

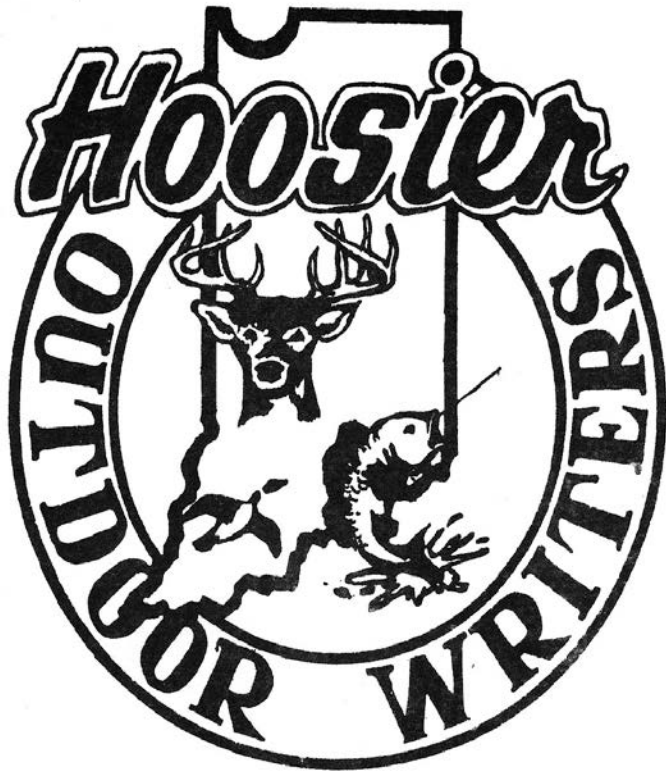
# The Blade

September - October 2020

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Great Egrets Coming in for a Treetop Landing", 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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All submissions and correspondence in regards to the newsletter should be directed to: Tom Berg (e-mail: [director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org](mailto: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](http://www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org).

**On the cover:** Several migrating great egrets come in for a landing in a tree that sits on the edge of a marshy area in Crown Point, IN. This photo was taken at the beginning of September, when there was still plenty of frogs and other food available for the birds in the marsh. Photo by Tom Berg.

# President's Message

by Kenny Bayless (*The Redneck Quaker*)

Folks in the cities just don't know what they are missing! I consider myself to be lucky to be living in the beautiful countryside of Indiana. I grew up in Parke County, and this is home to me.

The second Friday of October starts the biggest event our county sees all year. It is the Covered Bridge Festival. Unfortunately, it has been cancelled this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The county is normally 99% agricultural, so the festival brings in a lot of visitors that we don't normally see.

Several years ago, the rural country life of Parke County drew the Amish to its widespread fields and thick hardwoods. They enjoy the pristine rural country life, just like I do.

My wife Jerrilynn and I were recently enjoying a cool quiet evening on our back porch. She was doing some knitting and I was watching the buzzards coming to roost in the trees. Just then, our neighbors pulled into the driveway with their hands full of sweet corn. It was more corn than we could eat in one sitting. These same neighbors also have a "free offering" table sitting out next to the road, which is full of tomatoes, squash, cucumbers and more. I love country life! Where in the city can you find home-grown produce for free?

On another day, I answered my cell phone and heard the voice of a fine young country boy that I know. He was saying "Tomorrow is the first day of squirrel season; can I go hunting over at your lake property?" What better place can a young man be than in the woods?

Recently, I got to thinking back on the days when our family camped at the lake and my son Seth was only knee high. I would ask him if he would like to go on an adventure and I would follow him wherever he wanted to go. It was great fun! We went from catching grasshoppers and fishing for bluegill to hunting big game like Cape Buffalo in Africa. We had plenty of adventures! Every time I take our three Labrador retrievers to the lake to swim, I think back with an aching heart of those first adventures. Seth is in boot camp for the Air National Guard in San Antonio, Texas, and has been gone for a month now. When he returns and gets off the airplane, it will look like I'm trying to stomp a mud hole dry as I run towards him!

My point is that once you live the country life, nothing can ever take it away from you. I will always be a country boy at heart. An ear of sweet corn can be as delicious as filet mignon at a swanky restaurant like New York's *The Tavern on the Green*.

Parting words of wisdom: ***If you can't run with the big dogs, stay under the porch!***



# The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents and Memorial Section

## HOW Extends a Warm Welcome to our Growing Ranks of Outdoor Communicators:

Bob Osborne (Active)  
Liberty, IN  
Sponsor: Tom Berg

Jason Houser (Active)  
Greenup, IL  
Sponsor: Tom Berg

Indiana Dunes Tourism (Supporting)  
Porter, IN  
Sponsor: Tom Berg

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

Jack Alkire – HOW President 1979  
Bill Beeman – Executive Director  
Don Bickel  
Ed Blann  
Charlie Brown  
Gary Carden  
Jim “Moose” Carden – HOW President 1982-83  
George Carey  
John Case  
Bill Church – HOW President 1972  
Jack “Big Jake” Cooper  
Mark Cottingham  
Jerry Criss  
Gary “Dox” Doxtater  
Dick Forbes  
Tom Glancy – HOW President 1977  
Dale Griffith  
Fred Heckman  
Marty Jaranowski – HOW President 1996  
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 |
| Don Cranfill         | 2017 |
| Troy McCormick       | 2018 |
| Mike Schoonveld      | 2019 |

# HOW Conference Announcement

## 2021 HOW Conference Site, Conference Dates Chosen

We are pleased to announce that the 2021 HOW Conference is scheduled to be held in west-central Indiana at **Turkey Run State Park** in Parke County. Of course, everything depends on what happens in the coming months concerning Covid-19, but we are hoping the group can meet and socialize as usual.

Although just about everyone seemed to enjoy the change of pace earlier this year when we held the 2020 conference in February, we will once again be having the HOW conference in the springtime. The 2021 HOW conference will take place on the weekend of April 9-11, with the main meeting taking place at the Turkey Run Inn on Saturday, April 10.

The date of this conference was selected very carefully to minimize conflicts with Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and the start of turkey season, so hopefully most HOW members will be able to plan their schedules in advance and attend. And as we have all learned (painfully), everything still depends on what is happening at the time with Covid-19. But think positive! And be sure to **SAVE THE DATE!**

We chose Turkey Run State Park as the next conference site as part of our ongoing effort to move the conference around the state and give our members a chance to experience parts of Indiana that they have not yet seen. Also, it has been 10 years since we had a conference at Turkey Run – believe it or not.

Of course, Turkey Run State Park is a very beautiful park with plenty to see and do. Whether you enjoy canoeing, hiking, fishing, bird-watching, photography, nature watching or just about any other outdoor activity, Turkey Run can fit the bill. HOW members should definitely head for Parke County next spring and join the fun!

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

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

More details will be forthcoming in future editions of *The Blade*. Besides our annual Fun Shoot on Friday, April 9, we will have a Friday evening BBQ and we hope to have a fishing/canoeing outing on Sunday, April 11. Whether you plan to attend the entire weekend or just the annual meeting on Saturday, the trip to Turkey Run State Park will definitely be worth it. **Don't miss the 2021 HOW conference!**



The Turkey Run Inn will welcome HOW members next April at the start of our 2021 conference. Make your plans to attend now! Photo by Tom Berg.

**Save The Date!**  
**Conference: April 9-11, 2021**  
**Annual Meeting: April 10, 2021**

# HOW Awards-In-Craft Winner

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

## “Hooked on the Outdoors”

by Ken McBroom

In today’s world the outdoors and fishing can take a back seat to so many other activities. To get kids into the outdoors you almost have to drag them from the TV or video games to get them to go. Once you have them out there and the fish start biting all those other activities they thought they could never do without fade into oblivion, until the fishing is over. Getting kids interested in fishing might take a few trips to seal the deal, but after a few fish caught, a raccoon or two and maybe a mink running down the shoreline, they are hooked. Here are a few things to keep in mind when taking a kid fishing and getting them hooked on the outdoors.

### STAY ATTENTIVE

It is important to stay attentive to your surroundings when fishing with kids. There is a safety factor in this, but you should also be aware of what is going on around you so you might keep the excitement rolling even when the fishing is slow. Spotting an eagle or osprey soaring overhead can give just the right stimulation a kid needs when the fish aren’t biting, especially if they see it snatch a fish from the surface and fly up to its nest. My nephews had a raccoon come up to them on the lake bank. They sat motionless as it checked under rocks for crayfish right in front of them. The raccoon sighting would have made the trip in itself, but we finally found some fish for them to catch.

### ANY FISH WILL DO

When kids are just starting out fishing, any fish will do. I had to keep this in mind as I was searching for bigger fish only to realize when they caught a 3-inch bluegill they were as excited as could be. Bigger fish is a bonus, but small fish is all you need for a kid to have fun fishing. If you know of a pond or stream with little fish don’t hesitate to make that your destination. Small fish are much better than no fish when it comes to hooking kids on the outdoors.

### ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS

If you’ve ever taken a kid fishing you know firsthand the questions will fly. Some logical and coherent and others from left field that takes much prodding to finally realize what they are asking. This is why I love to take kids into the outdoors. It’s a place some kids rarely visit and with a kid’s instinctive desire to learn they will have questions, a lot of them. This is the grownups entertainment. Some of my best laughs, sometimes out loud and sometimes not to protect the innocent, comes from these outings. Be sure to answer any and all questions and explain those questions that don’t make sense, that’s if you figure them out enough to answer. Some questions just tend to go unanswered and finally drift off into that place of “I’m not sure what I mean, never mind.”

### DISCUSS THE NEXT TRIP

Be sure to plant the seed for the next trip outdoors while they are under the influence of the trip at hand. You might be

surprised how often the question pops up from out of nowhere, “Hey when are we going fishing with Uncle Kenny again? He said he was going to take us again.” Keep them thinking about the fun they had and the lessons they learned. Kids love to learn and it’s up to us to take advantage of their desire to learn by teaching them about the outdoors. Kids will show as much enthusiasm about a butterfly or a snake as they do about a video game. If we take them when they are young.

### LET THE KIDS DICTATE THE TRIP

This has been a tough one for me because I love to fish so much I am hyper-focused on finding and catching fish when I take kids or anyone else. This is great but sometimes the trip takes a detour because something peaks a youngster’s interest. When kids show an interest in something other than the trip that was planned then go with it. Just yesterday on a fishing trip with my nephews the trip turned into a photo shoot throughout the area. There had been a tornado through and it had twisted, broken and uprooted trees everywhere. After one of the boys spotted a giant tree broke in half we spent the rest of the day driving around looking for busted trees to photograph. They were fascinated by it and we talked for a couple hours about tornadoes, weather and trees. We did finally fit a little fishing in, but not until they asked about it and got tired of tree hunting.

### BE PATIENT

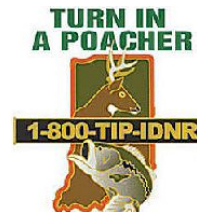
There are plenty of things to notice and get into in the outdoors and kids will find most of them. Being patient is important to keep the excitement and enthusiasm flowing throughout the trip. Letting them untangle their own line that got wrapped up on the rod tip is just one more lesson in the outdoors. You might have to cut it loose when they are done, but let them try. Don’t get upset with them when they get hung up on every cast or they will be afraid to fish. Just move if this is happening and find a place where the hang ups are less or preferably non-existent. If the fish aren’t biting and the youngsters begin to voice their boredom try tying on a lure, this one always works for a while. You could also begin looking for frogs or turtles that live around the lake or pond. Keeping the interest up is easy with kids and they will eventually come back to the fishing poles and by then the fish might be biting.

### EAT YOUR CATCH

There is something about cooking and enjoying the harvest that intrigues young people. I have yet to introduce a kid to fishing or hunting that wasn’t all for preparing and cooking what they harvested. Sometimes the fish are too small so just explain this to the kids. If you do harvest a few edible size fish or game be sure to take it home and cook it. Cooking your harvest over a fire or in a Dutch oven outside is popular with kids for obvious reasons. Kids are almost always excited about building a fire. Keep the fun trip they just enjoyed that day alive by enjoying a meal with others. Talk about the day and let them tell stories about their outdoor adventures and it could last into the night.



## Hoosier Outdoor Writers Turn in a Poacher/Polluter Writing Contest Official Contest Guidelines



Once again, the Indiana Turn in a Poacher (TIP) Citizen's Advisory Board is sponsoring a writing contest to encourage HOW members to promote the TIP mission, the hotline and support of the TIP Advisory Board. **This year the prizes are \$300 for first place; \$200 for second place; \$100 for third place.** So be sure to write your TIP article right away!

Requirements are simple and entering is easy! Article must be at least 400 words in length and must include:

1. Brief description of TIP (see below—does not have to be verbatim)
2. TIP Hotline (1-800-TIP-IDNR)

Although it is not required, preference will be given to stories that:

- Feature a "real-life story of TIP" or something similar.
- Are published in paid publications.

To enter, submit an electronic copy of an article published between **February 1, 2020** and **January 31, 2021**. The TIP Citizen's Advisory Board will review all entries and will select the entries that best promote the mission of TIP and encourage citizens to get involved.

**Entries should be marked as "TIP" entries and sent to Contest Coordinator Troy McCormick.**

**They must be emailed or postmarked by March 1, 2021.** Send TIP Contest Entries to:

Troy McCormick, Email: [contest@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org](mailto:contest@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org) ← Preferred

U.S. Mail: 3604 Sea Pine, Jeffersonville, IN 47130

### What is TIP?

Turn in a Poacher, Inc. (TIP) is a non-profit conservation organization that works hand-in-hand with Indiana DNR Law Enforcement to protect our fish and wildlife resources by increasing public support and involvement in bringing violators to justice.

A poacher is a thief who illegally steals wildlife that belongs to each Indiana citizen. Poachers rob licensed, ethical hunters and anglers from recreational opportunities they bought through license fees.

Citizens can help stop poachers in two ways. If you see, hear or learn about a poacher or any other fish and wildlife violation:

- Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR
- Submit a TIP online at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/7608.htm>.

If your TIP leads to an arrest, you may receive as much as a \$200 reward, and you can remain anonymous. More information is available at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/2745.htm>.

# TIP Awards-In-Craft Winner

## 1st Place in the 2020 HOW/TIP Turn-in-a-Poacher Writing Contest

### TIP Program Paying Off for Indiana Sportsmen

by Larry LaGrange

When I was young, I loved going down to my grandparents' farm between Leopold and Branchville in Perry County. There was always something interesting happening that I could watch or participate in, and best of all, good hunting and fishing existed right on my doorstep. Quail, squirrels, rabbits, and deer were abundant, and Oil Creek with its decent fish population bordered their 162-acre property.

In later years, the squirrels and rabbits were still around, but the quail had disappeared, and the deer suddenly had become scarce. After inheriting the property, I made yearly trips to the old farmhouse to check on our renters there, and once I asked about the situation, even though I don't deer hunt.

"I don't see the numbers of deer around here that I used to," I commented. "What's going on?"

"That's easy," my renter said. "There's a deer factory right next door."

"Pardon me?"

"A deer factory. These guys kill a bunch of deer all year long. I guess we're out in the boonies so far they figure they won't get caught." A year or so later I inquired about the next-door poachers.

"Oh, they got nailed," she said. "You might start to see more deer around here now."

Recently I interviewed current Conservation Officer Joe Haywood and retired CO Tom Jah. I mentioned my story about the factory, and Tom confirmed that yes, a few years ago there was a bust of a deer ring down in that area. Word had filtered down of what was going on, arrests were made, and the poaching was stopped, at least for the time being. It could have been my game hog neighbors.

Apparently quite a few hunters from this area were making the trip to Perry County to collect however many does they wanted, according to Tom.

"Perry was a hotbed," he said. If you want to hear some lively stories about how tough a CO's job can be while enforcing game laws, check out Tom's book *Keeper of the Gifts*. It's a good read.

One of the weapons against the illegal harvest of game is the TIP (Turn in a Poacher) program. Its Indiana origins were right here in Dubois County. On December 23, 1977, the **Dubois County Sportsmen Against Poaching** group was chartered. The first leaders were fellow Jasper High School teachers and

outdoorsmen Wes Settle and Bob Verkamp, two guys I knew well. They had grown disgusted with finding piles of deer carcasses and nearly being shot with high-powered rifles while they were hunting in bow season. They researched into the situation and found a model state of the four or five with a program in place, and then they pestered officials until the DNR took notice. Formal state adoption of the program finally came in 1983 with the creation of a committee with the SAP a member. A lot of folks remember the striking poster calling attention to the illegal spotlighting of deer that was hung all around the Dubois County area from 1977 to 1984.

The local group, now called the Dubois County Sportsmen's Club, still funds equipment, including air patrols, for officers to use in their pursuit of violators. The investment has paid off, and the officers appreciate the financial and moral support. The recent nabbing of a Dubois County poacher was an example.

"This was TIP in action," said CO Haywood. "That arrest was in conjunction with our Investigation Department, kind of unsung heroes in this fight. Long story short, we received information that an individual had harvested two bucks in 2016 when only one is allowed. We interviewed the fellow and were able to make a case. The thing about it was the quality of the animal that was harvested. You look at a 20-point, 200-pound deer that was taken illegally. Most guys around here would never even see an animal like that. It took someone who cared enough to actually call and stick their neck out. That's what the program depends on. And often it's not about the \$200 reward money upon conviction. It's because some people just want to see justice done for the resource."

The TIP number feeds into a dispatch. There's someone there to answer your call 24/7. It's 1-800-TIP-IDNR (847-4367), or it can be done online. You can support the program with a \$25 annual membership, and merchandise is available on the DNR website. It's more than just about deer. If you witness illegal taking of other game or fish, or even someone polluting our lands, lakes, or streams, make the call. It's completely confidential. In 2017, 535 tips were recorded. In 2018 that number lowered to 327, maybe because it's getting riskier to poach or pollute and fewer are daring to try. Let's hope that's the case.

Wes and Bob are gone now, but they'd be happy with how their groundbreaking efforts have paid off with a smooth-functioning procedure that helps fish and game populations and all law-abiding Hoosier sportsmen.

"Just about every state in the nation now has some sort of program like Indiana's," Officer Haywood said. "That speaks to its effectiveness."



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

**For immediate release:** August 31, 2020

## DNR Receives National Communications Awards

The Indiana DNR received three national communications awards for work done in 2019 during the Association for Conservation Information awards program last night.

Indiana took first and second place in the poster contest in the Graphics Division, and third place in the Magazine Division in the Destination, Historical or Cultural article category.

The first-place poster, designed by Adam Cox and photographed by **John Maxwell**, both of the Division of Communications, and done with the assistance of the Division of Fish & Wildlife's Morgan Sussman, promotes the Nongame Wildlife Fund, [on.IN.gov/nongamefund](https://on.IN.gov/nongamefund), which protects Indiana's endangered and nongame wildlife.

The second-place poster, also designed by Cox and done with the assistance of Sussman, and photographed by **Maxwell** and photo editor Frank Oliver, covers the subject of Living with Coyotes. Learn more about living with coyotes at [on.IN.gov/coyotes](https://on.IN.gov/coyotes).

The third place article told the story of Indiana's covered bridges in the September/October 2019 issue of Outdoor Indiana magazine. It was written by Scott Roberts, photographed by Oliver and **Maxwell**, designed by Erin Hiatt, and edited by Marty Benson. Outdoor Indiana is the DNR's bi-monthly full-color magazine. Subscribe at [innsgifts.com](https://innsgifts.com) or 317-233-3046. To read article excerpts from the current issue and learn more, go to [OutdoorIndiana.org](https://OutdoorIndiana.org).

ACI ([aci-net.org](https://aci-net.org)) is a non-profit organization of natural resources communicators. Members represent State, federal and Canadian wildlife conservation, parks and natural resource agencies, as well as private conservation organizations.

**Media Contact:** Marty Benson, Division of Communications, phone: 317-233-3853, email: [mbenson@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:mbenson@dnr.IN.gov).



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

**For immediate release:** October 22, 2020

## **DNR Stocks Coho Salmon in Northwest Indiana**

More than 36,000 coho salmon were recently stocked in multiple rivers and streams in northern Indiana last week.

Bodine State Fish Hatchery released coho salmon into the Little Calumet River and Trail Creek. A total of 14,000 fish were stocked into the East Branch of the Little Calumet and about 22,000 fish were planted into Trail Creek. These fish were approximately 7.2 inches long.

Mixsawbah State Fish Hatchery plans to stock approximately 16,500 coho salmon into the Little Calumet and 8,500 into Trail Creek on Oct. 29. Fish stocked will be approximately 6.5 inches long. When finished, each Lake Michigan tributary will have received nearly the same number of fish (about 30,500).



Coho salmon stocked this fall will stay in the streams until next spring, when they will migrate to Lake Michigan. They will spend one to two years there before they return to the streams where they were stocked for spawning.

Anglers should take care when fishing these areas. These fish are currently under the legal size limit of 14 inches and are sensitive to being caught. If you are catching undersize coho, consider moving to a different area of the stream or try switching your method of fishing. These new fish are crucial to the continued existence of the northwest Indiana salmon fishery.

For more information about Bodine State Fish Hatchery, visit [wildlife.IN.gov/5459.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/5459.htm).

For more information about Mixsawbah State Fish Hatchery, visit [wildlife.IN.gov/5465.htm](http://wildlife.IN.gov/5465.htm).

**Media contact:** Dave Meuninck, Bodine property manager, Division of Fish & Wildlife, phone: 574-255-4199, email: [dmeuninck@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:dmeuninck@dnr.IN.gov).



## Interesting Bird Sightings in the Great Outdoors

We have been asking 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 these pages were 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). You may just learn something new, too!

### Report from Dave Hoffman:

Being isolated during the pandemic has challenged each of us this year, but HOW Board member Dave Hoffman used that time to observe nature through the dining room window. “I decided to aim my tripod-mounted camera toward the lake for entertainment, and to experiment with various exposure settings,” said Hoffman. Foraging herons were cooperative subjects, but having the camera prepared to quickly shoot provided a brief opportunity to capture a **Red-Shouldered Hawk** (*Buteo lineatus*) as it dropped from its perch onto a large insect and quickly depart.

The red-shouldered hawk’s head and upper parts are brown, and with the sun shining on their white and rust-red under parts, they are attractive raptors which prefer woodland habitats, especially near water. “They are very vocal neighbors, but it’s interesting to see them perched in the understory of the trees along the shore where they drop on unwary prey,” commented Hoffman. Occupying the same habitat and food preferences as barred owls, competition is avoided since they feed during different time-periods.



“I’ve seen the resident hawks dive on crawdads, insects, amphibians and various small mammals, and I have even found turtle shells that have been gnawed upon underneath their favorite perches on several occasions,” Hoffman said. After an unlucky squirrel was killed on the road in front of his home, Hoffman moved it to the side of the road. Later, Dave observed a young red-shouldered hawk lunging and flapping its wings as it dragged the animal toward the lake. “What a unique photograph that would have been,” he lamented. “But that occurred just before I started shooting through the dining room window!”

### Report from Mike Lunsford:

HOW Board member Mike Lunsford has been staying away from crowds this year, just like Dave Hoffman. “It is hard to catch Covid in the woods,” he said. Lunsford spends quite a bit of time walking among the trees and along the countryside, and he is always on the lookout for interesting birds.



Here is a **Yellow-Rumped Warbler** (*Setophaga coronata*) that Lunsford photographed in its October feathers. “They change their wardrobe for fall,” he said. “I really like these birds – they are one of my favorites. They are curious and friendly birds, and luckily, are not a species that is threatened. This warbler was in a tree right outside my cabin this morning; the finches are changing over to winter plumage, too. As to the warblers, I like this version of them: the grays and browns and blues. I enjoy the more subtle colors.”

In the fall, yellow-rumped warblers switch over from chasing insects to eating berries, so keep an eye out for them around local trees and bushes loaded with fall fruit.



## Interesting Bird Sightings in the Great Outdoors



### Report from Mike Lunsford (continued):

Lunsford likes the different warblers, but they don't get all the attention. "This photo of a **White-Breasted Nuthatch** (*Sitta carolinensis*) was taken not far from my cabin where I keep a feeder," he said. "It seems that the feeder attracts a lot of nuthatches; they use the nearby poplar tree to crack open the sunflower seeds they get, thus the name of the bird. One thing I've noticed about nuthatches is they are not very intimidated by me being nearby. They will come to a feeder while I am standing right next to it, so this bird was pretty close to me when I took the shot, just sitting and waiting for a chance to get to the seeds."



I read once that nuthatches join several other species, particularly titmice and chickadees, to forage in flocks, and that is very much the case with this nuthatch. I can watch all three kinds of those birds--more than any others--as they travel back and forth to that feeder from nearby trees.

### Report from Tom Berg:

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg enjoys watching nuthatches as much as Mike Lunsford. As colder weather descended on northern Indiana in October, good numbers of **Red-Breasted Nuthatches** (*Sitta canadensis*) began migrating through the area. "A few of them decided my back yard was a good place to stop," reported Berg, "and they immediately found my suet and sunflower seed feeders."

"Those red-breasted nuthatches are so fast," remarked Berg. "It's not easy to get a good photo! They almost never sit still, and as soon as they grab a sunflower seed they instantly fly off to one of my nearby trees to crack open the shell. But 30 seconds later they are back, looking for the next seed."

Red-breasted nuthatches are not only fast, they are incredibly nimble and acrobatic, too. They can quickly go up or down tree trunks and branches, either forwards or backwards. Hanging upside down is second nature to them, and they are perfectly happy to hang upside down on a dried sunflower head to pick away at the seeds hidden there. "I hung some dried sunflower heads near my feeders and the nuthatches found them and started feeding from them within minutes," said Berg.

One cool fact about the red-breasted nuthatch is they excavate their nest cavity in a tree trunk – often a dead pine tree. They collect sticky pine resin and apply it around the entrance to the nest hole to keep predators out of the nest. The really cool thing is they often use small pieces of tree bark as "paint brushes" to apply the sticky pine tar. Not many birds use tools, but red-breasted nuthatches do!



**Did you take a cool bird photo while exploring afield recently? Did you see the bird in your back yard? While traveling far from home?**

HOW members are encouraged to send their interesting bird photos to newsletter editor and bird enthusiast Tom Berg ([thomas.berg@comcast.net](mailto:thomas.berg@comcast.net)) for use in future editions of the "Interesting Bird Sightings" page. Don't worry, it does not need to be a rare bird. Your fellow HOW members would love to see your bird pictures.

## Check Out the Newest Column for *The Blade*: Ask the Experts!

Greetings again, fellow HOW members! Long-time HOW member (and past president) Jack Spaulding created a new segment for the last newsletter called “Ask the Experts!” On this page, HOW members can ask a question about any outdoors topic. Hopefully, one of the experts within HOW will have the answer. Our members are a wealth of knowledge of all things outdoors, and if we added-up all the years of outdoor wisdom contained in our group, the number would certainly be over 1000 years-worth of knowledge! That’s pretty impressive.

So, do you want to know how to build a nest box to attract screech owls? Or maybe you are looking for the best way to store juicy nightcrawlers for your next fishing trip which is still a month away. Are you curious about how to draw monarch butterflies to your garden for viewing and photography? What about the finer points of cooking and eating groundhogs? The list of possible topics is almost endless.

For this issue, Jack Spaulding asked about concealed carry gun permits. What states honor Indiana’s concealed carry license? Where can this information be found? Well, this time we got some answers. Bill Keaton, Bob Jennings, Tom Berg and a couple of other HOW members pointed to the internet for the answers. Here is some of the information they located:



The answers can be found online on a few different websites. One of them is [www.usconcealedcarry.com](http://www.usconcealedcarry.com). Others include [www.gunlawguide.com](http://www.gunlawguide.com) and [www.gunstocarry.com](http://www.gunstocarry.com). There are probably plenty of others, too. If you would like a hardcopy booklet to take with you on your travels, a good one is *Traveler’s Guide to the Firearms Laws of the Fifty States*. This booklet is updated every year so you know the information in it is current (available at [www.gunlawguide.com](http://www.gunlawguide.com)).

Of course, if you are just traveling to one state and just want to check the laws before you leave, it is easy and convenient to just go online and check one of the websites mentioned above. They are interactive and can provide info for whatever state you are going to (or which state you live in). Just click on a state on the USA map (on each respective website) and it will give details on reciprocity.

A Google search will result in other websites and pertinent information, too.

Once you learn about concealed carry reciprocity, please think of other questions you would like to “Ask the Experts”. If we get a good response we will choose one question and print it in the next issue as well.

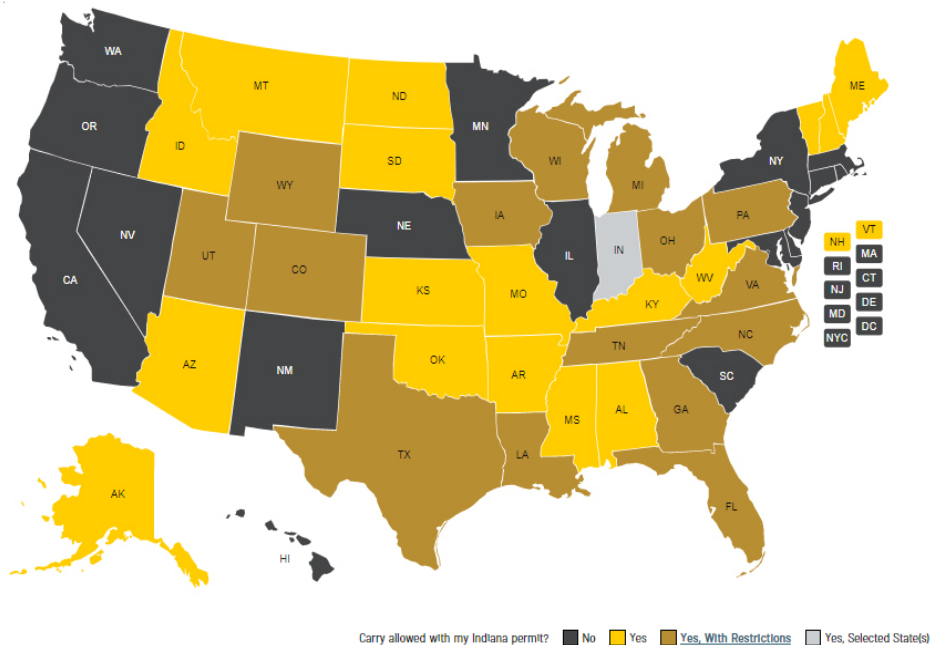


### INDIANA

CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY MAP & GUN LAWS

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# Black Vultures Moving Their Range North

Text by HOW member Phil Cox, photos by Margie Allee

Two species of vultures inhabit Indiana. The best-known species is the beneficial turkey vulture (*Cathartes aura*). However, there is another species of vulture that is increasingly a menace to livestock producers. The black vulture (*Coragyps atratus*) is a smaller but more aggressive vulture that is characterized by black feathers, except for silvery-white primary feathers that show during flight. They have a black, featherless head. Black vultures usually flock together, sometimes in the company of turkey vultures.

As scavengers, vultures play an important role in the ecosystem. Formerly suppressed by the effects of pesticides on reproduction, populations of both black and turkey vultures have increased dramatically in recent years. Vultures adapt and thrive in close proximity to people. They often form large roosts and loafing areas, numbering from a few dozen to hundreds of individual vultures. Population trends will probably continue to increase, as will the frequency of conflicts with people. In recent years, the west-central Indiana town of Cayuga, in northern Vermillion County, has become a favorite loafing area for hundreds of vultures (mostly black vultures). The fall of 2020 was no exception. On certain days, these scavengers can be found loafing on the Cayuga water tower, homes, trees, harvested crop fields, round hay bales, etc.

Black vultures survive, like turkey vultures do, by eating carrion – the remains of dead animals. Integral to the ecosystem, the species can eat the diseased remains of animals that might otherwise carry sicknesses. Unlike turkey vultures, which only feed on carrion, black vultures are also known to attack infant livestock and wildlife, particularly newborn calves. Typically, the vultures will attack the eyes first, blinding the calves, and then proceed to other parts of the body. They have also been known to attack cows as they give birth. When chased off, black vultures will stay nearby and wait for their opportunity to return. Piglets, lambs and other smaller livestock are also preferred targets. If a black vulture cannot quickly kill its target, typically by gouging out its eyes or tearing at other soft and exposed tissues, then the animal is often left to bleed out. For reasons largely unknown, the birds frequently attack cars and rip off parts of windshield wipers, sunroof seals, and other rubber or vinyl parts.

Native to the southern United States, and South America, black vultures have been spreading northward into the Midwest and New England due to the warming climate. As the black vulture population increases, the threat to livestock rises. Integrated solutions to address black vulture problems may include habitat manipulation, dispersal techniques, and population management. Vultures are migratory birds, federally protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, which is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, so it is illegal to kill them without a permit. A step-by-step guide for obtaining a migratory bird depredation permit is available at: [www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/operational-activities/Guide-to-Migratory-Bird-Depredation-Permit](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/operational-activities/Guide-to-Migratory-Bird-Depredation-Permit). A permit will allow the capturing and killing of nuisance birds.

There is no permit needed to scare or herd vultures away from livestock. This can be done in several ways, such as investing in a guardian dog to scare away birds, cutting down dead trees on the premises (a favored roosting spot for



Vultures (mostly black vultures) perched on the railing of the Cayuga water tower. Photo by Margie Allee.

(continued next page)

the black vultures), hazing with red lasers, and hanging the carcass of a dead vulture in the area.

Livestock guardian dogs, traditionally used for preventing depredation of sheep and goats, may be useful in reducing losses from vultures. Great Pyrenees, Anatolian Shepherds, Maremmas and related breeds of guardian dogs are well-known for their abilities to prevent losses in sheep and goat herds. They are effective against most types of predators, including predatory birds. While not traditionally used with cattle and other large livestock species, some small ruminant owners who also own cattle report success in keeping the dogs with cattle.



**Above:** Turkey vultures and black vultures have become common sights around Cayuga, IN in recent years.

Marian Wahl, a PhD student in the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University, is collaborating with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Wildlife Services on research to improve understanding of vulture ecology, and to reduce conflicts with people and livestock. Wahl's research seeks to better understand vulture ecology to inform conservation of other vulture species, as well as to understand how best to minimize conflict between vultures and producers by investigating what factors place some farms at greater risk. The first step is to identify vulture roost locations. To do this, Wahl is soliciting roost location reports from anyone who is willing to participate. Roost locations can be any area where groups of vultures spend time perched, either during the day or overnight, aside from when they are feeding. If you have experience with roost locations and would like to participate, complete the survey here: [https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_cHogmhnUx9dMVeJ](https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_cHogmhnUx9dMVeJ).

There is some potential relief coming for farmers, because on October 1, 2020 the House of Representatives passed the America's Conservation Enhancement Act (S.3051) which included the Livestock Protection Act. This legislation addresses the deadly and costly black vulture attacks on livestock during calving season and allows farmers to more easily protect their livestock from black vultures.

# Duck Nuts in South Dakota

by Mike Schoonveld

Duck hunting isn't a sport, it's an addiction. Few addictions are easy to walk away from, but for a decade or more, I thought my days of being a "duck nut" were behind me. Then my son-in-law Jeff became a duck nut.

Perhaps I helped fuel his addiction by offering ancient decoys, boxes of unused waterfowling shotshells, well-tuned duck calls and most of all, stories and advice of when, where and how for him to fully immerse himself into the waterfowling lifestyle. It helped, but his misses and mistakes outnumbered his memorable hunts.

I realized that perhaps a more 'hands on' experience was what Jeff needed. "How about we head for South Dakota?" I said while we were celebrating Independence Day at Raccoon Lake. There's no off season for duck nuts, only times when duck season is open or closed.

Some think of Mount Rushmore or the Badlands when they think of South Dakota. Hunters by the thousands know that long-tailed ringnecks and South Dakota go hand in hand. After all, South Dakota upland hunters bag a million pheasants per year. Fishermen think of walleye-filled prairie lakes. Speaking for myself, though, after half a lifetime of experience I know the prairie potholes in the rolling glacial-formed hills in northeastern South Dakota are one of the premiere duck nesting areas in North America.



**Above:** Mike Schoonveld's son-in-law Jeff stands to show off one of the ducks he harvested in South Dakota. **Left:** Schoonveld needs two hands to display the results of one morning's successful duck hunt.



Fast forward a few months. I had a South Dakota duck license in my wallet. I had new waders. I had confidence in my old, battle-scarred Wingmaster shotgun. I was sure my camo canoe, used only sporadically for the past couple of decades, was up to the task. I had the hope my 70 year old body was up to the rigors of the hunt.

A week or so later, mission accomplished. Like riding a bike, some skills are not forgotten. The sounds and smells of the marsh had renewed my addiction. The sounds and smells of blasting shotguns echoing on misty mornings brought back distant memories. Ducks flying away unscathed, and ducks tumbling down after well-placed shots brought smiles to my face, and to Jeff's face.

After all, he's a duck nut. And so am I.



# HOW Member News

## Dave Hoffman is on the Trail Of the Old Duck Hunters

HOW Board Member Dave Hoffman and his wife Judy recently took advantage of an opportunity to visit a museum display of memorabilia dedicated to Gordon MacQuarrie – whom some have called “the first full-time outdoor writer at a major U.S. newspaper.”

Before returning to Indiana in 1992, Dave and Judy lived on the Upper St. Croix, a spring-fed lake that is the headwaters of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. That waterway then joins the Mississippi River near the Twin Cities. In the misty past, Native Americans followed a two-mile portage at the upper end of the lake to access the trout-filled Bois Brule River, which flows northward to Lake Superior. That early trade route connected the Great Lakes to much of the known world at the time. “I’ve paddled the Brule River many times in search of brook trout and solitude,” said Dave, “and it was also the sacred fly-fishing ground upon which Gordon MacQuarrie based many of his tales.

After earning a Bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin, MacQuarrie returned to his native town of Superior where he was born in 1900. He worked his way up the proverbial ladder from cub reporter to managing editor of the Superior Evening Telegram. He also began writing stories for *Sports Afield*, *Outdoor Life*, and *Field & Stream*. In December, 1935 MacQuarrie accepted the position of Outdoor Editor for the Milwaukee Journal. MacQuarrie is best known for his posthumously published *Stories of the Old Duck Hunters* which are loosely based on his humorous adventures and misadventures with his father-in-law who held



**Above:** Often mentioned in the *Stories of the Old Duck Hunters*, the author’s timeworn wooden duck boat serves as the centerpiece for the fascinating collection of his personal memorabilia. Photo by Dave Hoffman.

the position of President of the Old Duck Hunter's Association Inc. "The Inc," wrote MacQuarrie, "stood for incorrigible."

"I'd just recently heard that in the small town of Barnes, located near MacQuarrie's beloved cabin on Middle Eau Claire Lake, memorabilia had been collected and displayed to honor him. Having hunted and fished in the same general area, I had become a huge MacQuarrie fan," said Dave. "He was an incredible wordsmith, and a sincere proponent of the 'Conservation Ethic' which he shared with his close friend, Aldo Leopold. MacQuarrie's stories, in my opinion, were written directly from the heart," said Dave.

Unfortunately, the museum operated by the Barnes Area Historical Association (BAHA), was closed last month due to the Covid-19, but their President, Steve Lynch, graciously offered to meet Dave and Judy for a personal



**Above:** Photos, ducks and quotations fill the shelves along with the major works by, and about, Gordon MacQuarrie, master storyteller and member of The Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame. Photos by Dave Hoffman.

tour of the MacQuarrie room. "There on the floor sat MacQuarrie's fabled, wooden duck boat along with some hand-carved and well weathered decoys. Display shelves above the duck boat are stocked with photographs and books written by, and about, MacQuarrie," said Dave. "The writer's bamboo fly rod and his Shakespeare casting reel rest in glass display cabinets nearby, along with his signature smoking pipe." MacQuarrie's manual Underwood typewriter is one of the exhibit highlights and his final work in progress, entitled "*Here come the Biologists*" still in the reel after he unexpectedly died of a heart

attack in 1956.

The BAHA has recently published two new volumes of MacQuarrie articles from the Milwaukee Journal written during the time period of 1936-1956. For more info on the museum, and info on annual pilgrimages to local MacQuarrie sites, check out: [www.bahamuseum.org](http://www.bahamuseum.org).

**Right:** Dave revisited the renowned Brule River at Stone's Bridge where he launched his canoe, and where some of MacQuarrie's most memorable fly fishing tales began.



## Mike Lunsford's New Book *This Old World* Set for October Release

HOW Board Member and Terre Haute Tribune-Star columnist Mike Lunsford says his 7<sup>th</sup> collection of stories, *This Old World*, is set for release by Shade Tree Press in late October. Many of Lunsford's stories, virtually all published as his "Off Season" and "Sidelines" newspaper columns, have been re-worked into six previous books, the most recent being *Field Notes and Other Stories* (2017).

Editor and writer Jim McGarrah, author of *A Temporary Sort of Peace*, says of *This Old World*: "We are reminded throughout of the simple joy that comes from simply living. Lunsford is both pragmatic and optimistic, and that's not an oxymoron."

Titled after a phrase his grandfather used, Lunsford's newest book contains 53 of his stories.

For more information about purchasing *This Old World* (224 pages; \$15), interested readers can visit Lunsford's webpage at [www.mikelunsford.com](http://www.mikelunsford.com) for a list of area shops and stores that will stock it, or can email him for a signed copy at [hickory913@gmail.com](mailto:hickory913@gmail.com) (shipping and tax will apply).

"I wasn't sure that a year like the one we've had was the best time to release a new book," Lunsford says, "but I'm proud of the result of the hard work that went into getting this one out. I just hope that we can get back to normal pretty soon, and I can get out to signings and book events. My readers have been faithful to me and the Tribune-Star always very supportive, so I felt the time was right."



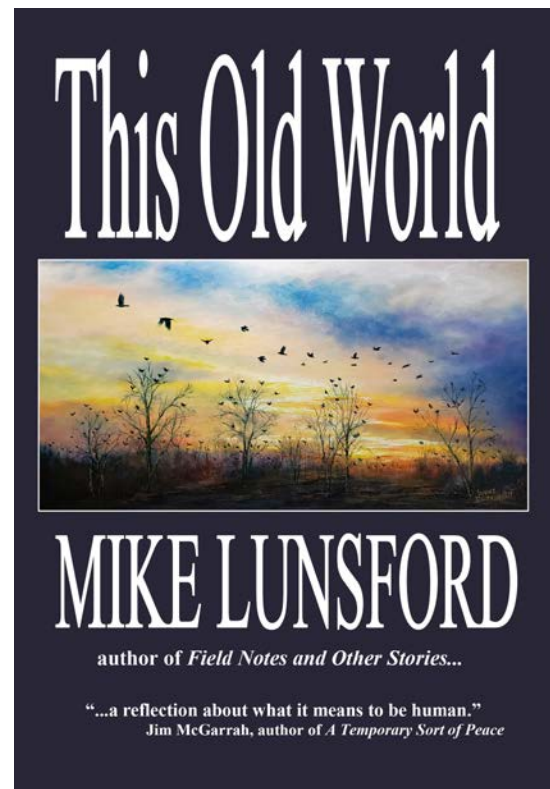
Lunsford is a retired English and American History teacher and has been a columnist and feature writer for the Tribune-Star since 2005. He lives with his wife, Joanie, in rural Parke County.

## Alan Garbers Vies with Native Animals for Piñon Cones

HOW Past President Alan Garbers is wasting no time getting accustomed to his new property in Arizona. From hunting rattlesnakes to photographing beautiful desert vistas, he enjoys it all. Now he has a new pursuit: collecting piñon pine cones from piñon trees!

"This is my first time picking piñon cones," said Garbers. "The idea is to let them dry where birds and squirrels can't get them. In a few weeks I should have some piñon nuts to roast. These cones came from a few trees by our house."

The piñon pine is a native evergreen tree which is common in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. It prefers colder areas rather than hot desert, and it can grow to a height of over 60 feet. Piñon nuts are tasty and nutritious. Native Americans have been eating them for centuries!



## Phil Seng Makes Heartbreaking Find in the Woods

Current HOW Vice Past President Phil Seng loves deer hunting, and he tries to find time to hunt during each of the different deer seasons: archery, firearms and muzzleloader. Even before the archery season starts on October 1st, he is usually busy scouting and looking for deer sign. Here is his pre-season story:

“I made an interesting discovery on our property near Walkerton during the last week of September,” said Seng. “I came across two bucks locked in death. I don’t suppose there is anything particularly unusual about two bucks getting locked up, but it almost always happens in a head-on orientation, when they fight for dominance. But in this case, the two were side-by-side!”



“Both deer are typical, mainframe 8-pointers, but notice in the photo how the smaller buck’s antlers (pretty decent in their own right) are almost completely captured by *one side* of the larger buck’s rack. I’ve never seen this before. They must have been lightly sparring at close quarters and just got unlucky. They had only been dead a day or two when I came upon them. Coyotes had opened up their bellies, but hadn’t gotten very far yet.”

“The heartbreaking part (for me) is that I have been scouting this larger buck all season, and these two were lying less than 10 yards from my treestand. They didn’t have a chance to breed yet this year to pass along those fine antler genes, and all I could picture was all those loin chops and sausage sticks wasted there in the dirt.”

“I got a permit from DNR to possess the antlers, and I’m planning to make a European mount of this interesting orientation, so that should be really neat. Unfortunately, my bowhunting sessions haven’t been nearly as exciting so far this season knowing this guy isn’t out there.”

When asked about the procedure for acquiring a permit for the antlers, Seng responded: “I have a couple conservation officer friends in law enforcement HQ, so I e-mailed one of them and he faxed me a permit so I could take possession immediately. However, a person could also contact the CO in their local county. I’m not sure that a permit was even necessary, since I found the antlers on my property after the deer were already dead. But bow season was starting in four days and I didn’t want to have two freshly removed buck heads without proper documentation. I will probably also need to have this permit if I take the heads to a taxidermist.”

## Marilyn Culler Finds Fishing and Birding Adventures

HOW Board member Marilyn Culler is always on the lookout for fun and adventure in the great outdoors, and some late-summer kayaking/fishing trips were just what the doctor ordered. Fishing is always a great way to spend a warm afternoon, and here's what she had to say:

"My adventure partner Joanna and I have enjoyed kayak fishing on a private pond this summer," she said. "We have been catching largemouth bass, bluegill and crappie. We always have a good time, and her husband cleans and cooks the fish for us!"

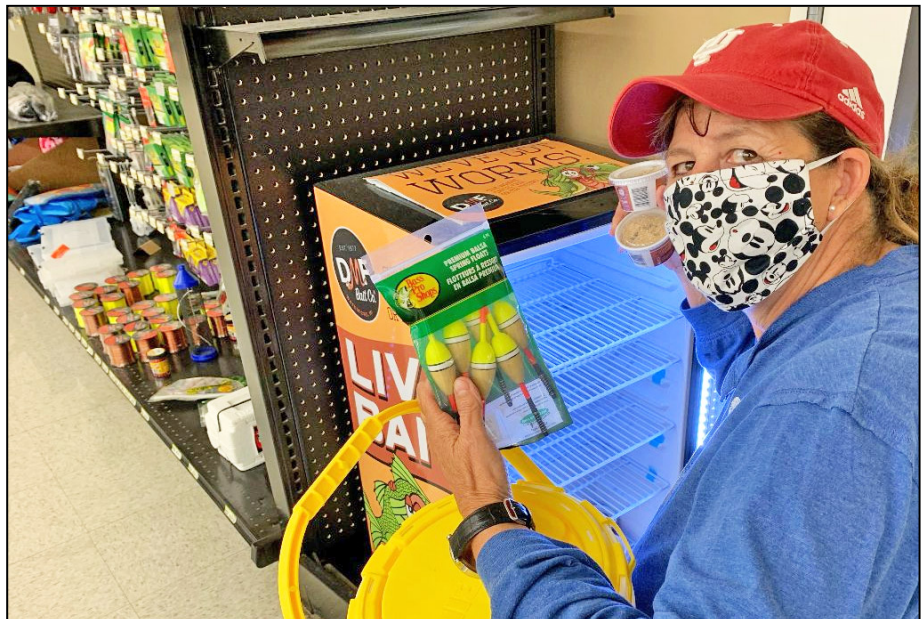


"Funny story – we were in Rockville one afternoon and ran into the IGA grocery store for milk and eggs," she explained. "There were places outside the store that were designated for 4-wheeler and even horse-and-buggy parking. When we went in, we immediately noticed a live bait refrigerator. So we grabbed a container each of worms and bee moths. And just around the corner was all kinds of fishing tackle, rods, reels, line – just

about anything! It was all Bass Pro Shops stuff. At the checkout there was firewood and t-shirts with all sorts of off-color camping slogans. You can get bait, a sandwich, fishing tackle, extra clothes and be on the creek bank in five minutes! Who would have thought there would be a mini-Bass Pro Shops in the IGA in Rockville?! We also picked up new fish stringers to keep with the kayaks."

"Last weekend my friend Joanna and I kayaked the Wabash from Montezuma to Clinton and checked out Cannon Ball Bridge over the Wabash near Vincennes. I did a little video as we drove across – namesake for the song 'Wabash Cannonball'. There's always something to see and do in Indiana!"

"Another friend who was visiting from New Jersey last week had a great time here. We went on up to Jasper-Pulaski one day to observe the sandhill cranes. A group of sandhills flew right over us as we pulled into the parking lot. A couple of hundred birds were at the observation area for us to see, too. He got some nice sandhill crane photos and was impressed with the area."



**Top:** Marilyn Culler (in the background) and her friend Joanna Suitoers display some of the fish they caught while kayaking. **Above:** Culler stocks up on bait and other fishing supplies at the Rockville IGA "mini Bass Pro Shops" store. Photos on this page courtesy of Marilyn Culler.

## Bob Jennings' New Book Featured in OGCA Newsletter

Long-time HOW member Bob Jennings is an aficionado of fine firearms – especially vintage shotguns. His love of antique firearms led him to join the Ohio Gun Collectors Association (OGCA) twenty five years ago, and he has been a member ever since. In addition to his work as a book author, he sometimes contributes articles to their quarterly newsletter. In the recent Summer issue, however, there were no articles *by* Jennings – just an article *about* him!



OGCA Member Services Coordinator Sandra Schwab recently wrote a review of Jennings' newest book, titled *Hits & Misses*. A copy of the OGCA newsletter page with the book review is shown below.

**Page 10**



Twenty-five-year member, Bob Jennings has a new book out. *Hits & Misses* was just released in early May and was all set to debut in the Authors Corner

at our canceled May show. Therefore, it is my pleasure to share a bit of this lovely book with fellow members. *Hits & Misses* is a collection of short stories of Bob's hunting excursions starting when he first moved to Indiana in the 1970's and includes detailed experiences with numerous shotguns.

He talks of his hit and miss shots while hunting for quail, ruffed grouse and other game birds, along with the interesting friends he made hunting and their wonderful bird dogs. Bob included stories of some of his own bird dogs on point and flushing grouse or quail, and the challenges of making connecting shots. *Hits & Misses* also includes short stories of upland bird, spring bear and wild boar hunts.

Regarding his first quail hunt Bob said, "We each took a side of the tree row. The pointer was quite a ways down the tree row when he pointed. A single flushed out on my side that came flying high. It was a nice incoming so I shot once and missed, but followed through as the quail passed

### *HITS & MISSES* - NEW BOOK BY BOB JENNINGS

me and my second shot brought it down. WOW! Wuz I ever excited. My very first Bobwhite Quail."

Throughout the book you will find black and white photos of the shotguns he used, his bird dogs and artist renderings (some of which are drawn by him). The book is paperback and consists of 76 pages printed on quality linen paper. Bob's stories are enjoyable, and the larger print makes it easy to read.

Bob no longer hunts today, but still shoots trap, sporting clays and skeet at his local ranges which is also discussed in the book. He writes of his experiences with numerous shotguns, and the last few pages of *Hits & Misses* include a reference guide to Shotgun Balance of various manufac-

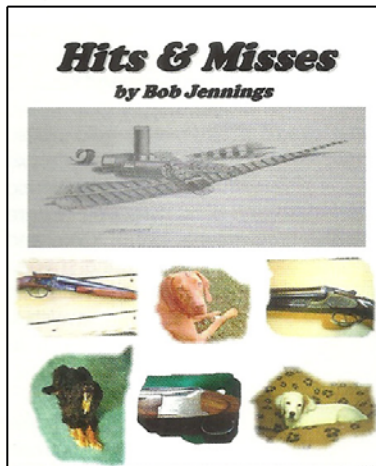
ture including Harrison & Hussey, Parker, L.C. Smith, Lefever, Winchester and Ithaca, just to name a few, and includes over and under, side by side and single barrel shotguns.

Bob has written several other books: *Muskie Tales*, *More Musky Tales*, *Tales From Lonesome Lodge*, *Southern Indiana Outdoor Memories*, *My Mythical Adventures with Crossbred Fishes and Bird Dogs* and *My Life's Journey with People Places & Things*.

If you enjoy short stories, shotguns and/or game bird hunting you will enjoy *Hits & Misses*. Bob will sign books in the Authors Corner at the rescheduled Display Show, May 8-9, 2021. For more information on his books or to purchase a copy email Bob at Jenningsr500@gmail.com or call him at (812) 798-0783. He would love to hear from his fellow members and would be glad to provide an autograph or personal notation.

*Bob retired in 1994 from a rewarding career in Civil Service and fulfilled an ambition in the writing field. After a few humorous tales were published in a local newspaper and National Magazine, he became the writer for the "Sporting Humorous" column in Muskie Magazine for 4 1/2 years. His wife and their Golden Retrievers enjoy traveling the U.S. in their 5th Wheel trailer.*

- Sandra Schwab  
Member Services Coordinator



## Jay Butler Receives Russell Sinclair Award for Journalistic Excellence

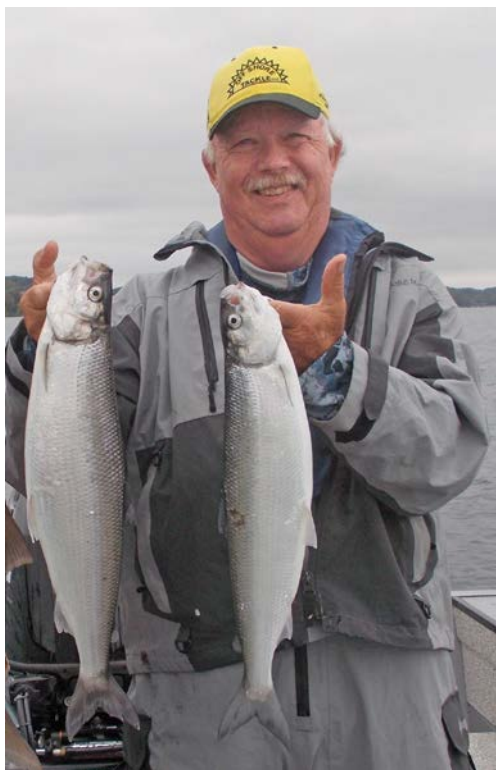
HOW member Jay Butler was recently awarded the Russell Sinclair Award for Journalistic Excellence by the Indiana Division of the Izaak Walton League of America. Butler was recognized for his work as managing editor of the Hoosier Waltonian publication. This award is normally only given to those working in the commercial journalistic media, but this year IWLA made an exception and presented the award internally.

Butler said he was very honored to receive the State's highest award for journalistic excellence. Besides serving as editor for the Hoosier Waltonian newsletter, he also serves on the National Izaak Walton League Board of Directors.

In 2018, Butler was also awarded the National IWLA award for "Best Division Newsletter" for the Hoosier Waltonian, even though he had only published two issues at the time. This publication highlights conservation news throughout the Hoosier state and enjoys a readership of more than four thousand readers across the United States.



Keith Halper, president of the Indiana Division IWLA (left) presents Jay Butler with the Russell Sinclair Award in September.



## Mike Schoonveld Finds Big Cisco On Michigan's Grand Traverse Bay

HOW Board Chairman Mike Schoonveld made a recent trip to Gaylord, Michigan for some Great Lakes fishing. He reports:

"I met up with my friend, Lance Valentine, in September at Tree Tops Resort near Gaylord, Michigan," said Schoonveld. "I wanted to help him break in his new Polar Kraft Kodiak boat. He planned to use the boat to guide fishermen on the Detroit River last spring, but of course COVID-19 shut down the spring fishing there. In the summer, he charters an Angler Qwest pontoon boat on Saginaw Bay. So when we launched the Kodiak at nearby Grand Traverse Bay, it was still brand new and had zero fish to its credit."

"We were jigging, and Lance scored first with a chunky whitefish. I was able to put a couple notches on the scoreboard as well with two nice cisco. Cisco are also commonly called tullibee or lake herring, and they are good to eat. I was surprised at how big they were!"

"Neither of us had ever fished at this location previously so we scored our trip a success and the Kodiak as a keeper!"

## **Rick Bramwell Discusses ‘Old Wives Tales’ And Some Predictions for this Winter**

HOW Past President Rick Bramwell always keeps an eye on the weather, especially during the fall and winter when he might be out fishing or hunting. Predictions for the upcoming winter are a common topic for discussion. “In a conversation with one of my farmer friends, Gene Best, we got on the subject of predicting winter weather,” stated Bramwell. “If you see squirrel nests built high in the trees, we will have a mild winter – or so the saying goes.”

“Farmer Best also noted that if ears of corn are sagging on the stalk and the husk is wrapped loosely around the tip, it is a sign of a mild winter to come. However, when the corn ears are pointing up and the husks are tight, the winter will be harsh. Mean Gene went on to say that we should all make sure our ice auger blades are sharp; it looks like a cold winter coming.”

“Our conversation took place late last week. I asked if he had started picking beans. ‘No, but they are ready. I never begin harvest on Friday – it is bad luck.’ Hmmm.”

Bramwell continued: “Folklore has it that the wooly worm is a good predictor of winter. The ends of the wooly worm are dark with orange coloration in the middle. If the dark portion on the head end is the longest, then the winter will be cold early. The opposite is true if the rear-end is longer. The wider the band of orange, the milder the winter. However, wooly worms molt six times before reaching the adult stage with the last stage producing the longest orange band. They get under leaves and rocks to survive the winter and turn into a beautiful orange tiger moth the next summer.”

“It is said that persimmon seeds can also predict winter weather. Split open a persimmon seed in late October. If the root inside is shaped like a spoon, we will have heavy snows. If it is shaped like a knife, there will be a lot of freezing rain. Shaped like a fork? It will be a mild winter. I usually manage cutting myself before I get that far.”



## **HOW Members Win AGLOW AIC Awards**

The 2020 AGLOW Awards in Craft ceremony was held as a virtual event this year, broadcast via Facebook Live from Gaylord, Michigan. The presentation took place on September 16 and aired on the AGLOW public Facebook page. AGLOW’s best of the best in the outdoor communications industry were recognized for their outstanding work, and some of our very own HOW members were among the winners. Congrats to the winners! Here are their names and the contest details:

### **Best of Magazine - Fishing**

2nd Place – Tom Berg

*Learning to Love Carp*

### **Best Book**

2nd Place – Jack Spaulding

*The Best of Spaulding Outdoors*

3rd Place – Jason Houser

*Hunting Trophy Whitetails*

### **Best of Photography - Hunting**

3rd Place – Brandon Butler

*Osceola*

### **Best of Photography - Outdoor Scenic**

2nd Place – Tom Berg

*Hummingbird Moth Visits Phlox Garden*

### **Best of Radio / Podcast - Hunting**

1st Place – Brandon Butler

*Missouri’s First Ever Elk Hunting Season: Aaron Hildreth*

### **Best of Radio / Podcast - Open**

1st Place – Brandon Butler

*Former Missouri State Parks Director Billy Bryan*

### **Best of Public Speaking**

2nd Place – Brandon Butler

*Conservation Federation Wins Golden Glow*

### **Best Website**

3rd Place – Brandon Butler

*Driftwoodoutdoors.com*

*Congratulations!*



## Spaulding Remembers “Dardevle by Eppinger” and Beloved HOW Members From Yester-Year

HOW Past President Jack Spaulding noticed that **Dardevle by Eppinger** was the sponsor of the HOW Nature Photo “What Is It?” contest in the last issue of *The Blade*, and it reminded him of two much-loved HOW members from the past (Al Spiers and Bill Beeman). Here is what Spaulding had to say:

“Al Spiers was one of the great HOW members from the past,” recalled Spaulding. “His favorite lure company was Dardevle by Eppinger. Back then he was great friends with Ed Eppinger who ran the Michigan-based lure company, and he told many tales of their fishing exploits. What I would give to hear those two spin their tales of old again!”

Spaulding continued: “I remember being out on a salmon charter on Lake Michigan one year at a HOW conference being held in Michigan City. I was fishing with Al and HOW’s first executive director, Bill Beeman. Those two bickered like two old wash women, and both got their wallets out to display the dollar bills they had won from each other in bets over the years. Each had several well-marked bills with the date and location declaring the winner and loser. The fishing was slow for us that day (nothing biting), and finally Al looked to the heavens, closed his eyes and pleaded with the spirit of Ed to send him a fish. One of the rods almost immediately went off and it was Al’s turn! Apparently Ed was listening!”



### Membership Changes and New Member Contact Info

The following names represent our newest HOW members. Please make a note of their contact information:

- Jason Houser:** 1510 IL Rt. 121, Greenup, IL 62428, phone: 217-218-1505,  
Email: [hunter\\_fisherman@hotmail.com](mailto:hunter_fisherman@hotmail.com)
- Dana Neer:** 831 North Lake Shore Dr., Culver, IN 46511, phone: 765-252-7030,  
Email: [dana.neer@culver.org](mailto:dana.neer@culver.org)
- Bob Osborne:** 3710 N. Stone Rd., Liberty, IN 47353, phone: 765-580-0380,  
Email: [promuskymedia@gmail.com](mailto:promuskymedia@gmail.com)
- Ben Shadley:** 1409 Cottonwood Circle, Noblesville, IN 46062, phone: 317-499-7106,  
Email: [ben.shadley@sportsman-mag.com](mailto:ben.shadley@sportsman-mag.com)
- Indiana Dunes Tourism:** 1215 N. State Rd. 49, Porter, IN 46304, phone: 219-926-2255,  
Contact: Christine Livingston. Email: [christine@indianadunes.com](mailto:christine@indianadunes.com)
- Sportsman Magazine:** (formerly WildIndiana) [www.sportsman-mag.com](http://www.sportsman-mag.com)  
Contact: Ben Shadley. Email: [ben.shadley@sportsman-mag.com](mailto:ben.shadley@sportsman-mag.com)

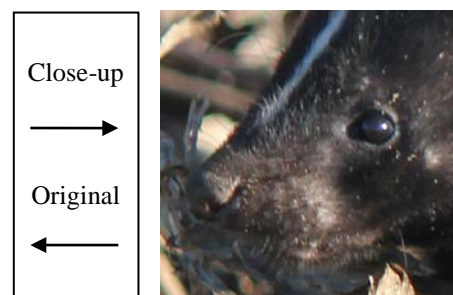
The following HOW members have updated contact information:

- Marilyn Culler:** New mailing address: 204 S. Spring St., Greencastle, IN 46135
- Vikki Trout:** New mailing address: 933 Brames Rd., Jasper, IN 47546,  
Also, new email address: [vt Trout56@gmail.com](mailto:vt Trout56@gmail.com)

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

## Unusual Nature Photos from the Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Toyota

### The Striped Skunk is a Notoriously Stinky Customer



The “What is it?” photo from the last issue was evidently far too easy, because it was correctly identified by a total of 16 HOW members! Mike Schoonveld, Phil Bloom, Troy McCormick, Jack Spaulding, Mike Lunsford, Mike Berg, Jameson Olson, Bill Keaton, John Maxwell, Brandon Butler, Scott Weaver, Alan

Garbers, Brian Waldman, Dave Hoffman, Bryan McFadden and Phil Seng all identified it. When we drew a name at random for the **Dardevle** prize package, Jameson Olson was the winner. Congrats, Jameson! We’ll mail the prize to you.

As you can see in the photo above, the mystery creature for this issue was a striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*). Skunks are easily recognized by the bright white stripes on their backs that show up well against the jet black fur covering the rest of their body. Skunks are mostly nocturnal, so encounters with people are pretty infrequent.

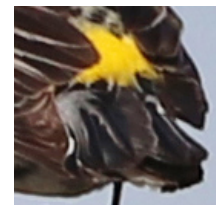
Everyone knows that skunks can spray a stinky, noxious fluid at anyone or anything foolish enough to attack them. But they rarely actually need to spray. When threatened, the skunk usually just stops, turns around and raises its tail. If that’s not enough to scare away the threat, the skunk will stomp its feet and continue “aiming” its back end at its opponent. Anyone foolish enough to keep harassing the skunk will get a face-full of stinky spray that is very difficult to wash off.



For this issue, our friends at **Toyota** 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 special prize package of Toyota swag. See below for more info on the prize and this issue’s nature question.

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

Tom Berg has posed another Nature Photo mystery. The photo shown at right is part of a close-up of a creature that can be seen right here in Indiana – at least at certain times of the year. It can be seen throughout the state, and you might even see it in your back yard. Does it look familiar?



This creature may be easy for some people to identify and harder for others, but we’ll see. Do you know of any creatures that look like this? As usual, you will have to identify the exact species. If you think it’s a species of toad, for example, go ahead and guess “Fowler’s toad” (of course, it’s not a toad). If you think you know the answer, send an email to [thomas.berg@comcast.net](mailto:thomas.berg@comcast.net). If you’re right, you will be entered in this issue’s prize drawing!

As mentioned, **Toyota** ([www.toyota.com](http://www.toyota.com)) has donated some special Toyota swag for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. The winner gets a “Working America” photography coffee table book commissioned by Toyota, a TRD camo hat, a Toyota-branded Yeti tumbler, a Toyota pen, notebook, small carry bag, travel clock, and a Booyah fishing lure. If multiple people guess correctly, we’ll draw a winner at random from the correct entries. Nature photos on this page by Tom Berg.

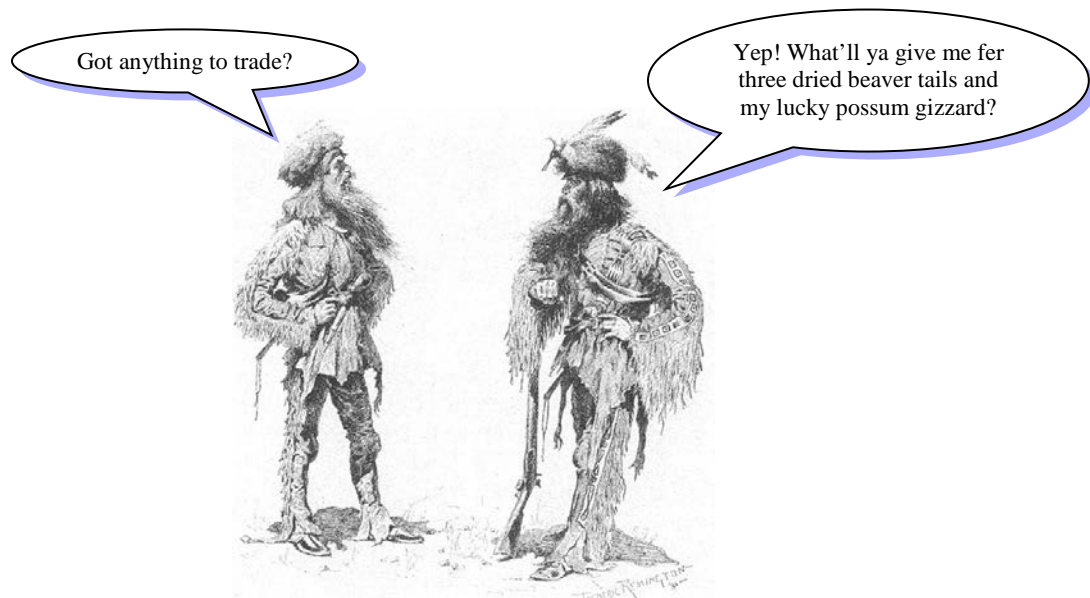
# The HOW Trading Post

*This section of the newsletter is set aside for HOW members to list items (especially outdoor gear) that they would like to sell. Limit one listing (or group listing) per member, per issue. Please contact the seller for more info – not the newsletter editor!*

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**For Sale: Fishing Boat and 7.5 HP Johnson Motor**

- Sea Nymph Kartopper 12-foot boat, wide beam, semi-V, heavy gauge aluminum.
- Includes 7.5 HP Johnson motor with less than 25 hours on it! No trailer.
- Complete with two plastic-coated oars, 3.5 gallon gas tank, new 6 gallon gas tank (still in the box), anchor pullies, two new anchor ropes, bow & stern lights, extra spark plug, manual for motor.
- Must See! \$1,500 complete. Call: Bill Takacs, 219-931-7355.



## 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.

### Toyota and Longtime Partner Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Extend Partnership

**Plano, TX:** Toyota and partner Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's are thrilled to announce the renewal of a longstanding partnership for an additional five years, which will lead the brands into 20 years of collaboration together.

"Whether it's on the water, on the track, or in a store, Toyota and Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's are a natural fit, and we're thrilled to extend our partnership to 2025," said Vinay Shahani, vice president, Integrated Marketing Operations, Toyota Motor North America. "It's been a rewarding partnership since the beginning, and we look forward to additional years of supporting our customers with continued synergy."

As the Official Vehicle and Mobility Category Partner of Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's, Toyota is proud to partner with a brand that aligns with Toyota's brand ethos, "Let's Go Places." In similar style, at Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's, "Your Adventure Starts Here" by helping customers connect with the outdoors through the gear, apparel and expertise they need.

"We're honored to extend our partnership with our friends at Toyota, a brand proudly made in the USA and trusted by millions of sportsmen and women to help connect them to nature," said Jack Wlezien, communications director, Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's. "Beyond serving everyone who loves the outdoors, we are grateful to Toyota for their continued support of our conservation mission, which allows us to protect vital wildlife habitat and inspire the next generation of outdoor stewards."



Throughout the years, the brands have worked together in numerous ways, including: partnering on vehicle launches, including the Toyota Tundra; Toyota vehicle displays in and outside of Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's stores; annual co-branded sweepstakes with a Toyota vehicle as the grand prize; and, vehicle ride-and-drive events with Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's gift card giveaways. The partnership has also included a rich history of bass fishing and motorsports support, as both brands sponsor B.A.S.S., Major League Fishing, as well as Team Toyota athletes including NASCAR driver Martin Truex Jr. and Major League Fishing pro angler Kevin VanDam. Both Truex Jr. and VanDam have participated in Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's in-store autograph signings and fan meet-and-greet events.

"It's pretty cool that two of my biggest partners in NASCAR are also teaming up off the racetrack," said Martin Truex Jr., NASCAR Driver and Team Toyota Athlete. "I've been fortunate to drive for Toyota for many years and bring them a NASCAR Cup Series championship with Bass Pro Shops on the side of my Toyota Camry. Both of these companies have become more than just sponsorship partners in racing, they're family and they also reflect my passions for the outdoors and spending quality time with family."

"Both Toyota and Bass Pro Shops are the best in their class, and their commitment to safety, quality and sustainability is something I'm really proud to be associated with," said Kevin VanDam, Team Toyota Pro Angler.

In addition, both brands have a shared interest in corporate initiatives to support important environmental and conservation efforts. For example, the Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050 has strived to reduce the environmental burden attributed to automobiles to as close to zero as possible, with the aim of achieving a sustainable society. Under the visionary conservation leadership of Johnny Morris, Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's has restored millions of acres of habitat, enhanced public access and worked to connect millions of kids to nature for the first time.

**Media Contacts:** For more information, HOW members may contact:

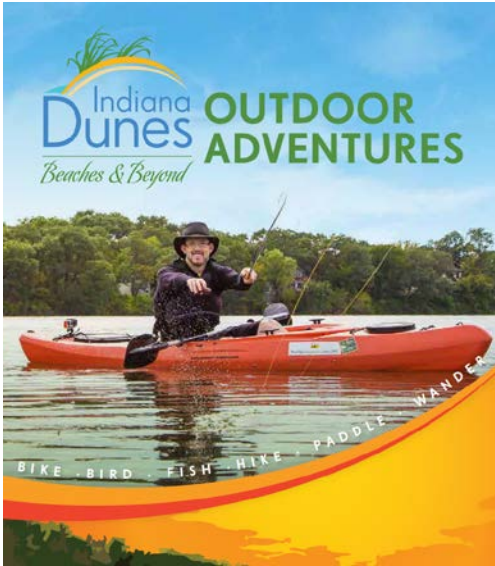
Curt McAllister, Toyota Midwest Public Relations Manager, email: [curt\\_mcallister@toyota.com](mailto:curt_mcallister@toyota.com), phone: 313-259-4598.

# HOW Supporting Member News

## Indiana Dunes Tourism Updates Outdoor Adventure Guide

**Porter, IN:** The talented people at Indiana Dunes Tourism have recently updated their Outdoor Adventure Guide and web pages. Outdoorsmen (and women) who would like to learn more about the Dunes area should take a look. The Outdoor Adventure Guide is particularly interesting for anyone who loves the outdoors. Check it out at:

[https://www.indianadunes.com/content/uploads/2020/08/2020-Outdoor-Adventures-Guide\\_MASTER-WEBOPT.pdf](https://www.indianadunes.com/content/uploads/2020/08/2020-Outdoor-Adventures-Guide_MASTER-WEBOPT.pdf)



Here is a small sampling of what you will find:

### Outdoor Adventures & Beaches

Shaped by nature, made for adventure. In the Indiana Dunes, it's all about fun times and tan lines—from nine Lake Michigan beaches. It's 15 beautiful miles of award-winning shoreline on top of a biodiverse collection of woodland wilderness, county, state, and national parks, bike trails, and three of the world's biggest sand dunes. So get out there and get to know outdoor adventure the Indiana Dunes way: by foot, paddle, and pedal.

### Fishing

Fishing season? Try seasons. With this many inland lakes, creeks, shorelines, and deep waters, we're hooked on the sport all year round. Follow the salmon runs in spring and fall. Take the bait and brave the elements on an ice fishing excursion. Or make the big catch from one of North America's biggest bodies of water. Whether you're looking for a little still-water meditation or open-water adventure, you'll find it here.

### Birding

Few places in the Midwest rival the Indiana Dunes area for birding. More than 350 species live or migrate through here, drawn by the open waters of Lake Michigan into the landscapes of beaches, dunes, wetlands, and prairies. We're best known for our spectacular migrations, where you can witness thousands of Sandhill Cranes in a single autumn day or count a hundred hawks over the dunes in spring.

### Hiking

Lose yourself in the beauty of the Indiana Dunes. Of course, you won't really be lost—we've got 70-miles of well-manicured trails perfect for all skill levels. Discover why we're known as the birthplace of ecology as you meander through a violet sea of wild lupines and other native plants. Travel from sand to oak forests in the same morning, or challenge your friends—and yourself—on a vertical trek up a 192-foot living dune on The 3 Dune Challenge. Between close-knit communities, state, and national parks, you'll get the chance to get a whole new footing on adventure.

### Paddling

Our recipe for the perfect day? Just add coastlines, dunes, trails, and plenty of water. Luckily, there's no shortage of lakes, creeks, and waterways to satisfy your inner aquaphile. Prepare your arms—and eyes—for mile after mile of majestic water routes, dune-lined shores, and stunning views of the surrounding communities. Take it easy and rent a boat, or bring your own watercraft and embark on an adventure over lake chains and lush parklands. Either way, it's one of the best ways to get to know the Indiana Dunes area.

There is so much more to discover, too. Visit [www.indianadunes.com](http://www.indianadunes.com) for more information.

**Media Contact:** Christine Livingston, Indiana Dunes Tourism, Assistant Director

Phone: 219-926-2255

Email: [christine@indianadunes.com](mailto:christine@indianadunes.com)



# HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Aquateko International - [www.aquateko.com](http://www.aquateko.com)  
B'n'M Pole Company - [www.bnmpoles.com](http://www.bnmpoles.com)  
Bass Pro Shops - [www.basspro.com](http://www.basspro.com)  
Black River Tools - [www.blackrivertools.com](http://www.blackrivertools.com)  
BoatUS - [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com)  
BOLT Locks - [www.boltlock.com](http://www.boltlock.com)  
Brella Rainwear - [www.brellabrella.com](http://www.brellabrella.com)  
Buck Knives - [www.buckknives.com](http://www.buckknives.com)  
Bucket Grip - [www.bucketgrip.com](http://www.bucketgrip.com)  
Celox Medical - [www.stopbleedingkits.org](http://www.stopbleedingkits.org)  
Church Tackle Company - [www.churchtackle.com](http://www.churchtackle.com)  
Cocoons Eyewear - [www.cocoonseyewear.com](http://www.cocoonseyewear.com)  
Costa Sunglasses - [www.costadelmar.com](http://www.costadelmar.com)  
Daisy Outdoor Products - [www.daisy.com](http://www.daisy.com)  
Danner Boots - [www.danner.com](http://www.danner.com)  
Dardevle by Eppinger - [www.dardevle.com](http://www.dardevle.com)  
DJ Illinois River Valley Calls - [www.djcalls.com](http://www.djcalls.com)  
Ducks Unlimited - [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org)  
Egret Baits - [www.egretbaits.com](http://www.egretbaits.com)  
Environ-Metal, Inc. - [www.hevishot.com](http://www.hevishot.com)  
Falcon Guides - [www.falcon.com](http://www.falcon.com)  
Finn Tackle Company - [www.finnspoons.com](http://www.finnspoons.com)  
Fish Monkey Gloves - [www.fishmonkeygloves.com](http://www.fishmonkeygloves.com)  
Flying Fisherman - [www.flyingfisherman.com](http://www.flyingfisherman.com)  
G.Loomis - [www.gloomis.com](http://www.gloomis.com)  
Glacier Glove - [www.glacierglove.com](http://www.glacierglove.com)  
Grizzly Fishing - [www.grizzlyfishing.com](http://www.grizzlyfishing.com)  
Gun Protect - [www.mygunprotect.com](http://www.mygunprotect.com)  
Hawke Sport Optics - [www.hawkeoptics.com](http://www.hawkeoptics.com)  
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - [www.henryUSA.com](http://www.henryUSA.com)  
HHA Sports - [www.HHAsports.com](http://www.HHAsports.com)  
Hoosier Trapper Supply -  
[www.hoosiertrappersupply.com](http://www.hoosiertrappersupply.com)  
Howard Leight Shooting Sports -  
[www.howardleight.com](http://www.howardleight.com)  
HT Enterprises - [www.htent.com](http://www.htent.com)  
Indiana Dunes Tourism - [www.indianadunes.com](http://www.indianadunes.com)  
Indiana Office of Tourism Development -  
[www.visitindiana.com](http://www.visitindiana.com)  
Jackall Lures - [www.jackall-lures.com](http://www.jackall-lures.com)  
LaCrosse Footwear - [www.lacrossefootwear.com](http://www.lacrossefootwear.com)  
Lawrence County Tourism -  
[www.limestonecountry.com](http://www.limestonecountry.com)  
LensPen - [www.lenspen.com](http://www.lenspen.com)  
Lodge Manufacturing - [www.lodgemfg.com](http://www.lodgemfg.com)  
Mathews Archery - [www.mathewsinc.com](http://www.mathewsinc.com)  
Mossy Oak - [www.mossyoak.com](http://www.mossyoak.com)  
National Shooting Sports Foundation - [www.nssf.org](http://www.nssf.org)  
National Wild Turkey Federation - [www.nwtf.org](http://www.nwtf.org)  
Norsemen Outdoors - [www.norsemenoutdoors.com](http://www.norsemenoutdoors.com)  
Nosler, Inc. - [www.nosler.com](http://www.nosler.com)  
Nothead Tackle - [www.notheadtackle.com](http://www.notheadtackle.com)  
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - [www.mossberg.com](http://www.mossberg.com)  
Off Shore Tackle - [www.offshoretackle.com](http://www.offshoretackle.com)  
Otis Technology - [www.otistec.com](http://www.otistec.com)  
Outdoor Sportsman Group - [www.outdoorsg.com](http://www.outdoorsg.com)  
PowerPro Lines - [www.powerpro.com](http://www.powerpro.com)  
Princeton University Press - [www.press.princeton.edu](http://www.press.princeton.edu)  
Pro-Cure Bait Scents - [www.pro-cure.com](http://www.pro-cure.com)  
Quaker Boy Game Calls -  
[www.quakerboygamecalls.com](http://www.quakerboygamecalls.com)  
RAM Trucks - [www.ramtrucks.com](http://www.ramtrucks.com)  
Reef Runner Lures - [www.reefrunner.com](http://www.reefrunner.com)  
Renfro Productions - [www.renfroproductions.com](http://www.renfroproductions.com)  
RIO Products - [www.rioproducts.com](http://www.rioproducts.com)  
Roeslein Alternative Energy - [www.roeslein.com](http://www.roeslein.com)  
Seaguar Fishing Lines - [www.seaguar.com](http://www.seaguar.com)  
Shimano American Corp. - [www.shimano.com](http://www.shimano.com)  
Sierra Bullets - [www.sierrabullets.com](http://www.sierrabullets.com)  
Snag Proof Lures - [www.snagproof.com](http://www.snagproof.com)  
South Shore CVA - [www.southshorecva.com](http://www.southshorecva.com)  
Sporting Classics - [www.sportingclassics.com](http://www.sportingclassics.com)  
Sportsman Magazine - [www.sportsman-mag.com](http://www.sportsman-mag.com)  
St. Croix Rods - [www.stcroixrods.com](http://www.stcroixrods.com)  
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - [www.ruger.com](http://www.ruger.com)  
Swab-Its - [www.swab-its.com](http://www.swab-its.com)  
Sweet Owen CVB - [www.sweetowencvb.org](http://www.sweetowencvb.org)  
Tales End Tackle - [www.talesendtackle.com](http://www.talesendtackle.com)  
Target Communications Outdoor Books -  
[www.targetcommbooks.com](http://www.targetcommbooks.com)  
Toyota Motor Sales - [www.toyotanewsroom.com](http://www.toyotanewsroom.com)  
Traditions Media - [www.traditionsmedia.com](http://www.traditionsmedia.com)  
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - [www.ttiblakemore.com](http://www.ttiblakemore.com)  
Van Vuuren African Safaris - [www.vvasafaris.com](http://www.vvasafaris.com)  
Vexilar, Inc. - [www.vexilar.com](http://www.vexilar.com)  
Whitetails Unlimited - [www.whitetailsunlimited.com](http://www.whitetailsunlimited.com)  
Widener's Reloading & Shooting Supply -  
[www.wideners.com](http://www.wideners.com)  
Winchester Ammunition - [www.winchester.com](http://www.winchester.com)  
W.R. Case - [www.wrcase.com](http://www.wrcase.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:

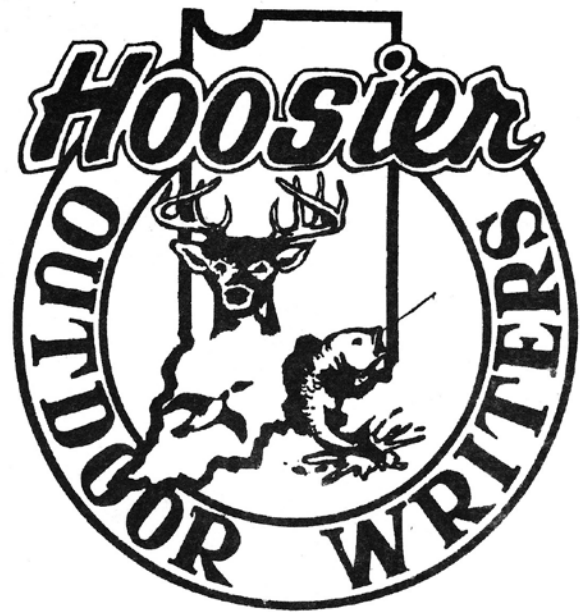
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor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

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <b>SHOT Show 2021:</b><br>( <a href="http://shotshow.org">http://shotshow.org</a> )<br>Las Vegas, NV  | Cancelled            |
| <b>Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport &amp; Travel Show:</b><br>( <a href="http://www.IndySportShow.com">www.IndySportShow.com</a> )<br>Indianapolis, IN                                     | February 19-28, 2021 |
| <b>Indiana Deer, Turkey &amp; Waterfowl Expo:</b><br>( <a href="http://www.IndySportShow.com">www.IndySportShow.com</a> )<br>Indianapolis, IN   | February 25-28, 2021 |
| <b>HOW 2021 Annual Conference:</b><br>( <a href="http://www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org">www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org</a> )<br>Turkey Run Inn, Turkey Run State Park<br>Parke County, IN | April 9-11, 2021     |
| <b>POMA 2021 Annual Conference:</b><br>( <a href="http://www.professionalooutdoormedia.org">www.professionalooutdoormedia.org</a> )<br>Franklin, TN                                     | June 15-17, 2021     |
| <b>OWAA 2021 Annual Conference:</b><br>( <a href="http://www.owaa.org">www.owaa.org</a> )<br>Northern VT  | July 9-12, 2021      |
| <b>SEOPA 2021 Annual Conference:</b><br>( <a href="http://www.seopa.org">www.seopa.org</a> )<br>Southern WV   | October 6-9, 2021    |
| <b>SHOT Show 2022:</b><br>( <a href="http://shotshow.org">http://shotshow.org</a> )<br>Las Vegas, NV  | January 18-21, 2022  |

**NOTE:**

Because of Covid-19, all events are tentative. Please check with the websites and/or organizations listed as the dates get closer to make sure each event is still taking place.

HOW members may submit upcoming events, along with dates, locations and other details to the newsletter editor at: [director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org](mailto:director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org) for possible inclusion in future issues of *The Blade*.