

The Blade

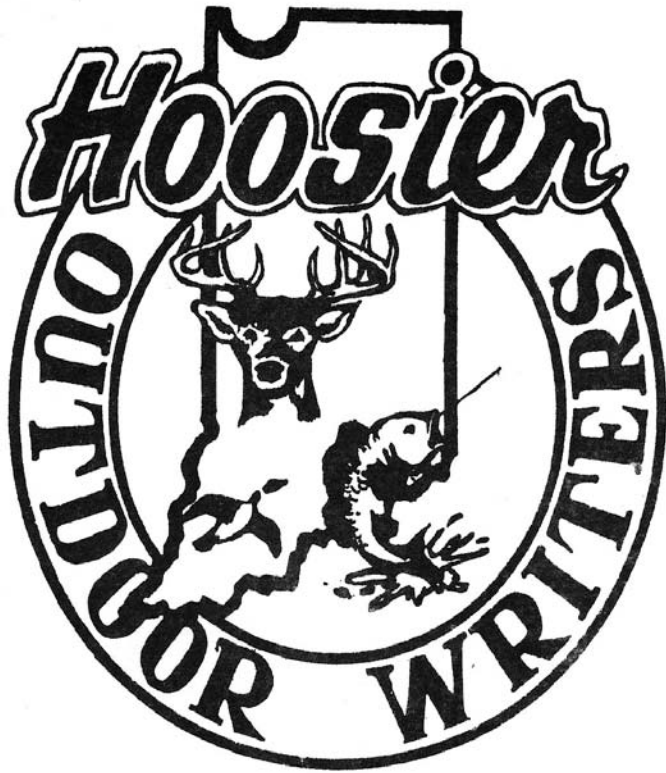
2016 Post-Conference Issue

May - June 2016

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"An eastern tiger salamander visits the HOW Conference", 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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John Maxwell – 2017
Troy McCormick – 2017
Josh Lantz – 2018
Louie Stout – 2018
Brent Wheat – 2018

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On the cover: A beautifully-marked eastern tiger salamander rests on a shaded rock after the HOW conference. DNR Naturalist Jarrett Manek used the creature in his seminar. Photo by Tom Berg.

President's Message

by Ken McBroom

Welcome the New

I would like to start by saying thanks to Tom Berg and everyone that made this year's conference another great one. A big thanks to Jarrett Manek, too, for helping with grilling the burgers and brats at the Friday evening BBQ during the recent HOW conference.

It is my honor to serve as president of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers for 2016. Writing was an outlet for me long before I even thought of trying to sell any of it. It is a way to express yourself and get it out there even if no one else reads it. Writing is a creative process we all enjoy or we wouldn't do it, like sitting around a campfire with friends sharing stories and a cold one. "Good Writing is good conversation, only more so," said Ernest Hemingway. Writing and reading is an escape from whatever it is you need or want to escape from as well as a journey to wherever your mind would like to go. Writing is a lifestyle; a lifestyle I think many of us stumbled upon along the way but are thankful we did. Writing is great.



I will always enjoy reading a good old hardback novel or a slick and shiny outdoor rag, but those days are slowly diminishing as the internet and other ever-evolving technologies take over. Will the old school hardback disappear? I don't think so and I know I'm safe, for my lifetime at least, that I can still relax in my camo recliner here by my desk and read a few pages to "get in the mood" to write, or grab a paperback while sleeping in the back of my truck or in my tent before a tournament the next morning. No, I will always enjoy books and magazines; and my copy of *The Big Two Hearted River* will remain stashed safely in the bookcase along with many others as long as I am around.

Having said that, the writing landscape is changing like everything else, and our future outdoor communicators might not even own a "book." As president, I would like to see more recruitment of the "new" communicators into the Hoosier Outdoor Writers group. To do that I feel we need to appeal to the younger communicators and welcome them into HOW. How do we do this? I'm not sure, but we should at least begin a discussion on how we might go about it. The future of HOW depends on it.

This year I would like to ask each member to make a point to engage in a conversation about writing with a young person – just to plant the seed. I mention it to young people that never have voiced an interest in writing but really do seem genuinely enthused when I show them an article I have written. This is how you can actually create a new writer, one that might not have ever thought of writing before. This is one way to get more members and to cultivate new writers for the future.

I hope that 2016 is a wonderful year for everyone. In the meantime, may your shutter find the light and the words come easily.

Ken McBroom

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

Returning member:
Barb Simpson (Associate)
Indianapolis, IN

Indiana Wildlife Federation (Supporting)
Indianapolis, IN
Sponsor: Tom Berg

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
John Trout, Jr.
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
Bob Sawtelle	2014
Alan Garbers	2015

Benefits of HOW Membership

Recently, someone asked why they should become a HOW member. They asked: "What benefits will HOW provide for me?" Listed below are a few of the benefits that come to mind right away:

- HOW was formed in 1969 to bring together individuals and groups with a shared interest in the conservation and wise use of Indiana's natural resources. Since most of our members are outdoor writers, the focus was Indiana's natural resources and reporting on the wise use and enjoyment of those resources. Hopefully, members can enjoy the camaraderie of working with and associating with each other. As a group of professionals, we help the friends and fight the foes of wisely conserved Indiana resources.
- HOW [membership card](#) and press credentials allow entry to outdoor shows and similar functions.
- HOW maintains a [website \(www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org\)](http://www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org) where members may read or download the current newsletter, talk via our Facebook page, read archived issues of the newsletter, or find a link to each of our Supporting Members' websites.
- HOW publishes a bi-monthly [full-color newsletter](#) (6 issues per year), and distributes it electronically. It is posted on the website for members to read or download and it is emailed as a PDF file. It includes information about our Annual Conference, Awards-In-Craft contests, Member News, Supporting Member press releases, photo contests and a calendar of upcoming events of interest to the membership. The newsletter also includes a page in each issue with the web addresses of every Supporting Member.
- HOW publishes a [Membership Directory](#) which lists every Individual member and every Supporting member. The Directory is available online on the HOW website.
- HOW [Supporting members](#) have complete access to our membership list so they can contact our writers and broadcasters with new press releases and product information.
- HOW conducts an [Annual Conference](#) and all members are invited to attend (individuals and supporting members). This year, the conference was at Brown County State Park in Brown County. The conference includes many seminars, guest speakers and other activities. We gather for a HOW Fun Shoot (usually sporting clays or skeet) on the Friday before the annual meeting. On the Sunday following the meeting, we sponsor an outing featuring fishing, boating, hiking or some other activity. We also have our very popular Outdoor Products raffle at the conference, and all members and guests who participate have a chance of winning great outdoor products and prizes.
- HOW conducts an annual [Awards-in-Craft contest](#) for Individual members, including a Writing Contest, a Photography Contest and a Broadcast Contest. This contest recognizes the best writers, photographers & broadcasters in our group, and the winners typically receive cash prizes.
- HOW conducts a special "[Nature Photo](#)" contest in each issue of the newsletter for Individual members. A portion of a close-up photo of a creature that can be found in Indiana is shown, and the HOW member who guesses its identity can win a very nice prize. If more than one member gets the right answer, a winner is drawn at random from the pool of correct entries. Prizes range from \$100 gift cards to great outdoors products from our Supporting Members (like premium flyrods, top-quality binoculars, superior sunglasses, fishing and shooting equipment, etc).
- Meet like-minded people and make new friends – many of these friendships last a lifetime!

These are just some of the benefits of HOW membership. Your participation and involvement can result in so much more!



The Annual HOW Fun Shoot: Sunshine, Showers and Fun!



Phil Seng takes aim at a clay target.

The 2016 HOW Fun Shoot held prior to the conference at Brown County State Park was another fun event. A great group of HOW members and guests met at the Atterbury Shooting Complex near Edinburgh, IN and everyone had an enjoyable time.

Atterbury has a first-rate skeet range, and we took full advantage of it. After shooting two rounds of skeet, we even had time to get in a round of 5-Stand, which was something new for most of us.

The skeet competition was actually very close. After the first round Phil Seng was in the lead, followed by Tom Berg and Troy McCormick. During the second round, Phil continued shooting well and Tom and Troy struggled. Mike Schoonveld really came to life and out-shot everybody by a large margin, easily beating everyone's second round score and even besting Phil's first round score. So the second round of skeet was won by Mike, with Phil Seng and Bill Keaton tying for second place. Gene Clifford (shooting a 20 gauge) took third place.

The overall winners after combining the two rounds of skeet were as follows:

- 1st Place: Phil Seng
- 2nd Place: Mike Schoonveld
- 3rd Place: Bill Keaton

So Phil Seng was crowned **“HOW Skeet Champion”** for the day. Congrats, Phil!



Gene Clifford is at the line and ready to shoot (far left). Behind him (left to right) are Bill Keaton, Phil Seng, Troy McCormick, Mike Schoonveld (sitting) and guest Laura Seng (keeping score). Behind Laura, Bob Sawtelle waits for his turn to shoot. HOW Fun Shoot photos on this page by Tom Berg.

(HOW Fun Shoot continued on next page)

After the skeet competition, we decided to shoot a round of 5-Stand. 5-Stand is similar to sporting clays, but it goes quicker and is done in much less space. It was a lot of fun and we may do it more often in the future. Phil again took top honors in 5-Stand. Jarrett Manek took second place and there was a 3-way tie for third place: Troy McCormick, Tom Berg and Bill Keaton each shot equally well.

At one point during the afternoon, the dark skies opened-up and the rain came pouring down. Luckily, we were shooting right in front of the Atterbury clubhouse so we just took a break and went inside for 15 or 20 minutes until the rain shower passed.

Once the skies cleared, we continued shooting until it was time to head for Brown County State Park to get ready for the Friday evening barbecue. Overall it was a great afternoon with lots of laughs, good friends and plenty of camaraderie.



Tom Berg fires a shot at a clay target as Jarrett Manek looks on from behind. Photo by Troy McCormick.

HOW would like to extend a big thank-you to **Browning Ammunition** and **Winchester** for supplying the ammunition for the shooters this year. Their help was appreciated by all of the participants.

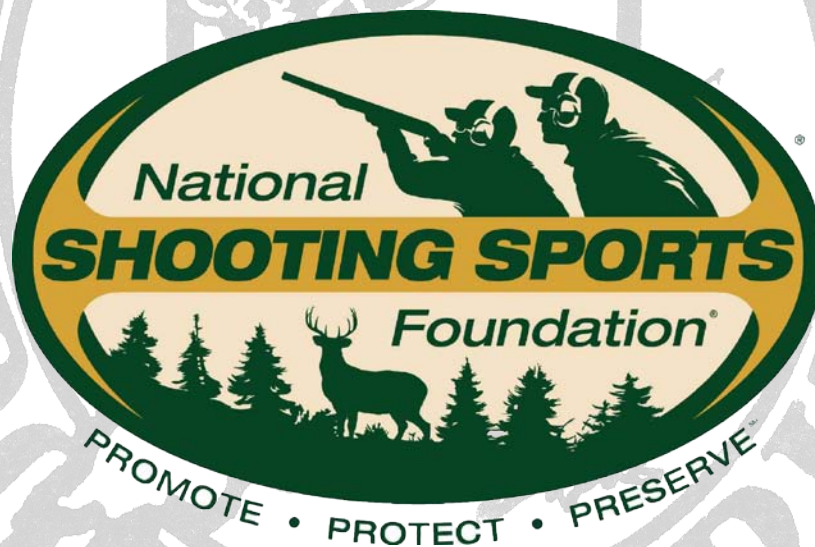


2016 HOW Conference

We would like to thank the following companies and organizations:



Awards-in-Craft Sponsor



Conference Lunch Sponsor

Sponsors of the 2016 HOW Annual Conference

HOW Raffle Donors - 2016

A big thank-you goes to this year's raffle donors. Please support them in your work whenever possible.

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Birchwood Casey
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Fish On Kids Books
Fisherman's Handy Hook
Fishing Physics
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Sturm, Ruger & Co.
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Tales End Tackle
ThermaCELL
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TTI-Blakemore Fishing
Unfair Lures
Vexilar, Inc.
White Flyer Targets
Xtreme Hardcore Gear
Yo-Zuri America, Inc.

2016 HOW Conference at Brown County State Park Described as “Outstanding”

Last year, the HOW conference was held in northeastern Indiana for the first time. Pokagon State Park near Angola was a great place for the 2015 conference, but it meant a very long drive for many HOW members. This year, we decided to bring the conference back to a more centrally-located (relatively speaking) place. The site that we chose was Brown County State Park in south-central Indiana near Nashville, IN. It was a great decision!



We had excellent attendance again this year, informative speakers and plenty of opportunities for fun! If you didn't attend this conference you really missed a great time! If you're not sure what you missed, check out the next few pages of the newsletter to get a glimpse of the fun we had!

The Abe Martin Lodge at Brown County State Park has excellent conference facilities and a topnotch staff, and our event was another great success. Many HOW members took advantage of the lodging and restaurant at the inn and stayed the entire weekend, while others just came in for the day to attend the HOW meeting. Our meeting room was spacious and well-appointed, the catered food was very good and the conference provided another great opportunity to learn new things and reconnect with old friends.

In recent years, the HOW Conference has actually begun on the Friday afternoon before the annual meeting on Saturday. This year's conference was no different, and at 12:00pm on Friday, April 22nd, a group of HOW members met at the Atterbury Shooting Complex near Edinburgh for the annual HOW Fun Shoot. The weather was good (other than a short afternoon rain shower), and the camaraderie was great. Details can be found on pages 6-7. After the shooting was done, everyone drove to Brown County SP and joined the other HOW members who were already gathering for the Friday evening barbecue!



At 6:00pm on Friday evening, nearly 30 HOW members, spouses and guests met at the Upper Shelter located near the park's North Gatehouse for a special barbecue and get-together. It wasn't fancy, just hamburgers, brats, chips and even a few homemade desserts. There was plenty to eat and drink and a good time was had by all!



Jarrett Manek (left) and Ken McBroom (right) show off their grilling skills at the barbecue.

Ken McBroom volunteered to bring the grills and cook the food at the barbecue, and Jarrett Manek also stepped-up to help. They did a great job and no one left hungry.

Indiana State Parks Director Dan Bortner was present at the barbecue to welcome the HOW members to Brown County State Park and talk about the state parks division. He was quite gracious and everyone enjoyed his comments.

After the barbecue, members of the HOW Board of Directors headed over to the lodge to meet for their annual board meeting.

The annual meeting began at 8:00am on Saturday morning, and the attending HOW members and guests assembled in the main meeting room. As usual, the first hour of the meeting was set aside for registration and social time.

HOW President Alan Garbers called the meeting to order at 9:00am and provided opening remarks, then briefed those present on the day's schedule. When he was done, he introduced Aubrey Sitzman from the Brown County CVB. She welcomed the HOW membership and gave a short description of the outdoor recreation prospects available in the park and in Brown County.



HOW members and their spouses enjoy themselves at the barbecue on Friday evening at Brown County State Park. All barbecue and conference photos by Tom Berg.

Whether you enjoy hiking, fishing, biking, bird watching or a host of other outdoor pursuits, Brown County is a great place to experience the outdoors. Sitzman then turned the podium back over to President Garbers so he could introduce the first seminar speaker.



John Seifert discusses forestry management and many of its positive effects on wildlife.

The first speaker was John Seifert, director of the DNR Division of Forestry. He discussed the Forestry Division's mission to manage State Forests for multiple uses: recreation, wildlife habitat, timber, and as demonstration sites for sustainable forestry management.

Many HOW members were quite surprised at some of the effects of timber management and how different species of wildlife (such as birds and bats) utilize the open areas where trees were cut (or even clearcut) for feeding and raising their young. For example, the endangered Indiana bat was one of the species that moved right in and set up a maternal roosting colony at the edge of a recent timber harvest clearcut. Cool!

The second speaker was our very own HOW member Jarrett Manek. Jarrett is a DNR Naturalist and is an expert wildlife caller. He is well-known around the state for his popular “Calls of the Wild!” seminar, and he did not disappoint the conference attendees. He demonstrated a wide variety of game calls, including squirrels, turkeys, geese, deer and many others. He did not limit himself to commercially-made game calls, either. He showed how common items can be used for making homemade calls, and he also demonstrated calls that you can achieve by just using your mouth and hands.

Near the end of his presentation, Manek brought out and displayed several live creatures that most Hoosiers never get to see. He showed a small (state endangered) alligator snapping turtle, a tiny worm snake, a very long and thin green snake and three different salamander species. They were all very interesting and he walked them around the room so everyone could get a good look.



Above: Naturalist Jarrett Manek shows a live alligator snapping turtle to the conference attendees as Ken McBroom looks on. **Left:** Manek holds a seldom seen worm snake in the palm of his hand. Although very small, this particular snake is already a full-grown adult. **Below:** President Alan Garbers addresses the HOW membership.

the proposed slate of new officers for the coming year. Ken McBroom was elected President, Don Cranfill was elected Vice-President and Alan Garbers will become the Board Chairman. Our new Board members (terms expiring in 2018) include: Phil Seng, Jack Spaulding, Josh Lantz, Louie Stout and Brent Wheat. Thank you to all of our new volunteers!

After the elections and business meeting were concluded, an excellent buffet lunch was served by the Abe Martin Lodge kitchen staff. Everyone relaxed and socialized for an hour before the afternoon activities began.

The first seminar after lunch was titled “Hunting Small Woodlots for Deer”. Hunting Pro-Staffer Scott Parker discussed a few of the things he has learned while hunting Indiana’s small woodlots and farms. He covered scouting,

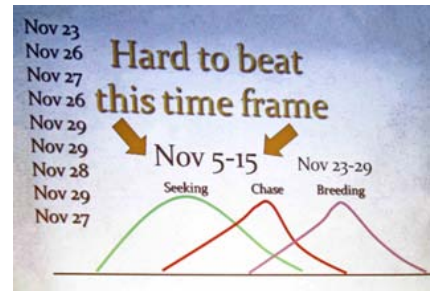




setting up, and different hunting tips that apply specifically to small woodlots. He described why those tips are different than if you were walking into a large farm or large block of timber.

He also discussed the timing of the deer rut and how being in the woods at the right time can really impact your success rate. Like many serious whitetail hunters, he makes sure to schedule his vacation time away from work to coincide with the most productive days of deer season.

Parker concluded his presentation by showing videos of some of his successful hunts on Indiana’s small woodlots. “I want everyone to have a few laughs, enjoy the presentation



and videos, and come away with one nugget of information that I’ve shared that may help them be successful next fall when they go to the field,” said Parker.

Right after the deer hunting presentation, incoming HOW President Ken McBroom and Tom Berg made the **2016 HOW Awards-In-Craft** presentation. Cash prizes and certificates were awarded to the best of the best in the annual Writing Contest, the Photography Contest and the Broadcast Contest. Many thanks go to Toyota Motor Sales for once again sponsoring our contests and recognizing the achievements of our members. Check the contest results on pages 18-19 to see who submitted the best work this year.

The final seminar of the day was led by police and civilian firearms instructor Tony Gregory from the Indianapolis area. Mr. Gregory has over 30 years of experience as a firearms instructor and holds 60 instructor certificates from a wide variety of training institutions. He is currently the Training Commander for the Homecroft Police Department (south suburban Indianapolis) and the Training Coordinator for Indy Arms Company.

The topic for Mr. Gregory’s presentation was “Defensive Firearms”. He discussed many of the myths surrounding the use of defensive firearms and how outdoor enthusiasts (like most HOW members) can help instruct inexperienced friends and/or relatives on the use of defensive firearms. He delved into the physical skill that is required to use these tools and the legal and tactical concerns that should be addressed.

He noted that recently there has been a surge of people with no prior firearms experience wanting to own and/or carry firearms for self-defense. He talked about some of the advice that we can give to these new prospective shooters, as well as some of the resources that we can direct them to for training and instruction.



Above Left: Scott Parker conducted a very informative seminar on deer hunting. **Above:** Tony Gregory from the Homecroft Police Dept. discusses defensive firearms for Hoosiers.

The final activity of the day was the annual HOW Raffle. This is the favorite part of the meeting for many HOW members! Raffle chairman Tom Berg organized an amazing event again this year, easily filling several banquet tables with fabulous outdoor products from our loyal HOW Supporting Members (and many new Supporting Members). This year he and his helpers nearly broke the raffle record by securing donations from **103** companies, organizations and individuals. Tom would like to thank John Galambos and Rich Creason for their help in securing many of the items this year. Thanks also go to Gene Clifford for helping haul some of the items down to Brown County from the NW corner of the state.

As is typical for the raffle, some companies donated major products and others contributed smaller items, but all were much-appreciated. Thanks also goes to the many HOW members who helped unpack and display the raffle items and banners on the tables on the morning of the meeting.

The moment the raffle tickets went on sale, a long line formed behind the ticket sales table. Long-time ticket hawker and professional number-caller Jack Spaulding was up to the task as he stripped tickets off the rolls 50 at a time. Jack and his helpers were hard-pressed to keep up!



This year's raffle featured quality as well as quantity when it came to the items to be raffled-off. Firearms enthusiasts were especially happy with this year's raffle prizes, as we had a Henry *American Beauty* lever-action .22 caliber rifle, a Remington RM380 pistol and a Mossberg 835 Ulti-Mag Turkey/Deer Combo 12-Gauge shotgun (with second barrel). We had an abundance of shooting supplies, riflescopes, ammunition and a Leupold laser rangefinder. There was also a great Mission Archery compound bow from Mathews.

Fishermen in the crowd were impressed by an incredible array of Great Lakes trolling gear, rodholders, fishing rods, fishing reels, tackle boxes, and lures of all shapes, sizes and colors. There were also backpacks, camp stoves, duck calls, electronic dog training gear, premium sunglasses, hunting gear, hats, gloves, waterproof binoculars, spotting scopes, knives, boat-care products, camping gear, gift certificates and a top-quality meat smoker. There were insect repellents, hunting calls, turkey hunting gear, outdoor apparel, waterproof boots, outdoors books, calendars, mapping software, cast iron cookware, DVDs, gun cleaning kits and lots of other outdoor gear.



The photos shown here are just a few of the many tables filled to overflowing with great outdoor products for the HOW Outdoor Writers Raffle.

The 2016 raffle was another huge success! Of course, without the support and generosity of our Supporting Members the raffle would not happen at all. For a complete list of this year's raffle donors, please see page 9. Please support them in your work whenever possible, and send them a thank-you note when you get a chance.

Another Great HOW Fishing Outing!!

The HOW Fishing Outing that followed the recent conference was a great success. The weather was spectacular, the fish were fairly cooperative and everyone had a good time. What could be better?

This was planned as a crappie fishing outing since our fishing guides were all experienced crappie tournament anglers. Four groups of anglers met their captains at the boat docks on two different lakes (Monroe Lake and Lake Lemon) and proceeded to look for crappies. Here is what they found:

Alan Garbers:

“What can be better than a spring day fishing for spawning crappie? An obvious answer is catching crappie. But that isn’t where I was going with this. For Scott Weaver and myself, the HOW fishing outing was spent on Lake Lemon in northern Monroe County.”

“While I have seen and written about spider rigging for crappie, I had never participated here in Indiana. Our guides, crappie pro anglers Joe Long and Mike Bledsoe quickly had each of us reeling in nice crappie. Both Scott and I got lots of great experiences, great article fodder, some nice photos, and some new friends. With any luck we will be fishing with Joe and Mike again and that’s the best part.”

Scott Weaver:

“It was an excellent trip. We caught a lot of crappies and kept 25 fish each. Our largest crappie weighed 1.75 pounds and was probably 16-17 inches long (we didn’t measure it). We had another one that weighed about one pound.”

“We released the larger fish and only kept the smaller better-eating fish. Our average keeper size was around 11-12 inches.”

How member Scott Weaver displays a nice pair of big crappies that he and Mike Bledsoe caught on Lake Lemon after the HOW conference. Photo courtesy of Scott Weaver..



Tournament fisherman Mike Bledsoe (left) and Scott Weaver (right) demonstrate the proper method of spider rigging for crappies during the recent HOW Fishing Outing. Photo by Alan Garbers.



(Fishing Outing info continued next page)

Rich Creason:

“After the annual HOW meeting on Saturday, we were signed up to go out Sunday on Lake Monroe with a professional crappie fisherman. My wife Susie and I were paired up with James Lasswell, who also lives in Anderson. Eight AM found us racing across the lake at idle speed since this whole section of Monroe is designated a slow speed area.”



A great blue heron watches Rich and Susie Creason fish for crappies. Photo by Rich Creason.

“Our first spot, (and several others), were over sunken trees, branches, and stumps. We were using several different tiny artificial lures, and nearly every cast was followed by a hit. We caught bluegill, yellow bass, rock bass, and white and black crappie. All the crappie were small to average size, while the bass and bluegill were nice ones.”

“While fishing, we sat under a bald eagle for about 15 minutes. We left, he didn’t. We fished around a beaver lodge and saw several trees on the hillside ready to fall from beaver gnawing. Great blue herons watched us from the shoreline. We didn’t hear any turkey calling, although they are plentiful in the area. Large turtles sunning on logs were upset when we got too close. Four hours went by too quickly and we had to head home. Before we left, we made plans

with James for more time together.”

John Maxwell and Bob Sawtelle:

“I think we caught about 795 crappie, all about six inches long,” said John Maxwell. “Sometimes we caught three or four at the same time. We kept three bigger fish for frying, which we combined with several crappies given to us by Tom Berg and Bob Raymer.”



“Most of our fish were caught using slow-trolling or drifting with the spider rigs baited with Bobby Garland plastic jig baits. But

we also caught some crappie using live minnows as bait, or by vertical jigging through submerged brush in the lake.”



Bob Sawtelle (left) holds a nice crappie that he caught on Lake Monroe. Tournament pro Eric Milsaps (right) takes a break from the action for a photo op. Photo by John Maxwell.

(Fishing Outing info continued next page)

Tom Berg:

“I spent the day fishing with crappie tournament angler Bob Raymer. Bob was a fantastic host and we had a great time. Monroe Lake is one of Bob’s favorite lakes to fish for crappies, and he has some ‘secret spots’ that always seem to hold fish. We checked out several of those spots!”

“Actually, every spot that we fished was loaded with crappies. We literally caught crappies on every cast. We probably caught 300 crappies between Bob Raymer and myself, but unfortunately 290 of them were six inches or less.”



“We did keep about 10 nice-sized crappies which I gave to Bob Sawtelle since he wanted a fish fry when he got back home to Corydon. Our biggest crappie was probably 12-13 inches. We also caught and released a couple bass, bluegills and even a pair of small wipers.”



Bob Raymer (right) shows two of the keeper-sized crappies that were caught during the fishing outing. Tom Berg (left) lifts one of his bigger fish. Below: A view of Lake Monroe. Photos courtesy of Tom Berg.



The HOW 2016 Awards-In-Craft Contest

The results are in! The winners of the 2016 Awards-In-Craft contest were announced at this year's annual conference at Brown County State Park, and we had a large number of excellent entries. As usual, the writing portion of the contest garnered the most interest, as HOW members submitted a total of 60 entries from 9 different HOW members. The number of writing contest entries declined a bit this year when compared to 2015 (some people ran out of time), so next year be sure to send in your entries early! The photography contest included 23 entries from five HOW members, and the Broadcast contest featured three entries from one member. Writing and Photo entries were required to be submitted electronically again this year, and it went very well. Next year we hope to have even more members participate!

Most of the competitions were very, very close. In the Writing Contest, only one or two points often separated a first place entry from a second place entry, etc. Many articles landed in 4th place by a mere point or two, also. Considering the fact that each article could receive up to 200 points (100 from each of two judges), those were some close races! We were also happy to see that the writing awards were spread out among the entrants again this year (seven different winners). Get in on the fun next year!

Once again this year the Awards-In-Craft contest was sponsored by **Toyota Motor Sales**, so the winners were awarded checks along with certificates to commemorate their achievements. We would like to thank Toyota for their generous sponsorship in 2016. HOW members are encouraged to log on to the Toyota website (www.toyotanewsroom.com) to find out more about their products and recent news releases.

A special thank-you also goes to our contest coordinators who donated their time and energy to secure judges and get each of the entries reviewed and scored in time for the annual conference. Dealing with a large number of submissions which are typically sent right before the deadline always makes coordinating the entries/judges difficult, but the electronic entries really helped. The 2016 Awards-In-Craft coordinators were: Bill Keaton (Writing), John Martino (Photography) and Tom Berg (Broadcast).

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

WRITING

(60 entries from 9 different HOW members)

Less Than 1000 Words

Hunting/Trapping

- 1st: Mike Schoonveld, "How to Miss a Pheasant"
- 2nd: John Martino, "Freedom Hunt Provides Memories For All"
- 3rd: John Martino, "Taylor Desch is Just a Hunter"

Fishing

- 1st: Rich Creason, "Fishing with Wolf Pack Adventures"
- 2nd: Tom Berg, "Northeast Indiana's Bluegill Factories"
- 2nd: Mike Schoonveld, "Mono is not Monotonous"

More Than 1000 Words

Hunting/Trapping

- 1st: Alan Garbers, "Where to Look for that Trophy Buck: 2015"
- 2nd: Brent Wheat, "Tree Rats"
- 3rd: Tom Berg, "Hotspots for Cold-Weather Rabbits"

Fishing

- 1st: John Martino, "Springtime Brings Midwest's Best"
- 2nd: Tom Berg, "Indiana's Fall Fishing Hotspots"
- 3rd: Tom Berg, "Southern Indiana Slabs"

(Continued on next page)

Less Than 1000 Words

Conservation

- 1st: John Martino, "Sandhill Cranes Provide Fun Show"
2nd: Jack Spaulding, "Black Bear Confirmed in St. Joseph County"
3rd: Jack Spaulding, "Goodbye to Grouse and Woodcock"

General Outdoors

- 1st: Mike Schoonveld, "Leaves of Three"
2nd: John Martino, "Falconry – The Sport of Common People"
3rd: Alan Garbers, "NMLRA Spring Shoot"

PHOTOGRAPHY

(23 entries from 5 different HOW members)

Hunting/Trapping

- 1st: John Maxwell, "Spring Gobbler in Yellow Rocket Blooms"
2nd: Tom Berg, "The Muskrat Marsh"
3rd: Brent Wheat, "Sunrise Dove Hunt"

Outdoor Scenic

- 1st: John Maxwell, "Moonlight on the Wabash: Vincennes"
2nd: Tom Berg, "Footprints in the Snow"
3rd: Brent Wheat, "Great Horned"

BROADCAST

(3 entries from 1 HOW member)

Best TV Broadcast

- 1st: Troy McCormick, "Noodling Snappers, Indiana Outdoor Adventures"
2nd: Troy McCormick, "Silver Carp, Indiana Outdoor Adventures"
3rd: -- No Entry --

More Than 1000 Words

Conservation

- 1st: Alan Garbers, "The End of Indiana's Ruffed Grouse"
2nd: Rich Creason, "Alien Species Invade the Great Lakes"
3rd: -- No Entry --

General Outdoors

- 1st: Alan Garbers, "Monster Buck Poaching"
2nd: Mike Schoonveld, "Are You Ready for a Breakdown?"
3rd: -- No Entry --

Fishing

- 1st: Mike Schoonveld, "Keep on Crankin'"
2nd: John Maxwell, "Willow Slough Sunrise Fishing"
3rd: Brent Wheat, "Morning Has Broken"

Outdoor Recreation

- 1st: Brent Wheat, "Z-I-I-I-P Line"
2nd: John Maxwell, "Fort Harrison Winter Sledding"
3rd: Tom Berg, "Fun at the Gun Range"

Best Video

- 1st: Troy McCormick, "Through the Bridge"
2nd: -- No Entry --
3rd: -- No Entry --

DNR News

Division of Fish & Wildlife

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

For immediate release: June 28, 2016



DNR Enhancing Fish Habitat in Aging Reservoirs

Fisheries biologists with DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife are creating new fish habitat in Indiana reservoirs.

The 471-acre Sullivan Lake near Sullivan was the first project for the Reservoir Habitat Enhancement Program. Last week, more than 150 man-made structures were placed in six areas in 6 to 10 feet of water. Five structure types were used to accommodate fish of different species and sizes, according to Sandy Clark-Kolaks, DNR southern fisheries research biologist.

“This type of work is being conducted by several Midwestern states,” Clark-Kolaks said. “We were able to take the good things they are doing and bring them here to Indiana.”

Most of Indiana’s reservoirs were built in the 1950s and 1960s. Trees, logs and roots that once provided cover for fish have decomposed. The new man-made structures will replace the lost habitat. Structures were placed using a special pontoon boat.

Partners included Bass Unlimited, Jones and Sons Concrete, Sullivan County Parks Department and several volunteers.

“After a year of planning, it was very exciting to finally see everyone’s hard work come together,” Clark-Kolaks said.

A map that shows structure locations will be made available to anglers.

The next lake to receive these structures will be Cecil M. Harden Lake in 2017.

Media contact: Sandy Clark-Kolaks, southern fisheries research biologist, DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, (812) 287-8304, sclark-kolaks@dnr.IN.gov.



Photos courtesy of Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources.



Bayou Bill and Indiana's Goggle Eye

by Dan Gapen, Sr.



Bayou Bill Scifres – I'll never forget my dear friend. It was he who bestowed the love of fishing Indiana's miles of creeks on me. The fish we sought were called goggle-eye, better known to others as the rock bass.

My first trek with Bill came on an early August day in 1969. We'd fish tiny Paw-Paw Creek near his home. Equipment would consist of five-foot light open-faced spinning rods and reels. Lure of choice would be a 1/16th ounce Hairy Worm jig, black in color. Made by the Gapen Company, the Hairy Worm was the original pig-and-jig style lure. From the moment my company came out with the Hairy Worm, Bill fell in love with it.

"Gapen, if you never make another lure this one will do just fine. It's deadly on creek fish as well as any lake or reservoir species," Bill blurted out as the two of us stepped into the cold waters of Paw-Paw.

Bill had been using the Hairy Worm since early spring after receiving several at the Indiana Sports Show in March that same year.

Today, we'd walk upstream and cover a mile and a half of Paw-Paw where Bill claimed some of the best goggle-eye fishing was to be found. The small stream's water depth would average calf deep most of the way.

Even so, we'd encounter a number of deep bank holes where the creek shoreline bent to the east or west. Along with rock bass, we'd find an occasional smallmouth and the odd pumpkinseed. Neither of these would be kept, but Bill informed me it would be OK to drop a few goggle-eyes into the gunny sacks we both had tied to our belts. These sacks were commonly called 'croaker' sacks in Indiana, a name they'd been given by the local bullfrog gatherers. Our sacks were strung with a cotton rope fish stringer and dangled behind us in the water where they were constantly wet, keeping the catch fresh and alive.

We'd gone but 50 yards upstream when Bill stopped and pointed to a fallen sycamore tree whose trunk was submerged. Beneath it a hole had been created by flushing water.

"Dan, that hole under the sycamore always holds a good school of goggle-eye. You take it first. Drop your Hairy Worm just above the tree trunk where the bottom drops," Bill instructed as he pointed to the black hole under the submerged tree trunk.



As instructed, I complied. It took but a second or so for my lure to fall deep after bouncing off the white bark of the tree trunk. As it disappeared into the darkness there came a "tap-tap" and I was into number one goggle-eye of our outing. Moments later a fat hand-sized dark brown panfish thrashed to the surface. My buddy claimed it was not big enough and should be returned to the water.

As my fish was being released Bill had dropped his jig directly into the black hole on the downstream side of the submerged tree trunk. Moments later it was struck. Bill was into a better fish. This one pulled six feet of the 8-pound monofilament line off Bill's reel before giving in.

"More like it, partner. About a pound, I'd guess," Bill proclaimed as his healthy one-pound rock bass was unhooked and dropped into his croaker sack.

"That's the size we need, Gapen! It will fillet nicely and fry up tonight for supper. I've concocted some new breading. Nancy loves it and you will, too," Bill commented as the fish stringer was re-tied to his belt.

We would take eleven more goggle-eye out of the hole, four of them keepers. The rest were released.

"We'll need only two more," said Bill. "My wife Nancy isn't much of a fish eater but she loves

(continued next page)



goggle-eye, especially when dipped in my new breading. Let's go and leave Sycamore Hole alone. Those ones we released will be big enough to keep when we come back in October," my partner commented as he stepped out and headed upstream.



My readers may think rock bass aren't good eating; too wormy some will say. Not so! In cool water you'll never find parasite grubs in their flesh. Grubs only come when water has been warm for a goodly length of time, and all fish subjected to this will contain the same grubs. What temperature must water hold to create a problem? In my research once water reaches 85 degrees for a sustained amount of time this grub condition may occur. Often sluggish and dormant water is also part of the scenario.

That evening we did have our meal of goggle-eye fillets. If you didn't know ahead of time, you might have thought you were eating crappie.

It took Bayou Bill and I half a day to fish that mile and a half of Paw-Paw Creek. In all we caught 47 rock bass, eight smallmouth bass, two large pumpkinseed and one small channel catfish. All were released except seven of the larger rock bass. We found no fish between the holes where water ran ankle to calf deep. Only schools of minnows seemed to inhabit those areas.

We'd worked the hours between 6am and noon, the coolest part of that August day. If you choose to wade a local creek, do it early in the morning or the last five hours before sunset. After all, August in Indiana can see daytime temperatures reaching the 100 mark, which can be miserable even when wading.

Approach to each hole fished was from the downstream end. As we dabbled our Hairy Worms in each hole, fish struck the instant it was presented. No natural or live bait such as a piece of worm was used. Once the lure was dropped into each hole, if there wasn't a strike we would twitch it twice, drop it to the bottom, lift and repeat the twitch and hold for 30 seconds. If this didn't do it, whatever fish was in the hole wasn't going to strike.

Whenever I've had the chance to fish rock bass I've taken it. On light spinning gear they're a blast. On Mille Lacs Lake in Minnesota where I live they grow up to 2½ pounds and when mixed with 2-pound perch, such as the case in that lake, can be a blast to fish.

Until next time this has been the Ol' Man, Dan Gapen, Sr. hoping you RELAX, SAVOR and ENJOY our great outdoors. It's yours to save for our future generations.

One last thing. Bayou Bill Scifres has departed the world we live in, as I pen this story. I'll truly miss him and hopefully he's now fishing ten-pound goggle-eyes in the small creek in Great Spirit's world.

*Editor's note: This story was recently printed in **Adventure Sports Outdoors** magazine. It was originally written shortly after Bayou Bill Scifres passed away in 2009. I contacted Mr. Dan Gapen and he graciously consented to my request to reprint it in **The Blade**. Here is what he said:*

Dear Tom,

Of course you can reprint my story on Bill Scifres. Like yourself, I miss him dearly. The Indy show just isn't the same without him there.

My Very Best,

Dan Gapen

How right you are, Dan. Bayou Bill truly was one of a kind.



Reviews on Great Outdoor Books

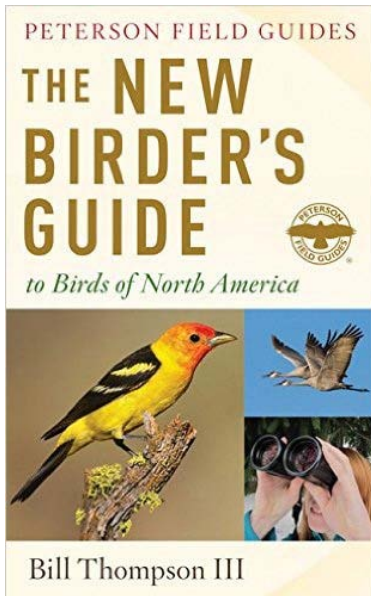
Everyone likes to read new books, whether it is strictly for pleasure or to learn something new. HOW members are no exception! Some of our favorites are outdoor guide books and identification books. Books that help us identify plants, mammals, fish, butterflies and birds are always popular. Here are two books that you may want to add to your library and introduce to your readers as well:

The New Birder's Guide to Birds of North America (Peterson Field Guides)

by Bill Thompson III.

Book review by Tom Berg:

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt published a new birding field guide in 2014 that is just as popular today as the day it first hit the shelves at your local book store. It is part of the Peterson Field Guide series, and it is titled: *The New Birder's Guide to Birds of North America*. If you are interested in learning more about birds, this is the book for you! Did you know that birding is one of the fastest growing hobbies in North America? There are as many as 44 million bird watchers in the USA alone, and the numbers are increasing every year.



The New Birder's Guide provides information to help interested people get started in bird watching, along with plenty of helpful hints and tips for identifying birds while in the field. It includes info on where and when to look for specific birds, what their calls sound like and even how they behave. There is a lot to learn, and the 368 pages of this book will definitely educate you!

This book is filled with great color photographs and informative black & white illustrations of some of North America's most spectacular birds. Each page tells you what to look for and what to listen for when observing birds in the field. There is also a fun sidebar titled "WOW!" for each bird species, with an unusual or fun fact about the bird that most people don't know.

This is a great bird book for both the birding newbie and the experienced birder.
ISBN-13: 978-0544070479

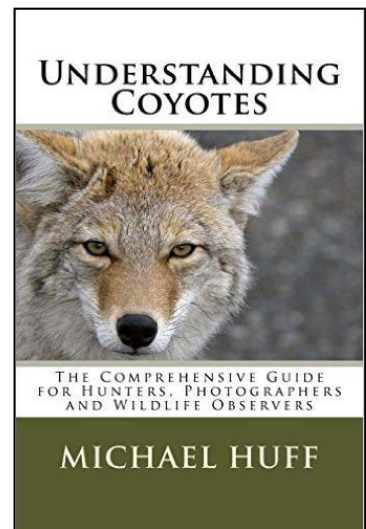
Understanding Coyotes: The Comprehensive Guide for Hunters, Photographers and Wildlife Observers, by Michael Huff.

Book review by Alan Garbers:

I have hunted coyotes with a firearm and a camera, in many states, to limited effect. Most times it was by calling with distress calls, and sometimes over livestock carcasses. But, I never fully understood why sometimes I saw coyotes, and other times never saw a flash of fur. I am a careful hunter and thought I was observing all of the requirements to be successful, but after reading this book, I realize how naïve I was.

Huff doesn't tell you to do this or that and you'll see coyotes. He explains their behavior and life style. Once you grasp that and apply it to your hunting, I think you will become a better hunter.

I recommend this book to anyone that loves coyotes and coyote hunting.
ISBN-13: 978-1517164713



Author Michael Huff can be reached by phone: 610-751-3403 or email: paghuff@gmail.com.

HOW Member News

Joe Martino and Crew Have Successful Turkey Season

HOW member Joe Martino reports that he had a great spring turkey season, and his son Nick couldn't agree more. Here is what Joe had to say:

"I had a phenomenal turkey hunting season," said Martino. "I called-in birds for Nick, myself and four buddies, and we were all tagged out in the first few days! It was unreal. Here are some pics of Nick's bird and his friend Will Stonestreet's bird."

"Nick and I started our turkey season in Tennessee on April 2nd, but due to his school and work schedule we only had a day and a half to hunt. We got close on a couple of birds but didn't quite get it done. I think if we had another day we would have connected. We figured a couple of them out, but just didn't have time to finish the job."

"Then our Indiana season started and it was a remarkable one! During the youth weekend, Nick



ABOVE: Successful turkey hunter Nick Martino poses with the beautiful bird he harvested on the first day of the Indiana youth season.
LEFT: Will Stonestreet smiles over his first turkey as his friend Nick looks on. Photos by Joe Martino.



killed his bird the first morning. He got home and invited his friend Will Stonestreet to go on his very first turkey hunt that afternoon. Early in that hunt, his friend missed a nice longbeard. A short while later, he connected on a jake for his first wild turkey."

"The following morning, on Sunday, we took another youth hunter to one of his and his father's spots and we called-in a great double-bearded, 26-pound gobbler for him!"

"Then on the second day of the regular season, a

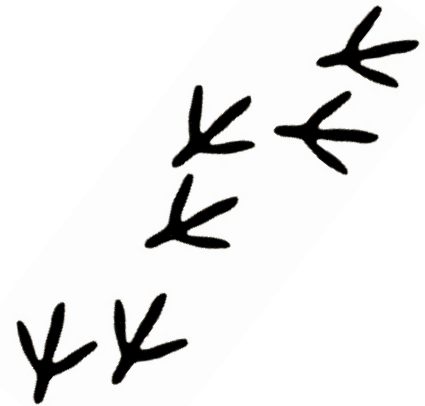
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(turkey story continued from previous page)

buddy and I went hunting and he killed his bird and I missed one. I could not hunt again until that Sunday, and I finally got mine that morning.”

Joe’s turkey is shown in the photo to the left and it was a great-looking bird. It sounds like they had a terrific spring season!



Membership Changes and New Contact Info

The following HOW members have updated contact information. Please make a note of it:

- Don Cranfill:** New email address: hoosierflydaddy@gmail.com.
Ray Dickerson: New email address: raythegadabout@gmail.com.
Josh Lantz: New address: 510 S. Elm St., Three Oaks, MI 49128.
Also a new email address: josh@traditionsmedia.com.
Joe Martino: New address: 3649 W 500 N, Kokomo, IN 46901.
Nate Mullendore: New address: 101 S. Franklin St., New Ulm, MN 56073.
Barb Simpson: New email address: barbsimp@comcast.net.
Scott Weaver: Corrected email address: casualpedaler@gmail.com.

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

Rick Bramwell Is Hopeful For Quail

HOW past-president Rick Bramwell is one of many Hoosiers who loves quail. He enjoys seeing them, hearing them, and just knowing that they are around. Quail were far more abundant years ago when we were all younger, and they often bring back fond memories.

“I remember the blizzard of 1978 wreaked havoc on the local quail population,” said Bramwell, “with very few surviving. I was snowed in for seven days and remember all the hardships that came with it.



I have lived in south Madison County for 20 years and have always had quail on my property. One winter the temperature fell to 30-below and the quail roosted on the southwest corner of my house in a shrub.”

“Quail like long, continuous fencerows and two good ones cross my property. I put out shelled corn when winter is at its worst. Hopefully that does some good.”

“This old southern Indiana man will never forget the whistle of the bob white and earlier this summer I heard some quail in a most unusual place. In early June, I went to a softball game at the baseball diamonds behind Eastside Elementary School. As I approached the outfield bleachers, I heard the distinctive call: *‘bob, bob, white’*. I asked a lady watching the game if she knew what was doing the whistling? She guessed, ‘A cricket?’”

It’s too bad more people don’t recognize the call of our beloved quail.



“The next time you go for a walk or bike ride, take out the ear buds and listen for quail,” commented Bramwell. “If you hear one, let me know. They seem to be making a comeback.”

Bill Keaton and Family Welcome First Granddaughter

HOW Legal Counsel Bill Keaton and his wife Rita were really celebrating in early June. They welcomed their first granddaughter into the family. Their youngest son Will and his wife Nicci are the happy parents.

“Will and Nicci’s new baby was born on June 7,” beamed Keaton. “This is our first granddaughter. Her name is Josephine Grace Keaton. We have eight grandsons.” Congrats!

Bill and Rita’s son Will already has three young sons, and two of them have already been seen in the pages of *The Blade* while enjoying various fishing trips.



Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by HT Enterprises

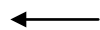
White-Throated Sparrows Have Characteristic Yellow Markings



Close-up



Original



The “What is it?” photo from the last issue was slightly easier than previous ones, because seven (7) HOW members were able to correctly identify it. Phil Seng, Troy McCormick, John Maxwell, Mike Schoonveld, Michael Ellis, Dave

Hoffman and Bob Sawtelle each had the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the **Cocoons Eyewear** sunglasses, Michael Ellis was the winner. Congrats, Michael! We’ll mail the Cocoons sunglasses to you.

As you can see in the photo at left, the mystery creature for this issue was a white-throated sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). This sparrow is sometimes confused with the white-crowned sparrow.

Both look similar, except the white-throated sparrow has bright yellow markings on its head near the beak (absent on the white-crowned sparrow), and it has a prominently-marked white throat.

White-throated sparrows pass through Indiana in the spring as they head north to their breeding grounds in Canada. Loose groups of 10 or 20 migrating birds can be seen foraging on the ground under bird feeders before they move on. During the spring they eat seeds and whatever insects are available. Once on their northern breeding grounds they eat mostly insects, from flies and beetles to caterpillars, spiders, ants and others.



For this issue, our friends at **HT Enterprises** will be donating a great prize for the HOW member that guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. This time the prize will be a special icefishing prize package. See below for more info.

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

Here’s another Nature Photo mystery. The photo shown at right is a close-up of part of a creature that can be seen right here in Indiana, and you might even see it in your own backyard. Have you ever seen this color pattern?



This creature may be easy for some people to identify, but difficult for others. 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 fish, for example, go ahead and guess “Bluegill”. Of course, it’s not a bluegill, but if you think you know what it is, send the answer via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you will be eligible for this issue’s prize. If your first guess is wrong, guess again!



As mentioned above, **HT Enterprises** will be donating a special icefishing prize package (see photo at left) as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. It may seem strange to think about icefishing during the summer, but winter will be here before you know it! The winner will receive: an **HT cloth rod locker**, two **Polar tip ups**, two **HT icefishing rod/reel combos**, a spool of **braided tip up line** and an **HT hand towel**. It’s a great icefishing prize! If multiple people guess the right answer, we will draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck and have fun guessing! All photos on this page by Tom Berg.

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
Alps Brands - www.alpsbrands.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arctic Ice - www.arctic-ice.net
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Backwoodsman Magazine - www.backwoodsmanmag.com
Balsax Fishing Lines - www.balsax.com
Bass Assassin Lures - www.bassassassin.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Battle Horse Knives - www.battlehorseknives.com
Bill Lewis Lures - www.Rat-L-Trap.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Black River Tools - www.blackrivertools.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
BOLT Locks - www.boltlock.com
Bradley Smoker - www.bradleysmoker.com
Browning Ammunition - www.browningammo.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Carbon Express - www.carbonexpressarrows.com
Cast Away Bobber - www.castawaybobber.net
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Cortland Line - www.cortlandline.com
Costa Sunglasses - www.costadelmar.com
Cotton Carrier - www.cottoncarrier.com
Danner Boots - www.danner.com
Deer Dummy - www.deerdummy.com
Ducks Unlimited - www.ducks.org
Eagle Claw - www.eagleclaw.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Eppinger Manufacturing - www.eppinger.net
Field & Stream Outdoor Life Deer & Turkey Expos - www.deerinfo.com
Fish On Kids Books - www.fishonkidsbooks.com
Fisherman's Handy Hook - www.thefishermanshandyhook.com
Fishing Physics - www.fishingphysics.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
Frabill - www.frabill.com
Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggs.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gamo USA - www.gamoussa.com
Gary's Muskie Experience - www.garysmuskieexp.com
Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com
Gun Protect - www.mygunprotect.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Hawke Sport Optics - www.hawkeoptics.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryrepeating.com
HHA Sports - www.HHAsports.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 Department of Natural Resources - www.dnr.IN.gov
Indianapolis Zoo - www.indianapoliszoo.gov
Irish Setter Boots - www.irishsetterboots.com
JackAll Lures - www.jackall-lures.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
LiveTarget Lures - www.livetargetlures.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Lurecraft Industries - www.lurecraft.com
Mack's Lure - www.macks lure.com
Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Muzzle Loading Rifle Assn - www.nmlra.org
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
National Wild Turkey Federation - www.nwtf.org
Nikon Sport Optics - www.nikonsportoptics.com
No No-See-Um - www.nonoseeum.com
Nosler, Inc. - www.nosler.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Guide Magazine - www.outdoorguidemagazine.com
Outdoor Sportsman Group - www.outdoorsg.com
Pheasants Forever - www.pheasantsforever.org
Plano Molding Company - www.planomolding.com
PowerPro Lines - www.powerpro.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pro-Cure, Inc. - www.pro-cure.com
Prolong Super Lubricants - www.prolong.com
Pure Fishing - www.purefishing.com
Quaker Boy, Inc. - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Remington Arms Company - www.remington.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
RIO Products - www.rioproducts.com
Secret Lures - www.secretlures.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Shurhold Industries - www.shurhold.com
Sierra Bullets - www.sierrabullets.com
Sig Sauer - www.sigsauer.com
Sole Scraper - www.solescraper.com
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
SportDOG Brand - www.sportdog.com
St. Croix Rods - www.stcroixrods.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
Super Brush LLC - www.bore-tips.com
Tales End Tackle - www.talesendtackle.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Tink's - www.tinks.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
Trophy Anglers' Tackle - www.trophyanglerstackle.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Unfair Lures - www.unfairlures.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
Vista Outdoor - www.media.vistaoutdoor.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
Xtreme Hardcore Gear - www.extremehardcoregear.com
Yamaha Marine Group - www.yamahaoutboards.com
Yo-Zuri America, Inc. - www.yo-zuri.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:

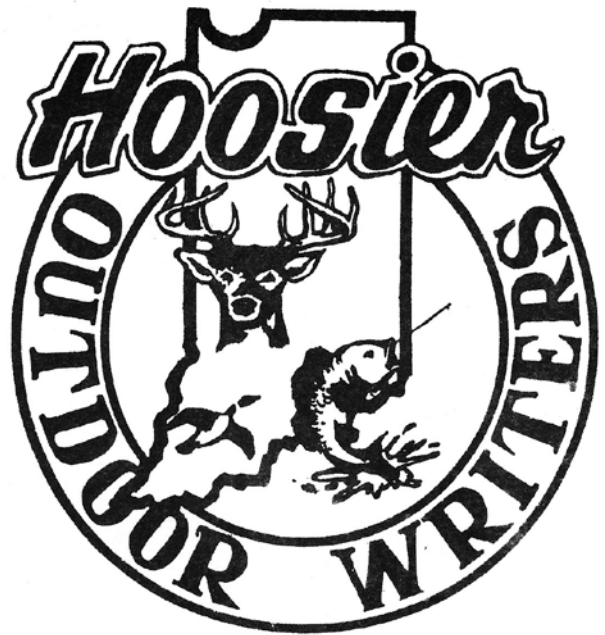
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor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

ICAST Show 2016: (www.ICASTfishing.org) Orlando, FL	July 12-15, 2016
OWAA 2016 Annual Conference: (www.owaa.org) Billings, MT	July 16-18, 2016
AGLOW 2016 Annual Conference: (www.aglowinfo.org) Chautauqua, NY	September 12-15, 2016
Indianapolis Fall Boat & RV Show: (www.renfroproductions.com) Indianapolis, IN	September 23-25, 2016
SEOPA 2016 Annual Conference: (www.seopa.org) Lakeland, FL	October 5-8, 2016
Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Boat Show: (www.hartproductions.com) Cincinnati, OH	January 13-15 & 18-22, 2017
SHOT Show 2017: (http://shotshow.org) Las Vegas, NV	January 17-20, 2017
Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show: (www.renfroproductions.com) Indianapolis, IN	February 17-26, 2017

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.