

The Blade

2018 Pre-Conference Issue

March - April 2018

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Fly Fishing For Shoshone River Cutthroat Trout", 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.

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Executive Council

Board Chairman

Ken McBroom
411 N. Bauman St.
Indianapolis, IN 46214
ken@ramblingangler.com

President

Don Cranfill
208 E. Vermilya Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47401
themadpaddler@yahoo.com

Vice President

Troy McCormick
3604 Sea Pine
Jeffersonville, IN 47130
troy@naturalconcepts.net

Executive Director

Tom Berg
2142 Nondorf St.
Dyer, IN 46311
director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org

Advisor

Bill Keaton
126 West Second St.
Rushville, IN 46173
bill@bishophillguesthouse.com

Newsletter Editor

Tom Berg
2142 Nondorf St.
Dyer, IN 46311
director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org

Board Members

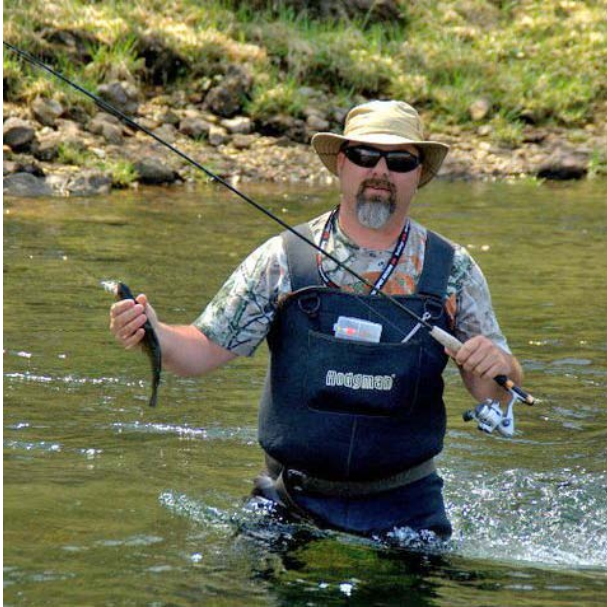
Region 1 – Mike Schoonveld
2019
Region 2 – Phil Seng
2018
Region 3 – Kenny Bayless
2019
Region 4 – Jack Spaulding
2018

At Large:

Josh Lantz – 2018
Louie Stout – 2018
Brent Wheat – 2018
Dianna Garbers – 2019
Vikki Trout – 2019
Terri Trowbridge – 2019

All submissions and correspondence in regards to the newsletter should be directed to: Tom Berg (e-mail: director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org), or to Tom Berg, 2142 Nondorf St., Dyer, IN 46311. Portions of this newsletter may be reproduced only with the permission of the Hoosier Outdoor Writer's Executive Board and/or the permission of the original author or authors submitting the material. HOW website: www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org.

On the cover: Fly Fishing outfitter and guide Tim Wade watches his strike indicator intently as his fly drifts past one of his secret cutthroat trout holes on Wyoming's Shoshone River. Tom Berg photo.



President's Message

by Don Cranfill

Foster New Writer Development

Well, here we are at the end/beginning of another season with HOW. That being said, this is my last go around with the president's report. It has been a good year for HOW and its members. I am very happy we got the HOW bylaws amended to open our group to more people. This should add some interesting new blood to our group. Many of these "digital people" can add useful insight as we progress into this next generation of media and communication. And we have much we can offer them in return.

When I first joined HOW several years ago, it was to network and learn the ropes of this profession. I hoped to find a mentor along the way to help with critique and development. I have been positively impressed with the amount of support and mentoring which I have received from so many of our members. We truly have a fine group of outdoor communicators.

As we start a new year with our new officers and board members, I would like pose a challenge to all our membership. We have a solid group, with first rate members. Our structure is very "open door" with all the different membership categories available. Let's start fostering more of this idea of new writer development. Find a student who enjoys the outdoors and is an avid reader, or enjoys writing, and bring them in to the fold. Reach out to some of our friends whose websites we read and get them to join as associate members, or even full members. Many of these folks are making a pretty darn good income from their endeavors. We can help them to be better connected through our network of experienced members in all of their various fields, and to develop as writers through this mentoring. Further, these folks can teach us a thing or two about new tech that may be coming down the line. Not to sound too old and crotchety, but these young whippersnappers are light years ahead of many of us in regards to what is trending in our own field. It is a win-win for all.

On another note, I am excited that Indiana will be hosting the OWAA conference this year. For those that are members of both groups, please take a moment or two if you are attending the conference to extend some Hoosier hospitality to our out of state guests. We have so much to offer people who visit our state and are looking for some outdoor adventure. I have been asked to welcome a group of outdoor writers who are attending a pre-conference outing to Brown County. It will be an honor to welcome these writers on behalf of the Brown County Visitors Bureau and the Hoosier Outdoor Writers. The plan is to discuss a few highlights of what Indiana, as a whole, has to offer them and then to expound on the beauty of Brown County and what fun awaits in those colorful hills.

That's about it for this last installment of the president's report. Best of luck to all the new officers in the upcoming year and to all members in this season's outdoor endeavors. Now, to bluegill fish or hunt morels? That is the next challenge most of us face. Either way, here's to enjoying them both on the same plate!

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

Marilyn Culler (Associate)
Greencastle, IN
Sponsor: Ray Dickerson

Nolan Sawtelle (Active Student)
Corydon, IN
Sponsor: Bob Sawtelle

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
Ken McBroom	2016



The Annual HOW Fun Shoot



The 2018 HOW Conference will begin (as usual) with the HOW Fun Shoot. It has become a tradition for the shooters in our membership to get together and break a few clay targets, have some fun and renew old friendships on the Friday before the Annual Meeting. Some of our participants are experienced shooters while others are new to the sport and are still learning. All skill levels are welcome, and the “senior” members are always willing to help newcomers.

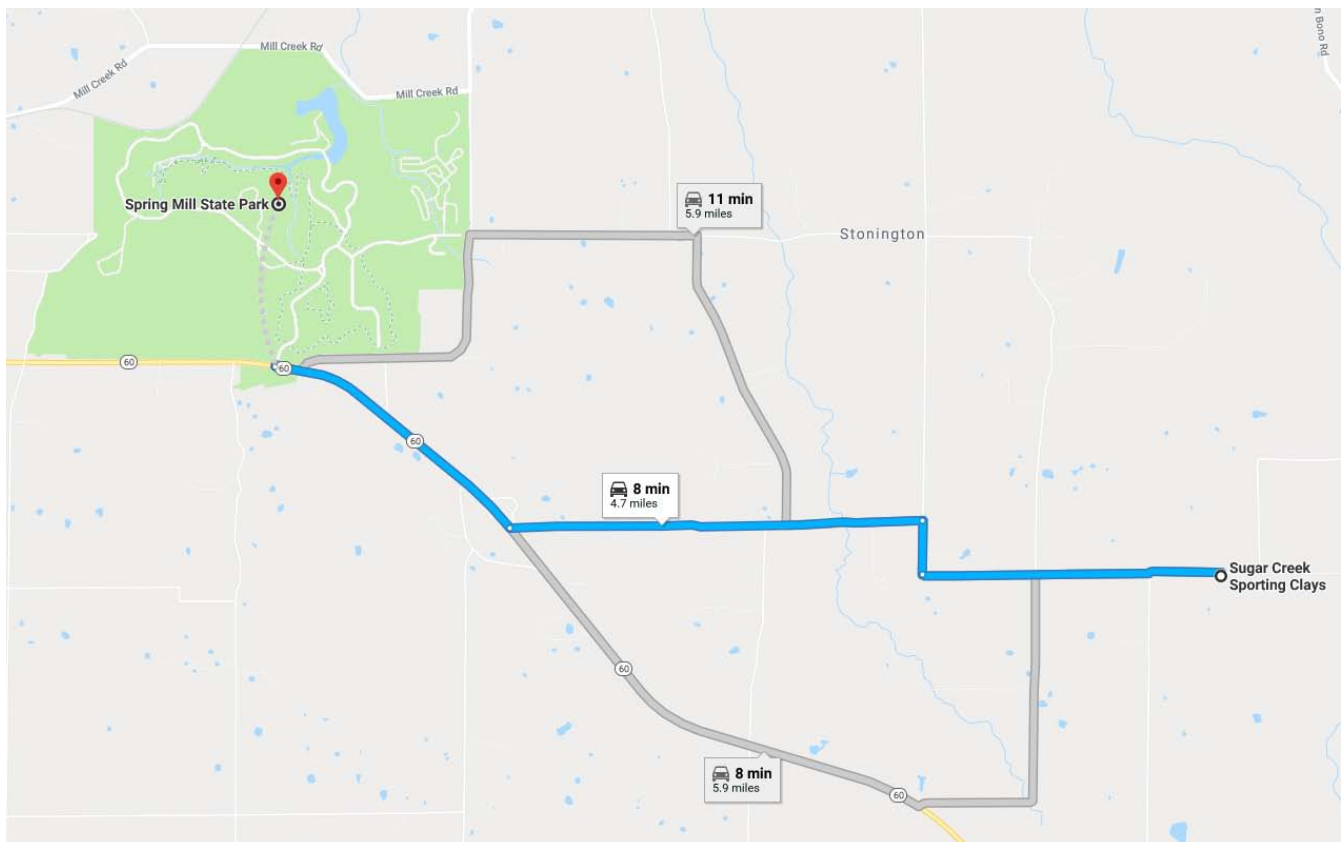
Since the 2018 HOW Conference will be held at Spring Mill State Park near Mitchell, we will be visiting Sugar Creek Sporting Clays for the HOW Fun Shoot. The address is 2191 Bono Rd, Mitchell, IN and it is less than 10 minutes away from Spring Mill State Park.

We will meet on Friday, April 13 at 1:00pm (local time) and start shooting as soon as everyone arrives. If you have trouble finding your way to the club, you may call the Sugar Creek clubhouse and talk to Brian (812-849-5020). But it should be very easy to find (see the map below).

This year we will be shooting sporting clays (100 targets), and we are hoping the course will be fun. The cost for the shoot will be approximately \$30. You can pay to the club’s cashier when we arrive or after the shoot. Ammunition will be complimentary, as HOW Supporting Member **Winchester** will be providing the shotshells to all of the participating shooters free of charge.

We should have plenty of time to finish shooting and get to the park to check in and get ready for our “Friday Evening Barbecue” at 6:00pm. Come on out and join the fun!

See the map below for directions to the gun club, or type **Sugar Creek Sporting Clays** (or the address) into Google Maps, your GPS or your smartphone.



2018 HOW Conference Preview



The Spring Mill Inn will welcome HOW members on April 13th at the start of our 2018 conference. Make sure you don't miss it! Photo by Tom Berg.

HOW Conference Attendees To Gather At Spring Mill State Park!

The 49th meeting of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers will take place on the weekend of April 13-15, 2018 at Spring Mill State Park near Mitchell, IN. Have you been to a HOW conference lately? This is shaping-up to be another great conference, and since we haven't had a conference here there will be a lot to see. Make your plans to attend now!

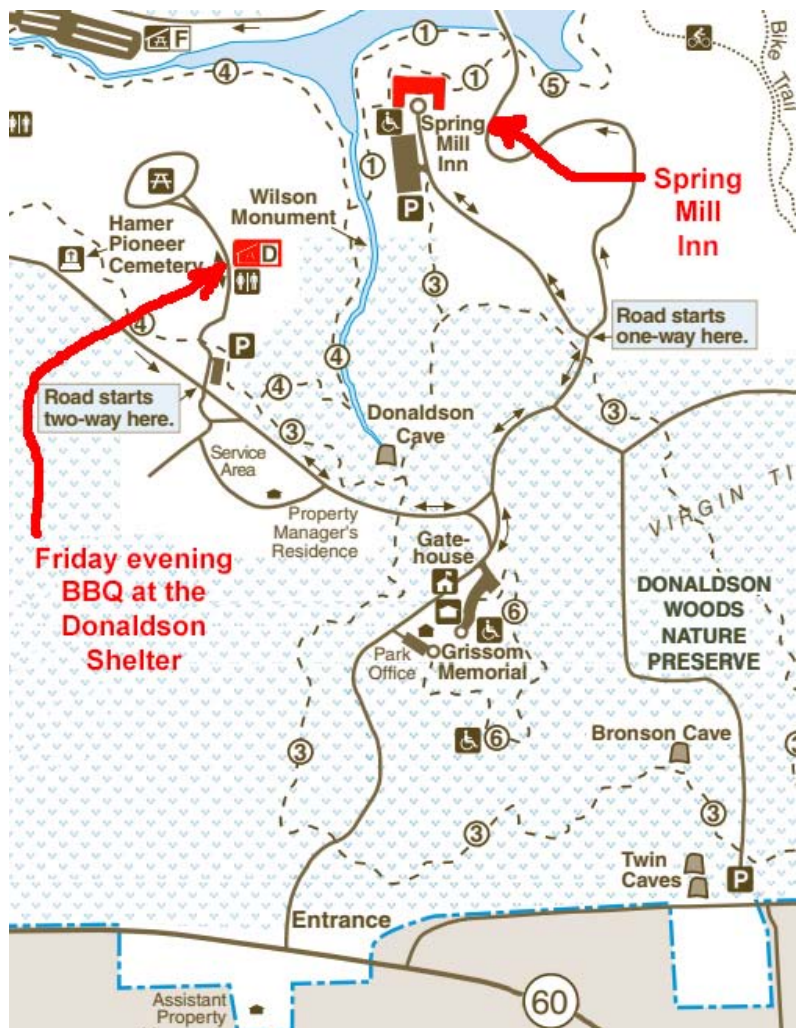
The weekend conference activities will begin with the annual HOW Fun Shoot on Friday, April 13. All HOW members who enjoy the shooting sports should consider joining us this year! If you have never shot a clay target, this would be a great opportunity for you to learn. Our shooters are always willing to help newcomers discover and enjoy the shooting sports. Tom Berg is again filling-in for Mike Schoonveld as

Fun Shoot coordinator this year, and he says everything is set for our group to shoot sporting clays at the Sugar Creek Sporting Clays Club located only minutes from the state park. Shooters will meet at 1:00pm at the club. More info on the Fun Shoot can be found on the previous page.

All conference attendees who arrive at Spring Mill State Park on Friday evening are invited to attend a special barbecue dinner that we are planning. We will meet at the Donaldson Shelterhouse inside the park at 6:00pm (see map at right). There will be plenty to eat and drink, and it will be a great opportunity to see old friends and make some new ones. All HOW Conference attendees and their spouses are invited. Mark Young, the property manager for Spring Mill State Park, will be on-hand to greet HOW members and welcome us to the park. Tonya Chastain from Lawrence County Tourism will also be present to meet and welcome the HOW membership.

The main meeting will occur on Saturday, April 14 at the Spring Mill Inn. As usual, you don't have to attend any of the events on Friday if your schedule only allows you to be present at the Saturday meeting. We will have some great speakers at the conference, making presentations on some very interesting topics.

See **page 10** for a copy of this year's meeting agenda.



We will have four different seminar speakers at the conference, featuring the following presentations:

- **Super-Human Vision with Thermal Imaging Technology**

HOW member and thermal imaging expert Brent Wheat will discuss what it would be like to have super-human vision – with **Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR)** gear. FLIR equipment makes use of thermal imaging technology, and Wheat will explain the basics of thermal imaging: history, technology, how it is used, legal issues and recent industry trends.

Wheat will also bring along several thermal imagers that will give the audience a better idea of why this game-changing technology is a hot topic and how content creators can help engage their audience by covering this timely subject. Wheat works for Traditions Media Inc. as a PR consultant for thermal imaging industry leader FLIR, Inc. and has much experience working with thermal imaging technology in the hunting and shooting fields.

The photo at right shows Brent Wheat stalking post-season deer with the full-featured Armasight by FLIR Zeus Pro 640.



- **Grasslands For Gamebirds and Songbirds Initiative**



Loggerhead shrike.

Josh Griffin is the Private Lands Program Manager for the DNR (pictured below, right). He will be discussing the Grasslands For Gamebirds and Songbirds Initiative (GGS), and the \$1 million in federal funding that the DNR received to help private landowners improve habitat for grassland birds and pollinators.

He will talk about the fact that the primary goal of the initiative is to develop and manage grassland and pollinator habitat needed by “At Risk” bird species. He will explain how the GGS will target development of 2,250 acres of

grassland habitat on private lands through funds provided through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP), and provide funding for three full-time “Grassland Biologists” to provide technical assistance to private landowners. The initiative will target grassland bird indicator species such as the Henslow’s sparrow, loggerhead shrike, northern bobwhite quail, and ring-necked pheasant. The GGS initiative will provide more habitat, more species diversity, more recreational opportunities, more hunting opportunities and financial incentives for landowners interested in conservation, improved soil health, improved water quality, and better overall human health!



- **Overcoming Disabilities To Achieve Your Dreams**



Outdoorsman Kevin Sparks.

Kevin Sparks, a retired Marine and President of the Kentucky/Indiana chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America (KIPVA), will be one of our guest speakers this year. Kevin is a quadriplegic outdoorsman. He recently harvested his first turkey and white-tailed deer. He once said all he wanted to do was go hunting and fishing like his big brother. With some of the new adaptive technology available today, his dream has become a reality.

“I’ve been fortunate enough to have the assistance of some wonderful volunteers,” said Sparks. “I, along with so many other paralyzed veterans, am able to reach unimaginable limits.”

The Kentucky/Indiana chapter of PVA believes that if veterans can pave the way and make their own dreams come true, they can open the doors for so many men and women who will follow and make their dreams come true as well.

- **Cave River Valley Natural Area**

Wyatt Williams and John Maxwell from the Indiana DNR will be our final speakers of the day. They will talk about Cave River Valley Natural Area east of Spring Mill State Park and discuss its history, landscape and populations of different critters that live in and around the caves.

Williams is the interpretive naturalist at Spring Mill State Park and he will bring HOW members up to speed on recent research regarding the federally endangered Indiana bat which lives in these caves. In addition, he will tell us what the future holds for this special place. Maxwell is a DNR staff photographer and he will present an interesting slideshow featuring beautiful and inspiring photos of Cave River Valley and the surrounding area.



John Maxwell (left) and Wyatt Williams (right) will discuss Cave River Valley Natural Area near Spring Mill State Park.

In addition to the speakers and seminars on Saturday, a slate of new officers will be presented to the membership and volunteers will be elected. Then we will have our traditional buffet lunch, followed by an awards presentation by the Indiana TIP Board (Turn in a Poacher/Polluter), and the awards for the annual HOW Awards-in-Craft contests. Toyota is the AIC sponsor again this year, and Curt McAllister from Toyota is scheduled to be at the conference to distribute the prizes.

Another Amazing HOW Raffle!

Of course, we are planning another excellent HOW Raffle this year, too! The raffle at the 2017 meeting at McCormick's Creek State Park was one of the best in recent years, and we think it will be even better at Spring Mill this year!

We have received a great variety of exceptional outdoors products for this year's raffle, including an awesome Ruger American rifle (complete with a Vortex Crossfire II scope), a beautiful Mossberg 930 Turkey 12GA shotgun, and a stunning Henry.22 caliber lever-action rifle (winner can choose either the American Beauty model or the Silver Eagle model). We have also received a very cool Mission Archery compound bow, top-of-the-line Alps backpacks, fishing gear, shooting and hunting gear, optics, hunting knives, electronics, hiking boots, archery gear, ammunition and much more. More items are still coming in, too, so start saving your money for tickets now. You must be present to win, so don't miss it!

There will also be opportunities to explore Spring Mill State Park throughout the entire conference weekend, where HOW members and spouses can explore the park's four interpretive facilities: the Pioneer Village, Nature Center, Gus Grissom Memorial and Twin Caves Boat Tour. There should also be plenty of time for some hiking along the park's walking trails, fishing in Spring Mill Lake, bird watching and nature photography.

HOW Fishing Outing on Sunday

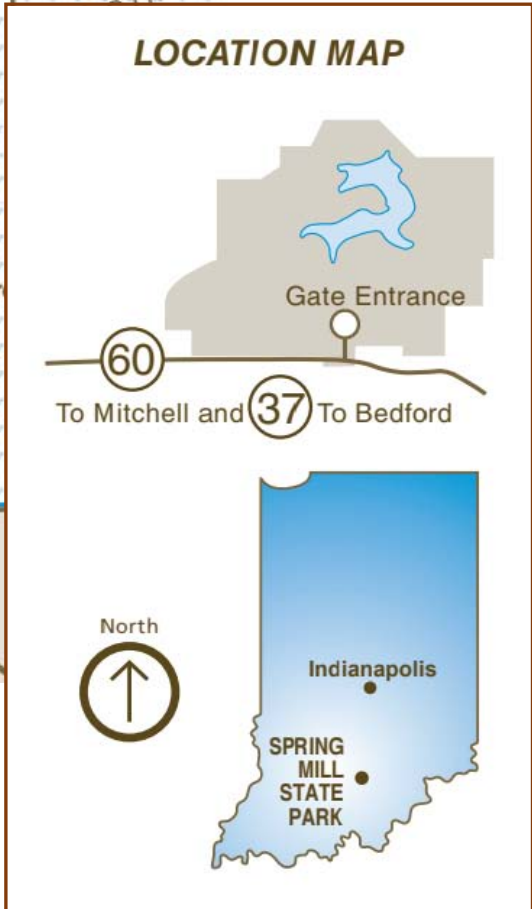
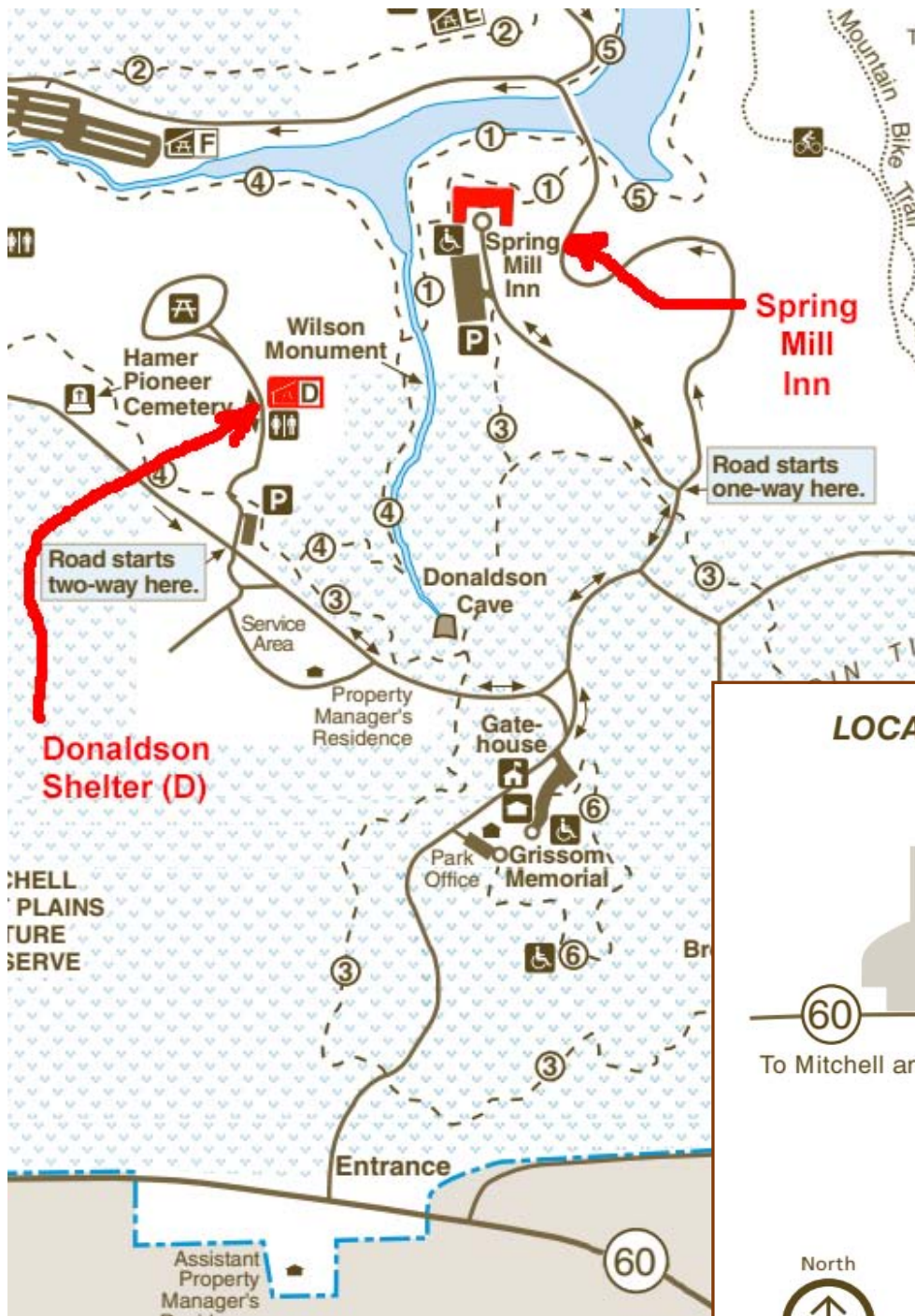
We are planning a fishing outing on Sunday, April 15th for HOW members who are interested in participating. Our friends from the Indiana Slab Masters will be helping out again this year, and their knowledgeable captains will take us fishing on nearby Lake Monroe. Crappies will be our main target, and April is prime-time to fish Monroe, especially for giant crappies.



Our guides will provide the boat, tackle and bait – HOW members will only need to bring themselves, a fishing license, camera, rain jacket (it may rain), and any snacks/drinks that they might like. We will be meeting the boat captains at 8:30am at the High Water Boat Ramp just past the Cutright Boat Ramp (Google it and look at the satellite image).

The volunteer boat captains really deserve our thanks. Most of them are pro-staff members of different tackle companies, so they are always looking for exposure – whether it be in an article, a blog, or whatever. So let's make sure we treat them right, take plenty of photos, and write a nice trip report afterwards.

Spring Mill State Park Maps for the HOW Conference



SPRING MILL STATE PARK
 3333 State Road 60 E • Mitchell, IN 47446 • (812) 849-3534
 1,358 acres Established 1927

HOOSIER OUTDOOR WRITERS

Annual Meeting on April 14, 2018
Spring Mill State Park
Spring Mill Inn – The Lakeview Room
Mitchell, IN

MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00-9:00am

Registration, continental breakfast.

9:00-9:05am

Opening remarks by HOW President Don Cranfill & briefing on the day's schedule.

9:05-9:15am

Spring Mill SP Property Manager Mark Young will welcome HOW members to the park and talk briefly about Spring Mill State Park and the outdoor recreation prospects available in the park and nearby.

9:15-10:15am

Seminar #1: "Super-Human Vision with Thermal Imaging Technology". Thermal imaging expert Brent Wheat will discuss Forward Looking Infra-Red (FLIR) optics and explain the basics of thermal imaging: history, technology, how it is used, legal issues and recent industry trends. He will also bring some gear for us to check out.

10:15-10:20am

Short break.

10:20-11:10am

Seminar #2: "Grasslands for Gamebirds and Songbirds (GGS)". DNR Private Lands Program Manager Josh Griffin will talk about the \$1 million GGS Initiative, which will manage grassland and pollinator habitat used by "at risk" bird species like loggerhead shrikes, quail, pheasants, etc.

11:10-11:30am

Business meeting, Slate of new officers and election of new officers for the coming year.

11:30-12:30pm

Buffet lunch and social time for members.

12:30-1:15pm

Seminar #3: "Overcoming Disabilities". Retired Marine and quadriplegic outdoorsman Kevin Sparks will talk about overcoming personal challenges and disabilities. With the help of volunteers and adaptive technology, many things are possible for disabled veterans and others.

1:15-1:45pm

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

1:45-2:15pm

Break. Raffle tickets go on sale!

2:15-3:15pm

Seminar #4: "Cave Rive Valley Natural Area". DNR employees Wyatt Williams and John Maxwell will discuss Cave River Valley Natural Area near the park and the creatures living there. A slideshow featuring stunning photographs of the valley and surrounding areas will be especially enjoyable.

3:15-3:30pm

Break. Last chance to buy raffle tickets!

3:30pm

Annual HOW Outdoor Writer's Raffle.

4:30pm

Meeting adjourns.

6:00pm

Dinner on your own for those staying until Sunday.

The 2018 HOW Awards-In-Craft Contest

**The Hoosier Outdoor Writers
would like to thank:**

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES

**For sponsoring the 2018
HOW Awards-In-Craft Contests**



2018 HOW Conference

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers would like to
Thank the following conference sponsors:



Friday Evening BBQ Sponsor



Conference Breakfast Sponsor



Conference Seminar Sponsor



Conference Lunch Sponsor

HOW Raffle Donors - 2018

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

Al's Goldfish Lure Co.
Alps Brand
Aquateko International
Arctic Ice
B'n'M Poles
Backwoodsman Magazine
Balsax Fishing Lines
Bass Pro Shops
Bill Lewis Lures
Birchwood Casey
Black River Tools
BoatUS
BOLT Locks
Buck Knives
Bucket Grip
Camp Chef
Cauldryn
Celox
Church Tackle Co.
Cocoons Eyewear
Costa Sunglasses
Cotton Carrier
Creason Wooden Pens
Cuda Fishing Tools
Danner Boots
Daisy Outdoor Products
Environ-Metal, Inc.
Finn Tackle Company
Fisherbeck Jigs
Flying Fisherman
Freedom Tackle Corp.
G.Loomis
Gerber Fishing
Glacier Glove
Grundens USA
Gruv Fishing
Gumleaf Boots USA
GunProtect
Hawke Sport Optics
Henry Repeating Arms
HHA Sports
Hodgdon Powder Company
Hoosier Trapper Supply
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
HT Enterprises, Inc.
Indianapolis Zoo
Irish Setter Boots
JackAll Lures
Kent Cartridge
Kruger Optical
LaCrosse Footwear
LensPen
Thompson-Pallister Bait Company
Lodge Manufacturing
Mack's Lure
Mathews Archery
Midway USA
Mossy Oak
Musselhead Tackle
MyTopo
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Wild Turkey Federation
NextGen Baits, Inc.
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc.
Otis Technology
Otter Lures
Outdoor Guide Magazine
Outdoor Sportsman Group
PahaQue Wilderness
Pheasants Forever
Plano Synergy
PowerPro Lines
Precision Hardcore Gear
Pro's Soft-Bait Glue
Pro-Cure Bait Scents
Quaker Boy Game Calls
RIO Products
Secret Lures
Shimano American
Shurhold Industries, Inc.
Snag Proof Lures
Solution Products
Sturm, Ruger & Co.
St. Croix Rods
Swab-Its
Tales End Tackle
Target Communications Outdoor Books
The Catch & Release Shop
Tenzing
Tink's
TTI-Blakemore
Vexilar, Inc.
Winchester Ammunition
W.R. Case

DNR News

Division of State Parks

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



For immediate release: March 9, 2018

Year-Round Camping Reservations, Spring Discount Available at Indiana State Parks

The Indiana Division of State Parks is now offering advance campsite reservations for spring, winter and fall.

Camping has always been available year-round at state parks. But in the past, campers could not reserve a site in advance between November and April. Sites were available only by registering on-site the day of camping, and they were administered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Beginning March 9, a handful of sites at every state park where camping is offered will be available year-round for reservations on Camp.IN.gov or by calling 1-866-622-6746. For those who like to plan ahead, the ability to make year-round reservations is a convenient option.

The maximum booking window of six months prior to arrival still applies.



For more spontaneous campers, many sites will remain available from November through April on a first-come, first-served basis for the day of arrival.

Also, an offer from Indiana State Parks will make weeknight camping more affordable this spring. Those who book a new campsite reservation for one or more consecutive weeknights (Sundays through Wednesdays) with an arrival date between April 15 and May 23, will receive 25 percent off of their reserved weeknights at the time of booking.

The discount is available only for campsites, and will not apply to any Thursday, Friday or Saturday stays. Use the promo code `SPRING18`.

Media contact: Christie Sorrels, business services program director, Indiana State Parks, phone: 317-233-6258, or email: csorrels@dnr.IN.gov.

OWAA Conference Comes to Indiana!

The 91st annual Outdoor Writers Association of America (OWAA) conference will be coming to Indiana from June 2-4, 2018! All HOW members are invited to attend, even if you are not currently a member of OWAA. Contact HOW member and OWAA President Phil Bloom (philbloom.OWAA@frontier.com) for information about attending.

The OWAA conference is an opportunity for outdoor communicators and outdoor groups, businesses and agencies that are involved in the world of outdoor communication to learn and connect with others in the industry. It gives attendees a chance to network with other professionals, allows them to build crucial business outlets and helps improve their skills.

The Fort Wayne area is rich with outdoors opportunities. Hundreds of glacially formed lakes in northeast Indiana provide endless recreational opportunities, as do three major reservoirs, five state parks, three state-managed fish and wildlife areas, and the nearby Wabash River, which is the longest free-flowing waterway east of the Mississippi. Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore ranks near the top of the National Park Service's properties for biodiversity, and a combination of state and federal lands in southern Indiana provide more than a half-million acres of public lands and abundant story opportunities for attendees.

Conference sessions will take place at the Grand Wayne Center, directly across the street from the host hotel, The Courtyard Fort Wayne Downtown. Craft improvement sessions will focus primarily on hands-on learning, covering topics including podcasting, travel writing the outdoors and perfecting pitches. Newsmaker sessions will cover regional and national topics including conservation legislation, public lands access issues and threats to wildlife.

The Southwest Conservation Club will host a combined Demo and Shooting Day. The 37-acre property is less than 15 minutes from the conference headquarters and offers four ponds, trap and skeet fields, a firearms range, archery course, hiking trail, nature prairie preservation work and a clubhouse.

Details about the Fort Wayne conference can be found at: <https://owaa.org/2018conference>.



THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

“Lefty” Kreh, Legendary Fly Fisherman
and Outdoor Communicator
February 26, 1925 – March 14, 2018



Cockeysville, MD – Bernard Victor “Lefty” Kreh, age 93, died on March 14, 2018 at his home in Cockeysville, Maryland. A member of three different fishing halls of fame, including the International Game Fish Association Hall of Fame and the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, Kreh was one of the pre-eminent sport fishermen of his time. He was also one of the best fly fishermen in the world.

Lefty Kreh was a great fisherman and one of the pioneers of saltwater fly fishing, but he was also a very active outdoor writer for more than 45 years. He was a book author (he wrote 32 books), photographer and casting instructor. He appeared in countless videos, television programs and made thousands of public appearances. He was the outdoor editor for the Baltimore Sun newspaper, and wrote for many other newspapers like the Miami Herald, the Frederick News-Post and so many others. He also wrote for all of the major outdoor magazines during his long and storied career.

Kreh’s book, *Fly Fishing in Salt Water*, is one of the most influential works on the subject. He gained his knowledge from first-hand, personal experience over a lifetime on the water. He fished all over the world, having fished on every continent except Antarctica. He fished with U.S. presidents like George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter. He also fished alongside other famous individuals like writer Ernest Hemingway and baseball legend Ted Williams.

Kreh designed the famous saltwater streamer fly named “Lefty’s Deceiver” in the 1950s, and it is used by fly fishermen around the world today. It was so famous that in 1991 the U.S. Postal Service featured it on one of their postage stamps.



Because of his many fishing accomplishments, Lefty Kreh received the prestigious "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the American Sportfishing Association. He was also honored with the "Lifetime Contribution Award" by the North American Fly Tackle Trade Association. In 1997, he was named "Angler of the Year" by Fly Rod and Reel Magazine.

These are just a few of his accolades. The complete list would go on for pages.

Lefty Kreh was preceded in death by his wife, Evelyn. She died in 2011. He is survived by his son, Larry Kreh of Glen Arm; a daughter, Victoria Huffman of Athens, GA; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

HOW Member News

Keaton Keeps an Eye on Waters of the US Issue

HOW member Bill Keaton has been keeping an eye on the Waters of the US topic recently. Most of us thought this issue from 2015 had been resolved some time ago, but evidently it is not done yet.

“Attached is an update on the status of the Waters of the US rule,” said Keaton in a recent email to Tom Berg. “The source of this report is the February, 2018 issue of Hoosier Farmer.”

Here is a scan of the article. Please read the text below first, then move on to the box at the upper right (it was hard to fit on the page and make it large enough to be readable!).

Thanks to Bill Keaton for bringing this to our attention.

have already challenged the applicability date rule. They have vowed to seek immediate court orders allowing the 2015 rule to go into effect, AFBF added.

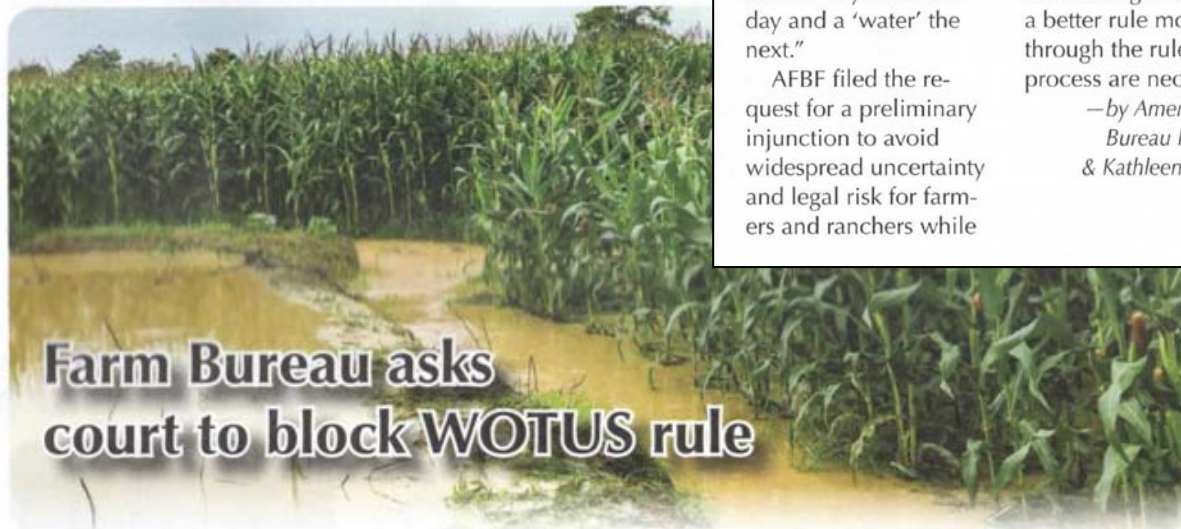
“Every move by the agencies triggers new lawsuits to resurrect this hopelessly vague and dangerous rule,” said Ellen Steen, AFBF general counsel. “If those lawsuits bring the 2015 rule into effect, even for short periods of time, dry ditches, drains and low spots on farm fields will be ‘dry land’ one day and a ‘water’ the next.”

AFBF filed the request for a preliminary injunction to avoid widespread uncertainty and legal risk for farmers and ranchers while

the agencies move forward with possible permanent changes. Farm Bureau made its request in the U.S. District Court for the District of Texas, the same court in which AFBF filed its original legal challenge to the 2015 rule.

“It is important for farmers and landowners to remember that the 2015 rule is still in place,” noted Justin Schneider, Indiana Farm Bureau’s state government relations director. “A nationwide stay of the existing rule and a better rule moving through the rulemaking process are necessities.”

—by American Farm Bureau Federation & Kathleen M. Dutro



Farm Bureau asks court to block WOTUS rule

The American Farm Bureau Federation, the Texas Farm Bureau and other members of a coalition of industry and agriculture organizations have asked a federal district court in Texas to issue a nationwide stay blocking the 2015 “Waters of the

U.S.” rule from taking effect.

The coalition’s request follows the U.S. Supreme Court’s recent decision that the U.S. Court of Appeals lacked jurisdiction over legal challenges to the 2015 rule. The result of this decision was the im-

minent lifting of a court order that has blocked the rule since October 2015.

AFBF’s filing also follows the Feb. 6 publication of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Army Corps of Engineers’ “applicability date” rule,

which delays application of the 2015 WOTUS rule for two years while the agencies consider its possible repeal or revision. According to AFBF, a handful of states and environmental organizations are eager to have the 2015 rule go into effect and

SASS Brings Back the Old West

by Alan Garbers

They were all there; Rattlesnake John, Cannon, Undertaker, Dough Slinger, and others. They were all watching my every move. I had been challenged and I knew deep down inside me that I had to respond.

Knowing gunplay was inevitable, my position was less than desirable. My pistols weighed heavy on my hips as I leaned against the wall, one leg up, heel against the wall in cowboy fashion. I hissed, "I was just getting comfy..." and flew into action. Taking two steps forward, I grabbed a Yellow Boy '66 rifle and fired off shots as fast as I could work the action, the gun never leaving my shoulder. Minutes turned into a lifetime as I fired at my adversaries. One shot here, two shots there, swinging back and forth until the rifle was empty.

Next, I leapt to the waiting side-by-side 12 gauge shotgun and loaded. A deadly shower of lead knocked two more opponents down. Running around a post, I reloaded and fired two more blasts and felt grim satisfaction as I saw two more opponents fall.

But there wasn't time to bask in the glory of surviving; there was still work to be done. Stepping to my right I drew one pistol and fired, the Ruger Vaquero bucking as fast as I could thumb the hammer back. With the pistol empty, I drew the other and repeated, a shot here, two shots there...

Instantly, a buzzer went off and I heard Dough Slinger yell out, "56...clean!" Cannon rushed forward, saying "Well done, Paako Hunter!"

If this all sounds campy, that's because it was meant to be. I had finally done something that I had wanted to do since I was a teenager. I was living all the Louis Lamour novels I had read. I was in the John Wayne westerns I had watched. It was like Audie Murphy was by my side blazing away as the targets fell. I was in a Cowboy Action Shooting (CAS) contest.

I had been wanting to join the Single Action Shooting Society, or SASS to most folks, since I first heard of it over two decades ago. What is SASS? Glad you asked.

SASS is an organization of members that shoot and dress from the cowboy era. As a shooter, you can take it as serious as you desire, from jeans and a cowboy hat, to period correct clothing, or even dress the part of a B-grade western star. There's even a Steampunk class! What that means is, you can dress like Hopalong Cassidy, Clint Eastwood, or even Will Smith from *The Wild Wild West*.

The whole point is to have fun while shooting cowboy-style pistols, rifles, and shotguns at targets so close you wonder how anyone could miss, and then ponder why you missed when it happens. To add to the challenge, each stage has a specific shooting sequence, so a shooter needs to remember how many shots are required for each target, and what sequence the targets are shot in. New shooters are given help to remember. The idea is to have fun.

(continued next page)



Alan Garbers, aka Paako Hunter.

For me, the biggest obstacle of getting into CAS is the investment in guns. Each shooter must use two pistols, a rifle, and a shotgun, and all must be period correct. But, do not let that stop you from trying it out. I strongly urge you to find a local club, let them know you want to try it out, and they will bring the guns (you will be expected to pay for the cartridges used). All you need to start is a cowboy hat, long sleeve shirt, jeans, and cowboy boots. Ladies, you can wear the same or follow the ladies dress code listed on the SASS website. As you get into it, you are expected to refine your clothing and follow the SASS guidelines.



The Ruger 1533-R Vaquero is SASS-legal.

While I am a new member, I can assure you that you should not buy anything before actually shooting in an event, and seeing which other events you may want to shoot in because different classes of shoots require different classes of firearms and clothes. And, do not feel like you can't compete. Classes are broken down into age groups and sexual orientation.

One of the guidelines I like the most is "The Spirit of The Game". SASS shoots are a game. You are expected to play by the rules of the game, even if they sound silly. Each stage is started from a certain position, such as leaning against the

wall in "cowboy style", touching a post, both hands on your shotgun shell belt, etc. And each shooter must say a line from a western movie that has been selected by the person running the match. In the stage highlighted above, it was "I was just getting comfortable". You can say the phrase as campy or lackluster as you desire, but everyone must say it. Everyone does it and everyone has fun.

If you have the slightest desire to do CAS, check out www.sassnet.com. I joined. Then I joined Pine Ridge Regulators (<http://pineridgeregulators.com>) in Carbon, IN. If you want to shoot, there are clubs all over the USA and all over the world. There are many right here in Indiana.

You may also want to attend and join NCOWS or the National Congress of Old West Shooters. NCOWS has stricter clothing and firearm regulations, leaning towards things that are historically correct, and not what was seen on the silver screen. To ease the pain, as writers we do get discounts from Ruger, Winchester, Henry and others.

If there's one thing I want to instill upon you, if you want to do this, don't put it off. I just started, but I already regret not doing this 25 years ago.

One last thing: as a SASS member, you get to pick your own alias, as long as someone doesn't already have it. You could be the Muncie Kid, Tippy Canoe, Dyer Straight, or whatever else suits you and is PG rated.

If I still don't have you excited about CAS, check out this video. It pretty much covers it all.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RFw0auUi5IU>

See you at the O.K. Corral,

Alan "Paako Hunter" Garbers



Winchester Model 1873

Teena Ligman Recommends Wildflower Hike For Family Members During the HOW Conference

HOW member Teena Ligman will be attending the HOW Conference on Saturday, April 14, but if she wasn't she would likely be participating in the 2018 Wildflower Hike being led by one of Indiana's leading wildflower experts.



Kay Yatskievych with a big patch of blue-eyed Marys on a wildflower hike. Photo courtesy of Teena Ligman.

“For family members who are in town for the conference and enjoy spring wildflowers, this is a rare opportunity to attend a wildflower hike led by Kay Yatskievych and Carroll Ritter,” said Ligman. “Kay Yatskievych is the author of the *Wildflowers of Indiana* book and is a well-known wildflower expert. The hike is slated to begin at the Heltonville Elementary School Outdoor Lab located at 580 Diamond Road in Heltonville, Indiana.”

“The hike includes trails through forests, a wetland and a prairie,” Ligman continued. “Heltonville is in Lawrence County, only 24 miles from Spring Mill State Park. The wildflower hikes are

offered at two times: 10:30am-12:00 noon and 12:30-2:00 pm. Cost is \$12 per person with pre-registration and payment required.” Registration is limited for both hikes, so they may be full by the time this issue of *The Blade* is published (be sure to check). Call Michael Wilhite at 812-203-3033 or email michael.wilhite@in.nacdnet.net to see if spots are available or to register. The hikes are sponsored by the White River Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council.

Membership Changes and New Contact Info

The following HOW member has updated contact information. Please make a note of it:

- Don Cranfill:** New mailing address: 3719 Pleasant Lake Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46227,
New phone: 812-369-0731 (home), 317-739-7108 (work).
Barb Simpson: New mailing address: 8825 Sargent Creek Ct., Indianapolis, IN 46256,
New phone: 317-841-9376.

The following names represents our newest HOW members. Please make a note of their email addresses:

- Marilyn Culler:** culler.photo@gmail.com (new member)
Nolan Sawtelle: nolan_sawtelle@hotmail.com (new member)

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.

Unusual Nature Photos from the Hoosier Outdoors

Sponsored by Vexilar

Northern Pike are Ambush Feeders, with Very Serious Teeth



Close-up
 →
 Original
 ←



Evidently the “What is it?” photo from the last issue was harder than usual to identify than previous ones, since only four (4) HOW members got it right this time. Mike Schoonveld, Troy McCormick, Alan Garbers and John Maxwell each had the correct answer. When we drew a name at random for the \$100 gift card donated by **Widener’s Reloading & Shooting Supply**, Alan Garbers was the winner. Congrats, Alan!

As you can see in the photo to the left, the mystery creature for this issue was a northern pike (*Esox Lucius*). These toothy fish are long and slender with a dark back (usually olive green or brownish) and a light belly. Their sides are covered with light spots, many of which are elongated and “bean-shaped”. They have a large mouth that is filled with needle-sharp teeth – perfect for grasping their favorite prey: minnows and small fish.

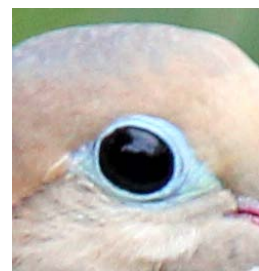
Besides fish, northern pike eat just about anything that they can fit in their mouth. Frogs, snakes, mice, voles, squirrels, baby ducks and geese, even baby turtles. The pike lie in wait amongst underwater weeds until an unsuspecting victim swims too close. They remain motionless until the last second, and then strike with great speed and agility. These ambush predators will hit almost any lure, but fish-imitating lures are hard to beat.



For this issue, our friends at **Vexilar** have donated a very nice prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. This time the prize will be a Vexilar SonarPhone with transducer pod. See below for more information on the prize and this issue’s question.

Another Nature Photo “What Is It?” Question

Tom Berg has posed another Nature Photo mystery. The photo shown at right is a close-up of a creature that lives right here in Indiana. You might see it in your back yard, and it is found throughout the state. Have you ever seen a color pattern that looks like this? That blue color looks particularly cool!



This creature may be easy for some people to identify and harder for others. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? As usual, you must identify the exact species. If you think it’s a species of squirrel, for example, go ahead and guess “fox squirrel” (of course, it’s not a fox squirrel). But if you think you know the answer, send an email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you are right, you will be eligible for this issue’s prize.



As mentioned, **Vexilar** has donated a SonarPhone with transducer pod (worth more than \$100) for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. The SonarPhone turns your smartphone or tablet into a fully functional touchscreen sonar system that will rival the performance of sonar systems costing hundreds more (see www.vexilar.com). If multiple people guess correctly, we’ll draw a winner at random from the group of correct entries. Nature photos on this page by/courtesy of Tom Berg.

HOW Supporting Member News

These pages are devoted to the loyal supporting members of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers. Brief descriptions of new products, award-winning products and press releases are listed here. HOW members interested in reading more can visit the supporting member websites or call or email the company contact for more information.

Snag Proof Lures Continues to Innovate With New Frog Designs



San Jose, CA: The Snag Proof fishing lure company began with a simple concept: create a fishing lure with a soft hollow body with a double hook clinging to the sides. This would allow the lure to pass through weeds, moss, over lily pads and other structure without snagging. This allowed the fisherman to access areas on a body of water where most gamefish hide and feed and where ordinary lures simply can't go. The concept was a great success!

Snag Proof lures are very effective and fun to use, too! The excitement of a big bass or pike blowing up through the weeds or lily pads to get at the frog is terrific! Tournament pros in the world of bass fishing use them to consistently increase the weight in their livewells during tournaments such as the B.A.S.S. Classic. This type of lure is also good for beginners since they won't be hanging up in the weeds and cleaning weeds off the lure. That means more time to fish!



WOBBLETRON

Renowned frog fishing expert Bobby Barrack has done it again! The Wobbletron frog has been designed to add winning weight to your livewell!

Weighing in at 1/2 oz. It casts like a bullet and is perfect for thick mats and pads. The Kicker feet come straight out the back of the frog for great gurgling action during a slow, steady retrieve!

Bobby designed the Wobbletron to be a fun, effective way to coax big fish from their heavy cover hideouts. Throw it around overhangs or back into reeds then churn it into open water, it's weedless and it floats!

Specially weighted to land up-right every time the Wobbletron ensures a solid hookset. It sports an exclusive, custom-made double hook, a big internal glass rattle and is available in 8 fish-catching colors: black, white, tweety, chicklet, black bullfrog, brown bullfrog, wild bullfrog and Fred's!

Black BullFrog #13050

FREDS #13071

Black #13000 **White #13007** **Brown Bullfrog #13051** **Wild Bullfrog #13052** **Tweety #13060** **Chicklet #13067**

Snag Proof's Wobbletron frog is a great bait for bass. Weighing in at 1/2 oz, it casts like a bullet and is perfect for thick weeds and lily pads. The legs and kicker feet come straight out the back of the frog for a great gurgling action during a slow, steady retrieve. Since it floats, you can retrieve it as slowly as you like. It even has an internal glass rattle which excites big bass and leads to bone-rattling strikes! Weight: 1/2 oz. Length: 4 1/4" long.

Visit Snag Proof's website at www.snagproof.com for more information. HOW members may also contact Connie Fuller (email: connie@snagproof.com) for additional product details, photos, etc.

HOW Supporting Member News

Daisy Outdoor Products Prepares for the 2018 Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match

Rogers, AR: Daisy Outdoor Products, America's oldest and leading maker of BB guns and other youth outdoor equipment, has begun preparations for the 2018 Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match (Daisy Nationals), June 30 - July 3 in Rogers, AR. This event brings together youth teams ages 8-15 for the 5-Meter National Championship. Youth participants will shoot in four positions (standing, kneeling, sitting and prone) and championships are awarded to teams and individuals.

Teams competing in the 2018 Daisy Nationals qualify by placing in the top three at an NRA-sanctioned state championship match. Daisy has hosted this exciting championship since 1966. In addition to marksmanship scores, each competitor takes a written test that covers gun safety and knowledge of the shooting event. Each competitor's score on the safety test makes up 25 percent of his or her final score.



Last year, 74 teams from states as varied as Oregon, Virginia, Kansas and Georgia competed in this, the most prestigious BB Gun Match in the world. Teams consist of seven members (five competitors and two alternates) and use a muzzle-loaded, single-shot Champion Model 499B, the most accurate 5-meter competition BB gun on the market. The 4-H Shooting Sports program fields many of these disciplined shooting teams, but any community, youth or religious organization may create a team. The Royal Rangers sends multiple teams to the championship each year.

This 53rd Annual Daisy Nationals will again be a tournament filled with cheers, tears, personal bests, stiff competition and a guaranteed good time. In addition to the competition, Daisy throws plenty of extras into the mix, like Barter Bar night and the T-Shirt and Painted Gun contests. This year, Academy Sports + Outdoors is the contest sponsor, providing gift cards and T-shirts for the winners of the contests.

To learn more about the 2018 Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match, please visit: www.daisy.com.

Media Contact:

HOW members may contact Lawrence Taylor at Daisy Outdoor Products for more information about this year's championship match or about Daisy products. Call 479-636-1200 or send an email to: ltaylor@daisy.com.

Daisy® Outdoor Products

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Al's Goldfish Lure Co. - www.alsgoldfish.com
Alps Brands - www.alpsbrands.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arcus Hunting - www.arcushunting.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Backwoodsman Magazine - www.backwoodsmanmag.com
Bagley Bait Co. - www.bagleybait.com
Balsax Fishing Lines - www.balsax.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Battle Horse Knives - www.battlehorseknives.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Black River Tools - www.blackrivertools.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
BOLT Locks - www.boltlock.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bucket Grip - www.bucketgrip.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Cauldryn - www.cauldryn.com
Celox Medical - www.celoxmedical.com
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Costa Sunglasses - www.costadelmar.com
Cotton Carrier - www.cottoncarrier.com
Cuda Fishing Tools - www.cudabrand.com
Danner Boots - www.danner.com
Daisy Outdoor Products - www.daisy.com
Dead Down Wind - www.deaddownwind.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Field & Stream Outdoor Life Deer & Turkey Expos - www.deerinfo.com
Fisherbeck Jigs - www.fisherbeck.com
Fisknat Landing Nets - www.fisknat.com
Finn Tackle Company - www.finnspoons.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
FOXPRO - www.gofoxpro.com
Freedom Tackle Corp. - www.freedomlures.com
Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggs.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gerber Fishing - www.gerberfishing.com
Glacier Glove - www.glacieglove.com
Grundens USA - www.grundens.com
Gruv Fishing - www.gruvfishing.com
Gumleaf Boots - www.gumleafUSA.com
Gun Protect - www.mygunprotect.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Hawke Sport Optics - www.hawkeoptics.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryUSA.com
HHA Sports - www.HHAsports.com
Hodgdon Powder Co. - www.hodgdon.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - www.hmhco.com
HT Enterprises - www.htent.com
Indiana Department of Natural Resources - www.dnr.IN.gov
Indianapolis Zoo - www.indianapoliszoo.com
Irish Setter Boots - www.irishsetterboots.com
Kent Cartridge - www.kentgamebore.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com
Lawrence County Tourism - www.limestonecountry.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Mathews Archery - www.mathewsinc.com
Midway USA - www.midwayUSA.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
Musselhead Tackle - www.musselhead.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Marine Manufacturers Assn - www.nmma.org
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
National Wild Turkey Federation - www.nwtf.org
NextGen Baits - www.nextgenbaits.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Otter Lures - www.otterlures.com
Outdoor Guide Magazine - www.outdoorguidemagazine.com
Outdoor Sportsman Group - www.outdoorsg.com
PahaQue Wilderness - www.pahaque.com
Pheasants Forever - www.pheasantsforever.org
Plano Synergy - www.planosynergy.com
PowerPro Lines - www.powerpro.com
Precision Hardcore Gear - www.xtremehardcoregear.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pro's Soft Bait Glue - www.prosoftbaitglue.com
Pro-Cure Bait Scents - www.pro-cure.com
Quaker Boy Game Calls - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Ramcat Broadheads - www.ramcatbroadheads.com
Real Avid - www.realavid.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
Snag Proof Lures - www.snagproof.com
Solution Products - www.solutionproducts.net
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
SportDOG Brand - www.sportdog.com
St. Croix Rods - www.stcroixrods.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
Swab-Its - www.swab-its.com
Sweet Owen CVB - www.sweetowencvb.org
Tales End Tackle - www.talesendtackle.com
Target Communications Outdoor Books - www.targetcommbooks.com
The Catch & Release Shop - www.prints.fish
Thompson-Pallister Bait Company - www.lenthompson.com
Tink's - www.tinks.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
Traditions Media - www.traditionsmedia.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Whitetails Unlimited - www.whitetailsunlimited.com
Widener's Reloading & Shooting Supply - www.wideners.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
W.R. Case - www.wrcase.com
Yamaha Marine Group - www.yamahaoutboards.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	_____ Radio	_____ Artist
_____ Books	_____ Photography	_____ Lectures	
_____ Television	_____ Teaching	_____ Trade Journals	
_____ Blog/Online Work	_____ 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:

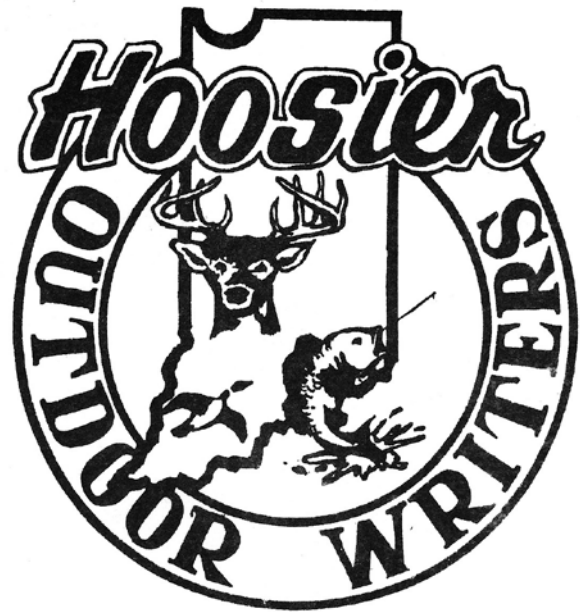
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor 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, internet/online, 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; 20 online



articles, blogs, vlogs or podcasts 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; nature lovers; sportsmen; outdoorsmen; public employees in outdoor fields; educators teaching related subjects; fishing guides and tournament anglers, 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 fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, nature, ecology, or in preserving the environment in general.

Calendar of Events

HOW 2018 Annual Conference:

April 13-15, 2018

(www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org)
Spring Mill Inn, Spring Mill State Park
Mitchell, IN

NRA 2018 Annual Meetings:

May 3-6, 2018

(www.nra.org)
Dallas, TX

OWAA 2018 Annual Conference:

June 2-4, 2018

(www.OWAA.org)
Fort Wayne, IN

POMA 2018 Annual Conference:

June 12-15, 2018

(www.professionalooutdoormedia.org)
Lincoln, NE

ICAST Show 2018:

July 10-13, 2018

(www.ICASTfishing.org)
Orlando, FL

AGLOW 2018 Annual Conference:

September 10-13, 2018

(www.aglowinfo.org)
Bismarck-Mandan, ND

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*.