

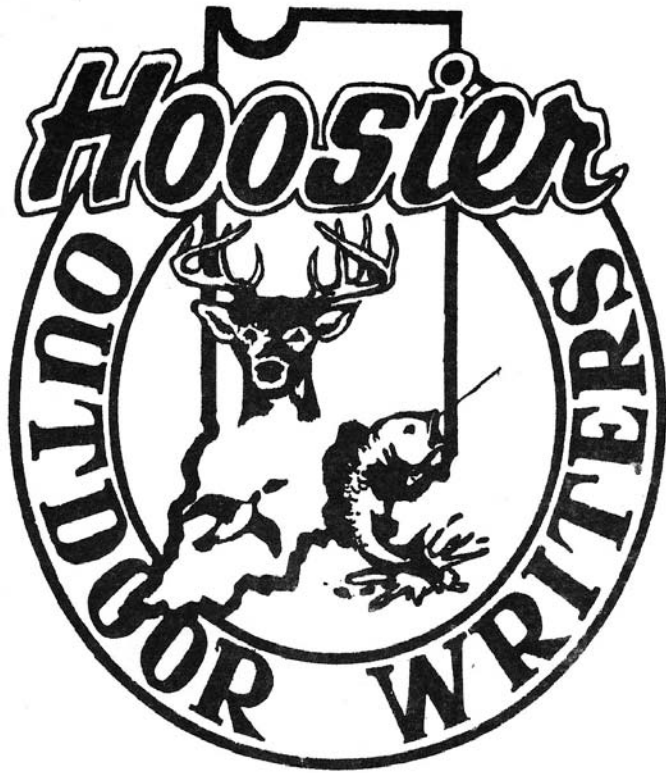
The Blade

July - August 2016

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Garter Snake Emerging From Hiding", 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: A nicely-marked black and yellow garter snake looks over the top of a rock to see who is approaching. The warm rocks were the perfect place for it to sun itself. Photo by Tom Berg.

President's Message

by Ken McBroom

Writing For Progress: Promoting Our Public Lands

So many of us rely on public lands for the majority, if not all, of our recreational activities. My president's report for this issue is about the importance of using our communication skills to help get the word out about public lands and the importance of those public lands for the future of the outdoors.

This is a challenge to all HOW members to write at least one article, column or blog about a public land topic. I don't mean give up your best hunting spot, but inform your readers of a topic relating to acquiring new public land or protecting land from development. This would be a great time for you to pick a topic you would like to learn more about yourself. Then share it and help others learn about it, as well.

There are so many programs and initiatives out there that never get the publicity they deserve. I'm sure they are promoted internally and everyone involved with them is well informed, but there are many people that never even know about them. Today, with so many ways to reach your audience by way of social media, websites and blogs, we as outdoor communicators should utilize these platforms and do our best to inform more people about all the great programs and initiatives that are out there. Just as important are the people that make them work and make our public lands accessible.

Many outdoors people take public lands for granted. I know I have over the years, but as I get older I begin to appreciate what goes into not only maintaining and making them available, but also the steps that are being taken to acquire more public land here in Indiana. Less than 5% of the land in Indiana is public, but hopefully more is on the way through programs like the Healthy Rivers Initiative or the Wetlands Reserve Program. While some of these programs may not create public access they will protect our natural resources from development and therefore give wildlife a place to thrive and that's great for all of us.

I stumbled upon these programs while researching what to write in my president's report for this issue and I'm glad I did. I knew I wanted to write about public lands and how valuable they are to all of us and how we should promote them in our writings. Now I feel even more compelled to do just that and maybe even delve and dabble a little more into the conservation side as well as the people side of what it takes to acquire and maintain the land I love to enjoy.

Thanks.

Ken McBroom



The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

Widener's Reloading & Shooting Supply (Supporting)
Johnson City, TN
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

HOW Awards-In-Craft Winner

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

“Leaves of Three”

by Mike Schoonveld

“Leaves of three, let it be” is an old saying warning about poison ivy. There can’t be a worse feeling. The itch. The burn, almost sizzling at times. The ugly blotches and blisters on your arms, your legs...anywhere you contacted this nasty plant.

As the reddish dots spread over days, then turn into fluid-filled blisters and eventually scabs and scars, your skin becomes super sensitive. At first, it itches so badly you must scratch. Yet, to touch it is painful. Hot water, the lightest layer of clothing, even the air sometimes; any friction grates your skin, nerve endings and even your short-term mental health. Your blister-encrusted arms feel heavy. There seems to be no mercy for someone afflicted by poison ivy.

Various sources claim 60 to 90 percent of Americans are susceptible to poison ivy. Many of them—I’m one—are magnets for the stuff. The best medicine is to avoid the three-leaved scourge. I’m so sensitive and so aware, I can spot the vines climbing trees or clumps of poison ivy along roadsides while driving the speed limit.

Then I stay away from it, especially if I have to walk through it where it could actually touch bare skin. I’ll walk through a patch wearing long pants and boots, but the pants go into the wash as soon as I get home and I get into the shower.

Where does all that misery originate? Those reddish to light green to waxy, dark green leaves seem harmless. In the fall, the reddish-tinged green foliage is actually quite pretty. But it’s not something to pick and take home to Mom.

The resin in poison ivy contains chemicals called urushiols. The urushiols are the substances that elicit the allergic reaction. The first time a person is exposed, he or she won’t get a response. Then the immune system learns to recognize it and the next time exposure occurs, all bets are off. For some, each exposure makes the next exposure even more severe. That’s all a chronic poison ivy-sufferer needs to hear. I paid my dues the first 20 or 30 exposures. Or 40.

Though poison ivy is often thought to be a warm weather allergy, it’s really an all seasons curse. I’ve gotten it in winter when cutting and clearing brush and trees by hand. There’s no “leaves of three” to watch for in winter, so learn to recognize the look of the stems, vines and buds.

The oil from the plant can also be passed along from secondary agents; garden tools, clothing, even pet fur. If Rover roves through a patch of poison ivy and you give him a good petting, bingo.

Don’t expect the sap or urushiols to fade much over time. Instances have been documented when people have contracted poison ivy from contaminated tools or clothing exposed months previous.

Though I’m highly allergic, I don’t hide from poison ivy or let it stop me from outdoor activities I want to do. I simply avoid the most obvious patches, bushes, vines and leaves. Then, as soon as possible, wash exposed area. The less time offending urushiols spend on exposed skin, the less severe the reaction. Common soap and water works well. Do not take a bath. The damaging urushiols on your skin will mix with the steeping warm water, entering open pores. Instead, wash and rinse with cool tapwater or a cool shower.

Modern medicine has poison ivy answers, as well. It’s not just “slather it with calamine lotion” anymore as it was when I was a youngster. Prescription medications are available as well as numerous over-the-counter lotions, creams, oral applications and patches. Depending on the person, some work better than others to tone down a case of “the ivy.” There are even pre-exposure creams available. I’ve not tried them but in a situation where I knew exposure was inevitable, I’d give them a try.

In the meantime, I’ll continue living by the credo, “Leaves of three, let it be.”



DNR News

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



For immediate release: July 20, 2016

Nest-Cam Barn Owls Hatch Second Clutch

A pair of barn owls in Indiana whose nest is visible through a webcam has laid a second round of eggs after the first round failed. This second clutch of eggs has produced five owlets.

You can watch the owl family at wildlife.IN.gov/8183.htm. The nest cam is run by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish & Wildlife.

Earlier this year, the nesting pair hatched three owlets; however, none survived. The pair mated again and laid eggs in May. At least two eggs have hatched, producing owlets that are visible on the webcam. One owlet looks larger. Typically, owl siblings hatch at different times, producing chicks of different ages and sizes. This is called hatching asynchrony.

The barn owl pair has been living in a DNR-built nest box inside a metal pole barn since 2009. In 2013, this nest was one of only 18 known barn owl nests in the state.

Nest boxes for barn owls have been placed by the Wildlife Diversity Program of the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife since 1984. Information on the Wildlife Diversity Program is located at: wildlife.IN.gov/2356.htm. For directions on building your own barn owl nest, go to: http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/files/fw-Barn_Owl_Brochure.pdf.

Barn owls are endangered in Indiana due to habitat loss. Barn owls need large areas of pasture, hayfields, grasslands or wet meadows for hunting meadow voles, their favorite food. For breeding habitat, feeding areas must be near a suitable nest site, usually a tree cavity or a man-made substitute like a nest box.

Modern farms consist of large corn and soybean fields with few idle areas or pasture for hunting. Furthermore, old wooden barns are disappearing and being replaced by pole barns with fewer access points for owls.

Research and information on barn owls are supported by donations to the Indiana Nongame Wildlife Fund. This year, the fund is in peril, with donations down by more than 50 percent. You can donate at endangeredwildlife.IN.gov to help barn owls and more than 750 nongame and endangered species. The future of Indiana wildlife depends on it.

Media contact: Michelle Cain, wildlife information specialist, DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, (317) 234-8240, mcain@dnr.IN.gov.

DNR News

Division of State Parks

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

For immediate release: August 23, 2016

Learn Wildflower Identification at Monroe Lake in September and October

Improve your plant identification skills with help from the Monroe Lake interpretive naturalist during Flora Field Day, September 6 and October 4.

Each field day emphasizes how to use an ID key, which simplifies identification for thousands of species. Naturalist Jill Vance will work with each attendee based on prior experience.

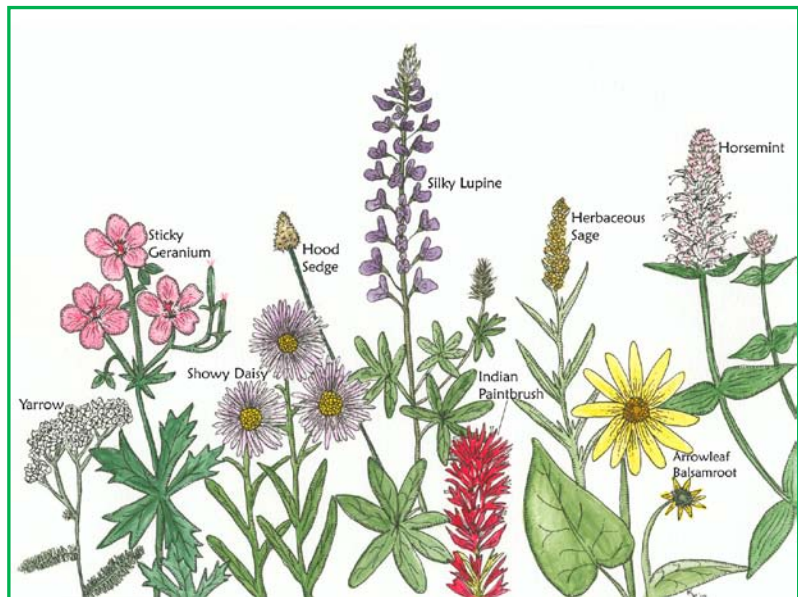
If you've never worked with flower ID, this program is a great way to learn. If you have prior experience, a field day is a fun way to practice skills and maybe add new blooms to your life list.

Flora Field Day sessions are free, but registration is required. Each session begins at 9:30 a.m. and lasts about two hours.

The September 6 field day is at Salt Creek State Recreation Area. Register by September 3 at: bit.ly/florafieldsep2016

The October 4 field day is at Fairfax State Recreation Area. Register by October 1 at: bit.ly/florafieldoct2016

Southern Indiana's Monroe Lake (stateparks.IN.gov/2954.htm) is at 4850 South State Road 446, Bloomington, Indiana 47401.



Media contact: Jill Vance, interpretive naturalist, Paynetown Activity Center at Monroe Lake, (812) 837-9967, jvance@dnr.IN.gov.

INCA Schedules the First Conservation Congress in Indiana

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 1, 2016

COALITION SEEKS MORE FUNDING FOR WATER QUALITY, PARKS, AND WILDLIFE

Indianapolis, IN: The Indiana Conservation Alliance (INCA) has announced September 30, 2016 as the date for its first Conservation Congress at the Abe Martin Lodge at Brown County State Park.

The Indiana Conservation Alliance was formed in 2003 to attract increased and permanent funding for land, water, and wildlife conservation in Indiana.

INCA co-chair John Ulmer of Zionsville said “we have over two dozen organizations in Indiana that support this initiative and will be participating in the Congress; we hope it will attract more individuals and organizations that share the same goals.” The Alliance meets before every session of the Indiana General Assembly to set its legislative priorities for conservation.

State funding for natural resource conservation in Indiana has been seriously declining for years and has resulted in insufficient budgets, closed facilities, loss of staff and many unfilled positions at the Department of Natural Resources.

“If we hope to find more money for the conservation of natural resources and for increased land stewardship, we need more of the public to get involved,” said co-chair Jim Sweeney of Schererville. “We hope the Congress becomes an annual event and an instrument for increased state funding for conservation in Indiana.”

Tentative speakers include noted Indiana conservationist Bill McCoy of Patoka Wildlife Refuge and Steve Byers and Nancy Williamson of the Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge in Illinois. They will discuss how to build an effective coalition. DNR Director Cameron Clark has been invited to speak and the Congress will include breakout and plenary sessions and feature recent conservation initiatives from around the state.

Registration is now open to the general public and can be found at www.inconservation.org. Seating is limited. Lunch will be included with the registration but rooms, cabins, or campsites have not been reserved. Registrants are responsible for their own accommodations.

Contacts: John Ulmer
Email: john.w.ulmer@gmail.com
Phone: 317-769-3500

Jim Sweeney
Email: jp55biod@att.net
Phone: 219-322-7239



Interesting Bird Sightings in the Great Outdoors

We recently asked HOW members to submit photos and reports about interesting or unusual birds that they have seen during their outdoor adventures. The sightings do not have to take place in Indiana; anywhere in the world is fair game. All photos on this page submitted by those reporting.

We hope this page will not only interest bird enthusiasts, but all HOW members who enjoy spending time in the great outdoors (i.e. everybody)!

Birding report from Garry Burch:

We still had a couple photos from Garry Burch's trip to Florida last year, so we thought we would show them now. The photo at right shows a nice Little Blue Heron (*Egretta caerulea*). Little blue herons are sometimes confused with the tri-colored heron and sometimes with the great blue heron.



Burch's other bird photo (left) shows a common northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*). These mockingbirds are enthusiastic singers, often singing all day long and sometimes into the night. Some males learn up to 200 different songs during their lifetime.



Report from Bill Keaton:

Bill Keaton and his wife Rita recently observed a large colony of cliff swallows (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*) near Madison, IN in the southern part of the state. "Attached is a picture of a cliff swallow colony (at right) on the underside of the Madison-Milton Bridge," said Keaton. "Rita and I walked across the bridge one Saturday and enjoyed a glass of wine sitting with a view of the bridge."

The Madison-Milton bridge spans the Ohio River and connects the small towns of Madison, Indiana and Milton, Kentucky. Large numbers of cliff swallows make their nests on the underside of the bridge, using mud to fabricate the nests and firmly attach them to the concrete structure.

Report from Tom Berg:

"We had a nesting pair of cooper's hawks (*Accipiter cooperii*) living in our yard this spring and summer," said Berg. "Once the juvenile hawks had hatched and fledged, they would occasionally fly down to the ground to play. The two siblings shown at left were photographed by my wife Lori one afternoon."



"These two hawks were pretty comical as they hopped around on the ground, playing with each other and with a pile of sticks beneath our large maple tree," continued Berg. "One bird would pounce on a stick with its talons and fly a foot or two straight up, then drop it. Then the other hawk would do the same. They pranced and frolicked around the yard for a long time before disappearing into the treetops."



On the Trail of a Mouse

by Alan Garbers

Recently, I was greeted with a dead mouse smell in my 2003 Dodge Dakota Quad-cab 4x4. The last time this happened, after suffering with the dead mouse smell for weeks, I found the deceased mouse in the air conditioner blower wheel. I'm guessing he couldn't run fast enough...

So this time I went directly to the blower wheel to look for it. Nothing. I looked and felt up into the blower compartment and air conditioner coil face. Pine needles and leaves, yes. Mouse no. Cleaned them all out.

I looked under the floor mats. I found where a mouse had chewed on my floor mats, but no mouse. I looked under my seats. No mouse, but I did see some chewed foam. Out came the seats. All of them. Off came the seat covers to the point that I could see no mouse was in the seats. Then I spied a spot where a mouse could get under the carpet. So, I pulled out the door and kick plate trim and pulled up the carpet. I found a hidey-hole and droppings, but no mouse.

I pulled up the back carpet and looked behind the back trim. Mouse droppings, but no mouse. I started dismantling the dash. Instrument bezel came off. Glove box off. Nothing.

I borrowed the snake camera from work and shoved it up into the air conditioner and heater ducts. Nothing.

I started pulling the dash cover off when my fingers hit something soft. No, it wasn't a mouse, but it did appear to be nesting material. Being smart, I thought it would be easier to pull the radio to get to the area. Radio came out, but no access.

So, I continued with the dash cover removal. Passenger air bag came out. A million screws out. Suddenly the dash cover was free! And there it was, a mouse nest as far up under that dash as a mouse could get.



So I started vacuuming. It wasn't one mouse. It was two, along with their nasty feces. A bottle of 409 cleaner and some paper towels cleaned it up nicely. A strong spritz with Febreze de-odorized it and now it's hours and hours of putting everything back in.

To top it off, I found the hole they chewed through my fresh air grill to get in, so the addition of some hardware cloth should prevent more incursions.

On the positive side, my truck has never been this clean. I also found 93 cents.

Bass Tournament Fishing Ups and Downs

by Ken McBroom

Last year's tournament season felt good, as I ended up in 12th place overall for my first full season. But this season I was tied for last place when I blanked at Patoka Lake, trying to deal with nasty weather and four-foot swells where I had found my fish during practice. My work was cut out for me if I wanted to make it to Lake Chickamauga to the regional championship in the fall. Only 50 anglers make it to the regional out of about a thousand, and last year I didn't do so well at the Kentucky Lake regional. But I felt good about making it there and I really wanted to get back to the regional this year to try and make it to the All American tournament.

Our second tournament of this season was at Lake Monroe, and it was a tough event. I had fished a small tournament a few days before and won it (and got the big bass award), so I had a pretty good game-plan. Unfortunately, good game-plans don't always pan out in bass fishing. I started up the river and with an hour to idle back there and an hour back out, I usually make the decision to stay up in the river all day when I go.

By ten o'clock, however, I knew I had to make a move so I headed to a spot I hadn't fished in a while. I coaxed a keeper bass out of the bushes and lost another, but that one fish put me in 41st place and moved me up to 79th place in the standings. I was moving in the right direction, but moving up from this point only gets tougher.

Our third tournament was back on Patoka Lake and it was scorching hot. I caught several good fish during practice and found a good stretch of water where the bluegill were spawning. I am not a deep water angler, so I look for shallow fish and I know the bluegill spawn will bring a few bass close to the bank. With the full moon, I knew that more bluegill were coming, too.

I had planned to fish a worm and a jig and I had them both on the deck ready to hit my bluegill bank, but something told me to tie on a popper and concentrate on one keeper bass instead of targeting bigger bass with the worm and jig. I started on my bluegill stretch first thing and was surprised that no one else was fishing there. I was boat number 100, and that usually means someone else is on your spot.

The morning started out really slow but I worked the stretch slowly, confident in my plan. As I was nearing the end of the stretch I started second-guessing my strategy and wondered if I had blown my best opportunity of the day to catch a keeper. As the day wore on I knew the fishing would only get tougher. I also knew that one keeper bass would move me up and we had two more tournaments after this one for me to get into the top 50 and make it to regional. So my only focus was on a single keeper bass. I stayed focused, and around nine o'clock a two-pounder slammed my popper and I put it in the box. That fish got me a 68th place finish in the tournament, but jumped me up 19 spots to 60th overall.



(continued next page)

Our fourth tournament was on the Ohio River. While the Ohio River is a tough fishery, I have learned to enjoy fishing there and usually catch a few fish. My goal for this tournament was to catch three bass to try and bust that 50th place mark going into the final two day tournament back on the Ohio. The points are worth double, and as long as you catch a keeper there is a good chance some really good anglers could blank and those really good anglers are usually sitting in the top 50. But I had my work cut out for me in this derby so I stayed focused.

Based on past experience, I didn't practice at all in the creek I knew I was going to fish during the tournament. I was just trying to locate another good spot; unfortunately I didn't find one. So on the morning of the tournament I ran to the mouth of my favorite creek where I had seen lots of baitfish earlier. I thought they were baby Asian carp, and bass love them. I caught a keeper bass on a popper fairly quickly, then I idled back into the creek to begin flipping my favorite stretch. I was going to stay all day and wait them out, because sometimes the bass will get active for just an hour or less during the day and you better be there when they do it.

I finally forced a couple of keepers to bite, but the co-angler in my boat didn't have a fish. He was in first place in overall points so I was feeling bad for him, but I waited for him to ask before I showed him what I was doing. He was flipping the same type bait but hadn't had a single bite. I showed him a couple little tricks to get hits when the bass aren't biting. I gave him a straight shank hook and showed him how I use a snell knot and a single bead to create a little rattle that is different from anyone else. It seems to drive the bass mad. After showing him a couple other little tips and the actual bait I was flipping, he flipped over to the spot where I had just caught my third keeper and yelled "get the net!" I thought he was kidding, but he wasn't and I scooped a 2-pounder for him.



That was the only bite he had for the day, but he managed a 27th place finish and only dropped to 2nd place in the standings. I always feel bad when the co-angler doesn't catch a fish. Even though the spot he flipped to would have been my next flip and I would have probably caught that bass, I feel good that his season is still in good shape. He has a chance to win it all on the co-angler side, so overall it was a great tournament and a great day on the river.

My three bass got me a check and 17th place, but more importantly, I moved into 44th place overall. I still have the super tournament at Tanners Creek coming up to try to seal the deal and get into the regional. The top six finishers there make it to the All American where only 50 anglers out of thousands are invited based on their performance at the regional. It is a no-entry tournament and they put you and your wife up for a week. All 50 anglers in the All American use a fully-rigged Ranger boat - all of them rigged identically so all you bring with you is your tackle. The All American is the longest running bass tournament and is steeped in history and prestige. If you win, you not only get \$120,000 but it also opens doors

to fishing for a living if that's what you want to do.

We have one more tournament left, so wish me luck!

To Be or Not To Be – A Squirrel

by Virginia Rhys Anson, OFS

Squirrel, my fidgety-tailed friend. What is it like to be you? Bounding through the yard, your fluffy, bobbing tail twitching to its own rhythm. God must have been in a jovial mood the day He created you.

What is it like to be a squirrel? To go tippy toeing on and among branches. To climb tree's trunk. To migrate through needing-to-be mowed grass.

Your romps among leaves exhibits so much energy. How rejuvenating it must be to sense their fragrance and hear their rustle and feel their tap upon your spring-loaded body. What fascinations become yours within the leaf-clad stems? What delectable sensation greets you as you hop from the thinner, new-growth end of an elm's branch to its parent tree? As you drop mid-air in tandem with branch's undulation - bounce, rebound, bounce, rebound - in ever shallower ripples while scampering toward limb's larger and stronger base. Does your stomach vacate its cavity and take up residence in your throat, as does mine when beginning my descent from a hill on a roller-coastery road?

A rather skittish bunch, aren't you? A bit high strung I would say. Though my intent is merely to watch



and enjoy nature's gifts, my presence seems disquieting. Your staccato barks warn your mates of my perceived intrusion into your assumed territory. Little do you realize that, had you remained silent and motionless, I would have had nary an inkling that you spied me from above. Tree's foliage hides you well.

Your antics. Oh, yes, your antics. You seemingly play tag wherever you roam. At least tag it seems. Could very well be displays of dominance or amorous advances. I, in my stubbornness, prefer its anthropomorphic term to be tag.

Such manifestations of dexterity and balance are yours. You rival a seasoned walker of the high wire as you skillfully traverse a telephone line with nary a hint of losing your balance - an inborn instinct I deduce. Your acrobatics are,

likewise, quite humorous as you hang upside down from a bird feeder while confiscating its contents.

Bird feeder thief are you. Though the robber's life is not my desire, your cunning intrigues me. You are quite adept at your craft. Corn cobs that I provide to entice you away from seeds and apples meant for avian friends seem not to dissuade you from these tasty treats. Seeds deplete quickly, much faster than birds alone can devour.

Likewise do apples - core, seeds, stem, and all. Much too quickly. Yes, it must be you, my larcenist friend. You and your marauding gang.

(continued next page)

Corn cobs you do not devour en masse. The kernels only disappear. Spring thaw reveals a collection of kernel-less cobs sprinkled throughout the yard. It so pleases me to know that you do not hunger in winter's grip.



For such a tiny creature, your brain is ever sharp - and quite determined. Unflinchingly resolute is your species. The actual term might be stubborn. My feeble human attempts to thwart your feeder raids end all too frequently in defeat. Your teensy brain analyzes and re-analyzes the situation. Plan after plan is conjured and attempted until finally one succeeds. But you do not stop until you have reached your reward. Yep. Stubborn.

Bird seeds do, however, seem your favored treat. You relish the challenge of hijacking morsels from feeders. Well, one feeder only, as the second is designed to stymie your efforts. It does a pretty fair job, though you do try diligently to crack its code. Might the resilience of feeder two

also hint that feeder one provides easy pickings, and the least resistant path rules?

Bird seed aside, we must have a sit down about your thievery of my crocus bulbs. I don't ask much of you, my fidgety friend, and I provide plentifully for your needs. So please, I do beg, leave my crocus bulbs be. Though I love all four seasons, my spirit pines for the first hint of snow's recession. Crocuses quell that ache. Yet the numbers of these daring blooms that peak above the white of winter are goodly depleted from those planted last fall. Yes, they must seem a delicacy. Yet please unhand - unpaw - my crocus bulbs.

Despite my dismay at your filching, I must say that your table manners are quite dainty. Clasped between your petite paws, a nourishing tidbit you nibble. Wouldn't happen to be one of my crocus bulbs, would it? No matter. 'Tis too late to save it as you gingerly partake, savoring its apparently appealing flavor.

Quite a happy-go-lucky spirit is yours; jerky, deceptively haphazard meanders through my yard its signature. Your cares appear to non-exist as you frolic 'neath nature's luminous orb. Your life seems nearly all play, though I suspect every move is bent on survival. Yet play I perceive it so.

So what is it like to be you? To be or not to be a squirrel? One can only glimpse from without what the brain imagines from within. God's jovial creature. How you can entertain and allow me to waste away an afternoon in its whole. Ah, but such a pleasant waste. Such a pleasant imagining.



Squirrels can provide plenty of back yard antics. They are fun to watch, but they are also notorious bird feeder bandits. Squirrel photos by Tom Berg.

HOW Member News



Mike Berg Samples Fishing In New Hampshire Waters

HOW member Mike Berg made a trip to New Hampshire in June to attend the annual NANFA (North American Native Fishes Association) convention. NANFA is dedicated to the appreciation, study and conservation of the continent's native fishes. Berg is the regional Indiana representative for NANFA, and he always looks forward to the annual meeting.



After arriving in Portsmouth, Berg wasted no time in fishing for some of the local fish species. He caught saltwater fish like Atlantic mackerel, mummichog, Atlantic tomcod, pollock, longhorn sculpin, cunner and striped bass. He also had time to catch some freshwater fish, such as fallfish, smallmouth bass, redbreast sunfish, sticklebacks and banded sunfish.

During the convention, Berg was interviewed by a local radio program called "The Fish Nerds", and he talked about his current quest to catch every freshwater fish species in North America. A tall order indeed!

One of the convention speakers, Jerry Shine, discussed the excellent scuba diving off the shores of New Hampshire and how the water is absolutely filled with life. This area has as much biodiversity as many tropical areas (if not more). The only downside is that the water is much colder here so you have to wear a thick wetsuit when diving. Shine is the author of *A Shore Diving Guide to New England*.

Convention attendees, including Berg, were treated to a saltwater boat tour aboard the Gulf Challenger, a 50-foot research vessel which does offshore sampling of bottom-dwelling species. Their trawling net allowed them to collect a variety of bottom-dwelling creatures: shellfish like scallops, clams and lobsters; fish such as flounders, sculpins and hake; and a tremendous number of live sand dollars (at least 1,000). All were returned to the water after examination.

Berg also spent some time fishing on a local charterboat. He and the boat's crew went out on the ocean and caught some small fish like pollock and mackerel, then headed inshore to the Piscataqua River and used the small fish for bait for large striped bass. The big stripers were more than happy to eat the live baits presented by the fishermen, and Berg caught and released several nice-sized stripers. He said it was a great trip!



TOP: A small pollock makes a great live bait for striped bass.
MIDDLE: Mike Berg holds one of the stripers that he caught in NH.
BOTTOM: An Atlantic tomcod was one of the more unusual catches made by Mike Berg on his trip. All photos courtesy of Mike Berg.

Garbers' Work is Featured In Woodcarving Illustrated

HOW Board Chairman Alan Garbers is not strictly a hook and bullet writer. He writes articles on a wide range of topics, from hiking to outdoors gear to what kinds of food to pack for a camping trip. One of his more unusual topics, however, happens to be the subject of woodcarving. More specifically, woodcarving performed by Native American Hopi craftsmen.

Garbers has always been interested in Indian artwork, and one of his favorite types is Hopi Katsina dolls. Hopi Katsinas can only be carved out of one type of wood, and that is cottonwood root. Once dried, these tree roots make ideal carving material.

Garbers knew that a story about Hopi Indians carving special Katsinas would be interesting to woodcarvers



Captured Motion

Gerry Quotskuyva's Katsina carvings are like forbidden snapshots of the traditional dances
By Alan J. Garbers

Nothing evokes emotion more dramatically than captured action, as seen in the award-winning work of Hopi Katsina carver Gerry Quotskuyva.

Gerry must commit everything to memory before he begins a Katsina carving. It is taboo to photograph the ceremonies of the Katsina dancers. While this could be seen as a handicap to non-Hopi, it shows respect to the Katsinam, and is just part of the creative process.

"A bronze sculptor once told me that he created motion by first shaping a piece in clay, and then by twisting the clay model into the stance or movement he wanted to sculpt," Gerry said. Taking inspiration from that idea, Gerry uses himself as the clay. "When I'm ready to start a new piece, I'll stand up and strike a pose. I'll study it, and then begin carving. I start with blocking out the wood where the apparel, jewelry, and arms will be. I then go back and concentrate on the body, beginning with the shoulders and hips. I think about how the body stretches and reduces with each movement and pose in the position several times to ensure accuracy."

To bring realism to the carving, Gerry replicates the various regalia components in detail. "I imagine how different fabrics would move in windy or calm situations and try to capture that movement. It helps to know the stiffness or pliability of the material and to imagine how the fabric would flow," Gerry explained. "The kilts are thick, so there aren't many folds in that fabric, but some sashes are very flexible, so they have more bounce than other components. I concentrate on how the kilts rest on the legs and how that motion will make the sash, belt, jewelry, and even feathers bounce as the dancer moves."

In addition to winning many awards, Gerry's work has been displayed at museums including the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and has been featured in books and on television.

To see more of Gerry's work, visit katsinacarver.net.

This Sunface dancer's headdress, known as mibahoy, brings the carving to life.

The movement captured in the sash accents the motions of the Sunface dancer.

Woodcarving Illustrated | SPRING/SUMMER 2016

around the country. He also knew it was an unusual story pitch for the editor of Woodcarving Illustrated magazine, and unusual stories are often easy to sell. It wasn't long before he had the article assignment for the 2016 Spring/Summer issue. The finished product looks great, too!

Think of some unusual story angles for your own writing outlets and you will likely start selling more stories.



Bold Bear Visits Berg in Wisconsin

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg made his annual family trip up to the lakes region of northwestern Wisconsin earlier this summer, and he had a few things on his to-do list. Fishing, birding, and general wildlife viewing were at the top of the list, and Berg was lucky enough to find success in each category.



The fishing for panfish like bluegills, crappies and rockbass was outstanding. There were also lots of birds to see around the lake's shoreline, from loons and eagles to orioles and warblers. There were plenty of other animals around, too, including whitetail deer, red fox and muskrats. But what about black bears?

In past years, black bears were a fairly common sight. But ever since people stopped leaving food and garbage cans out at night, the bears had melted back into the woods. According to one report, chances were very slim that a bear would be seen during Berg's stay. Never-say-never, though, because the very next day a black bear walked right into Berg's camp – during the middle of the day!

Schoonveld Loves A Billfish Bargain

HOW past president Mike Schoonveld has made numerous fishing trips to Mexico over the years, pursuing a wide variety of fish species. One year he concentrated on big dorado, or mahi mahi, and he caught some real bruisers. This summer he had only one thing on his mind, though: billfish.

“My friend Doug Wheelock and I are fishing travel partners,” said Schoonveld. “Although we live hours apart, we manage to end up in the same boat with one another a couple times each year. Perhaps it’s because we live so far apart the boats we share are often located in far off places.”



Here is Mike Schoonveld with a nice sailfish he caught and released in the Sea of Cortez. The acrobatic fish jumped 6 or 8 times! Photos on this page courtesy of Mike Schoonveld.

“We are both instigators of these trips, but I usually end up being the trip planner. So when Doug mentioned he’d like to catch a marlin, I went to work. There are many areas around the world where marlin can be caught. If Doug and I were millionaires we could have headed for the Great Barrier Reef in Australia. Not counting air fare, a few thousand dollars per day would probably cover the tab.”

“Lots of marlin are caught off Hawaii’s Kona Coast. Panama’s Tropic Star Lodge is a terrific place to hook up with a marlin. There are many other places around the world, as well - none of them cheap, few of them a sure thing. I understand fishing is called ‘fishing, not catching’ because while you can always fish, you can’t always catch. But if I plunk down several thousand dollars for a fishing trip, I want my results to be assured.”



Doug Wheelock (right) celebrates with the boat’s first mate after catching (and later releasing) a nice striped marlin while fishing with Schoonveld.

“I found just the spot and although it’s not cheap, it’s not a millionaires-only destination. It’s called the East Cape along the east side of Mexico’s Baja Peninsula. Start with a plane ticket to San Jose Del Cabo airport, the same airport visitors to Cabo San Lucas use to get to the resorts at the extreme southern tip of the Baja. Shop around and you can find flights for around \$350, round trip from Indianapolis, Chicago or Louisville.”

“Now you need a bed, board, boat and bait. Head for Hotel Playa del Sol. Room and board runs about \$200 per day per room and includes three meals each day. Bait and boat runs about \$350. Get a couple of friends to accompany you (the rooms will accommodate up to four people) and you do the math. Actually, the hotel runs specials and offers room/fishing packages at prices below these ala carte rates.”

“Marlin? You bet! We boated at least one marlin each day (both striped and blue marlin) as well as sailfish. Don’t forget, every fish you raise behind the boat doesn’t bite, and every fish that bites doesn’t get boated!”



Bud Fields Stays Busy With Deer Hunting Seminars

HOW member Bud Fields has been conducting deer hunting seminars across the state of Indiana for almost twenty years. “I do it for a number of businesses, and I find it quite enjoyable,” he said. “Hopefully, I have educated thousands of deer hunters across the Hoosier state. I love passing on the tradition of deer hunting to members of the younger generation.”

“I have already had events in Franklin and Walton, IN this summer,” continued Fields, “and I have every Saturday and Sunday booked until October. I love it!” He has made numerous presentations over the years for Rural King stores, Walmart, K-Mart, Dunham’s Sporting Goods, MC Sports, Sportsman’s Warehouse stores and select archery pro shops. Some of the cities where his presentations have taken place include Terre Haute, Evansville, Lafayette, Frankfort, Franklin, Kokomo, Logansport, Muncie, Fort Wayne and Marion.

Fields is a certified archery instructor for the Indiana Field Archery Association, the National Field Archery Association and is also a certified Hunter Safety Education instructor for the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. He was a founding member of the Galveston Archery Club in 1964 and was program director of their Bowhunter Education Program from 1973 until 1982.

He has appeared as a guest on numerous local radio and television programs as well as visiting many organizations, youth correction facilities, schools and churches promoting outdoor activities and youth involvement programs. He hosted the “Outdoors With Bud” segments for Walton Webcasting and Kokomo Perspective.

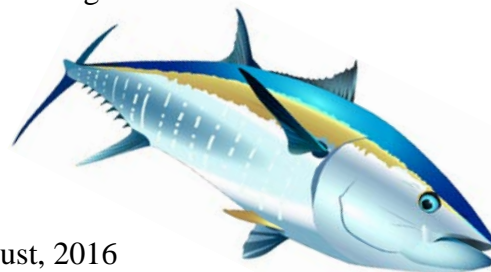


Schoonveld and Friends Witness Tuna’s Revenge on the Sea of Cortez

As described on the previous page, Mike Schoonveld had a great trip to Mexico’s Sea of Cortez this summer. But marlin and sailfish are not the only gamefish pursued by anglers there. Read the short anecdote below from Schoonveld:

“There was a lady on the boat who hooked a 150-pound tuna. She fought it, her hubby fought it, even the captain and mate cranked on it for a while. When the fish got close to the boat, the captain grabbed the rod and shoved it into a rod holder. The fish went nuts and the leader got wrapped around the rod. The leader slipped out of the captain’s hand and the fish dove, breaking both the rod and the line. Everyone was furious except the fish!”

As we all know, the big ones always get away...





Bramwell Experiences Alaska Up Close and Personal



HOW past president Rick Bramwell was in Alaska earlier this summer, and he had a memorable trip. He experienced everything from fishing to zip-lining. We just don't have enough space here to cover everything! Here is a brief report:

"I am sitting in a coffee shop in Anchorage, Alaska," said Bramwell, "reflecting on one of the most extraordinary outdoor experiences of my life. Most folks have a bucket list and I am living mine this week.



Rick Bramwell and his guide show off a pink salmon that he caught on the Kenai River. Photos on this page and the next courtesy of Rick Bramwell.

My daughter Jourdan and I flew Anchorage, rented an RV and headed north. We drove through Wasilla and on to an old mining town called Talkeetna. It was a throwback to the 1950s with unique old storefronts and no paved sidewalks. We especially liked Nagley's General Store where caribou sausage and chili were proudly served."

"We discovered a new treat when a vendor asked if we wanted to try some fireweed ice cream. We did, and then ordered more along with some fireweed jelly. Fireweed is a flowering weed that grows along Alaska's roadways and railroads. The pink flowers are used to make the pulp and the green leaves turn fire-red in the fall."

"The next morning we rode a dog sled (with wheels) at Sun Dog Kennels. The best 16 of their 60 some dogs are used to race the Iditarod. These dogs were surprisingly small and lean, weighing about 40 pounds each. We also hoped to see bears catching salmon in Alaska, so we made a 3.5 mile hike to the Russian River falls. We saw plenty

of salmon struggling to jump the turbulent rapids, but no bears."

"James Walker of *Alaska Kenai Fishing for Fun* picked up Jourdan and me at 5:00am one day for a full day of fishing for salmon and trout. He provided waders, boots, rain suits and tackle. We began fishing by "flossing" for sockeye salmon with a fly rod. This involves lobbing a fly tied about two feet below a sinker. The technique consists of letting the current or a sideways sweep deliver the fly right into a fish's mouth as it moves upstream. It meant one short cast after another while standing in a swift current and 45-degree water. We soon got the hang of this unusual method and began catching sockeye salmon ranging from 4-8 pounds. We also caught two dolly varden trout while fly fishing. My bonus fish was a nine pound pink salmon."

Bramwell and his daughter headed to Seward next, and halibut was the target this time. "We went to Miller's Landing and fished with Miller's Charters to chase my dream fish, a big halibut," stated Bramwell. "The boat takes six anglers out 40 miles to fish in 200 feet of water. Our captain was named Chance and his first mate was Dillon. On the two hour plus excursion, Capt. Chance said, 'If you choose to fish for big halibut, you will not catch small fish. When you put a 50 pound toy on the playground only the big kids can play with it.'"

(continued next page)

“The day was cold and miserable with wind and a steady rain. I braced myself along the boat rail as did the other hopefuls. The skipper rigged me with a stiff, five foot casting rod and a large casting reel. On the business end was a 24 ounce lead-head jig with a black/pink tube about a foot long. Added to that was a salmon head and two salmon meat slabs. Fishing for a monster, indeed.”

“Two hours went by with folks in the front of the boat catching silver (coho) salmon while Jourdan and I went fishless. My lovely girl was cold and wet, but gave no quarter. When Dillon figured I’d had enough he came back and said, ‘Rick, I can set you up for salmon so you can catch some fish.’ I told him I would give it some more time.”

“Capt. Chance directed me to keep the bait just off the bottom and keep it jiggling. The wind and waves helped with that, but jiggling almost three pounds of bait off the bottom was a chore.”

“Finally, I popped that jig and had a thunderous response. Nothing I have ever set the hook in felt like this. The fish fought all 200 feet to the boat. It took line and I gained some back. It was finally just below the boat, but I was afraid it would steal a little slack and get away.”



“My body and especially my left arm were spent, but adrenaline flooded in with my first glimpse of this mighty fish. At the opportune time, Dillon harpooned the big halibut. The measured length indicated it would weigh about 100 pounds.”

“After a long break, Jourdan and I went to work on the silvers and quickly caught our limit of three each weighing from 6-14 pounds. One halibut over 20 inches is the limit so I was relegated to waiting on others to catch what they could. On the way in we stopped and caught 27 black rockfish and one yellow eye rockfish.”

“I am so glad you caught the big halibut, Dad,” said Jourdan, “but I much prefer fly fishing the Kenai River for sockeye.”



Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Pure Fishing

Monarch Butterfly Caterpillars Are Poisonous



Close-up
→
Original
←



The “What is it?” photo from the last issue was definitely easier than previous ones, because eleven (11) HOW members correctly identified it. Troy McCormick, John Maxwell, PJ Perea, Scott Weaver, Michael Ellis, Phil Seng, Bill Keaton, Jack Spaulding, Dave Hoffman, Brian

Waldman and Rich Creason each had the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the **HT Enterprises** icefishing prize package, Scott Weaver was the winner. Congrats, Scott! We’ll get the icefishing prizes to you.

As you can see in the photo above, the mystery creature for this issue was a monarch butterfly caterpillar (*Danaus plexippus*). Monarch caterpillars have a very distinct yellow-black-white color pattern, and this pattern acts as a warning to predators to leave them alone. They are poisonous! Monarch caterpillars store a poison called cardiac glycoside in their bodies that they ingest when they eat the leaves of milkweed plants. Luckily, the poison does not affect them.

Monarch caterpillars hatch from tiny eggs laid on milkweed plants. The caterpillars (or instars) grow fast, and as they outgrow their skin they molt into larger caterpillars. They go through five stages of growth, and fifth-stage instars are often 2,000 times larger than newly-hatched first instars! The fifth stage instars continue eating until it is time to find a suitable place to form their chrysalis. Metamorphosis into a monarch butterfly is next!



For this issue, our friends at **Pure Fishing** 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 nice fishing rod/reel combo. 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 back yard. 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 species of fish, for example, go ahead and guess “Carp”. Of course, it’s not a carp, 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.



As mentioned above, **Pure Fishing** will be donating a great rod/reel combo as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. The winner will receive an Abu Garcia Veritas 7’ medium-heavy 1-piece casting rod and a lightweight Abu Garcia Revo S low-profile baitcaster reel. It’s a great prize for serious fishermen, and worth over \$200! If multiple people guess the right answer, we will draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck! Nature photos by Tom Berg.



HOW Supporting Member News



HOW Supporting Members Win Awards At 2016 ICAST Show

Orlando, FL: The 2016 ICAST show (International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades) held in Florida from July 12-15 was another great one, showcasing the products of some of the premier companies in the fishing tackle industry. Nearly 15,000 industry representatives from the global sportfishing industry attended the show to see the latest innovations in fishing gear, tackle, accessories and apparel. This year, more than 1,000 tackle products and accessories were entered by more than 240 companies into 24 “Best of Show” categories in the New Product Showcase, all vying for the overall ICAST 2016 “Best of Show” award.

Just like last year, many of the top new product awards were won by our innovative **HOW Supporting Members**. Here is the list of *Best of Show* winners from our corporate members:

Freshwater Rod

[St. Croix Rods](#)
Legend Glass Rod

Fly Fishing Rod

[St. Croix Rods](#)
SOLE

Saltwater Reel

[Pure Fishing, Inc.](#)
PENN SLAMMER III

Fly Fishing Reel

[Pure Fishing, Inc.](#)
Pflueger President Fly Reel

Eyewear

[Costa](#)
Rafael

Footwear

[Shimano American Corporation](#)
Flats Wading Boots

Technical Apparel

[Plano Synergy](#)
Frabill I-Float Suit



Best New Eyewear:
Costa Rafael sunglasses

Best New Footwear:
Shimano Flats Wading Boots

Congratulations to all of the winners!

For more info on ICAST, check their website: www.icastfishing.org.

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.

New Stickminno from Unfair Lures Entices More Strikes from Big Gamefish

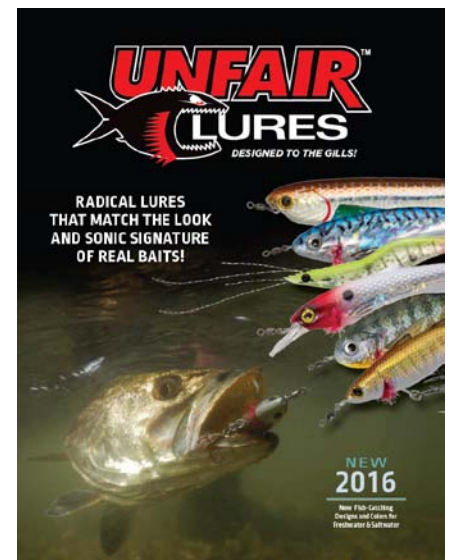
Crystal River, FL: There is a new fishing lure company on the market, very aptly named Unfair Lures. Their lures seem to be just a little unfair to the fish, because they are so effective! Lure designer Paul van Reenen is a veteran angler who has caught more than 500 species of fish on three continents, so he knows a thing or two about fish and their behavior. He is the inventor and originator of all Unfair Lures designs, and matching the hatch has always been his passion.



Although Paul is the company's president, his favorite title is: "Head FISHO"!

There are several lure models available for both freshwater and saltwater, but we are featuring the very productive Stickminno on this page. Here are some of the details:

- Design. Years of knowledge about fish feeding behavior and lure action are embodied into every lure.
- Accuracy. Each lure feature is the sum of careful observation and field testing that results in a line of lures that have no equal.
- The Unfair Lures Stickminno has a classic shape and dependable wobble well-known for enticing bites from a large variety of fish species.
- Patented 3D Bleeding Gill screams "Attack Me".
- Dives to approximately 4 feet in freshwater and 3 1/2 feet in saltwater.
- There is a size and color to fit any fishing situation.
- Unique color combinations. Proven & trusted.
- All lures come standard with PvRTurbo-Set Hooks. Hybrid cutting point, reverse barb technology.
- Fish seek and sense their prey in 3D. Hunting by SIGHT & SONIC signature. Unfair Lures has packed that knowledge into every one of our lures. Matching the "hatch".
- Accuracy, innovation and patented features like the "Bleeding Gill", "Living Eye", Hydrodynamic Molded fins and a stainless steel swivel, that improves action and eliminates line twists, make our lures stand out.
- "LONG-CAST" weight transfer technology for improved casting distance and depth regulation.
- Priced sweetly for our friendly "Fisho's" (the official name of Unfair Lures fishers).
- We strongly support conservation of our resources. Please practice CATCH, PHOTOGRAPH & RELEASE. Let us all contribute to making a difference.



For more info on products from Unfair Lures, HOW members should feel free to contact inventor and company president Paul van Reenen. Office phone: 772-480-4165 or email: paul@unfairlures.com. Also, check out their website at www.unfairlures.com and "like" their Facebook pages: *Unfair Lures* and *Rip-n-Slash Fans*.

HOW Supporting Member News



Hoosiers Can “Hunt with a Henry” During the 2016 Hunting Seasons

Although Indiana hunters were allowed to hunt deer with rifles in the past, they were limited to using rifles loaded with pistol cartridges. But as most deer hunters know, 2016 will be different. New rules were approved earlier this year which will allow high-powered rifles and ammunition to be used for the first time. There are restrictions, of course, such as using the new rifles and cartridges only on private land; hunters may possess no more than 10 such cartridges while in the field, etc. For a full list of rules and restrictions, see www.dnr.IN.gov.

Henry Repeating Arms has plenty of options for Hoosier hunters this year. Here is their most recent press release:

The Henry “Long Ranger” When You Need Distance and Precision, We Give You A Whole New Hunt

Bayonne, NJ: While customer demand has been strong enough for the models we built our reputation on to keep us plenty busy at all of our facilities (which we appreciate), we’ve taken on other market segments with the expansion of our centerfire lines in both handgun and classic rifle calibers like the .30-30 Winchester and .45-70 Government. You’ve told us you like the results, too. We’ve made the Henry name very familiar in the lever action game, and we’re not slowing down now. New for 2016, and a total departure from where we’ve been so far, meet our first entry into the long-range hunting arena – the Henry Repeating Arms **Long Ranger**!

Recognizing that the lever action is alive and well on the hunt, and that many customers need more distance, we’ve developed the Henry Long Ranger in .223 Remington, .243 Winchester and .308 Winchester – stretching the envelope in a design that takes the hunt to the fur in popular calibers at longer distances. Definitely not your Grandpa’s Henry, the Long Ranger retains traditional lever action operation with exposed hammer and forged steel lever, but updates it with a geared action that drives a machined and chromed steel bolt with a 6-lug rotary head into a rear extension of the barrel for a strong and consistent lock-up from shot to shot to shot.

With side ejection and a lightweight aerospace alloy receiver, the top is drilled and tapped for scope mounts, and the bottom features a steel-bodied flush-fit detachable magazine (5-round capacity in .223, 4-round in .243 and .308) with a steel floorplate and a blackened steel release button on the right side of the receiver. All behind a 20” round and blued free-floated sporter barrel, and supported by a two-piece oil-finished American Walnut stock with precise laser-cut checkering, sling swivel studs, and a solid black rubber recoil pad for both recoil control and non-slip anchoring on the shoulder for the rapid follow-up shots where lever actions excel.



The “Long Ranger”

Accurate? You bet. This is the Best-In-Class lever action gun that leaves many bolt actions in the dust. If you’ve ever passed up a lever in favor of a bolt because of accuracy doubts, then doubt no longer. We didn’t pick the Long Ranger name out of a hat; if you need a tight-shooter that’ll reach out there, this rifle delivers. From coyote to whitetail to bear, the new Long Ranger is a logical evolution in lever action technology as America’s contribution to classic firearms design. It has you covered from hardwood forest to sagebrush flat in a trim, quick handling, and dependable 7-pound rifle you’ll be happy to reach for as you head out the door.

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Make Henry Rifles a part of your successful hunting season. Our lever-action rifles are smooth and accurate right out of the box. Available in a variety of calibers and several new models to choose from. See the entire line of Henry hunting rifles at www.henryrifles.com. For more information, please contact company president Anthony Imperato at 201-858-4400, or via email at anthony@henryrepeating.com.

HOW Supporting Member News

SIG SAUER

SIG SAUER Introduces New Match Grade Ammunition

Newington, NH: SIG SAUER, Inc. expands its Match Grade Elite Performance Ammunition line for rifles with the addition of a 168 grain 308 Win load. Featuring a 168 grain Sierra MatchKing® bullet, the SIG SAUER 308 Win Open Tip Match (OTM) round has a muzzle velocity of 2,700 fps with a muzzle energy of 2,719 ft-lbs.

SIG SAUER engineers designed this round to excel in today's precision autoloading platforms as well as bolt action rifles. The temperature-stable propellant in this cartridge delivers consistent muzzle velocity in all weather conditions, and premium-quality primers ensure minimum velocity variations. All SIG SAUER rifle ammunition is precision loaded on state-of-the-art equipment that is 100% electromechanically monitored for geometric conformity and charge weight consistency. The shell case metallurgy is optimized in the SIG Match Grade OTM cartridge to yield consistent bullet retention round to round.

"Retailers have been asking us for additional calibers in our Match Grade rifle ammunition due to the shortage of supply in the market," said Dan Powers, president of the SIG SAUER Ammunition Division. "Our new 308 Win Match Grade OTM Elite Performance Ammunition delivers the accuracy and reliability precision shooters require and will help SIG retailers meet customer demand."



All Elite Performance Ammunition is manufactured right here in the United States by SIG SAUER to the same exacting standards as the company's premium pistols and rifles. Follow SIG SAUER on social media, including Facebook at www.facebook.com/sigsauerinc, YouTube at www.youtube.com/user/sigsauerinc and Instagram at www.instagram.com/sigsauerinc.

For more information, please contact Kathy McQueeney, SIG SAUER marketing (phone: 603-610-3299, email: kathy.mcqueeney@sigsauer.com) or Shannon Jackson at Shannon Jackson PR (phone: 804-343-3608, email: sjackson@shannonjacksonpr.com). Additional information can also be found by visiting www.sigammo.com.

Buck Knives Introduces New Products at ORS



Post Falls, ID: Buck Knives Inc., the leader in sports cutlery, unveiled some great new products at the summer Outdoor Retailer Show (ORS) in early August in Salt Lake City, UT. Among the new releases was a new automatic knife, the **896 RapidFire**. This is Buck's second automatic and it was designed for everyday carry. With the popular



response to the 2015 release of Buck's first tactical auto, the 898 Impact, Buck designed an automatic for the everyday knife user. Designed with premium S30V steel, the RapidFire features a dual action, removable thumb surface that offers the user the choice between a slow opening, liner lock engagement or a rapid fire automatic opening. The thumb surface can be removed to reveal the thumb hole. Made in the USA.

Buck's first automatic, the **898 Impact**, will now be offered with different handle coating options, too. The new additions, now with a black oxide-coated S30V blade, also come in Coyote Tan Cerakote and O.D. Green Cerakote-coated handles. Another available option is a stainless steel S30V blade with Safety Orange Cerakote coating. Offered with a stainless steel removable clip, the Impact fits in a pocket comfortably and discretely. Of course, it is made in the USA.

For more information, contact Rachel Rogers, Marketing & Communications Coordinator (phone: 208-262-0500, email: rogers@buckknives.com). For info on new products and other events, visit www.BuckKnives.com.

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
Widener's Reloading & Shooting Supply - www.wideners.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:

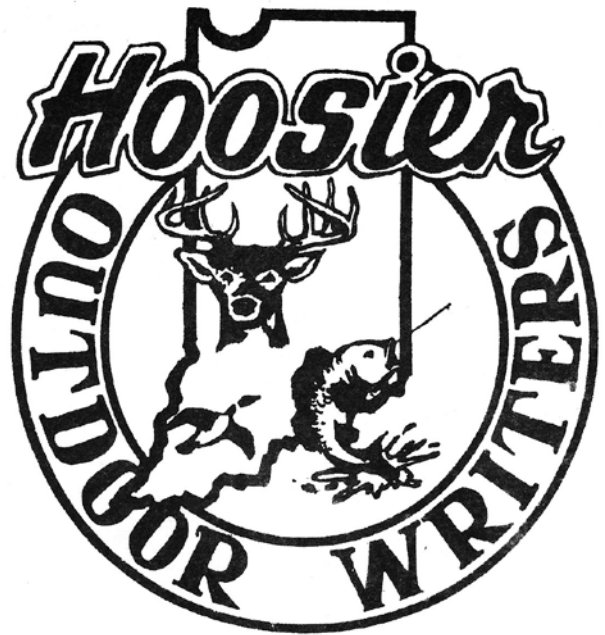
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor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

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
Louisville Deer & Turkey Expo: (www.deerinfo.com) Louisville, KY	January 27-29, 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.