



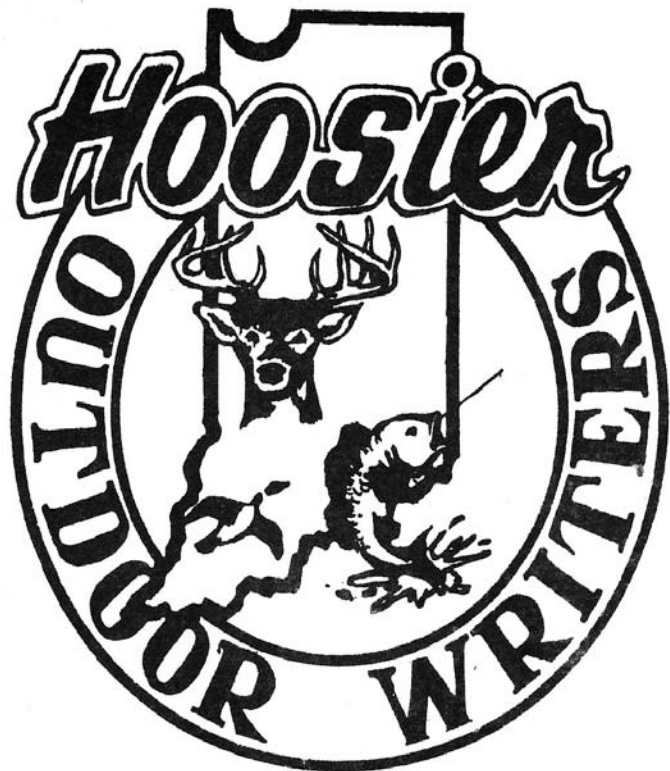
The Blade

2014 Pre-Conference Issue

March - April 2014

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers

"Waiting For The Spring Thaw", 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: *This past winter seemed like it would never end – both for us humans and for the wildlife species that had to suffer through the harsh conditions. These mallard ducks seem especially anxious for the rest of the ice to melt. Happily, spring is nearly here! Photo by Tom Berg.*



President's Message

by Ben Shadley

“The Sportsman's Reading List”

The time has come for me to pass the (metaphorical) scepter of office; this is my last President's Report. I'd like to offer a heartfelt thanks to the HOW membership for the opportunity to serve. It has certainly been a pleasure. Also, congratulations to my good friend, our incoming president, Bob Sawtelle. I can't think of anyone better-suited to lead an organization of outdoor communicators.

I gave quite a bit of thought to the topic for this closing column. I settled on a reading list of books that have been influential in shaping my relationship with the sporting culture and life in general. My interest in writing no doubt started with an interest in reading, so this seems an appropriate place to close.

***The Old Man and the Boy* / Robert Ruark / 1957 / fiction**

A young man learns to hunt and fish under the wing of his sage, old grandfather. This could have turned out trite, but it's too real to write off. Ruark's love and respect for the outdoors make it too honest not to like. The interconnectedness of the outdoors, sporting culture and life at-large may look familiar to many of us.

***Green Hills of Africa* / Ernest Hemingway / 1935 / non-fiction**

A gripping and all too human account of one of Hemingway's safaris. The details of an African safari nearly 100 years ago are fascinating, but the emotional rollercoaster of the hunt gets me at a deeper level. This is what happens when a modern master turns his pen on a lifelong passion.

***The Honey Badger* / Robert Ruark / 1965 / fiction**

Written fairly late in Ruark's career, and largely autobiographical, this work paints a complicated picture of a successful life hard-lived hunting, writing, drinking and trying to balance it out – and often failing. The arc of decline looms heavy and real.

***Death in the Long Grass* / Peter Capstick / 1977 / non-fiction**

This book isn't particularly full of deep revelations, or the exploration of life's mysteries. But there's something about Capstick's continued willingness to literally face death in the course of the hunt that's moving on some visceral, ancient level. His stories are also undeniably exciting for anyone with an even mild interest in big game hunting.

***A River Runs Through It* / Norman Maclean / 1976 / fiction**

The story is as good as it is famous. The juxtaposition of near perfection in trout fishing (represented by a beautiful cast) with the character of the flawed man works even if you're not a fly-fisherman. But if you do happen to favor a fly rod, it's a must-read.

***True North* / Jim Harrison / 2004 / fiction**

Jim Harrison is a living legend. The fact that his works are frequently concerned with hunting and fishing makes them all the better. In this novel a young man comes to terms with his past. But the story is somewhat secondary to Harrison's consistent ability to find heartstrings you didn't know you had, pluck them, and then do it again.

***Into Thin Air* / Jon Krakauer / 1997 / non-fiction**

This is Krakauer's first-hand account of the 1996 disaster on Mt. Everest that resulted in 8 deaths. His perspective is important because not only is Krakauer an established journalist, he's also an experienced climber. So his up-close and personal experience of this tragedy comes through hard and fast, with a strong dose of his opinion as well. If there was ever a real-life metaphor for the dangers of commercializing endeavors that have no intrinsic respect for money, this is it.

These books mean a lot to me. I hope you find them useful as well.

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

See page 20 for info
on membership changes,
new mailing addresses,
email addresses, etc.

Memorial to Deceased HOW Members Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

Jack Alkire – HOW President 1979
Bill Beeman – Executive Director
Don Bickel
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
Ben Shadley	2013

2014 HOW Conference Preview

At Fort Harrison State Park

This year's HOW Conference is scheduled for the weekend of May 2-4, 2014. We will be visiting Fort Harrison State Park on the east side of Indianapolis. The main meeting will take place on Saturday, May 3rd at The Garrison Conference Center inside Fort Harrison State Park. Entry through the south gate of the park provides a direct path to the inn. There are directions and a map in this issue for those who are new to the area.

For the shooting enthusiasts in HOW, we will be holding our annual HOW Fun Shoot on Friday afternoon, May 2nd. We will meet at the Indiana Gun Club off of Ohio Road (near Geist Reservoir) and begin the shoot at 1:00pm (Indy time). See page 9 for directions and more information.



The Delaware Shelter inside Fort Harrison State Park will be the site of our Friday evening barbecue on May 2nd. Be there! Photo courtesy of Indiana DNR.

On Friday evening, we will gather at the Delaware Shelter inside Fort Harrison State Park at 6:00pm for a special barbecue and get-together that we are planning with the help of the tourism folks at Visit Indy. The normal gate fee for the park will be waived if you tell the guard you are attending the HOW picnic.



There will be plenty to eat and drink, and it will be a great time to see old friends and make some new ones! Our friends at Visit Indy are sponsoring the barbecue and will be providing welcome kits for the HOW members attending the conference on Saturday morning.

As mentioned earlier, the annual meeting itself will take place on Saturday, May 3rd. HOW members who can't make it Friday night or who can't stay until Sunday should still feel free to come for the meeting on Saturday. It is "The Main Event", and a lot of people will be coming on Saturday only.

As usual, we have lined-up some excellent speakers and presenters for this conference. Mark Newman from the Indiana Office of Tourism Development will welcome the HOW members to Indy as our first speaker.

He will tell us what has been happening lately with Indiana tourism, including new directions that the department is taking this year. He may also discuss some of the countless outdoor recreation prospects available in our great state. There are lots of places to see and explore in Indiana!

Jarrett Manek, DNR Naturalist at O'Bannon Woods State Park, will present his very popular **Snakes Alive!** seminar for conference attendees. He will display and describe many of the snakes we see in the wild, including the four venomous species native to Indiana. He will try to dispel many of the myths associated with snakes. Just a few of the live snakes he will introduce include the black rat snake, king snake, hognose snake, milk snake, timber rattlesnake and cottonmouth.



Did you know there is gold right here in Indiana? Jay Clawson and Tom Smith from the Southern Indiana Chapter of the Gold Prospectors Association of America will talk about gold prospecting in Indiana, including where the gold can be found and why it is here. They will give a demonstration on gold panning and they'll show how their portable bucket-sluice works for separating gold from pay dirt.

The final presentation of the day will be led by local crappie tournament fisherman Doug Sikora from the Indiana Slabmasters fishing club. He will discuss an intriguing technique for catching reservoir crappies called "Dock Shooting". Most crappie fishermen don't know about dock shooting for crappies or haven't tried it, so it should be interesting. He will put the technique into action on Sunday during our Fishing Outing.

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

THE ANNUAL HOW RAFFLE



Calling all raffle enthusiasts! This year's annual HOW Raffle is shaping-up to be another great event. Last year we had product donations from a record number of 105 companies and organizations, and that number will be hard to beat. However, at press time for this newsletter we have already received raffle donations from 98 contributing companies. Several more companies have indicated that they are in the process of sending outdoors-related products, too, so we may just set a **new record** again. We'll see!

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

Archery enthusiasts will be happy to hear that we will have a great Mission Riot compound bow from Mathews this year. Shooting and hunting fans will be excited to learn that we have several firearms for this year's raffle: a Henry .22 caliber lever-action rifle, a Remington 9mm handgun, a Mossberg 12-gauge Duck Commander shotgun, and several premium air rifles and BB pistols from Crosman and Umarex USA.

Fishermen in the crowd will be happy to see a Vexilar Pro Pack icefishing sonar unit, lots of great fishing rods, reels, lures, icefishing gear, terminal tackle and other fishing gear. There will also be lots of rainwear, knives, optics, books, premium sunglasses, lights, hunting gear and accessories, shooting supplies, hunting calls, turkey hunting gear, tackleboxes, tents, camera accessories, rod holders, camp stoves, electronic game calls, hunting and fishing scents, mapping software, backpacks, apparel, trolling equipment and more! You must be present to win, so don't miss it!



Post-Conference Fishing Outing Choices: "Reservoir Crappies" or "Fly Fishing Local Waters"!

"Fly Fishing Local Waters" Outing:

Anyone interested in fishing some of the local spots around Indianapolis with fly fishing tackle will be in luck on Sunday after the conference. Our crack father and son team of Dean and Ben Shadley have volunteered to guide us, and they will take us to some good fishing holes and show us the ropes.



Here are the fly fishing options for Sunday:

- Depending on stream conditions, we can fish one or more relatively small creeks for smallmouth bass. Although smallies will be the main target, you will probably also hook resident rockbass and even bluegills, too. You should bring waders or hip boots if you have them. If you can bring your own fly rod that will be perfect. If you don't have fly tackle, please let Tom Berg know as soon as possible and we will get a loaner outfit for you.
- Another option is to fly fish the nearby waters of the White River. The White River is home to many species of fish, including smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, catfish, crappies and plenty of others. A canoe will likely be required for this trip, so please let Tom Berg know if this is what you would like to do.

Most anglers will opt to fish in the morning, but the actual start time can be decided between the anglers and the guides.

"Reservoir Crappie" Outing:

Several local crappie tournament experts from the Indiana Slabmasters fishing club have volunteered to take interested HOW members fishing on Sunday. Doug Sikora, one of our seminar speakers from Saturday's meeting, will be one of the guides.



Here are the details for the Crappie Outing:

- We will be divided among four or five boats. Most boats will hold two HOW members and the guide. We will most likely start at 7:00am, but we will confirm that at the conference.
- You will need to bring your Indiana fishing license with you, but you will not need any fishing equipment. All tackle and bait will be provided by your boat captain. You will probably want to bring a rain jacket, a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and something to drink for your morning on the water, though.
- Some captains prefer to jig or cast for crappies and others like to troll with spider rigs. Since the crappies may be spawning while we are there, the captains may even opt for targeting crappies in the shallows. If you want to take some fish home for the table, just let your captain know and bring a cooler.
- The two nearest reservoirs are Geist and Morse, so it is likely that these are the waters we will fish. Both have good crappie populations. Note that this outing is dependent on the weather. If a thunderstorm blows in and conditions become dangerous, this outing will be canceled. We will watch the weather as the date approaches and keep you informed.

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Annual Conference Registration



The Garrison at Fort Harrison State Park, Indianapolis, IN – May 2-4, 2014

This registration form is for the Annual Meeting on Saturday, May 3rd
(8:00am – 4:30pm)

Information to appear on name badge:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Are you a first-time HOW conference attendee? _____

Conference Registration Fees:

(Please register in advance. If you pay at the door, the registration fee will be \$35.00 each)

HOW Members (and spouses): \$30.00 each (\$30 X number attending) = _____

Non-HOW Members: \$35.00 each (\$35 X number attending) = _____

Conference fee includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch on May 3rd.

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

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

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

The Annual HOW Fun Shoot

The 2014 HOW Conference will begin (as usual) with the HOW Fun Shoot. It has become a tradition for the shooters in our membership to get together and break a few clay targets, have some fun and renew old friendships on the Friday before the Annual Meeting. Some of our participants are experienced shooters while others are new to the sport and are still learning. All skill levels are welcome, and the “senior” members are always willing to help newcomers.

Since the 2014 HOW Conference will be held at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis, we will be returning to the Indiana Gun Club where we have held this event many times in the past. Last year we shot skeet at the Atterbury Shooting Complex near Edinburgh, but this year we are planning to shoot sporting clays. If you have never shot sporting clays, this will be a great opportunity. It is a lot of fun.



HOW member Ken McBroom watches after taking a shot at a clay target at Atterbury's skeet range during last year's HOW Fun Shoot. Photo by Tom Berg.

This year's shoot will take place on Friday afternoon, May 2nd. We will meet at the Indiana Gun Club at around 1:00pm Indy time and begin shooting at about 1:15pm. That should give us plenty of time to finish shooting and get to Fort Harrison State Park to check in and get ready for the evening barbecue.

The gun club is located northeast of the park. To get to the gun club, take I465 to I69 and head northeast to E. 116th Street in Fishers. Turn right (east) and go approximately five miles until you reach Olio Road. Turn right and then make a quick left onto 113th Street. Follow this road for about a mile and the gun club will be on your left.

We will be shooting sporting clays and the cost will be about \$26.00 for a 100-target round. Long-time HOW Supporting Member Remington Arms will be providing the ammunition to participating HOW members free of charge, so come on out and join the fun! Last year's shoot was in mid-April and it was pretty cold – a few snowflakes even came

down while we were shooting! Hopefully this year the weather will be a lot warmer.

Once we are done shooting, we will head for Fort Harrison and get ready for an enjoyable evening at our “Friday Evening Barbecue”. We are planning to have barbecued chicken and pulled pork sandwiches, so you won't want to miss it! The dinner will be held at the Delaware Shelter inside the state park. See page 5 for more information and a map.



2014 HOW Conference

We would like to thank the following companies and organizations:



Awards-in-Craft Sponsor



Friday Evening BBQ Sponsor



Conference Lunch Co-Sponsor



Conference Lunch Co-Sponsor



Conference Seminar Sponsor

Sponsors of the 2014 HOW Annual Conference

HOOSIER OUTDOOR WRITERS

Annual Meeting on May 3, 2014
Fort Harrison State Park
The Garrison (Blue Heron Ballroom)
Indianapolis, IN

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00-9:00am

Members arrive, Conference registration.
Special hot breakfast buffet.

9:00-9:15am

Opening remarks by outgoing President
Ben Shadley and briefing about the
day's schedule.

9:15-10:00am

Presentation #1: "Indiana Tourism". Mark
Newman from the Indiana Office of
Tourism Development will welcome HOW
members to Fort Harrison State Park and
will talk about what's new with Indiana
tourism. He may also discuss some of the
outdoor recreation prospects in Indiana.

10:00-10:10am

Break.

10:10-11:10am

Presentation #2: "Snakes Alive!" Jarrett
Manek, Naturalist at O'Bannon Woods
State Park, will display and describe many
of the snakes native to Indiana. Among the
different live snakes in his presentation will
be the king snake, hognose snake, milk
snake, black rat snake, and the four
venomous species native to Indiana.

11:10-11:30am

Business meeting, Slate of new officers,
presentation of President's Award and
HOW/Bass Pro Shops "Pass It On"
Award.

11:30-12:30pm

Buffet lunch and social time for members.

12:30-1:15pm

Presentation #3: "Indiana Gold". Jay
Clawson and Tom Smith from the Southern
Indiana Chapter of the Gold Prospectors
Association of America will talk about
finding gold right here in Indiana. They will
even give a demonstration on gold panning.

1:15-1:45pm

HOW Awards-In-Craft presentation
(Writing, Photography, Broadcast).

1:45-2:15pm

Break. Raffle tickets go on sale!

2:15-3:00pm

Presentation #4: "Dock Shooting For
Crappie". Local crappie tournament
fisherman Doug Sikora will discuss an
intriguing and productive technique for
catching big numbers of reservoir
crappies called "Dock Shooting".

3:00-3:15pm

Break. Last chance to buy raffle tickets!

3:15pm

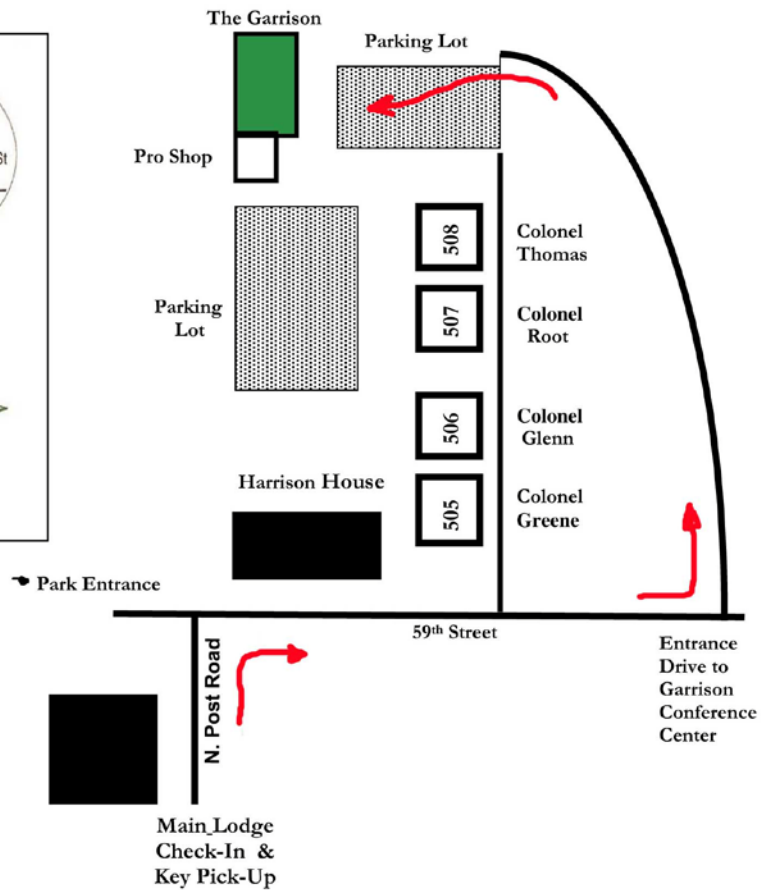
Annual HOW Outdoor Writer's Raffle.

4:30pm

Meeting adjourns.

6:00pm

Dinner on your own for those staying
until Sunday.



Directions to the HOW Conference at the Garrison in Fort Harrison State Park

Coming from the South on I-65

Take Interstate 65 South toward Indianapolis to Interstate 465 East. Follow 465 East to the 56th Street Exit (Exit 40) and turn left (East) onto 56th Street. Turn left (North) on Post Road and follow until the road ends at 59th Street, turn right (East) onto 59th Street. The entrance drive to the golf course, conference center, and lodging is on the North (left-hand) side of the road about one and a half blocks East of Post Road.

Coming From the West on I-74

Take Interstate 74 West toward Indianapolis to Interstate 465 North. Follow 465 North to the 56th Street Exit (Exit 40) and turn right (East) onto 56th Street. Turn left (North) on Post Road and follow until the road ends at 59th Street, turn right (East) onto 59th Street. The entrance drive to the conference center is on the North (left-hand) side of the road about one and a half blocks East of Post Road.

Coming from the West on I-70

Take Interstate 70 West toward Indianapolis to the Post Road Exit (Exit 91). Follow the right fork of the exit and head North on Post Road and follow until the road ends at 59th Street, turn right (East) onto 59th Street. The entrance drive to the golf course, conference center, and lodging is on the North (left-hand) side of the road about one and a half blocks East of Post Road.

Coming from the East on I-70

Follow the Airport Expressway to Interstate 70 East toward Indianapolis to Interstate 465 North. Follow 465 North to the 56th Street Exit (Exit 40) and turn right (East) onto 56th Street. Turn left (North) on Post Road and follow until the road ends at 59th Street, turn right (East) onto 59th Street. The entrance drive to the golf course, conference center, and lodging is on the North (left-hand) side of the road about one and a half blocks East of Post Road.

Coming from the South on I-69

Take Interstate 69 South toward Indianapolis to Interstate 465 South. Follow 465 South to the 56th Street Exit (Exit 40) and turn left (East) onto 56th Street. Turn left (North) on Post Road and follow until the road ends at 59th Street, turn right (East) onto 59th Street. The entrance drive to the conference center is on the North (left-hand) side of the road about one and a half blocks East of Post Road.

Coming from the North on I-65

Take Interstate 65 North toward Indianapolis to Interstate 465 East. Follow 465 East to the 56th Street Exit (Exit 40) and turn right (East) onto 56th Street. Turn left (North) on Post Road and follow until the road ends at 59th Street, turn right (East) onto 59th Street. The entrance drive to the conference center is on the North (left-hand) side of the road about one and a half blocks East of Post Road.

HOW Raffle Donors - 2014

This list of raffle donors was compiled shortly before the conference. Additional raffle donations may come in after press time, and they will be acknowledged in the next issue.

A&C Air Pellets
Alpen Optics
Aquateko International
Arctic Ice
B'n'M Poles
Barnes Bullets
Bass Assassin Lures
Bass Pro Shops
Battenfeld Technologies
Bear & Son Cutlery
Better Bank Anglers
Birchwood Casey
Black River Tools/Father Nature Feeders
Boat U.S. Angler
Bubba Blade Knives
Buck Knives
Buckeye Shad Baits
Burford Books
Bushnell
Cabela's
Camp Chef
Church Tackle Company
Clam Corporation
Cocoons Eyewear
Cortland Line Co.
Costa Sunglasses
Cotton Carrier
Creason Wooden Pens
Crosman Corporation
Cyclops Solutions
Driftmaster Rodholders
Environ-METAL, Inc.
E/T Lights
Eagle Claw
Federal Premium Ammunition
Flying Fisherman
FOXPRO, Inc.
Frabill
Freedom Group - Remington Arms
Frogg Toggs
Gamo USA
Gerber Legendary Blades
Gun Protect
Hawke Sport Optics
Henry Repeating Arms
HHA Sports
Hickory Glen Creations
Hodgdon Powder Company
Hoosier Trapper Supply
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
HT Enterprises, Inc.
Hunter's Specialties
ImpelTronics
Irish Setter Boots
Koppers Fishing & Tackle Corporation
Kruger Optical
LensPen
Leupold
Lodge Manufacturing
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Mathews
Montauk Mike's Lures
Mossy Oak
MyTopo
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc.
Off Shore Tackle Company
Okuma Fishing Tackle
Otis Technology
Outdoor Promotions
Pelican Products, Inc.
Plano Molding Company
Princeton University Press
Pro-Cure, Inc.
Pure Fishing
Quaker Boy Game Calls
R.L. Winston Rod Co.
Reef Runner Lures
RIO Products
Savage Arms
Shimano American Corporation
Shurhold Industries, Inc.
Snag Proof Manufacturing
Speedy Sharp
SportDOG
St. Croix Rods
Streamlight
Tales End Tackle
Tenzing
ThermaCELL
Tink's
TTI-Blakemore Fishing
Umarex USA
Vexilar, Inc.
WaveSpin Reels
Weatherby
White Flyer Targets
Winchester Ammunition
Wrangler Rugged Wear
Xtreme Hardcore Gear
Yo-Zuri
Z-Man Fishing Products
Zippo Manufacturing Co.



Please Save the Date!

The Indiana Wildlife Federation

Annual Meeting
and
Conservation Awards Banquet
Saturday, June 21, 2014

Dear IWF Member,

Please mark your calendar for a fun day discussing conservation issues, setting priorities for the coming year, and celebrating successes at the new Indiana Wildlife Federation Office, 708 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202. Parking is FREE.

Annual Meeting: 9:30 - 12:00 pm EST

No Cost – Please bring your ideas and help set the IWF direction for the coming year

Major topics* requiring your input are:

- New resolution on high fence shooting pen operations/”canned hunting”
- Proposed Mounds Reservoir
- Consideration of changes to by laws governing voting privileges
- Department of Natural Resources rules under consideration

***Any member may submit a resolution for consideration. Deadline is May 1, 2014.**

Break: tour our newly installed native plants garden.

Conservation Awards Banquet: 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm EST

\$30 per person

- Enjoy a delicious meal with your friends and colleagues in conservation.
- Celebrate and recognize fellow conservationists for their achievements.
- Learn more about using native plants to enhance home landscaping from expert Kevin Tungesvick of Spence Nursery.

You may register on our website www.indianawildlife.org or mail your check or credit card information to: Indiana Wildlife Federation, 708 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Hope to see you in June! Phone 317-875-9453 or email info@indianawildlife.org to learn more.



CRAFT IMPROVEMENT

*This information was compiled by Daniel McElrath, editor of Indiana Game & Fish magazine. He assembled this group of common errors to help some of his writers improve their writing skills. Read through the list and see if you are guilty of any of these errors. The list is too extensive for one page, so we will continue this craft improvement piece in the May-June issue of **The Blade**.*

COMMON WRITING ERRORS & CORRECTIVE TIPS *

A lot of people have trouble knowing when to use a semicolon. The simple rule is that a semicolon replaces a conjunction, such as “and,” “but” or “or.” In practice, it often replaces the word “however.” Use “however” or use a semicolon, but don’t use both.

Terminal punctuation and commas appear inside quotation marks. Unless the overall sentence is a question that contains within it a quote (in which case you’d put the question mark outside the quotation mark), put terminal punctuation and commas within the quotation marks. Semicolons and colons go outside quotation marks.

The rule for exclamation marks is simple: Don’t use them. They give a juvenile, comic book quality to most stories and editors generally detest them. If a sentence clearly calls for one, the editor will insert it, but, as a rule, the writer should avoid them.

Our telephone number style is the area code in parentheses, followed by the number. Do not put a “1” in front of the area code (not everyone reading the story will be calling long distance, and most people already know to dial a “1” when a call is long distance). If the number appears in parentheses, don’t use a second set of parentheses. Instead, use a hyphen between the area code and number.

A very common problem when writing for *Game & Fish* is how to write weights and measures. You’ve probably learned to write out in words numbers below 10, but to use numerals for 10 and above. Well, for measures (weight, length & temperatures) use numerals all the time (unless it is the first word in a sentence, in which case you have to write in out in words). When using a number in a compound adjective, hyphenate the term. Examples: 5-weight rod, 4-pound bass, 17-pound fluorocarbon, 20-ga. shotgun, 10-point buck. To show a range using numerals in compound adjectives, write them this way: 7- to 9-foot rod, 4- to 6-pound test, etc.

Always break up your story with subheads. There is a natural resistance on the part of the reader to large blocks of text, so magazines break them up with subheads, pictures, pull quotes, sidebars, etc. The subheads should be separated from the previous paragraph by a space and should be flush-left, in all caps and bold. Do not put a space between the subhead and the next line of text. Also, do not indent that first line following a subhead. If there is a subsection within a subhead, follow the same rules except capitalize the initial letters of each word of the subsection header, not all of the letters.

Again, to avoid big, visually intimidating blocks of text, break your writing up into smaller paragraphs. In column form, a big paragraph looks endless. Most of the time, with a little effort, you can break a big paragraph up into two, three or even four shorter ones.

**Be aware, Game & Fish follows AP style (the AP Stylebook is available in most bookstores or online), with some exceptions and modifications. There are many terms peculiar to the outdoor market, so G&F has made its own rules in such cases and they are not universal to publishing or even to the outdoor press.*

*(To be continued in the May-June issue of **The Blade**.)*

Indiana: Snowy Owl Tundra?

Story by Rich Creason

Photos by Josh and Pete Grube

Apparently Hoosiers aren't the only ones who think Indiana looks like frozen Arctic tundra this winter. Snowy owls are visiting us from their far northern homelands in record numbers. Our state has large flat areas covered with snow, a huge lake shoreline with sand dunes (also covered with snow) and numerous small rodents to make a tasty meal for these birds. All of these features are attractive to this Arctic owl.



The snowy owl is the largest species of owl. It can be over two feet tall and weigh six pounds. That doesn't sound very heavy, but when you consider it's mostly feathers, it makes a pretty big package. The Snowy sometimes has a wingspan of almost five and a half feet. It has a stocky body and a large, round head. Its beak is heavy and black, with a pronounced hook which is mostly hidden in its feathers.

The male snowy owl is almost pure white except for his eyes, beak, and black talons which are mostly covered with long, hair-like, white plumage. The owl has bright yellow eyes which can spot prey from great distances. It has night vision as good as most other owls while much better eyesight during the daylight hours. The female is larger than the male, but both female and juvenile birds have a lot of dark marking (barring) on most of the body and wings. Overall, this is one beautiful bird and is a highly desired species to be marked off any birdwatcher's list.

That is why Indiana birders have been so happy the last several years. Many reasons have been given for why the snowy owl has extended its winter grounds to include the Midwest. A few of them have even been seen as far south as the Carolinas and Texas. The Great Lakes and the eastern coast of the U.S. have experienced a sudden, unexpected population increase (irruption) the last three or four winters.



Lack of their favorite food, the lemming, is one reason some think this change in wintering area has moved southward. Another reason could be a large population increase of the owl which will tend to cause an expansion (and also causes a decrease in food.) Either way, when the snowy owl visits our area, he sees an extensive flat area of snow which resembles his regular hunting grounds. Our airports are so attractive because of the snow covered runways, that many birds are encountering problems with aircraft. One owl was recently trapped at an airport in southern Indiana and relocated.

While we don't have lemmings here, we do offer mice, voles, rabbits, and other small critters for the dining pleasure of the snowy owl. I even read one report which indicated the owls ate moles here in winter.

However, in my many decades as an outdoorsman I've never seen a mole running around in the winter.

Sightings have increased in Indiana from a high of 40 reported sightings in the winter of 1996-97, to 46 in 2011-12. In early December, 2013, one was reported at the Port of Indiana, then three near the Michigan City harbor, and several in New Buffalo and Berrien County in lower Michigan, then five more along the Indiana/Illinois border, all along the Lake Michigan shoreline.

By mid-December, 54 sightings of snowy owls were reported in the Hoosier state, mostly in Lake, LaPorte, and Porter Counties, all along the shoreline and dunes. As of February 5, 2014 the number had increased to 106, almost two and a half times the previous record. Now, according to Brad Bumgardner, an interpretive naturalist at the Indiana Dunes State Park, that number has increased to 110 sightings.

The snowy owls will return to their arctic breeding and nesting grounds sometime in March with a few holdovers remaining until April. There, the female will scrape out a depression in the ground to build her nest. Both adults will incubate the 3-10 white eggs for around a month. The eggs are laid on different days so the young birds will hatch at different times. They will stay in the nest for two to three weeks before venturing out, and then begin flying around six weeks of age.

For your best chance to see a snowy owl in Indiana, go north. The Indiana Dunes and the Lake Michigan shoreline are best, but you may see them anywhere except in the woods. They will hunt during the daytime, unlike other owls. They usually sit on the ground or a low stump or post. Watch in large open fields covered with snow. They will be hunting in these areas and sometimes will sit on an elevated mound in the field to watch for food.

Will these beautiful creatures return again next year? Who knows? But a lot of birdwatchers will be looking to the northern skies early next winter.



Special thanks go out to Josh and Pete Grube for graciously allowing us to use their outstanding photos with this article.

HOW Member News

Brandon Butler Hired as Executive Director For Conservation Federation of Missouri

Brandon Butler has joined the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) as Executive Director. In this role, Butler is responsible for implementing CFM's mission, goals, policies and procedures with respect for Missouri's rich conservation heritage.

"The opportunity to serve the largest and most representative conservation group in Missouri is an honor and privilege I won't take lightly. Missouri has long been recognized as the bar against which all other states measure their conservation achievements. Protecting Missouri's unique non-political conservation model and ensuring future generations of Missourians remain engaged with our state's incredibly diverse natural resources are the top priorities of my position," Butler said.

In 1935, sportsmen from throughout Missouri came together to form the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM). They organized with the purpose of taking politics out of conservation. Their initiative petition campaign resulted in the creation of the Missouri Department of Conservation, a non-political conservation agency that has been a model for other states. Today, CFM serves as "The Voice for Missouri Outdoors," bringing together diverse conservation groups with a common goal of conserving the natural resources of the state and promoting their wise use.

"Brandon brings a unique mix of conservation communication, state conservation agency and corporate business experience to the Executive Director position. We believe his ability to blend sound business practices with a true passion for conservation will help lead CFM to new heights," said Richard Ash, CFM President.

Many Missourians are familiar with Butler through his syndicated outdoor newspaper column, Driftwood Outdoors. He is also a regular contributor to numerous regional and national outdoor publications. Butler currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Southeastern Outdoor Press Association and the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers. He is a past-president of the Missouri Outdoor Communicators and Hoosier Outdoor Writers. Butler holds a Bachelors of Organization Leadership from Purdue University and a Masters of Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University.

Butler is following in the footsteps of Dave Murphy, who retired in the spring of 2013 after 10 years as Executive Director. A well-known and highly-respected conservationist, Murphy has been a beacon of conservation leadership for decades. He has agreed to serve CFM in an interim advisory role as Butler settles into the position. Murphy has been bestowed the honor of Director Emeritus, and will stay engaged with CFM as a lifetime board member.

To learn more about the Conservation Federation of Missouri, please visit www.confedmo.org. Contact: Brandon Butler, bbutler@confedmo.org, (660) 281-9804.



Brent Wheat Experiences High Risk Dignitary Protection Course

Howdy from sick bay! Don't worry, airborne mucus droplets aren't transmitted via computer.

We recently returned from a fantastic magazine writing assignment in Los Angeles and, as usual about 80% of the time whenever we fall into the clutches of the airline industry, we came down with the flu, grippie, brainpox, cooties, tyrotoxism or some similar malady. After five days things were starting to look up, and then the usual bacterial infection set in on top of the virus and we were forced to visit the doctor yesterday. Fortunately, the horse antibiotics that were prescribed are marvelous and today, Saturday morning, is the first day in a week when death doesn't seem like the least painful option.

Whining aside, last night was the first night I felt like working at the computer so we put together a short video of the training course that was courtesy of Surefire and SWAT Magazine.

It was a High Risk Dignitary Protection class offered by Solutions Group International (SGI). I can't say enough about the course and its instructors: Kazz, Josh, Grant and Craig "Sawman" Sawyer. As a violently anti-television person, I didn't realize Craig was a TV star (Top Shot, Rhino Wars) until Thursday at Beer-30. He seemed like such a normal guy.

The course, which was a drastically condensed version of the U.S. Department of State Diplomatic Security Services course, is designed to train operators in providing personal security to high-profile individuals in high-risk, armed threat environments. Essentially, it is a taste of the things those guys in earpieces and sunglasses are doing around ambassadors and other high-profile people in dangerous places such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

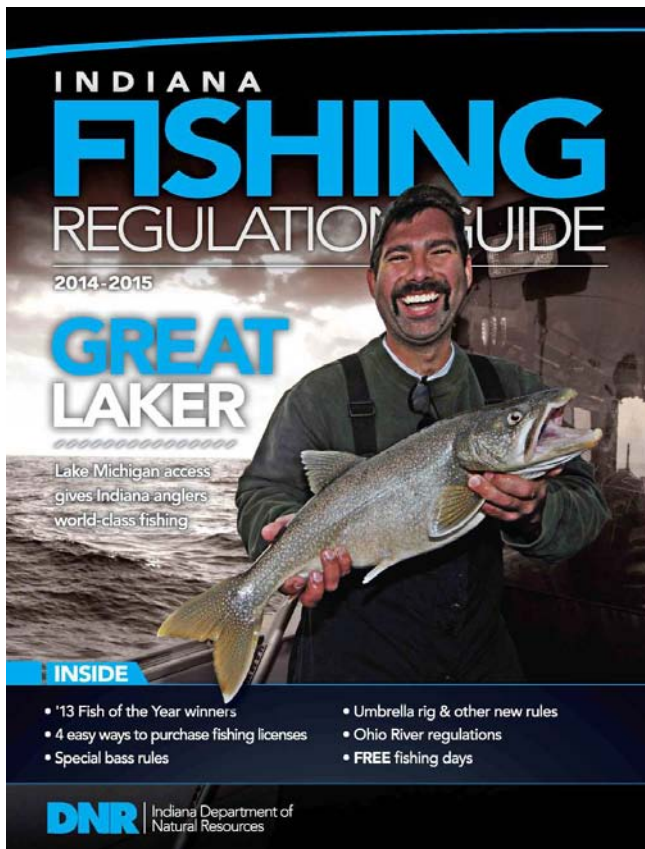
The four 10-hour days were profoundly challenging to those of us who are past the half-century mark. On the other hand, even the young, fit guys were frequently gassed and it was gratifying when the two oldest guys in the class tied for high score in the State Department M4 Qualification Course with a 299/300. As 'they' say: "Old age and treachery will overcome youth and skill every day!" Maybe not, but at least on the afternoon of Day one, Dave and I were the hot-shot shooters.



The course was so fast-paced that it was virtually impossible to shoot video or photos, otherwise you would be lost for the next half hour. Therefore, the video is decent but only scratches the surface of everything offered. It would be hard to pick a high point for the course but driving in a 3-car motorcade while doing a synchronized reverse Y-turn at 35 mph is pretty high on the list! At the other extreme, Sawman's review of my flailing less-than-optimal performance in the "Dead Driver" drill was the first time I had heard the (very accurate) term "Full Rhino."

That's me, a large, surly, uncoordinated land mammal attempting to drive a speeding car in reverse from the passenger seat.

Check out the video here on the [WildIndianaVideo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcLi6wTEQxU) channel:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcLi6wTEQxU>



Jarrett Manek Makes Cover Of Indiana Fishing Guide

HOW member and DNR Naturalist Jarrett Manek can be seen smiling on the front cover of the new 2014-2015 Indiana Fishing Regulations Guide!

Jarrett is smiling for good reason, too. He is holding just one of many nice-sized lake trout that he and his fishing partners caught on a recent Lake Michigan fishing outing sponsored by HOW!

They had an absolute blast and they caught more fish than any other boat participating in the outing. As a matter of fact, once they caught their limit of lake trout they had a hard time keeping the lakers off of their lines!



John Maxwell (left) and Jarrett Manek (right) pose with some of the fish they caught on the fateful HOW outing.

The largest fish that day was caught by HOW member and DNR photographer John Maxwell: a trophy-size lake trout weighing-in at a very hefty 18 pounds.

The fishing trip took place in early May, and Jarrett and his friends were fishing nearly 18 miles offshore on Captain Terry Paris' boat (named the Minnow).

Jarrett will be available for autographs at the annual HOW conference in Indianapolis on May 2nd, so bring a fishing guide and a pen. Fishing Guide image courtesy of Indiana DNR.

Membership Changes and New Addresses

The following HOW members have changed their email address and/or membership classification. Please make a note of the changes:

Jarrett Manek: Classification changed from **Associate** to **Active Member**.

Larry LaGrange: New email address: lagrange237@gmail.com.

If your email address or other contact information changes, please notify HOW Executive Director Tom Berg at thomas.berg@comcast.net or by mail at 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311.

Snow Finally Melts For Schoonveld

Back in January, HOW Board member Mike Schoonveld was nearly buried by snow. Luckily for him, a benevolent neighbor with a front-end loader came to his rescue and dug out his driveway. As



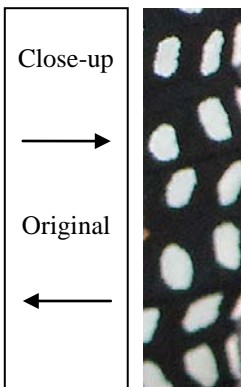
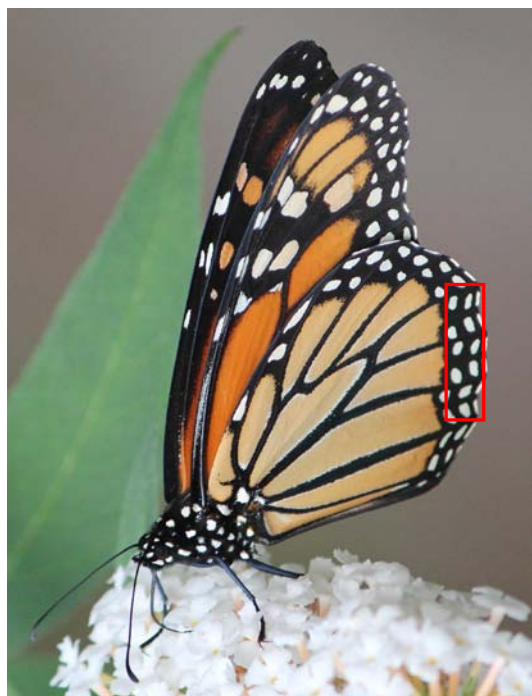
you can see be the giant pile of snow in front of his pole barn in the above photo, it was going to take a while to melt!

Well, on April 1, 2014 the giant pile of snow was not gone. But it was nearly gone! The photo to the left shows Mike with a tape measure, and he reported that the snow pile was still nearly three feet tall. But it was melting fast!

Within two days of this photo, the snow was gone for good. At least until next winter!

Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Plano Molding Company

The Monarch Butterfly Migrates Long Distances



As usual, the “What is it?” photo from the most recent issue was easy for some people and tougher for others. A total of nine HOW members correctly identified it this time. Nate Mullendore, Alan Garbers, Mike Schoonveld, Troy McCormick, John Maxwell, Bill Keaton, Brian Waldman, Phil Cox and Jack Spaulding each had the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the **Cabela’s** gift card, Nate Mullendore was the winner. Congrats, Nate! We’ll make sure it is sent to you.

As you can see in the photo (at left), the mystery creature for this issue was a Monarch Butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*). Monarchs are “milkweed butterflies”, which simply means their larvae only eat the leaves of milkweed plants. Milkweed contains high levels of toxic cardiac glycosides, making the monarch caterpillars (and the adult butterflies) very poisonous. Luckily, the toxins do not affect the monarchs. It only affects predators like birds and mammals that try to eat them!

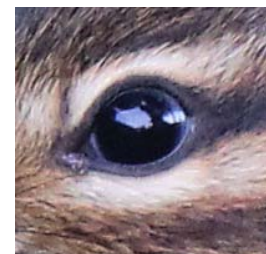
Adult monarch butterflies in the USA take part in annual long-distance migrations for over-wintering in warmer climates. Monarchs living east of the Rocky Mountains migrate south thousands of miles to Mexico.

Western populations migrate to California. Surprisingly, the migrations exceed the lifespan of most monarchs, so it takes three or four generations (or more) to travel to the over-wintering sites and get back north in the spring. During their migrations, adults eat nectar from a variety of flowering plants, including goldenrod, thistle, milkweed, alfalfa and others.

For this issue, our friends at **Plano Molding** have agreed to provide a very nice prize for 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 Plano Guide Series tackle bag and a new Frabill Crankbait Net of the winner’s choice. See the bottom of the page 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 common creature that lives right here in Indiana. You might see it in your back yard, and it can be found throughout the state. Have you ever seen a creature that looks like this? Can you guess what it is?



This creature may not be too difficult 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 are right, you will be eligible for this issue’s prize.



As mentioned above, **Plano** will be donating a Guide Series tackle bag and a Crankbait Net as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. The winner will have their choice of the different Crankbait Net models. If multiple people guess the right answer, we’ll draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck! All nature photos on this page by Tom Berg.

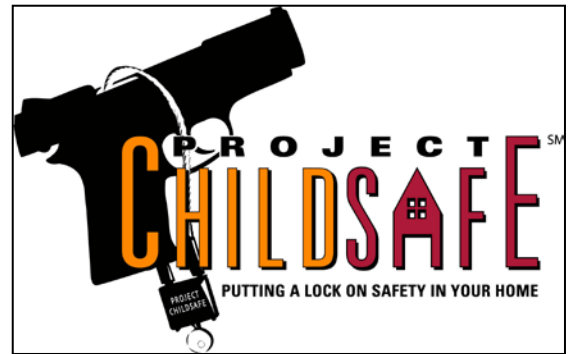
HOW Supporting Member News

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.

National Shooting Sports Foundation Promotes Firearms Safety Programs

Newtown, CT: The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) has been publicizing their gun safety initiative to gun owners and the firearms industry with the new slogan *Own It? Respect It. Secure It* (ORS). Bill Brassard, Jr., Senior Director of Communications at the NSSF said that this slogan is part of a very important, larger safety drive.

“The ORS campaign is an NSSF priority and a campaign of our Project ChildSafe program,” said Brassard. “We’ll be encouraging all firearms industry-related companies to include the ORS logo in their advertising, catalogs, websites, packaging and other customer touch points. This includes manufacturers, retailers, ranges and media. We are asking outdoor media to also make the effort visible on their websites, blogs, etc., and to publicize the industry effort.”



Project ChildSafe is a nationwide program that promotes safe firearms handling and storage practices among all firearm owners through the distribution of safety education messages and free firearm Safety Kits. The kits include a cable-style gun-locking device and a brochure that discusses safe handling and storage. Since 2003, the Project has partnered with local law enforcement agencies to distribute more than 36 million safety kits to gun owners in all 50 states and five U.S. territories.

Project ChildSafe's success is attributable to law enforcement, the outdoor press, elected officials, community leaders, state agencies, businesses, the firearms industry and individuals who have worked to help raise awareness about the importance of securely storing firearms in the home.

To learn more about the Project ChildSafe program, check out the NSSF’s infographic and fact sheet online at: <http://www.projectchildsafe.org/about#sthash.C6MuXsze.dpuf>

About the National Shooting Sports Foundation®

Project ChildSafe was developed and is sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation® (NSSF), the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry. Since 1961, the NSSF has strived to promote firearm safety education across the United States through a variety of outreach programs. The NSSF has more than 8,000 members, including manufacturers, distributors, firearms retailers, shooting ranges, sportsmen's organizations and publishers.

For more information about the NSSF or its programs, visit www.nssf.org. HOW members may also contact Bill Brassard, Jr. by phone: 203-426-1320 (ext. 212) or by email at: bbrassard@nssf.org.



HOW Supporting Member News

Henry Repeating Arms to Manufacture Rifles in Wisconsin

Bayonne, NJ: Henry Repeating Arms, the leading lever action rifle manufacturer headquartered in Bayonne, NJ, will begin manufacturing their steel centerfire rifles in their Rice Lake, Wisconsin facility in 2014. To date, the Wisconsin plant has supplied the Bayonne operation with many components used in all Henry models including receivers, bolts, sights and other internal parts. Several million dollars of new computerized machining equipment was invested in the Wisconsin facility to support the manufacturing of the company's caliber .30-30 and .45-70 rifles and to increase the volume of the components produced for its rimfire rifles.

Henry Repeating Arms purchased the 138,000 square foot Rice Lake facility in 2006 from Wright Products, a subsidiary of FKI Industries, who manufactured their own line of storm door hardware. Wright also supplied components to other industries including Henry Repeating since 1998. Wright ceased manufacturing due to price pressure in the hardware industry, causing hundreds of lost jobs. Henry purchased the building and manufacturing equipment and retained 17 experienced employees. Today the company employs over 100 people and continues to hire to support its continued growth. Anthony Imperato, President and owner of the company states, "I am proud of what we've accomplished in Wisconsin by saving jobs, adding jobs, and creating a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. I decided to expand our operations here because of the outstanding job our employees do to help us meet increased demand."

Henry Repeating Arms will build and ship in excess of 300,000 rifles in 2013 and employs 300 people in total. Andy Wickstrom, General Manager of both locations, added, "Henry's goal is always to manufacture a line of classic, well-crafted firearms that every enthusiast can afford. The passion, expertise, and dedication of our employees in Rice Lake embody the company's motto, 'Made In America Or Not Made At All'. We are very proud to make Wisconsin a more integral part of the Henry Family."

For more information, contact Anthony Imperato at Henry Repeating Arms by phone (201-858-4400) or via email: anthony@henryrepeating.com. You may also visit their website at: www.henryrepeating.com.



HOW Supporting Member News

WaveSpin Wins Triple Crown In New Product Awards!

Port Richie, FL: WaveSpin, the makers of the famous WaveSpin Reel, has garnered some very impressive accolades recently. Their innovative MicroWave Guide System has won not just one international competition for new fishing products, it has won all three major competitions: **China Fish 2014**, **ICAST 2013** and **EFTTEX 2013**. As a matter of fact, it is the only product to win in all three international shows.



The MicroWave Guide System was invented by Doug Hannon, “The Bass Professor”, and his team. WaveSpin has partnered with American Tackle exclusively to manufacture, market and distribute MicroWave guide products. They are the perfect “line control system” for both spinning and casting type rods. The new MicroWave Guide System addresses line management issues with all types of line, including braids.

“This guide system is something that has to be felt as well as seen to be believed,” said Russ Riley of WaveSpin Reels. It provides

noticeable advantages that standard guide trains cannot by combining science, practical application and custom rod building principles. Many long hours of theory, design and physical testing have resulted in the most dynamic guide train on the planet. Check it out for yourself!

For more info, go to WaveSpin’s website at www.WaveSpinReel.com or contact Russ Riley at 989-967-8426, or by email: Russ@WaveSpinReel.com.



Speedy Sharp Has A New Domain Name

Cora, WY: As seen in a previous issue of The Blade, the *Speedy Sharp* knife sharpener is the most universal sharpener ever made. It sharpens hunting knives, fillet knives, serrated-blade knives, scissors, chisels, lawn mower blades, carpet knives, axes, hatchets, razor blades, scrapers, broadheads, fish hooks, router bits, planer blades, gardening tools – virtually anything with a cutting blade!

Well, the sharpener hasn’t changed, but the company has a new domain name for their website. The new web address is: www.fetznerspeedysharp.net.

For more information, contact Pam Fetzner at *Speedy Sharp* by phone (307-367-3572) or via email: speedy1@fetznerspeedysharp.net (this is a new email address, too).

HOW Supporting Member News



Xtreme Hardcore Gear Offers Quality Firearms Accessories For Accurate Shooting

Lewiston, ID: The manufacturing plant for Xtreme Hardcore Gear is located in beautiful Lewiston, Idaho on the banks of the Snake River and Hells Canyon.

This is long range rifle country and we do our part to burn the powder! You can rest assured we have tested all of our products to the Xtreme, with countless hours on the shooting bench, or prone on the edge of a canyon with the bi-pods down.

Xtreme Hardcore Gear is known for making some of the best accessories for serious shooters, whether they are interested in hunting, competition shooting or recreational shooting. Among the most popular accessories is the **Tru Level Picatinny Scope Mount**.



Long range shooting requires a level gun, as any tilt in the gun translates into a serious windage error at longer ranges. When using the Tru Level Scope Base, your level and scope eyepiece are in the same sight picture. This allows you to check the level while aiming without having to raise your head from the shooting position. With the level housed in the machined picatinny base, it is protected from being bumped out of level as often happens with some scope level systems. If you are serious about long range shooting, you need a Tru Level Picatinny Mount.



Another great accessory is the **“Tank”** – a great leveling tool. The “Tank” is CNC machined from solid steel to give it the weight necessary for no-hassle crosshair leveling. First, your rifle’s action must be level. Then to level the crosshair in your scope to the leveled action, place the tank on



top of your elevation turret with the scope ring caps loosely in place. Then rotate your scope until the bubble lines up between the lines in the tank and you are now plumb to the rifle. Finally, tighten the scope ring cap screws evenly until tight and you are ready to hit the range.



For more information, contact Vince Kite at Xtreme Hardcore Gear / Alpine Archery / Lil Mac Molds by phone (208-746-4717) or via email: vince@alpinearchery.com. Check the website at: www.xtremehardcoregear.com and click on either “Firearms” or “Archery”.

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arctic Ice - www.arcticicellc.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.cva.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
Burford Books - www.burfordbooks.com
Bushnell Outdoor Products - www.bushnell.com
Cabela's - www.cabelas.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Clam Outdoors - www.clamoutdoors.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Cortland Line Co. - www.cortlandline.com
Costa Sunglasses - www.costadelmar.com
Crappie Pro - www.crappiepro.com
Crosman Corporation - www.crosman.com
Cyclops Solutions - www.cyclopssolutions.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
HHA Sports - www.HHAsports.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
IMPELtronics - www.impeltronics.com
Indiana Conservation Officer Magazine - www.icoo.com
Indiana Office of Tourism Development - www.VisitIndiana.com
Indiana Outdoor News - www.IndianaOutdoorNews.net
Irish Setter Boots - www.irishsetterboots.com
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - www.johnsonoutdoors.com
Koppers Fishing & Tackle - www.livetargetlures.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
Kwikee Kwiver Co. - www.kwikeekwiver.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Lurecraft - www.lurecraft.com
Mack's Lure - www.mackslure.com
Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com
Mercury Marine - www.mercurymarine.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
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
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
RIO Products - www.rioproducts.com
Savage Arms - www.savagearms.com
Scent-Lok Technologies - www.scentlok.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Shurhold Industries - www.shurhold.com
Snag Proof Manufacturing - www.snagproof.com
South Shore CVA - www.southshorcva.com
Speedy Sharp - www.fetznerspeedysharp.net
SportDOG - www.sportdog.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
Tales End Tackle - www.talesendtackle.com
Tenzing - www.tenzingoutdoors.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.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
Visit Indy - www.VisitIndy.com
W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - www.wrcase.com
WaveSpin Reels - www.wavespinreel.com
Weatherby - www.weatherby.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
Wrangler Rugged Wear - www.wrangleruggedwear.com
Yo-Zuri America - www.yo-zuri.com
Z-Man Fishing Products - www.zmanfishing.com
Zippo Manufacturing - www.zippo.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:

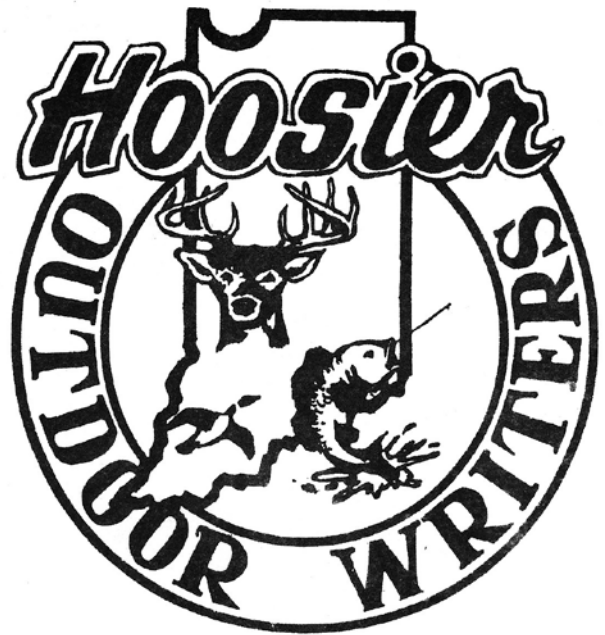
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor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

NRA 2014 Annual Meeting: (www.nra.org) Indianapolis, IN	April 25-27, 2014
HOW 2014 Annual Conference: (www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org) The Garrison, Fort Harrison State Park Indianapolis, IN	May 2-4, 2014
AGLOW 2014 Cast & Blast: (www.aglowinfo.org) Chautauqua County, NY	May 6-8, 2014
OWAA 2014 Annual Conference: (www.owaa.org) McAllen, TX	May 23-25, 2014
ICAST Show 2014: (www.ICASTfishing.org) Orlando, FL	July 15-18, 2014
AGLOW 2014 Annual Conference: (www.aglowinfo.org) Marshall County, KY	September 15-18, 2014
SEOPA 2014 Annual Conference: (www.seopa.org) Fontana Village, NC	October 8-11, 2014
SHOT Show 2015: (http://shotshow.org) Las Vegas, NV	January 20-23, 2015

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.