum from Winny's water. The lack of walleyes didn't matter much. Both anglers figure that any day fishing Lake Winnebago is time well-spent!

Berg Is Photographed Taking Bird Photographs

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg spent some time photographing loons in northern Wisconsin this past June. As a matter of fact, the cover photo for the July/August HOW newsletter shows a beautiful loon that he captured on film...digitally.

The photo to the right was taken by Berg's wife Lori and shows him snapping photos of a friendly loon that kept swimming around within 20-30 feet of the pier where he was fishing. This loon was a surprisingly willing photo model, allowing both Tom Berg and his wife to get a number of good photos.

The fishing suffered a bit, though, as the loon managed to chase away the fish that Berg was trying to catch!





Three HOW Members Receive Awards At AGLOW Conference

Many HOW members belong to more than one outdoor writer organization. Besides HOW, our members are represented in groups such as OWAA, AGLOW, SEOPA, POMA and others. Membership in other diverse groups helps us to grow, make new friends and cultivate new contacts. At the recent AGLOW (Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers) conference in Fond du Lac, WI, three of our own were honored with the following awards:

2013 AGLOW President’s Award

Each year, AGLOW’s President may present special awards to individuals whom he or she believes have gone above and beyond in their service to AGLOW. This year, AGLOW President Jeff Davis presented three President’s Awards to its members, and HOW Legal Counsel Bill Keaton was among the recipients. “In sincere appreciation of his dedicated, long-term service and counsel to the AGLOW organization,” said Davis, “AGLOW Legal Advisor, Bill Keaton, was presented with a 2013 AGLOW President’s Award.”

Keaton started representing AGLOW in July, 1994, and went to the 1994 AGLOW meeting in Midland, Michigan. “I believe that this year’s meeting in Fond du Lac was my 20th year of attending AGLOW meetings,” stated Keaton. “We have only missed 2 out of 20. I started with HOW in 1992. I believe Jack Spaulding was President at the time and Bill Beeman was the Executive Director. Beeman was also the E.D. of AGLOW, and asked me to represent AGLOW.”



Bill Keaton (left) receives his President’s Award from AGLOW E.D. (and HOW Board Chairman) Josh Lantz in Fond du Lac, WI. Photo courtesy of AGLOW.

Thank you for your service to both organizations, Bill. It is much appreciated!

2013 AGLOW Awards-In-Craft Winners

The 2013 AGLOW Awards-In-Craft competition recognized the best in outdoor communications through magazine and newspaper writing, photography, radio, television, web communications and e-books. Dozens of awards were handed out, and the following two HOW members were among this year’s winners:

Chevy Trucks’ Best E-book

2nd - Alan Garbers - “Behind the Badge: True Stories of Indiana's Conservation Officers”

Chevy Trucks’ Best of Magazine / Travel, RV & Camping

2nd - Tom Berg - “Wildlife Encounters After Dark”

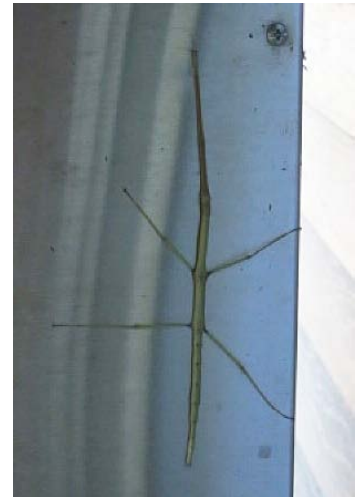
HOW Members Send Walking Stick Photos



The mystery creature in this issue's "What Is It?" photo contest is printed on the following page, along with the names of the HOW members who correctly identified it. Although the correct guessers thought this was an easy one, many HOW members could not identify the creature: this time it was a Walking Stick insect.

Evidently walking sticks, or "stick bugs" as some people call them, are much more common in some areas than in others. HOW Legal Counsel Bill Keaton from Rush County reported that he sees lots of walking sticks at this time of year. Sometimes they are in the garden and at other times they are clinging to the trunks of trees on his property. He has even seen them on his window screens and BBQ grill!

We asked the HOW members who correctly identified the walking stick in this issue's contest to look for walking stick insects over the past month or so. If anyone could find one, we asked them to send in photos of them. Bill Keaton and his wife Rita outdid themselves and found a total of four different walking stick insects. Photos of two of them are printed here (above and right).



HOW Past-President Jack Spaulding wanted to participate in the recent "walking stick photo op" extravaganza, but he was out of town on vacation. Take a look at his response below!

"I cry 'foul' on the walking stick pictures as Chris and I are on vacation out West. Well, I suppose I could take a picture of my wife's walking stick she brought along on vacation (photo at left). Not a bug, actually a stick, but the best I can currently do."

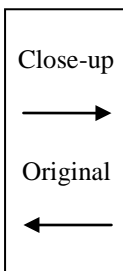
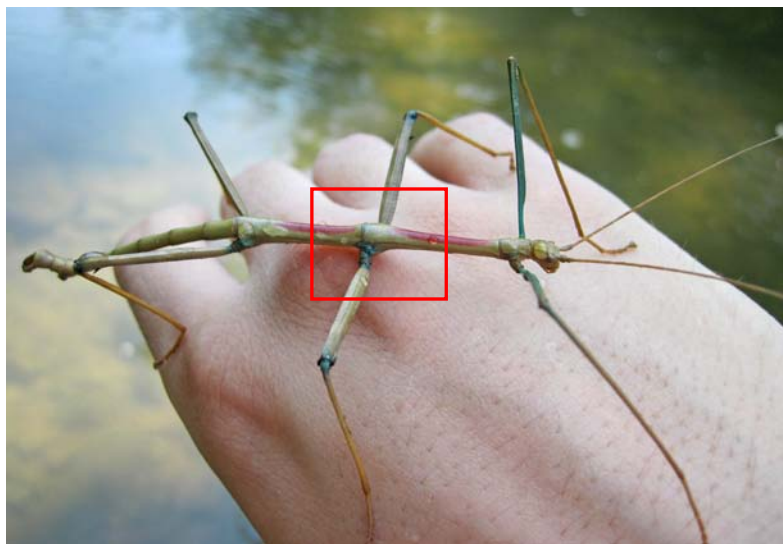
"Although I have never been bitten by a walking stick, I can testify they are capable of delivering a sound rap to the head. I found this especially true, if one is suspected of misbehaving and is within reach."

Jack Spaulding

PS: "Keaton probably got his photos of the walking sticks because they were solicited to appear to satisfy a court order!"

Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Leupold

The Walking Stick Insect Lives High Up In The Trees



The “What is it?” photo from the most recent issue was much easier to identify than some

of the others! Nine (9) HOW members correctly identified it this time. Mike Schoonveld, Troy McCormick, Phil Seng, Jack Spaulding, Bill Keaton, PJ Perea, Alan Garbers, Mike Berg and Don Bickel each had the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the **Aquateko** prize package, **Jack Spaulding** was the winner. Congrats, Jack! We’ll send the prize to you.

As you can see in the photo above, the mystery creature for this issue was a Giant Walking Stick (*Megaphasma Dentricus*). These insects use camouflage to hide among the twigs and branches of trees and bushes. Some species of walking sticks can change their coloration to match their surroundings, so they can be difficult to see. They are also nocturnal, moving about and feeding high up in the trees, which also helps to shield them from human eyes.

There are more than 3,000 species of walking sticks world-wide. They are plant-eaters, so they are harmless to humans. Walking sticks like to eat the leaves of oak trees, and when local populations get too large they can actually defoliate entire trees! Individual insects in Indiana typically measure a few inches to 12 inches long, but they can get bigger!

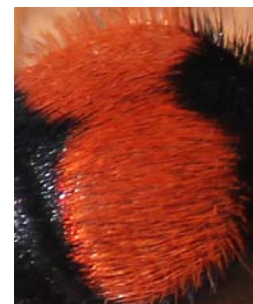
For this issue, our friends at **Leupold** have offered to provide a very nice prize for the HOW member that guesses the right answer to the new “What Is It?” question (see photo below). The prize will be a Redfield Counterstrike 1X30mm tactical riflescope. This riflescope is waterproof and is loaded with features. See below for more info.

Berg Poses Another Nature Photo “What Is It?” Question

Here’s another Nature Photo mystery. The photograph shown to the right is a close-up of part of a creature that lives right here in Indiana. It might be quietly living in your own back yard, although it is more common in the southern part of the state than in the northern regions. Have you ever seen a creature that looks like this? Can you guess what it is?



This creature may be tough to identify, but we’ll see. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? This time you must identify the exact species. If you think it’s a particular species of duck, for example, go ahead and guess “Wood Duck”. If you know what it is, send the answer via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you’ll be eligible for this issue’s prize. If not, you will just have to wait for the next issue to find out!



As mentioned, **Leupold** will donate a very cool Redfield Counterstrike tactical riflescope to the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. To learn more about Leupold, check their website at www.leupold.com. If multiple people guess correctly, we’ll draw one winner at random from the group. Good luck!

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 Introduces Interactive Digital Catalogs

Springfield, MO: Outdoor enthusiasts around the world have looked forward to getting their favorite Bass Pro Shops catalog in the mail since 1974. Now they can experience convenient navigation and a wealth of features by using Bass Pro Shops' new interactive digital catalog for the iPad. The interactive catalog app is available for free at the App Store.

“With the launch of the 2013 Saltwater Specialist Interactive Catalog, Bass Pro Shops is leading the way in retail with an app that showcases products and provides shoppers with product demonstrations, tips, and more robust product descriptions and presentations,” said Stan Lippelman, vice president of marketing. “We’ve built in lots of support material such as informative videos, detailed graphics, and useful tips from our fishing and hunting pros. These features come together to create a convenient and unique environment for the customer. For example, if you wanted to try kite fishing, the new interactive catalog provides a short article with tips on how to get started. Then you’d see a selection of all the gear you need to enjoy that sport, from rods and reels to kites and accessories, in one convenient place.”

Bass Pro Shops’ catalog app make searching for gear and expert advice faster and easier. The interactive app includes user-friendly features that allow users to tap, zoom, and scroll their way through a complete selection of outdoor gear. Bass Pro Shops developed the catalog app for the iPad in-house, using Adobe® Digital Publishing Suite.

In addition to the 2013 Saltwater Specialist interactive catalog, Bass Pro Shops will launch the 2013 Fall Hunting Catalog in September. The 2013 Tactical Shooting Catalog and the 2013 Christmas Gift Guide will be available later this year. Many additional interactive catalogs are planned for 2014.

Outdoor enthusiasts also can download the basic catalog app for all 28 Bass Pro Shops catalogs to their iPad or iPhone with the Bass Pro HD app. Shoppers can take their favorite footwear, shooting, hunting, optics, fly fishing, boats, lures, outdoor gear and other catalogs with them wherever they go. The Bass Pro HD app is free of charge from the App Store.

Bass Pro Shops also offers games for hunting and fishing enthusiasts. Gamers can download and play “The Hunt” and “The Strike” for free on their iPhone, iPad or iPod touch (requires iOS 5.0 or later). “The Hunt – King of Bucks” is a fast-paced game that tests players’ hunting and shooting skills for big game and varmints. Upgrades and power ups increase gamers’ chances of bagging a trophy with scents, calls and more.

“The Strike” features live tournaments where gamers can compete against their friends from around the world for a spot on the leaderboard. Players can cast, set the hook and reel in bass, walleye, northerns, musky, and trout just like they were really fishing.

To download the Bass Pro Shops Interactive Catalog app, visit:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bps-catalog/id667548745?mt=8>

To download the Bass Pro Shops Catalog HD app, visit:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bass-pro-shops-catalog-hd/id580874501?mt=8>

To download Bass Pro Shops – King of Bucks, visit:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bass-pro-shops-hunt-king-bucks/id546759163?mt=8&ls=1>

To download Bass Pro Shops – The Strike Pro Angler, visit:
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/bass-pro-shops-strike-pro/id566743044?mt=8&ls=1>

For more information on Bass Pro Shops, visit www.basspro.com or call 1-800-BASS-PRO. HOW members may also contact Tammy Sapp at: tsapp@basspro.com (803-522-2138) or Katie Mitchell at: kamitchell@basspro.com (417-873-5618).



HOW Supporting Member News

New Plano Parallel Limb Bow Case Adjusts To Any Bow



Plano, IL: Today's modern compound bows come in just about every size and shape imaginable, often making it as difficult to choose the right bow case to fit your new bow as it was to pick out the perfect bow itself. Plano®, the longtime outdoor gear storage experts, has solved the bow case dilemma by introducing the Plano Parallel Limb Bow Case model 1144.

The new Plano case is rectangular and measures 43"x17"x9.5", making it a good size and shape for conveniently storing almost anywhere, from a bedroom closet to the back of a vehicle. From there, features just continue to get even better.

Since Plano is the industry leader in plastic injection, you know the product is built to last. It is made in our USA manufacturing facility, too. And the case's latches are of the cam-action type that close and secure the lid tightly, with two in the front and one on each side. A proven O-ring seal is located around the full perimeter of the case and resists water and dust entry.

With an interior depth of 7", the case is deep enough to accommodate many bows with quivers and arrows. The bow is held in place by positioning the three nylon tie wraps (included) to any one of a number of locations.

The real flexibility of the model 1144 comes in the ability to position Plano's patented crush-proof PillarLock® system supports as needed to fit whatever bow is in the case. The peg-and-hole design of both the interior lid and bottom allows placement of the two movable pillars so that top and bottom pieces of each are seated together to form a rigid support structure upon closing the case. Dense pluck foam accommodates pillar placement.

Two other items also come with the case: a six-arrow holder that attaches to the inside of the lid, and a Plano model 1309 archery utility box that is ideal for carrying nocks, field points, string wax and other accessories inside the bow case.



The new Plano Parallel Limb Bow Case is stylish in its black construction with yellow latches and a yellow comfort-grip carrying handle. With the 1144's adjustability, one case can easily be fitted to accommodate multiple bows in the same household. But with the case retailing for only around \$79.99, it also makes sense to buy one for each bow for proper storage and transportation.

For more information, contact Ben Royce at Plano Molding Company (630-708-7339) or via email: broyce@planomolding.com. You can also check the Plano website at: www.planomolding.com.

HOW Supporting Member News



FOXPRO's All-New SHOCKWAVE Electronic Game Call Reigns Supreme



Lewistown, PA: FOXPRO has once again set the bar extremely high with the all new SHOCKWAVE! This four speaker system has two pivoting horn speakers and two tweeters for excellent sound quality and volume capability. There are 2 external speaker jacks if you desire even more volume, an auxiliary jack to connect an approved device such as a Jack Predator Decoy, and a charge jack.

The SHOCKWAVE comes with 100 high quality FOXPRO sounds with the ability to store and access up to 1,000 sounds. You can operate the SHOCKWAVE manually or with the SHOCKWAVE remote control. The SHOCKWAVE remote control features a full color graphic LCD screen which displays your sound list or sound categories, has a barometer indicator, moon phase indicator, temperature indicator, battery level indicator, timer or time clock, FOXBANG technology and much more. All FOXPRO products are proudly made in the USA.

FOXPRO's SHOCKWAVE redefines what an electronic game call can do with several new FOXPRO innovations. FOXMOTION allows you to automatically fade the sound from the left speakers to the right to help "sell" the reality of your call sounds. FOXFUSION allows you to mix and match any two sounds at the same time during your calling sequence. FOXITCH lets you manipulate the "pitch" of the sound in an effort to trigger a response. FOXDATA allows you to record real time info from each and every stand so you can access the data for future reference. The SHOCKWAVE is backed by a 5-year limited warranty and FOXPRO's unmatched customer support.



For more information on this or any other FOXPRO product, contact Abner Druckenmiller at FOXPRO Inc (717-248-2507 ext.115) or via email: abner@gofoxpro.com. Check out some of the great reviews on the FOXPRO website at: www.gofoxpro.com.

Hot New Colors!
Glow Spoons are here!

Introducing eight new colors that actually glow in the dark!

- 272-Glo w/Fluorescent Green Dots
- 273-Glo w/Fluorescent Pink Dots
- 274-Glo w/Fluorescent Orange Dots
- 301-Glo Fluorescent Green
- 302-Glo Yellow
- 303-Glo Blue
- 304-Glo Fluorescent Orange
- 305-Glo Black

25% discount for on-line orders.
To order: click the lures, choose series and color, then add to order.

Eppinger's Glow-In-The-Dark Dardevle Spoons Attract Trophies!

Dearborn, MI: The Eppinger fishing lure tradition began in 1906 when Lou Eppinger came up with the idea for a new fishing lure that would eventually become the Dardevle spoon that we all know today. In the 100+ years since then, Dardevles are still made in the USA and they have caught untold numbers of fish.

That success evolved into the Eppinger Manufacturing Company of today, where more than 16,000 different lure sizes, shapes and colors are

available, and they produce over 2 million lures per year.

One of the hot new items is the glow-in-the-dark colors for their Dardevle spoon line. Glow lures are deadly for many species of fish, as experienced anglers know very well. Great Lakes fishermen use glow-in-the-dark lures regularly, especially during the fall salmon runs. Trophy-sized chinook salmon, in particular, are known to crush glow lures after dark, so grab some of these lures and try them for yourself!

For more info, contact John Cleveland at Eppinger (313-582-3205) or by email: john@eppinger.net. See all of the excellent lures available on the Eppinger website at: www.eppinger.net.



HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arctic Ice - www.arcticicell.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Barnes Bullets - www.barnesbullets.com
Bass Assassin Lures - www.bassassassin.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Bear & Son Cutlery - www.bearandson.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Black River Tools - www.blackrivertools.com
Blackpowder Products, Inc. - www.bpiguns.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
Brownells, Inc. - www.brownells.com
Bubba Blade Knives - www.bubbablade.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bundy Ducks - www.bundyducks.com
Bushnell Outdoor Products- www.bushnell.com
Cabela's - www.cabelas.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Castalia Outdoors - www.castaliaoutdoors.com
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Clam Outdoors - www.clamoutdoors.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocooneyewear.com
Coleman Company - www.coleman.com
Columbia Sportswear - www.columbia.com
Costa Sunglasses - www.costadelmar.com
Crappie Pro - www.crappiepro.com
Creative Outdoor Products - www.hunterdan.com
Crosman Corporation - www.crosman.com
Cyclops Solutions - www.cyclopsolutions.com
Eagle Claw - www.eagleclaw.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Eppinger Manufacturing Co. - www.eppinger.net
E/T Lights - www.triagelights.com
Federal Premium Ammunition - www.federalpremium.com
Filson Corporation - www.filson.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
FOXPRO - www.gofoxpro.com
Frabill - www.frabill.com
Freedom Group Companies - www.freedom-group.com
Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggs.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Hawke Sport Optics - www.hawkeoptics.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryrepeating.com
Hickory Glen Creations - www.g-p-a-s.com
Hodgdon Powder Co. - www.hodgdon.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - www.hmhco.com
Howard Communications - www.howardcommunications.com
HT Enterprises - www.icefish.com
Hunter's Specialties - www.hunterspec.com
Indiana Conservation Officer Magazine - www.icoo.com
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - www.johnsonoutdoors.com
Knight Sleeping Bags - www.knightsleepingbags.com
Koppers Fishing & Tackle - www.livetargetlures.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
Kwikee Kwitter Co. - www.kwikeekwiver.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
Lightfield Ammunition - www.lightfieldslugs.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossoak.com
Muzzy Products Corp. - www.muzzy.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
Nautic Global Group - www.nauticglobalgroup.com
Nikon Sport Optics - www.nikonssportoptics.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com
Okuma Fishing Tackle - www.okumafishing.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Promotions - www.crappieusa.com
Pelican Products - www.pelican.com
Plano Molding Company - www.planomolding.com
Poor Boy's Baits/Lurecraft - www.lurecraft.com
Pradco Fishing - www.lurenet.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pro-Cure, Inc. - www.pro-cure.com
Pure Fishing - www.purefishing.com
Quaker Boy, Inc. - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Real Avid - www.realavid.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
RESTOP - www.restop.com
Rocky Brands - www.rockyboots.com
Run Off Lure Co. - www.runofflures.com
Savage Arms - www.savagearms.com
Scent-Lok Technologies - www.scentlok.com
Secret Weapon Lures - www.swlure.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Snag Proof Manufacturing - www.snagproof.com
Solution Products, Inc. - www.solutionproducts.net
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
Speedy Sharp - www.speedysharp.net
Sportsman Channel - www.thesportsmanchannel.com
St. Croix Rods - www.stcroixrods.com
Streamlight - www.streamlight.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
T-REIGN Outdoor Products - www.t-reignoutdoor.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Thundermist Lure Co. - www.thundermistlures.com
Tink's - www.tinks.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Umarex USA - www.umarexUSA.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - www.wrcase.com
WaveSpin Reels - www.wavespinreel.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
Wrangler Rugged Wear - www.wrangleruggedwear.com
Yakima Bait Co. - www.yakimabait.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)

- \$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:

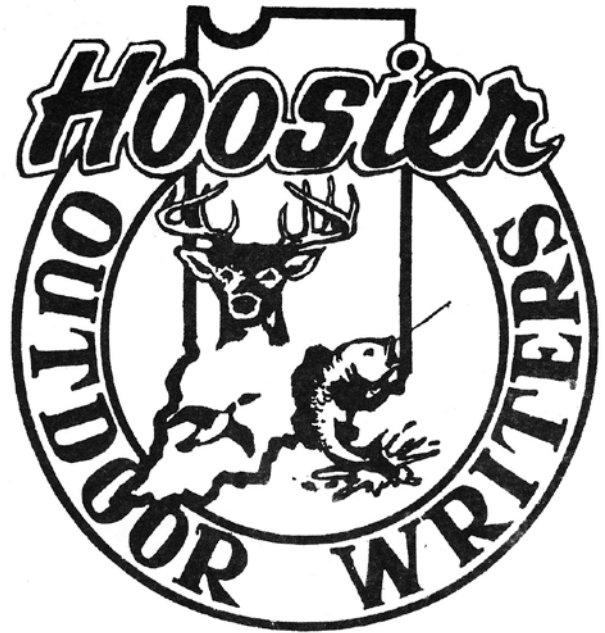
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor 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

- SEOPA 2013 Annual Conference:** October 9-12, 2013
(www.seopa.org)
Lake Charles, LA
- SHOT Show 2014:** January 14-17, 2014
(<http://shotshow.org>)
Las Vegas, NV
- POMA 2014 Annual Conference:** March 19-22, 2014
(www.professionalooutdoormedia.org)
Knoxville, TN
- HOW 2014 Annual Conference:** May 2-4, 2014
(www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org)
The Garrison, Fort Harrison State Park
Indianapolis, IN
- AGLOW 2014 Cast & Blast:** May 5-8, 2014
(www.aglowinfo.org)
Chautauqua County, NY
- OWAA 2014 Annual Conference:** May 23-25, 2014
(www.owaa.org)
McAllen, TX
- AGLOW 2014 Annual Conference:** September 15-18, 2014
(www.aglowinfo.org)
Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park

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.