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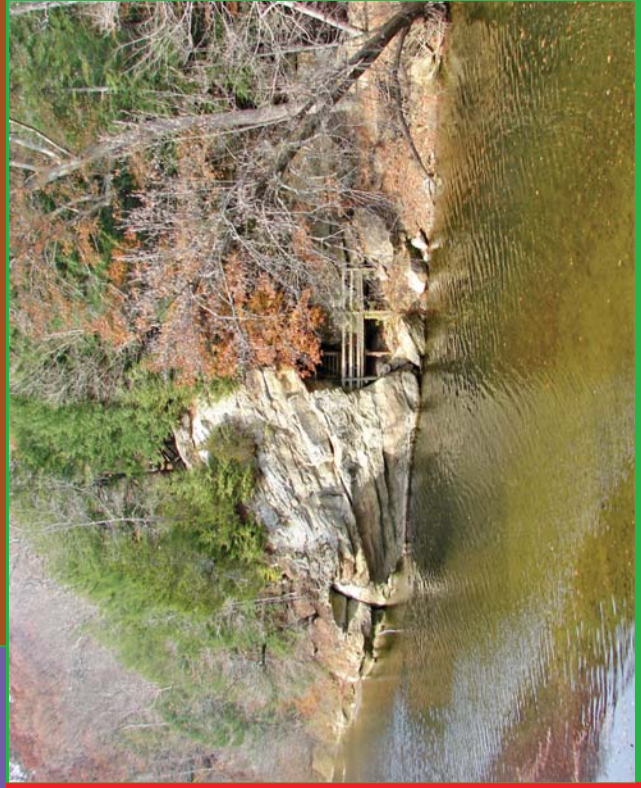


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THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: 6th Annual CanoeFest, July 1-2, 2011 in Brookville, Indiana. Indiana's largest canoe race dating back to 1963. Map showing canoe race from start to finish. Check out all the activities at CanoeFest by logging onto www.canoeFest.org See Page 8-9 (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Top Right: Shannon Rikard, shown with her huge tom taken at Winghaven Lodge in KY. The bird had a 10& 1/2 inch beard, and nearly 1& 1/2 inch spurs! Shannon is a public relations specialist with the National Wild Turkey Federation out of South Carolina. NWTF was one of the sponsors of the Kentucky hunt Rich Creason was on and Shannon was one of the hunters with the group of about 18 hunters. She took the largest bird of the group. Rich was the only one who took two birds. A local taxidermist was going to mount the biggest bird taken for free, so Shannon gets a full size mount of her bird. Russell Edwards, owner of Winghaven Lodge is on Shannon's left. See Page 20-21 for more. (Photo by Rich Creason)

Bottom Left: Patrick and Jack Turner (Jack writes The Simple Life Column in Gad-a-bout) share a happy moment as they both landed fish at the same time. Patrick caught a large bluegill and Jack a large-mouth bass. Each month we try to encourage our readers to spend time with their spouses and children in the outdoors. See Page 23 (Photo by Leslie Turner)

Bottom Right: A fall photo taken of Sugar Creek in Turkey Run State Park when we visited there in October 2010. Sherry and I visited Turkey Run State Park on April 16, 2011 to attend one day of H.O.W. Conference. See more photos of Turkey Run on page 26 & 27. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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You can enter our tournaments by filling out and sending in an entry form or by registering on our website at www.crappieusa.com before the deadline listed on the form. Teams may also enter at the pre-tournament seminar on Friday night. All late entries will be subject to a \$20.00 late fee.

ACA membership is required to fish in our tournaments and a space is provided on our entry form for you to become a member.

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For more information please call Crappie USA Inc. at 270-395-4204. Please visit our website at www.crappieusa.com.

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Jun 3-5 Little Grantville Bluegrass Spring Festival, Shawswick School Rd., Bedford. Bands, food, free admission. www.littlegrantvillebluegrass.com

Jun 8 12th Annual St. Vincent Dunn Hospital Foundation Golf Scramble, Otis Park Golf Course. www.otisparkgolf.com

Jun 10 - Strawberry Shortcake Festival, Harp Commons, 1-7 pm. Classic Car Cruise-In and Gallery Walk, 5-9 pm. Downtown Bedford, Limestone Heritage Festival events. www.limestonemonth.com

Jun 10-11 Spring Into Summer, Country Neighbors' Tour, 10am-6pm. Map available at Lawrence Co. Tourism, downtown Mitchell. www.picturetrail.com/countryneighbors

Jun 12-15 TRIRI, Spring Mill State Park/Inn. Bike loop rides from a single Indiana State Park. www.triri.org

Jun 13 Summer Reading Festival, Bedford Public Library, parking lot, 4 - 5:30 pm. Games, contests, prizes, balloons, popcorn, summer reading sign-up, and fun for the whole family at no charge. www.bedlib.org

Jun 15 HHCU Patriot Golf Outing, Stonecrest Golf Course, Bedford, Noon-6 pm. Call 812-279-6644, ext. 195 for details. Limestone Heritage Festival event. www.limestonemonth.com

Jun 16 Summer Reading Festival, Bedford Public Library, parking lot, 4 - 5:30 pm. Games, contests, prizes, balloons, popcorn, summer reading sign-up, and fun for the whole family at no charge. www.bedlib.org

Jun 16-18 Springville Heritage Festival, downtown Springville. Golf Scramble, music, food, flea markets, BBQ, car show, tractor pulls, parade. www.springvilleindiana.com/festival

Jun 17-19 Gaited Horse Ride, Midwest Trail Rides, Hoosier National Forest. All breeds welcome, social, dance, Gary Lane leads this ride. www.midwesttrailride.com

Jun 18-19 Archaeology Weekend, Spring Mill State Park. www.in.gov/dnr/parklake/2420.htm

Jun 23-26 Judah Heritage Festival, Judah. Music groups, food, rides, 5K run, parade, golf scramble, cruise in, and fireworks. www.judahfestival.com

Jun 24-25 BBQ at the Quarry, downtown Bedford. BBQ contest & sampling, beer garden, live entertainment, poker run, Classic Car Cruise-In. Limestone Heritage Festival event. Facebook as BBQ at the Quarry

Jun 25 Masonic Lodge Pancake Breakfast, Masonic Temple, downtown Bedford, 6 am-noon. Limestone Heritage Festival event. www.limestonemonth.com

METAMORA INDIANA

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Jun 3 Twilight Limited Train to Dinner Whitewater Valley Railroad. Departs **Connersville** Station at 6 p.m. and travels to the **Laurel Hotel**. The cost is \$29 per adult, \$15 for children (special child's menu) and includes the round trip train ride, the meal, tax and tip. Reservations Required. For reservations and schedule call: (765) 825-2054 (Prices may change without notice).

Jun 4-5 5th Annual Strawberry Dazes, 10am-5pm. Enjoy a fun filled weekend at Metamora. Delicious strawberry shortcake will be sold at the Merchant's Association tent in the yard of the Bane's House. Hear some amazing live music in the afternoon from regional groups like Harvey Branch String Band, Shawnee Valley Dulcimer Society, The Peach Pickers and The Rubber Knife Gang. Don't miss the car show going on around the village.

Jun 17-19, 24-26 Day Out with ThomasTM, CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by **Tag Nobbe**
Professional Fishing Guide

Where did they go?

June is the month where fish make a transition from the banks to the flats, or should I say the middle of the lake.

In the spring of the year from about May 1st to the end of the May most all the fish are on the banks. There are some fish laying eggs in the shallow rocks on the banks. There are some building nests in the sand on the banks and there are some fish taking advantage of the potential food source on the banks. But in June that all changes.

Once the spawning cycle is over and the water temperature starts to heat up, the fish are on the

move. What they are looking for is a home area where they can spend the entire summer.

These places are usually 10 to 15 feet in depth but close to deep water. They are usually made up of sand, rock or wood. Some places are huge, for example there is a flat at the north end of the lake called Fairfield flat. Its about 3/4 of a mile long and 400 yards wide with a gravel bottom. This spot has the potential to hold walleye, smallmouth, largemouth, white bass, bluegill, and channel cats over the entire flat due to the way it is made up. On this spot there are also three isolated spots. One is a pile of rocks, one is several old building foundations, and another is an old house foundation next to a drop off into deep water.

Walleye will feed on the entire flat. What the walleye will do is swim up on the flat and lay flat on its belly lying motionless like a statue, using the color of its back as camouflage. You could say its hiding in plain site. When something swims or crawls close to it, it just flicks its tail to catch it.

The way largemouth and smallmouth bass feed, more than likely you will find them on one of the specific spots. These fish are ambush feeders that like to hide behind something that will block them from view and dart out at the last minute, flare their gills and one bite, what ever is there.

Bluegills will also be on one of these three spots they just won't be hiding, they will be hovering on top of the spots aggressively feeding on anything that they can get their lips on.

White bass feed like a pack of wolves. They are a huge schooling fish. I have saw schools of white bass feeding on the entire Fairfield flat at one time.

When they move into an area to feed it is total chaos. To them Fairfield flat is just one big spot.

Channel cats will feed on just about anything anywhere. What they will do is swim around on the entire flat looking for something to eat, dead or alive. A catfish is a little different fish then other fish. Most all fish have scales, but a catfish has a skin. A catfish is like a big swimming tongue swimming around tasting the water through its skin. A catfish will taste its next meal before it ever sees it.

As you can see all fish share these feeding spots to feed, they just do it in their own special way. The fish may not be feeding on these spots in the middle of the lake all day every day but I can assure you they will not move back to the banks till the fall when the water temperature starts to cool off.

Good Luck Tag Nobbe

If you need more info e-mail me at tag@tagnobbe.com or go to the web site www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com or call my cell phone **765-265-3238**.

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News from the Indiana State Police



by Sgt. John D. Bowling

Growing Season for "Illegal Farmers"

With the warm weather here many of us are preparing plants and planting vegetables for our gardens. Farmers are planting or already have planted most of their fields. Unfortunately there are other growers out there using farmer's fields and our woods.

Marijuana growers use this time to take marijuana plants they started indoors and plant them outdoors. They plant them in fields and wooded areas and "tend them" just like you or I care for our gardens. They will often have well worn paths into their illegal "crop" where they go in to water and fertilize.

A well tended plant may reach 6-12 feet tall and be worth \$1,000 to \$4,000. With this kind of money involved, is it no wonder our officers find grow operations with a bevy of booby traps? Things like fish hooks suspended by monofilament line at face level, and shotgun shells rigged with a trip wire and detonator.

These "illegal farmers" are robbing you and me of access to woods and valuable farm land. Whether it's a crop of a few plants, or a few hundred plants, growers will often times protect their crop as if their life depended on it. Heaven forbid that we or a family member "stumble in" on their operation.

The Indiana State Police Marijuana Eradication Program is in full swing trying to stop the illegal marijuana grow operations. According to Marijuana Eradication Section stats, in 2010, the Indiana State Police eradicated a total of 60,844 marijuana plants which lead to 862 criminal charges being filed and 194 weapons being seized. There were 50,414 plants found on private property, and 10,430 on public property. They seized 726 pounds of processed marijuana.

The Indiana State Police Marijuana Eradication Section needs your help to combat the marijuana problem in Indiana. Many of the grow operations we find come from tips provided to us by you, the public. The Indiana State Police encourages anyone with drug information to call the Indiana Drug Tip



Indiana State Police helicopter used in locating and eradicating marijuana. (Photo by Sgt. John D. Bowling)

line at 1-800-453-4756. Please remember tips can be made and kept anonymous.

INDIANA STATE POLICE REMIND PUBLIC ABOUT THE DANGERS OF METH LAB TRASH

With warm weather here people are outside walking, jogging and bike riding in rural areas. The potential exists that some people may come across trash left behind by those who have manufactured methamphetamine (meth).

The Indiana State Police Meth Suppression Section wants to remind citizens that this trash may contain chemicals that are toxic, flammable, corrosive, and acidic. The combination of these chemicals could cause an explosion, fire or burns if they come into direct contact with the skin. The chemical fumes can cause permanent damage to organs and the nervous system. Below are some things to keep mind when in the outdoors.

Meth cooks are using a variety of containers to manufacture their product. Popular containers are the one and a half gallon gas can, and Coleman Camp Fuel Cans. These cans appear to be new and have been found along the roadside by unknowing people who believe that they have found a new can of gas or fuel and end up with a working meth lab.

Other items to be aware of include battery casings, Ziploc style bags, empty blister packs, and containers (pop-bottles, jars, etc.) that contain a granular material. They may or may not have a tube extending out of the top depending on whether it is a hydrochloric gas generator (HCL) or a one pot reaction. Both of these are extremely hazardous.

Be aware of any type of tank found in an odd place (middle of a field, ditch line, wooded area) that has a modified valve. The valve will typically be

modified in some way and will have a bright blue or green color to it. These cylinders are used to store or transport anhydrous ammonia, which is an extremely dangerous gas when direct contact or inhalation has occurred.

If you encounter any of these items, please contact your local Indiana State Police Post. Just like with marijuana eradication, a lot of these labs are discovered as a result of tips from the public. These tips can be made anonymously.

The Indiana Meth Suppression Unit responded to 1,346 clandestine lab incidents in 2010, up from 1,343 in 2009. However they arrested 1,212 people in 2010, up from 1,031 in 2009. The highest numbers of labs are discovered in March, April and September, with May and August not far behind.

Any information about meth activity can be directed to the Indiana Meth Suppression Section on the Drug Tip Line (800)-453-4756, or 1-877-677-6384, or go online to www.in.gov/isp, click on meth, and fill out a tip form that is available online. We need your help!

Now you've heard me say before, I work for you and am proud to do so. That being said, I've recently taken calls at the post where people are screaming, yelling and cursing. If I owned a business, I would not talk to my employees that way and expect positive results.

Chances are I am on your side, and will help you with a problem if possible; but sometimes your problem is one I can't help with. Some calls I've received in the past couple months included a dad who called to ask our permission to spank his 12 year old son with a belt; a man that wanted us to come to his house to get his fifteen year old daughter out of bed to go to school.

A woman from another state called frantically crying wanting to file a missing person's report, as the man she had sent money to, from another country, had not shown up yet, and they were due to be married that afternoon. Of course they had never met face to face, just on the internet.

She chose to call us because the last time she talked to him he said he was in Indiana. My guess is he never left his house, because Indiana wasn't even on his way to her state. I suggested she have the local police in his country check his home- which must've been productive- because she never called back.

Finally, a man called yelling, screaming and cursing for ten minutes about a dangerous intersection. When I finally could catch a gap when he was taking a breath, I told him I agreed with him and had suggestions on how we could go about improving it. There was a long silence followed with "What?" and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



by PIO Gary Catron
“Wear It Indiana”

The Indiana DNR’s Law Enforcement Division, National Safe Boating Council, United States Coast Guard and private industry are again partnering and participating in the ‘Wear It Indiana’ campaign. The purpose of the ‘Wear It Indiana’ outreach campaign is to encourage the use of personal flotation devices while boating on Indiana waterways.

You may see Conservation Officers with the ‘Wear It Indiana’ promotional truck, boat and



Wearit.in.gov logo from IDNR website.

designed to be worn for each person on board a watercraft. A USCG approved type IV (throwable device) must be on board all watercraft 16’ and longer in length.

The annual pre-boating season watercraft checkup is the perfect time to inspect all PFDs. For these to work properly, they must be kept in good condition. If they were to fall into disrepair, they no longer meet USCG standards. The outer shell should be checked for any rips or tears, damage to stitching and lost or broken straps, buckles or other fasteners. Quality repairs can be made in some instances. If you are thinking of using bal-

once in this manner can damage the PFD beyond repair.

An excellent habit to make part of a pre-cruise check list is having all occupants don their PFD and fasten all closures. This accomplishes several things. It allows a check of the appropriateness of size and fit for all occupants. Life jackets are available in a wide range of sizes and the PFDs on board must be of appropriate fit for each occupant. Putting the PFD on prior to any outing also allows all on board to know how to properly wear their PFD, providing familiarity in the event they must quickly put it on. It also lets all know where the PFDs are on board the vessel.

Beware of PFD migration. Throughout the summer boating season they often move in various and sometimes unpredictable directions without aid of boat. For well intended safety reasons, boaters sometimes remove PFDs from their watercraft to take along to family outings, vacations, other watercrafts and the like. If the PFDs make it back on board prior to the next outing, all is well. If they do not or others use the boat in their absence...not good! A pre-cruise PFD check also helps detect PFD migration.

For years many fishing tournaments have made it mandatory for participants to wear a life jacket anytime their watercraft is underway. Kudos to them! Hopefully, the recreational boaters have begun to take notice. Are you



“Wear It Indiana” truck, boat and trailer. (Photo by PIO Gary Catron)

trailer at boat ramps, marinas or public events and venues throughout the summer demonstrating the importance and advantages of wearing a life jacket at all times while on the water. We may even be asking boaters to sign a pledge card acknowledging the importance of wearing a life jacket.

From the National Safe Boating Council website: In 80% of fatal boating accidents, drowning is the cause of death. In 90% of these drowning the victim was not wearing a life jacket. You can imagine how many lives could be saved each year by life jacket use.

As a reminder, on Indiana waterways, there must be a USCG approved life jacket/PFD

ing twine or duct tape for a repair, DON'T! PFDs no longer serviceable should be cut into pieces prior to being thrown away. This keeps someone from giving the device a second life and unknowingly, and mistakenly, relying upon it for their own safety.

Life Jackets do need to be kept accessible to occupants while underway but never store them in the bilge areas of a motorboat. Any exposure to gasoline and/or oils can lead to damage and deterioration. Allow PFDs to air dry before storing. Mildew also leads to degradation.

PFDs should not be used as seat-padding or to kneel upon as this can damage buoyancy. I know there is a big temptation to do this. I have been guilty of this myself. Some materials used to provide a PFD with buoyancy to handle these stresses better than others but the rule of thumb is to not make this a habit. Likewise, PFDs are not constructed to be used as boat fenders. Being misused

deserving of kudos? ‘Wear It Indiana’

2011 Free Fishing Weekend

Do you have friends or family members you wish to introduce to fishing? Plan an outing now for the free fishing weekend on June 4th and 5th. Indiana residents 18 and older do not need a fishing license or trout/salmon stamp to fish Indiana waters during this weekend. All size and catch limits still apply.

This is a great time to introduce friends to fishing. Hopes are after a ‘free’ introduction to fishing people will find they enjoy it and continue to make it part of their outdoor recreation for years to come. After all, how can anyone not like worm dirt or fish slime?

Many DNR properties are hosting free fishing weekend activities. Visit: www.in.gov/dnr for a listing of participating DNR properties and other fishing related activities.



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Canoe enthusiasts and others ply the waters of the East Fork of Whitewater River. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

CANOE FEST JULY 1 & 2, 2011 - BROOKVILLE, IN

CANOE RACES SAT JULY 2

STARTING LINE- BROOKVILLE RESERVOIR TAILWATERS RECREATION AREA

Canoes will put in on the East Fork of the Whitewater River, south of the Brookville Reservoir Dam, as directed by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

“RECREATIONAL” RACE FINISH LINE- FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION CLUB.

Racers in these races will finish at the Franklin Co. Conservation Club, approximately 1/2 mile south of the confluence of the East and West Forks of the Whitewater.

We expect many entrants in the Recreational Races, perhaps 300 or more, mostly novice canoeists.

CHAMPIONSHIP RACES FINISH LINE- WHITEWATER CANOE CEDAR GROVE.

Racers in these races will finish at Whitewater Canoe Cedar Grove, approximately 9.25 miles south of the confluence of the East and West Forks of the Whitewater, and approximately 11.25 miles south of the starting line at Brookville Reservoir Tailwaters.

We expect about 75 entrants in these races

BIATHLON

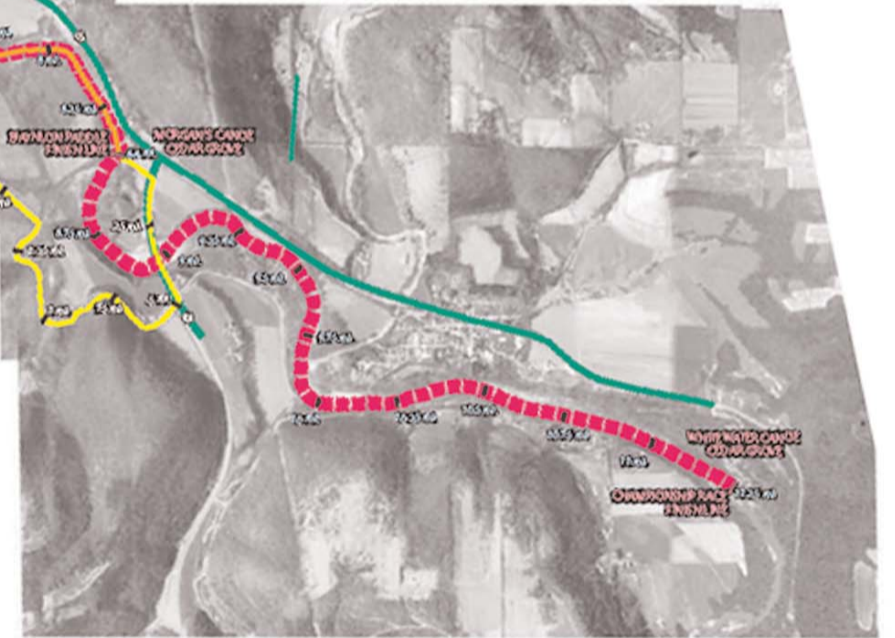
Biathlon participants start at the Tailwaters, and paddle to Morgan’s Canoe Cedar Grove. They get out of their boats and begin running back to Brookville, heading south on SR1 for approximately 1/2 mile, then coming back north on River Road to the Franklin County Conservation Club.

We expect about 75 Biathlon entrants

RECREATIONAL CANOE RACE

The Recreational Canoe Races will be put into 2 "Waves", the first at 9AM, and the second at 11:00AM. on Saturday, July 2nd starting at the Tailwaters of Brookville Lake and racing down

Eager canoe teams wait patiently to get launched into the tailwaters below the Brookville Dam. The water they are about to enter comes directly through the stilling basin of the dam, at the bottom of the lake, 125 deep on the other side of the dam, the deepest part of the lake. The water temperature is a bit cool to those who happen to fall in unexpectedly. I attended my first race day in 2010 and several canoe occupants found themselves in the water, but they didn't seem to mind, it was a very warm day. They just got back aboard and continued on their way. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)





East Fork Fishing Expo for Kids

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MEMORIAL DAY

May 30

Brookville Town Park

the East Fork of the Whitewater to a finish just below the confluence with the West Fork. A run that is popular with both the families and novices, and the experienced paddlers alike. 2 Person Teams, \$15.00 Per Team Pre-Reg, \$30.00 Per Team Day-Of-Race (Canoe Included).

Give yourself a treat, bring the whole family and some friends too, come to the 2011 CanoeFest in Brookville, Indiana. Before you leave home visit www.canoeFest.org, click on the canoes to learn what all is happening at the Festival. There is something for everyone. (See photocopy of Canoes that you will see on the website of the list of festival activities at right on this page, just click on the website www.canoeFest.org)

CANOEEST FRYERS CLUB

On July 3, 2010, the CanoeFest Fryers Club set an official Guinness World Record for the

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Go ahead, look it up

Over 200 fryers and volunteers fried up 2,700 pounds of raw chicken, donated at a discount by OMara Foods in Greensburg, a major chicken supplier to the area. The 2,700 pounds cooked down to the 1,645 that was the world record weight. The chicken was then served up in over 600 dinners, with additional chicken donated to a local food bank.

THE RULES FOR FRYING

Each team will consist of one or two members only. Each team will be provided with two chickens. All other equipment including fryers and tables (etc) must be supplied by frying teams. Any equipment or behavior by team members deemed unsafe will immediately disqualify that team. Teams must be signed-up by 4 PM on the Friday one week prior to the competition. Teams must be signed-in by 3 PM on day of contest, Saturday July 2, 2011.

All chicken must be fried. No chicken sushi or chicken tartar.

THE RULES FOR JUDGING

Judging will be conducted in a blind fashion. The \$40 judging fee includes T shirt, credentials, one vote and a whole lot of yummy fried chicken!!

All Judges must be checked in by 5 PM on day of contest.

INFORMATION

Go to www.canoeFest.org for all your questions for directions, forms, races, chicken fry-off, etc, see **Contact Us** for names and contact information for all of the activities for CanoeFest 2011. Simply click on the website address here or at top of this page or log onto it manually. See you there. ■

Visit Website: WWW.CANOEEST.ORG
ON WEBSITE CLICK ON CANOES TO FIND EVERYTHING

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- FESTIVAL
- THE GREAT CHICKEN FRY-OFF
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Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

June is the Rose Moon

My father used to sit in his front yard, smoking his pipe and absorbing the warmth. He always said that the sun's rays revitalized him. When my sister reads this she will probably remind me of the number of times he fell asleep and dropped his pipe spilling ashes all over himself. Thank goodness the pipe was usually out when that happened. When he lived in the cabin in California Woods, he was still having trouble walking. He would walk so his short leg was on the upside of the slope. We would talk about life and what the Great Spirit expected from us. He called it our 'challenge', so we don't forget why we're here. He believed that each of us was given a task to complete during our time on earth. Of course the Creator didn't tell what it was. That was part of the challenge. I asked him, one day. How I could ever repay him for what he did for me. He stopped, looked at me. And said. "Do the same thing for your children". I've tried and from what they tell me, I succeeded. Now it's their turn. I never remember his words or our time together without getting a tear in my eyes.

I started to write about summer but my mind sort of drifted.

June is the Rose Moon...I have always loved roses. My Hopi grandmother's name was Rose. In contacting the Hopi Council recently in a last effort to learn more about my grandmother, I was told that 'Rose' was a popular name for girls among them. Another small piece of information to add to what I have collected over the years.

When my Hopi teacher, Blue Sky Eagle, told me the legend about the twins, one good, the other bad, he pointed to a wild rose and said..."See the beautiful flower, Good One made them, but beware of the thorns, Bad One put them there. There is something bad in everything good, and there is always something good in anything bad".

June is the time when most native boys went courting. They would sit outside the lodge of their favorite girl and play love songs on the flute. I love flute music especially when it's played by my friend Thunder. However when you get four or five lovesick youths each playing a different tune, none of them really well, it sounded like a bunch of sick cats, no wonder her mother urged the girl to stand in the door of the lodge so the young men

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would stop playing and take their turn to come, bring her a gift and have a few words with her. It didn't take long before, grandmother, sitting just inside, would clear her throat, meaning it was time for another swain to come calling. Hopi courtship went on for a year before the wedding. The girl and her friends ground corn for the wedding meal. It took a year because they needed a lot of food to feed all the guests. During that year the couple could only talk through a slit in the wall.

I wish you all a wonderful summer. Take time to relax and enjoy it. May Grandfather Great Spirit Bless You and Yours.

OLD CHIEF SAYS: Have a great day and know that someone has thought of you today. ■



The Order of RED MEN

The Improved Order of Red Men Greetings Brothers!

There are several special events in which members from all over the United States gather.

The first is Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge in which our Red Men and Pocahontas gather May 6th thru May 8th 2011 at the chapel which they built and which is open to the public. We gather at the chapel for a memorial service to honor and remember those Great Chiefs who have passed to the Hunting Ground of the Great Spirit.

We will also come together July 29th thru 31st 2011 for our 49th annual Men's Day at Arlington National Cemetery. We are there for the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and placing of the wreaths by the members of the Improved Order of Red Men and the Degree of Pocahontas. This gesture is emblematic of patriotism. We, as members of the Order display at our meetings and in our everyday living the respect that we show for the American Flag and the honor we give those who fight and have fought and died to preserve it, and the American way of life.

Locally, please men join our local tribe (Miami #633) the third (3rd) Thursday of each month at MCL Cafeteria in Richmond at 6:00 PM to eat and our meeting begins at 6:45 PM and is over approximately at 7:45 PM. We salute our flag at our meetings and stand for our National Pledge of Allegiance. We also close our meetings with attention and salute to our flag. We have several veterans who are members of our local tribe. We also open and close our meetings with prayers to God thanking Him for our blessings and His protection for our Nation, our families, and our selves.

For further information please call Malcolm Greene at 765-259-1958. Look for us on the Internet at REDMEN.org ■

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It's Spring Try Some Dandelions

Just the mention of dandelions will set my wife into a frenzy and she will instinctively reach for the anti-dandelion granules and head for the yard. Now this is all well and good when you're living in the city but it's like shoveling water up hill if you live in the country since the seeds are in the air 24/7 and replanting what you've just tried to kill.

When I was growing up we lived on the outskirts of a small town and we never had dandelion one in our yard and most of the neighbors didn't either. Now how could that happen? The answer is simple; we ate them along with other 'spring' greens that grew in our yard and in the surrounding fields, meadows, and along the railroad tracks.

Give my mom and my aunts each a butcher knife and a grocery sack and they were off and running come early spring to catch the dandelions, lamb's quarters, plantain, miners' lettuce, mustard, poke, and whatever other edible wild plant dared to peek its head above ground right after the snow melted off.

Why? I think it's because we ate mostly greasy fried starchy foods all winter and this makes it tough for going to the bathroom. There were no green leafy salads or 'greens' at that time of year which have a natural keep regular laxative effect on your system. Without going regularly a lot of people got sick and the un-sick medicine at that time was castor oil, and croton oil, along with other home remedies which were anything but pleasant to take or to live through after the results.

Even with the slight laxative effect of eating spring dandelions (Taraxacum) I find that I crave the 'taste' of a good mess of dandelions once in a while and the easiest way to 'fix' them is to just cut them off at the root, wash them to get rid of the sand and dirt, and then pick the best leaves for the pot. Add water, bring to a boil until they are wilted, and then drain and serve with butter or a little vinegar. Decorate the dish of cooked dandelions with some boiled egg slices.

After the dandelions started to bloom mom would pick the blossom parts, slip off the stems, wash them under the faucet, shake dry, dip in batter, and fry until brown. She would serve the fried blos-

soms with syrup or ketchup depending on your personal taste. If she had plenty of blossoms dad would take some and make dandelion wine but I never got his recipe. I'm sure it was good but so far I prefer the boiled dandelion greens come spring even though I don't need the laxative effect they present. Try a few of the plants prepared like I suggest and then make up your own mind as to whether or not you want more. As with any wild edible plant, eat a little to start with and beware of any allergic reactions.

I've read about using the roots of the dandelion for coffee but being an ol' coffee drinkin' Navy Veteran, I doubt that anything other than the real McCoy will even remotely remind me of 'coffee' and if I can't have the real McCoy then I will just drink water and do without thank you very much. I will put down here what Bradford Angier, a wild edible food expert has to say in his book Free For The Eating on the subject of dandelion 'coffee'.

"Roast the roots slowly in an open oven all afternoon until, shriveling, they resemble miniature dragons and will snap crisply when broken, revealing insides as brown as coffee beans."

"Grind these roots and keep tightly covered for use either as regular coffee or for mixing to extend your normal supplies. I find I only have to use a level tablespoon of this homemade mixture per cup, whereas I prefer a heaping tablespoon of store coffee.

If I accept this information as gospel, I may just have to try mixing the two and give it the ol' Navy try, you know, just in case I am at Trout Camp, 100 miles from the nearest store, no coffee to get my caffeine fix, and am surrounded by bushels of dandelion plants just begging to be dug, picked over, washed, dried, and ground into 'coffee'. Otherwise I'll take his word for it.

He did go on to say that young tender dandelion roots can also be peeled and sliced like carrots or parsnips for boiling as a vegetable but he cautioned that they are also bitter and he recommends the water they are boiled in be changed a time or two to get rid of the bitter taste before serving or mixing in with the other stew or soup ingredients.

He gave a recipe that I think just merits a try and that is to combine dandelion greens with your next batch of scrambled eggs to give the food "... some character and vitamins."

DANDELION EGG SCRAMBLE

4 eggs beaten with 4 tablespoons of cold water.
Salt and pepper to taste
1 cup of shredded dandelion greens
Butter, margarine, or bacon grease
Shredded cheddar cheese (optional)

Heat two tablespoons of grease in a frying pan just hot enough to sizzle a drop of water. Mix the eggs with the shredded dandelion greens and pour into the hot skillet; reduce the heat. When the mixture has started to harden, begin stirring the mixture until the eggs are soft and creamy. Sprinkle the eggs with the shredded cheddar cheese and serve with toast points and your favorite jam or jelly. ■

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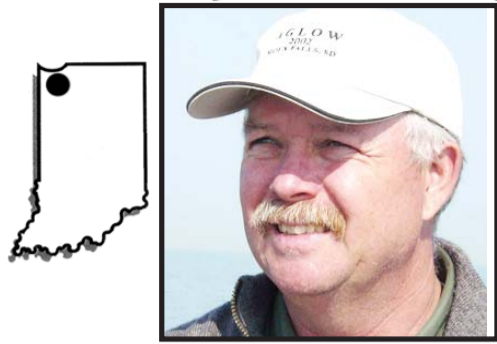
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Fishing Lake Michigan



by **Capt. Mike Schoonveld**



The St. George Light stands tall again--for now. (Photo by Capt. Mike Schoonveld)

FOURTH TIME AND COUNTING

Apalachicola is a vibrant little town in north-west Florida, still as attuned to the reasons people settled and developed the area from the wilderness as it is a tourist destination. At one time, the town and its harbor was as important as New Orleans as a shipping destination. Just as the Mississippi was the highway used to ship Midwestern products, the Apalachicola River was the highway upon which uncountable tons of cotton, turpentine, lumber, tobacco and other goods from the Southeastern part of our country flowed.

A string of barrier islands formed a protected bay off the mouth of the river and access to the anchorage was through a narrow strait between St. George Island and St. Vincent Island. In those days, lighthouses were important aides to navigation. By night they'd warn ship away from shoals and guide ships to safe harbors. By day they became recognizable landmarks. As Apalachicola gained in importance as a commercial port, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$10,000 for a lighthouse to mark the passage leading to Apalachicola Bay.

It served well but was nearly invisible to ships approaching from some directions. A second light was proposed, but instead, in 1848 the St. George Island Lighthouse at the pass was toppled, the bricks then transported to Cape St. George, a highly visible corner of the island a few miles away and the lighthouse was rebuilt to nearly identical specifications as the original.

Florida is hurricane country and after only 3 years, a hurricane passed through, again toppling the light onto the beach. Again materials were salvaged and rebuilding began again--though the lighthouse was moved 500 yards inland to better protect it from tropical storms.

In a geographic sense, barrier islands are

almost alive. Sand erodes from wind, tides, current and storms in one place, then builds up in others to move the islands and change their shapes. By 1992 the Cape St. George light, once far inland, was again on the beach and after Hurricane Andrew its base was surrounded by water at high tides. By this time, lighthouses were no longer a sophisticated or necessary aides to navigation, replaced by radar, GPS and other electronic instruments. The last lighthouse keeper was laid off in 1949, replaced by an automatic, electric light. The Coast Guard deactivated the lighthouse in 1994.

While hurricane Wilma churned up the gulf far offshore in October of 2005, the waves and swells from the storm again shifted the sand under the tower and for the third time, it tipped over onto the beach and shallow water. It's days were done.

Soon a group of grassroots volunteers headed up a campaign to salvage the materials, many of them from the original construction to rebuild the light a fourth time. For 2 years volunteer labor cleaned the mortar from the bricks and raised the \$660,000 reconstruction costs. Now the St. George Lighthouse shines over a park well inland, near the commercial district on St. George Island.

This fourth incarnation of the famous landmark was completed in 2008 and a replica of the

lighthouse keeper's home, a visitor's center and other displays are now open. If you are up to it, retrace the light keeper's daily duty of carrying buckets whale oil (at first), then eventually kerosene up the 92 steps to the lamp at the top for a magnificent view of the gulf, island and bay.

Though the lighthouse location seems to be safe and well inland, who knows? The sands of time flow at a rapid pace along the gulf, at times. For more information visit:

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THE END

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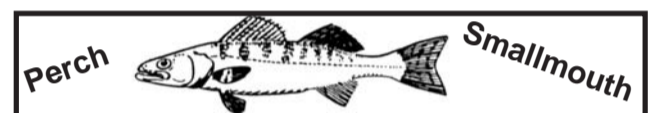
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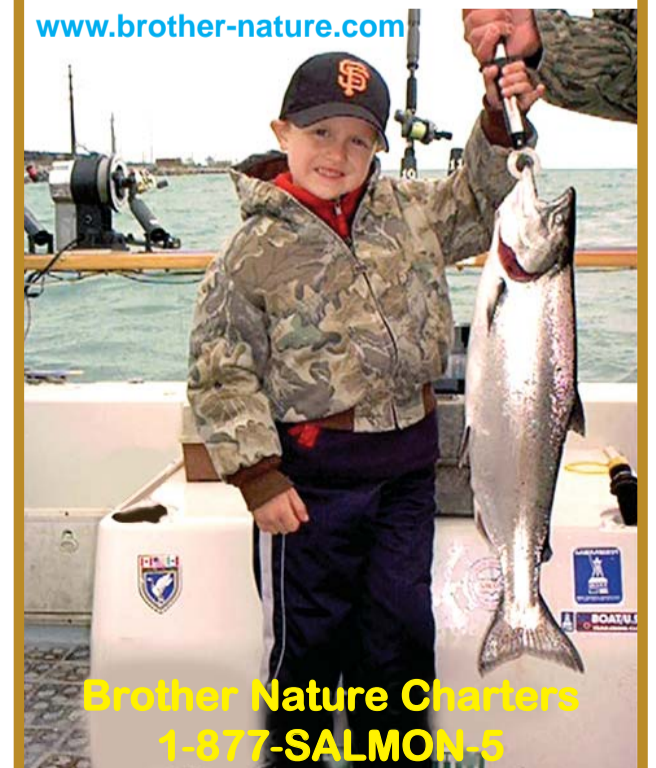
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Outdoors Tales



by Phil Junker

**Rain, rain,
but what about fish?**

Frankly, the rain and accompanying lousy weather has been pretty depressing for many anglers this spring. Many are beginning to wonder, if it will ever end.

Every spring has rain and high water, but this year has led to thoughts of building an ark rather than fishing from one--a boat that is.

Storm after storm and continual rains have slowed spring fishing for most everyone, and has caused several tournaments to be postponed. A big catfish tournament at Henderson, KY, was moved to fall due to the flooding Ohio River, a Kentucky Lake crappie tourney has been rescheduled for September, and the Illinois High School Athletic Association had to postpone the school bass fishing championship because of high water.

Certainly the fishing problems caused by storms and floods pale beside the more serious impact they have caused people related to their lives and homes, but they haven't been good for anyone's mental health, even if we have managed to escape the damage in Indiana as well as throughout the Mid-South.

I've been blessed over the years and had many opportunities to fish in North Alabama and Tennessee where more than 200 tornado's struck last month. The area abounds in fishing and other outdoor recreation opportunities.

I know most of my fishing friends from the hard-hit area are OK, but there are some I still don't know their status. I'm hoping no news is good news.

So for lucky folks who have had no major impact from the rain and storms, what is the fishing outlook? How can you deal with high, muddy water whether this still is a problem (by the time this is printed), or when high water returns again, as it surely will.

The first thing to consider is safety. Stay off of swift, swollen streams. One Hoosier kayaker was swept away by fast moving water, and the time of this writing still has not been found. Not only is the swift water itself a problem, danger comes from being swept under limbs and brush, or against logs. Flowing water has far more force than many people realize.

Flooded backwater during spring can produce fish. Crappie often find their way into flooded brush and can produce good catches out of the current. I've also caught catfish in cornfields near the Ohio River when the water was on the rise.



When water levels are high in lakes or backwaters from streams, fishing shorelines with structure such as buck-brush or underwater stumps and logs often is productive. (Photo by Phil Junker)

However, once the water level starts dropping, I've found you are wasting your time trying to catch fish until the level stabilizes.

I'm not sure what these small yellow brown catfish are that I only have caught in flooded fields. They seem to feed aggressively when the water is rising, and feed on small worms, but may bite on other baits as well. I just know worms worked well. When they are biting, you can catch them nearly as rapidly as you can cast out your line, pull in the fish, take the fish off the hook, and bait again.

Some locals call these little cats pollywog's,, but the name polliwog means tadpole to me. However whatever the name, these eight to 10-inch cats are mighty good eating.

Farm ponds also may be a good bet when water conditions are like they have been. However, make sure you have permission to fish the ponds, so that you aren't trespassing. There are ponds in state and federal forests as well as other wildlife management areas.

When fishing high, muddy water any time of the year, probably the best place to find bass as well as other fish is at the bank or shore, but not just any bank of shoreline. The best place is where there is structure like underwater logs, stumps and or flooded buck brush.

One concern about spring flooding is that fish will spawn in shallow water along the shoreline. When the water drops after the eggs have been laid, they will be destroyed, ending up uncovered out of the water. The loss of production this year will impact fishing in future years.

If you get a chance, take caution and fish. Or, work on your fishing tackle so it will be ready when the weather improves. Certainly it will.

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Contact Phil Junker by email at: outdoorscribe@yahoo.com

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Opening Day Success

by Bill Browne
Indiana Conservation Officer

I have enjoyed my career as an Indiana Conservation Officer for 24 years now. Serving the fine people of this State, in particular the people of Fayette County, has been a true honor for me. One of the greatest joys of my career has been working with young people. I have served as a DARE Officer for 10 years, taught the NASP archery program for the past 2 years, taught Hunter Education and Boater Education classes throughout my career all with great honor and pleasure. Certainly, I have been blessed.

With all that being said, I must say that this last Hunter Education class was my most favorite of all time. The ending to this class was surprising and forever etched into my memories. This Hunter Education class was held at the Park Place Church of God and was full of young people anxious to learn how to be safe while hunting. I was surrounded by an awesome group of instructors and other Conservation Officers and was enjoying the atmosphere. Fayette County Sheriff Billy Wayson then opened the door and entered into the building. Sheriff Wayson had all of the kids write their name on a piece of paper and told them to put the papers into a box.

Sheriff Wayson is a member of Pea Ridge which is a conservation minded group that has offered youth hunts for the past several years in southern Fayette County. Sheriff Wayson then announced that he was giving one lucky kid an opportunity for a



Dana Sherwood and Fayette County Sheriff Billy Wayson. Dana took this her first turkey opening day of the Youth Turkey Hunt April 23, 2011. (Photo by Bill Browne)

Youth Turkey hunt on the opening day of Youth Turkey Season on April 23rd. Sheriff Wayson shook the box, then reached his hand in and pulled the winning paper. I was so excited to hear that it was a young lady named Dana Sherwood. Dana is one of Connersville High School Archer's and has continuously worked at her archery skills to become one of the teams finest shooters. Dana is intelligent, funny, witty and a true pleasure to be around. I was so excited for her. Sheriff Wayson worked out the details with Dana and began conversing with Dana's parents.

Some kids would probably expect to just wait for Sheriff Wayson to provide them with everything they needed to complete the hunt, but Dana decided to prepare herself for her upcoming hunt. Dana practiced with her father all week to sharpen her shooting skills and was going through all the preparations needed to be a success during opening day.

Getting out of bed for a teen-ager isn't always the most pleasant thing in the world, but Dana jumped out of bed at 4:30

a.m. and rode with her father to southern Fayette County to meet with Sheriff Wayson at the Pea Ridge clubhouse. Into the darkness both of them went to set up inside a camouflage blind that the Sheriff had already placed in the woods. Both of them sat patiently until the morning light brightened up the surroundings. Dana confessed to Sheriff Wayson that she had never heard a wild turkey gobble. No sooner than that, a big ole' Tom sounded off with an awesome gobble that sent chills up Dana's spine. Sheriff Wayson called to the turkey with his "box call" and the turkey gobbled immediately. Once again, Sheriff Wayson called to the turkey, and again it responded with a gobble.

Dana began breathing hard with excitement and hope in her heart. Just then another turkey gobbled, and then another. By this time both Dana and the Sheriff were breathing hard with excitement. Ten minutes later, the most beautiful sight Dana has ever seen appeared 15 yards away from the blind, a strutting Tom Turkey. Dana took careful aim and was successful in taking her first wild turkey.

My cell phone rang and it was Dana, barely able to contain her excitement. Dana said, "I just got me a big ole' Tom." Dana was so excited and I was thrilled for her. Sheriff Wayson got on the phone with me and I could tell he was as excited as she was.

Now, I must say, Sheriff Wayson, for you to give back so much to these young people is amazing, they will remember their time in the woods with you forever. You inspire me to continue my efforts to get

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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Bozarth Crappie Tourney April 30, 2011

by Ryan Pershing
Bozarth Country Store Salamones Res

Ten teams showed up to compete and battle the poor lake conditions for our crappie tournament held on Saturday, April 30, at the Salamonie Reservoir. Battling high waters and windy conditions our fishermen still managed to bring big crappie to the weigh-in table. Leading the way was the team of C.B. Hupp and Randy McCormick as they were able to hold off the second place team of Ron Bilbrey and Donnie Mandrell by a mere .03 of a pound. Hupp and McCormick's total weight for seven fish was 5.62 pounds and followed by Bilbrey and Mandrell with 5.59 pounds. Rounding out the top three was the team of Aaron Scott and David Pence with a total weight of 5.37 pounds.

The big fish award went to the team of Bilbrey and Mandrell as they hooked a 1.78 pound crappie that measured 14 3/4 inches.

Despite the fishing conditions we feel the day turned out to be really successful as many nice crappie were caught and everyone had a good time. Thanks again to everyone who showed up and we look forward to seeing everyone again at our next tournament date scheduled for Saturday, June 4th. For more information you can contact us @ (765) 981-4522 or email at brrcampground@hotmail.com.

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-Seminar Friday Sept. 30th

Photos: Top: First Place C.B. Hupp and Randy McCormick, 5.62 lb., 7 fish. Middle: Second Place Ron Bilbrey and Donnie Mandrell, 5.59 lb., 7 fish. They also won Big Fish with a 1.78 lb. fish length 14 3/4 inches. Third Place (No Photo) Aaron Scott and David Pence, 5.37 lb. Bottom Photo: Granddad, Gary Reed and granddaughter, Alyssa Morris fishing together, they had a total weight of 4.8 lbs. ■

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Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

Teens Can Be Mischievous II

When we started writing about mischievous teens, I thought our articles would last about one month. Let's try for one and not more than two. Spring Break trips are sometimes chancy on the weather. By the time we got to central Kentucky one year it was raining so hard one could hardly see the road. The park we had scheduled had no one else camping that night so we didn't set up tents and the owners said we could sleep where ever we could. In other camps where it was raining we'd used open pavilions, side porches, or had curled up uncomfortably in the vans in which we were riding. Sleeping on the floor of a van was not bad compared to setting up tents in the rain. El got wet and threw a plastic bag over her head to help get ground cloths down in a reasonable manner for the girls in the ladies' rest room. They had plenty of room to put their sleeping bags on the ground covers. When she got back into the van, with the big plastic bag over her wet clothes, the wet heat helped cause the most awful sore throat she'd ever had. It lasted the rest of the trip.

One year we had scheduled the group camp at Manatee Springs State Park near Chiefland, Florida. We got to Chiefland and asked directions. Rain was coming down so hard we couldn't drive more than 10-15 miles per hour. The road was blocked to the park so we went back to the brand new police station. They said camping units were being pulled out of the campground and high water was blocking all the roads. The sheriff invited us to sleep in the new police station. They had snacks and new rest rooms and the kids were glad they didn't have to set up tents. The kids were really well mannered that night and we all felt safe.

A lady chaperone, also a teacher in our high school, had a son and daughter in my Ecology Club as well as a pre-teen daughter with her on the trip. Some of the boys had had Wanda as a teacher. While the rest of us were shopping for the next two meals the boys went to a pet store, bought a white mouse, and hid it in the van until later in the evening. When all others were asleep they sneaked it into Wanda's family's tent. It's a good thing we were in the group camp as screams could be heard all over the park. It took just a few minutes for the mouse to find freedom through the open tent door flap. The lady teacher still talks about that trip.

Wanda's pre-teen daughter, Allison, was teased like other big brothers and sisters do to younger siblings. Upon seeing alligators in captivity and in the wild, the older boys nicknamed Allison "gator bait." Of course they meant no malice toward Allison, but she stayed clear of any chance of being put in with the gators. To this day the "gator bait" name has stuck and when we see family or others who were on that trip "gator bait's" dilemma comes up in discussion.

While taking a group on a boat float trip in Cajun territory in a swampy area between Houma and Lafayette, Louisiana, the tour guide tied up our boats at an interesting look residence. We were introduced to a wizardly old gentleman who lived alone and hunted alliga-

tors. He took us on a tour of his facilities, even into his scantily furnished house. He lived out-of-doors most of the time and really didn't need much over his head. He showed us the tools of his trade and told the ways he had developed to trap the gators. Most of his product was sold for food in local restaurants and teeth and skin went to gift shops in the territory. He was very meticulous in preparing all parts for sale. He gave us all some skeletal bones. Maybe some of you readers have purchased belts or shoes made from some of this fellow's catches. Alligator heads were mounted by local taxidermists and sold locally. He guaranteed he stayed within the limits of the law when he found we were an Ecology Club.

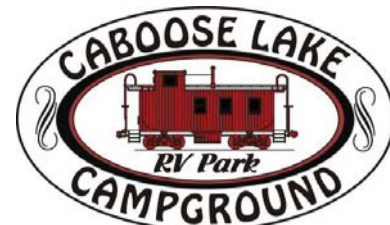
In the New Orleans territory I got off the main road and pretended we were lost. This sort of freaked out the girls on the camp trip when I asked them to go up to the house and ask directions to the camp ground we needed for the night. The mail boxes had skull and crossbones painted on them and many houses had signs saying "stay out" on the fences. We were in a large area inhabited by Cajun families for generations. I finally admitted I knew the way and thankfully our campground was at St. Bernard State Park southeast of New Orleans. I guaranteed we weren't near the "scary" area and the kids got their needed sleep. I'd been there before and had talked to several of the families with Cajun background. They just didn't want onlookers and were quite friendly and family oriented.

The next day we took our planned boat trip down the Mississippi and back up to where we had earlier disembarked. There were several other people on the boat, and the type of cuisine we were offered for lunch didn't greatly fit the needs of our camping teens. They just couldn't eat jambalaya and broiled crayfish so the boat chef was prepared and offered more "normal" appetizing Midwestern teen food. Most of the teens had never seen large barges loaded with semitrailers going to or coming from many countries. Most also thought the Mississippi River came to an abrupt halt and immediately dumped into the Gulf of Mexico when it got just past New Orleans. By looking at maps on board the tour boat, they could see the tributary streams forming a 40-50 mile Delta out into the Gulf.

Upon visiting Busch Gardens in Tampa this past winter, El and I were reminded of a situation when as we took the sky ride around the park several years ago, we saw three or four of our girls around the van and camp supply trailer in the parking lot. When we inquired later, we found they had unsnapped the tarp and were getting some clean, dry clothes out for one of the girls. They were rather embarrassed to tell us that the girl, Beth, had never been on such large, swift rides at a park before. All they were doing was getting the clothes to take to her as she was waiting in the rest room. She had had a small problem on the ride. We don't believe any of the boys ever found out, and it was just a good faith show of companionship that the girls helped out and didn't tell.

Another situation took place at Tamoka State Park near Ormond Beach, Florida. We were again in a group camping area. Very few people were at the camping area, and I told the kids they could sit up around the fire later than normal if they were quiet. On our shopping trip that night a couple of the kids had purchased pills they would later take to keep them awake. Of course El and I and our chaperone's knew nothing about this plan. About three in the morning one of the girls came over and awakened us and said Laurie was really sick. She was hanging out

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



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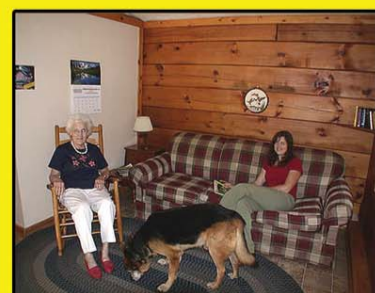
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Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

ONE GALLON OF GAS EQUALS TEN FISH

They're baaack. The crappy in the lake have started moving into the coves and like the local ospreys and eagles, Rollin and I are closing in on them. In spite of weeks of unending rain, we've managed a few days of good fishing, bagging up to a hundred a day of the eight to nine inch size (holster your guns, boys. We practice catch and release). Having sold my boat last summer after never using it for fishing, I depend on Rollin for water transportation. My former boat was equipped with all the gadgets, like a fish finder and live wells and an outboard engine that drank fuel like a Bowery bum in a brewery. At my wifes insistence, we now have a 21 foot pontoon boat, complete with all the creature comforts. Acres of soft benches, carpeting, tables, little gates on either side for exit and entry, a plush captains chair complete with arm rests in front of a raised control console, a canopy and a wheezy fifty horse outboard that powers the thing all the way to a blistering 16 miles per hour. As for fishing, I wouldn't be caught dead on the thing, sitting at a table dining on fresh boiled shrimp and canapes, dressed in a jaunty seaman's jacket with a couple of rods dangling over the side. After all, I have a reputation to uphold.

So, Rollin and I climb aboard his twenty foot Triton powered by 200 horses of howling power, fish finders fore and aft, lockers full of gear and a swiveling chair on each end of the thing. Starting from the dock is usually, "git in, sit down, shut up, and hang on". "BWWAAAA" screams the engine as your cheeks flap and your hair blows straight back. Acceleration equivalent to about four G's smash you back in the seat as you begin to experience a fighter pilots beginning of gray-out and then blackout. Ten seconds later you arrive at a likely looking cove and the throttle is slammed back to idle. A reverse of the above has your eyes bugging out and your ears slapping you on the cheeks. I asked Rollin once if he ever thought about sneaking up on the little buggers instead of the charge of the Light Brigade. His reply: "Sneaking takes too much time. These fish aren't getting any younger and neither are we".

While we were traveling at just under Warp

Factor 3, I wondered how much, at today's gas prices, it costs to fish these days. I knew my former boat got about one mile per gallon, or so it seemed. It didn't have near the horsepower of Rollins boat nor was it as big or heavy. So, what kind of "footage" per gallon were we getting and when amortized over the number of fish we caught on any day, what was the cost of each fish. And, how much hourly labor cost should be applied? After all, hours of casting and reeling in struggling fish is no easy task.

I rounded out the distance traveled to about 2,000 feet per gallon at full throttle with 200 horsepower (I used the standard energy/mass/momentum/velocity equation). The result was .064 ounces of fuel per foot. At a cost of \$4.00 per gallon, it cost 0.2 cents per foot in fuel. Considering today's labor rate conservatively at approximately \$15 per hour and a catch rate of roughly 20 fish per hour, I added in the time we actually spent on site, that is, fishing. Since we normally average 2,000 feet between fishing spots and since we catch an average of twenty fish at each spot, the cost per fish figures to be 95cents. The average length of each fish is around eight inches (once in a great while we catch a big one), so the cost is rounded off to 12 cents per inch. As a result, on an average day of hauling in 100 fish, the total cost is \$95. Now if anyone can explain to me how 100 fish of an average length of 8 inches is worth 95 bucks I'll eat your hat. Especially since we throw all the little investment counselors back. The way I figure it we've tossed over \$500 bucks worth of fish back into the lake just this spring. Heaven knows what it's going to cost us by the end of this season.

The only answer is to find an alternative source of power for the boat and to find a way to reduce the hourly labor costs. A natural assumption is to reduce the size of the outboard engine to something like a 5 horsepower wheezer. Such a motor should consume no more than a gallon an hour at full throttle. At a speed of 5 miles per hour and considering the distance between honey holes, we should reduce our fuel cost by two-thirds. Then, by negotiations between ourselves and the National Association of Sport Fishermen the hourly labor rate can possibly be reduced to no more than \$12 per hour. Now we're talking about a cost figure per fish that justifies the effort.

To go even further, I'm going to suggest to Rollin that he install oarlocks on the boat and lower his hourly labor rate to \$10. Instead of using expensive tube jigs on which we each have spent a ton of money, we can rig our own lures out of anything we can find in the yard, in the garage, or in our wives collection of Easter hats. To go even further, I'm going to ask him if he would be willing to lash a few boards to four fifty five gallon oil drums and hope that the wind will blow in the direction we want to go. After all, I'm not going to be the oarsman on a twenty foot Triton with an idle 200 horsepower engine attached. ■

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and that's the news from West Central Indiana



by Don Bickel, Forester

Sugar Creek

Sugar Creek, that smallmouth bass paradise in West Central Indiana, has its beginning in the mid state county of Tipton. From a small creek, ditch or even a spring, Sugar Creek flows southwestward through Clinton, Boone, Montgomery and Parke counties. Its downstream journey ends when it enters the Wabash River, downstream from the Parke County West Union covered bridge.

A favored destination for canoers, Sugar Creek's fall is 200 feet from Crawfordsville to its entry into the Wabash River. By comparison, the Wabash River from Lafayette to Terre Haute has a fall of 44 feet. As a free flowing stream, Sugar Creek has only one low head dam at Crawfordsville to impede its downstream flow. And that dam may be headed for removal.

Sugar Creek, on some early maps - Rock River - is the habitat of smallmouth bass, due to its flow and the rocks which at times plague canoeists. The Creek at summertime level is wadeable by the angler wearing chest waders or just shorts and canvas shoes. Many stretches - from bridge to bridge - may in low water be negotiated with hip boots.

The angler, whether wading or floating in a canoe, should be aware that the stream's banks are private property. Should it be necessary to proceed on land around a particularly deep Creek hole, an angler should take the most direct land route, staying close to the water's edge. The axiom, "Trash in, trash out." should not be a required reminder. However, the Creek's watchdog organization at Crawfordsville, "Friends of Sugar Creek", find it necessary to annually clean up a stretch of the Creek.

Rhett Wisener, Indiana Department of Natural Resources Fisheries Biologist at a recent "Hoosier Outdoor Writers" (HOW) conference at Turkey Run State Park, rated Sugar Creek as one of the highest quality streams in Indiana based on size. Given its length and Crawfordsville as its midpoint, the Creek's watershed above Crawfordsville is largely agricultural. While downstream, the watershed changes to forest covered land.

The Creek is inhabited by no less than 71 species of fish. Of interest to the angler are smallmouth bass, rock bass, channel catfish and

flathead catfish. Other game fish of note are: longear sunfish, bluegill crappie and largemouth bass. Rough fish are several species of suckers, carp and gar.

The overall habitat of the Creek is rated good to excellent. The star of the Creek, the smallmouth bass, is considered better than average in numbers when compared to other stream populations of smallmouth in Indiana. The smallmouth is an abundant fish throughout the length of the Creek. The catfish species, flathead and channel are probably more abundant and larger in size below Crawfordsville.

DNR surveys show that over 3000 anglers fish the stream May through September. The majority of these anglers have their sights set on a smallmouth bass exceeding the 20 inch minimum size limit. There is a one (1) fish limit regarding the daily catch of smallmouth bass on the entire length of the stream.

While the majority of smallmouth taken by anglers are subsequently released, catfish anglers are generally interested in table fare. Sugar Creek does have portions of the Creek with health advisories due to stream introduced contaminants. An angler considering fish consumption should consult the Indiana Fish Consumption Advisory at IN.gov/isdh/23650.htm.

Anyone fishing the Creek, particularly during the late spring to early fall weeks, should be aware of canoe and tubing traffic. The Creek flows through both Shades and Turkey Run State Parks. It is estimated there are 27,000 recreational users of the stream other than anglers. There is light canoe traffic above Crawfordsville, while summer weekends will find bank to bank canoers and tubers between the two state parks.

Relative to Sugar Creek, the HOW conference keynote address was by internationally known author, guide and instructor Tim Holschlag, "Tips, Tricks and Techniques for Stream Smallmouth". Holschlag stated, there is no season when smallmouth bass, particularly in a stream like sugar Creek cannot be caught. Water temperature, clarity and stream level should be taken into consideration when planning a day on the Creek. In general, the water cannot be too warm and other than high water flood and mud conditions, the bass will be active.

An angler should consider fishing after 9 AM and especially after 2 PM. Holschlag stressed that white color in either jig or flies is an excellent choice in both clear water and water that is slightly murky. When fishing jigs or that type of lure, allow the lure to hit or tap the stream's bottom and rocks. His favorite top water lure for summertime fishing is the Heddon Tiny Torpedo.

Whether using a canoe, kayak, john boat or small
CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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Sugar Creek in Turkey Run State Park Oct 2010. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Two Days, Two Birds

I sat quietly, camouflaged from head to foot, watching as two jakes (young, male turkeys) slowly walked toward our decoy. As they approached what I thought was 20 yards, I put the sights of my 12 gauge, Mossberg 835 on the neck of the first bird. While the gun shook slightly, (this was my first shot at a turkey), I knew I couldn't miss at this range. But, I did!

Both turkeys jumped in the air, flew a short distance, and landed. They began slowly walking away. Unfortunately, a small tree was now between me and them. Finally, I had a clear shot. Sighting carefully this time, I pulled the trigger.

I started preparing for this moment about three months ago. My lodging would be at Winghaven Lodge, between Providence and Marion, Kentucky. Russell and Michele Edwards, owners of this lodge specialize in hunting quail and other upland birds. I was rooming with another outdoor writer in a room bigger than most hotels I have stayed at, and very comfortable. A covered wooden deck overlooking two ponds was just outside the back door to our room. Check out their website at www.winghavenlodge.com for complete



Josh and I with the double taken on our second day. Once again, the first shot did not scare the birds away. (Photo by Philip Sharp)

details on this fine operation.

Anticipating warm weather, my outfit consisted of gear from Cabela's, a camo hat, Super Mesh Long Sleeve Mossy Oak Camo T-shirt with matching Six Pocket Pants and a new pair of Cabela's Gore-Tex boots. To finish my ensemble, I added a Cabela's Tactical Tat'R II Kickstand Turkey Vest. (This vest has at least 13 pockets, plus numerous straps, loops, a padded seat, padded back, and much more!) I started walking two miles a day and lost eight pounds to get in

shape. I was ready for my hunt. Except it turned out cold and damp. I had to cover all my new lightweight clothes with my camouflage Frogg Toggs raingear to stay warm and dry.

My guide was Philip Sharp, biologist with KY Fish & Wildlife. I was told he was the best turkey guide in the county. He took me and my hunting partner, Josh Fleming with the National Wild Turkey Federation, to a local farm and placed us in position in a piece of woods bordering an open field. Shortly after daylight, we heard turkeys flying down off their roost. Two, three four birds, then more, landed in the field. Finally, about eight or nine hens and three jakes had landed when a huge gobbler joined them. Unfortunately, they were about a hundred yards away. Philip tried every calling trick he knew, but the big bird was not going to leave his flock to join us. (While I had several different kinds of HS Strut turkey calls by Hunter's Specialties in my vest, I left them there and watched the expert at work.) Eventually, they all wandered off into the woods. After over an hour of trying to coax some other birds to enter our area, we decided to change spots.

Our new location yielded eight box turtles, and a few big birds which we heard but wouldn't come to our calls. We sat in this spot long enough I was glad my turkey vest had a padded seat attached to it. We knew turkeys were all around the area we were hunting, but cold, damp, and windy conditions are not conducive to turkey hunting. Josh and Philip both checked their



Waiting for turkeys. Wearing camo Frogg Togg raingear to cut wind and stay dry. The Cabela's Turkey Vest makes a great backrest and the seat cushion is very comfortable. (Photo by Philip Sharp)

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Front view of Winghaven Lodge. Rooms are great, gorgeous view from the back deck, and outstanding interior decor. (Photo by Rich Creason)



I have been told by other writers the ThermaCELL is an outstanding mosquito repellent unit. I will be able to try it soon. (Photo by Rich Creason.)

fancy, do-it-all phones and said afternoon would bring warmer, drier conditions. Maybe the birds would cooperate then.

Since some of the other hunters had been complaining about mosquitoes, I had put my new ThermaCELL Mosquito Repellent unit in another vest pocket. This cordless, portable device provides a 15 foot diameter protection from mosquitoes and black flies. (Find this item and more at www.mosquitorepellent.com.) Fortunately, the insects weren't a problem and I didn't have to use it. (It will see a lot of use on my Canada and Minnesota trips.)

After lunch, we returned to our original spot to try again. This was when the two jakes walked by. After missing the first shot, the birds moved further away and I pulled the trigger again. This time, the turkey went down, flapping his wings, but not getting up. I was shooting Winchester Xtended Range Turkey Loads in 3 inch, size 6 shot. Our guide was very surprised I had put the bird down at that distance. We paced it off (twice) at 62 yards. My first turkey was in the bag.

That evening, a group of us from Winghaven drove about 30 miles to Lake Barkley and had dinner at Echo Charlie's Restaurant at Eddy Creek Marina Resort. I had an outstanding prime rib with lemon pie for dessert. You can Google more info on their menu and resort. Also, check out LakeBarkleyFUN.com.

I stayed up late again, too excited to sleep. The alarm went off at three AM. An early breakfast and I was off to meet our guide. He took Josh and me to the same field where I had gotten my bird the previous day. This time we went farther to the end of the woods where the birds had flown down before. We relaxed in the woods until day-break. We heard turkey noises all around us and again the big birds started flying out to land in the field, this time about 20 yards directly in front of us. A dozen or so birds were feeding, but the big



This bird would still be alive instead of on my wall if he had flown away after the first shot. This was my first ever turkey. (Photo by Philip Sharp)

tom was still behind us in a tree gobbling every few minutes. We knew he would be joining the flock soon.

Several jakes walked by very close, but Josh didn't shoot. We were waiting for the huge bird we had seen before to fly down. After a couple hours, we gave up. Philip was going to take us to another farm he hadn't hunted before.

We walked a trail for a hundred yards, called a few minutes to see if we got an answer, then, moved on. We suddenly got a gobbler nearby and we quickly positioned ourselves in the nearby trees. After some calling and waiting, more calling and waiting, three jakes walked up. Josh decided not to wait any longer for a bigger bird and nailed one at 20 yards. Immediately, instead of flying away at the sound of the gunshot, the two remaining birds began attacking their recent friend



Head to foot in Cabela's lightweight camo clothing. Note the pockets and padded seat on the vest. (Photo by Susie Creason)

who was dead on the ground. I had to wait several minutes before they stopped jumping around so I could get my sights on one. Another loud shot and my second bird went down at 25 yards.

To celebrate another fine day in the field, we again drove out for dinner to the Oasis Southwest Grill in Kuttawa, KY. They have a huge menu of appetizers, steaks, ribs, pasta, chicken, and fish. I had the seafood platter. This place was well worth the drive. (www.theoasissouthwestgrill.com).

I drove a little over five hours from central Indiana, stayed at an outstanding place, ate great food, and bagged my first (and second) turkey. It was a memorable trip and I plan on returning soon to take some southern quail with Russell at Winghaven.

The author may be reached at eyewrite4u@aol.com. ■

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Dog Tales



by Alan "Grizz" Smith
Gus and The HHRC

I've got my work cut out for me this summer, a new black lab pup named Gus is going to consume a lot of my time. If I can survive the house breaking and the chewing I should be able to handle the rest. Gus is one mean and rotten pup. He has chew toys but he prefers my bare feet. His teeth are like little needles and I'm a tenderfoot from way back. The more I holler the more he seems to enjoy himself. I've always enjoyed puppies, must be the kid in me. I made several mistakes while training Gonzo (my first working lab) he still made a serviceable hunting dog but he could have been better if not for my short comings in training him. Probably the worst mistake I made with Gonzo was getting him ate up by a wounded goose when he was only 5 months old. He has refused to chase down a crippled goose ever since, if it is dead - no problem but if it moves you might as well hang it up.

A lot of time has been spent reading about retrievers and training them by me over the last several years. While I believe I have a better grasp on the process now, I'm smart enough to know that I still need help. While I was at the Indianapolis Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl Expo this year I had the opportunity to talk with some of the members of the Hoosier Hunting Retriever Club. The HHRC is sanctioned by the United Kennel Club Inc. and is part of a national organization that brings hunters together so they can help each other train their dogs and test their dogs in realistic hunting conditions. Besides the camaraderie they also offer titles and incentives. They also hold an annual banquet for their members. It really seems like they have a lot to offer to both the dog and his master. I'm sure they will be able to help me and I'm looking forward to becoming a member and participating in their training days and hunt tests.

Membership to the Hoosier Hunting Retriever Club is \$25 per year and runs from March 1st thru February 28th. You can also join



Gus the authors new waterfowl hunting companion @ 2 1/2 months old, getting into mischief as always.. (Alan Smith Photo)

the National Hunting Retriever Club, Inc. Dues are \$25 for single or \$30 a year for family membership. Your membership to the National Hunting Retriever Club includes a years subscription (6 issues) to Hunting Retriever magazine, a membership card and a copy of the UKC/HRC rules for started, seasoned, finished and upland hunter retriever tests. Below is a list of officers if you would like more info or would like to join the HHRC.

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The following is a list of HHRC events. If you need directions to any of these places contact one of the people above. A \$5.00 fee will be collected at all training days, with the exception of Glens Valley where the cost is \$5.00 per dog to cover the cost of birds and shells.

Glens Valley Conservation Club*		
June 4th	8:00am	Training Day
July 9th & 10th	8:00am	Training Day
August 6th	8:00am	Training Day
August 20th	8:00am	Training Day
Phil Hinchman's Property		
June 18th	8:00am	Training Day
Farmland Conservation Club		
July 23rd	8:00am	Training Day
August 13th	8:00am	Training Day
August 26th	9:00am	Set-Up day for
Spring Hunt Test unt TestHu		
August 27th	7:00am	Spring Hunt Test
unt TestHu (regular)		
August 28th	7:00am	Spring Hunt Test
unt TestHu (regular)		
Sept 17th	8:00am	Training Day
February 4th	6:00pm	Annual Banquet

I look forward to meeting more of the members of the HHRC in the near future and I am certain that they will be able to help me with my new prospect. I have high expectations for this pup and am already getting excited at the prospect of sharing a blind with him. Hope to see some of you there also.

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The Simple Life



by Jack & Leslie Turner

Fishing With the Kids

Each month we try to encourage our readers to spend time with their spouses and children in the outdoors. There are so many options that it shouldn't be too difficult to find something that would appeal to some or all of your family members. Hunting, fishing, trapping, hiking, boating and camping often head the list of things families enjoy doing together. Other outdoor interests include mushroom hunting, arrowhead & fossil hunting, leaf and insect collecting, bird watching and photography.

Of all hobbies/interests related to the outdoors, perhaps the most popular is fishing. Why is that?

There are several reasons fishing is a popular choice of outdoor recreation amongst families. First, there is a waterway (lake, pond, river, stream or ocean) in virtually every county in America. Whether on public or private property, fish are generally easily accessible.

The second reason fishing is popular is that, compared to other interests, like hunting or trapping, it is inexpensive. Bait like nightcrawlers or minnows range from \$2.50-\$4.00 a dozen and a rod-n-reel combo can be purchased for as little as twenty dollars. "Kiddy" rod-n-reel combos can be purchased for approximately ten dollars. No specialized clothing is required either except perhaps a personal flotation device (PFD/life jacket) if you are on a boat.

A third reason that fishing is popular is that you can be successful with just a little knowledge of the subject matter. A parent or child can put a piece of nightcrawler or a minnow on a hook and a bluegill, crappie or other panfish may find its way on the end of your fishing line. Of course, we recognize that for some species of fish more knowledge is needed or perhaps a more involved arsenal of baits and/or lures as well as more advanced rods & reels.

Reason #4 for the popularity of fishing is that there is no closed season for many species of fish. Unlike deer or turkey, for example, one can pursue fish all year round.

There are many experienced, adult fishermen in America. But how do we approach getting children involved and keeping their interest in the sport of fishing? Here are a few tips.

Our first suggestion is to take a child to a well-stocked private pond or lake. This gives a child a better chance for success which will help keep up their excitement for wanting to go again. Bluegill, crappie and bass are popular species of fish to introduce to children.



Patrick and Jack Turner share a happy moment as they both landed fish at the same time. Patrick caught a large bluegill and Jack a largemouth bass. (Photo by Leslie Turner)

Our second suggestion is to purchase a closed-faced reel for the rod that the child is using. All "kiddy" poles already come with them, but if you purchase an adult pole, get a closed-faced reel for it. Open-faced reels are generally too difficult for children to cast causing immediate frustration.

Suggestion #3 is to use live bait such as night-crawlers & minnows. Bass, crappie and bluegill (as well as other species) can be caught on these two baits. There is no sense in trying to teach a beginner how to use a lure when they are still trying to learn to cast.

Our fourth suggestion is to use a bobber (floater). The children can see when a fish is biting and even if they don't catch the fish, knowing that a fish was present will help keep their attention and motivation to continue fishing.

Suggestion #5 is allow the child to closely examine and perhaps hold the fish. Tell them what kind of fish they caught and anything that you may know about it. Explain the color differences between a smallmouth & largemouth bass or black & white crappie. Show the children those fish that contain eggs in the belly. Explain how to hold a crappie or bass by the mouth.

Another thing that we suggest is to always take photos. These are great keepsakes for the parents and children can show friends & family members their success. Even if a child doesn't catch a fish, include them in photos of you with your fish. We take a lot of photos when we fish or do anything in the outdoors. They are great to look back on.

The last tip that we offer is to not fish for extended periods of time (more than two or three hours) when taking young children. Children grow restless, get hot & thirsty, make frequent trips to the restroom, etc. In the summer be sure to take along sunscreen, cold water and insect repellent as well.

As an outdoors instructor for the Ohio Division of Wildlife, Jack knows that children



Ethan Fogle, nephew of Jack and Leslie, holds a white crappie caught in Dillsboro, IN. (Photo by Jack Turner, Jr.)

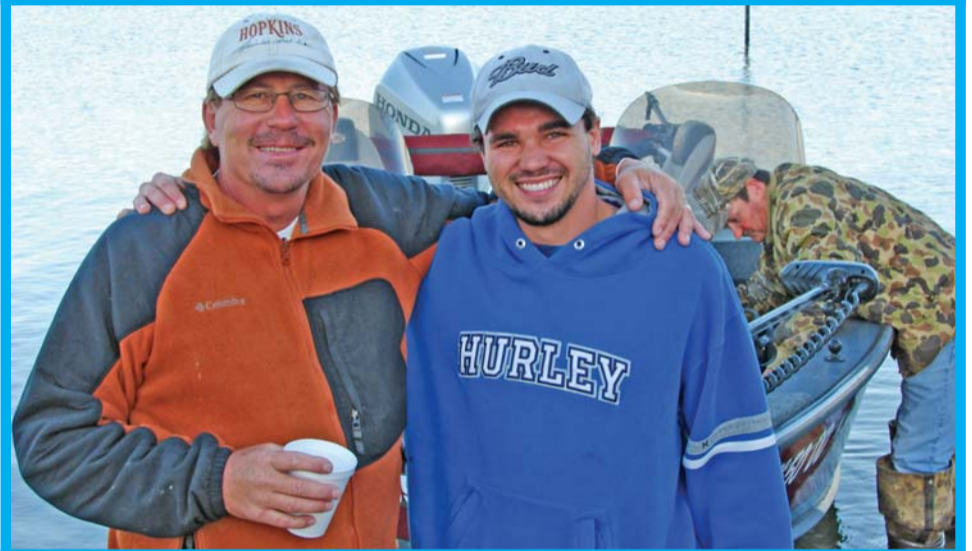
who grow up hunting, trapping & fishing generally are less likely to get involved in drugs, alcohol and other destructive behavior. And just as important, doing these and other activities can be an exciting and rewarding time for families who spend quality time together. Take a kid fishing and you'll help create memories that will last a lifetime.

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**13th ANNUAL RICHARD T. GASTON MEMORIAL
WALLEYE/BASS TOURNAMENT & CATFISH CONTEST
SEPTEMBER 17, 2011**

The Richard T. Gaston Memorial Walleye/Bass Tournament & Catfish Contest will be held at Brookville Lake September 17, 2011. The tournament is in honor and memory of Indiana State Trooper Richard T. Gaston who was killed in the line of duty on March 4, 1999.

New for this year is adding a Memorial Bass Tournament. Also there will not be a Boat package for first place. Both the Walleye and Bass tournaments and the Catfish Contest will have cash payouts. 2011 Payouts will be based on a full field of 100 boats, includes cash and prizes. Watch for new information in upcoming issues.

Go to website: www.gastontournament.com for up-to date information and application forms

Registration Fees:

Walleye Tournament \$150 per team

Walleye Big Fish Contest \$10 per team member (indicate in memo area of check who is participating in the Big Fish contest)

Bass Tournament \$150 per team

Bass Big Fish Contest \$10 per team member (indicate in memo area of check who is participating in the Big Fish contest)

Catfish Contest \$25 per angler

Catfish Big Fish Contest \$10 per angler (indicate in memo area of check who is participating in the Big Fish contest)

Queen Mum Smallest Catfish Award no cost to participating Catfish Anglers

Big Fish Contest winners will be awarded half of the Big Fish entry fee total

Day of Tournament Saturday, September 17th

Check-in Mounds Beach 7:30 a.m. Weigh-in Mounds Beach 4:00 p.m.

Early Check-in/Registration Friday, Sept 16th 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. at **Parkside Marine & More, 7191 Fox Run Road, Brookville, IN**

(Tournament field will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Official tournament rules and map will be sent upon request.)



Photos: Top Left, Indiana State Troopers inspect all the boat live wells, ice chests and boat compartments to make sure all the fishermen are abiding by the tournament rules, prior to the start of the tournament. Top Right, Jeff Koester sets up the equipment to welcome all the fishermen, friends, volunteers and visitors to the Tournament in 2010. Standing to his right holding muzzleloading rifle is Phil Hoff's son, Gregory, who will fire the gun signaling the beginning of the tournament. Standing to his right is Amy Gaston Stehr. Middle Right, All the boats leave the beach area in a orderly fashion. There is a Tournament boat standing nearby that releases the teams in a predetermined order. Bottom Right, Professional Brookville Fishing Guide and Columnist in The Gad-a-bout "Tag" Nobbe on left and his son, Corey, on the right standing in front of Tag's boat waiting for the start of the tournament. Bending over Tag's boat in back is Tom Hughes. Bottom Left Photo: Winners of the

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2010 Tournament. Top L to R: Don Fox, Ty Brown, B.J. Schwein, Dave Morgan, Jim Houston, Garrett Johnson, Don Herron, Richard K. Miller, Eula Palmer, Max Palmer and Tony Dudley. Second Row: Scott Seibert, Mark Sebesky, Tim McFarland, Dan Johnson, Geoffrey Church, Ferd Lohman, Jim Smith, Dan Egbert and Tony Schadle. Third Row: Jerry Duracz, Mike Vaughn, Jeff Koester and Amy Gaston Stehr. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

then he promptly hung up on me!

Gee, I guess he just needed to vent. Trouble is we specialize in solutions to problems, and like all of you I'm a busy guy; so I hope he finds somebody else to vent to next time. If you ever have a question, feel free to call-I just ask you don't yell and scream. If we don't have the answer, maybe we can find someone who does.

Well this ends another month's installment. Thanks for allowing all of us to serve all of you, be safe, and we will talk again next month.

Opening Day Success

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

young people involved in the hunting sports and other positive activities. Thank You for your efforts to our community. Dana, to you I say, congratulations. The commitment and dedication you have displayed to provide a wonderful and healthy meal for your family is a perfect display of your character and I am certain you have made your parents very proud. I know that you have made Sheriff Wayson and I both very proud.

Camping Here and Beyond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

the tent, doubled over and fertilizing all the vegetation around. El finally got her to tell what she had taken. She was moaning, "Oh God, help me, help me." El knew this girl professed not to believe in a Supreme Being and said, "Laurie, He can't help you if you don't believe in Him." She kept up the moaning. One of the chaperone's got to a phone booth near the main camping area and called a hospital emergency room. They said to give her spoonfuls of Seven-Up and that would eventually help her to get her stomach emptied. It worked and she was forever thankful (in her own way) to whomever or whatever had saved her life. She was sure she was on the way out. Other students had minor stomach aches but not to extent of that one girl. She had taken too many pills. We've always wondered what had happened to her. She was an excellent artist.

The last of our recollections of our teen camping trips will be next month but occasionally we may remember a few incidents we need to relate once again. Camping seems to have gotten into full swing in most of this area of the country. Keep driving safely and be careful with fire. If you have suggestions about what we could write about associated with camping, contact us at: 260-637-3524 or email: jmacnut@yahoo.com.

See you in July. John and El McCory

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Top Photo: Red Barn Bait, Guns and Deli (Deli New Addition), located just 3 1/2 miles north of Salem, IN on SR 135 Bottom Photo: Standing in door of Deli is Jennifer Mills, owner and operator, to her right is Kay Mills. (Photo by Amos Mills)

Red Barn Bait Shop Adds a New Deli

Amos Mills opened the Red Barn Bait Shop on March 1, 2003, some 8 years ago. He and his wife Jennifer have three sons and one daughter, Adam, Justin, Jordan and Miranda.

On March 23, 2011 they opened a Deli next to the Bait Shop. Their new name is Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli. The deli is just north of the bait shop. Amos operates the Bait and Gun shop and Jennifer operates the new Deli.

The Bait shop is open 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Del is open 7 days a week from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday thru Saturday and open Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The Bait shop carries bait, hunting supplies, fishing tackle and supplies, camping supplies, guns, ammo, accessories and they buy, sell and trade. The shop is a Deer and Turkey Check-In Station and also sells hunting and fishing licenses.

The new Deli serves Fish, Pork, Hamburger, Hot Dog, Tenderloin, Grilled Cheese and Ham & Cheese, Fried Bologna, Grilled Turkey Club Sandwiches. Salads including Side Salad, Chef Salad, Potato

Salad and Coleslaw.

Directions to the Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli, if you are coming from Indianapolis area take SR 135 south and just past Kossuth they are on your right. If you are coming from Jeffersonville/ Louisville area take I-65 north to SR 60 to Salem, turn right on SR 135 north 3.5 miles, look for a boat on the left hand side, that is their south entrance. If you are coming from Patoka Lake area take SR 145 north thru West Baden to SR 56, turn right thru Paoli, stay on SR 56 to Salem, turn left onto SR 135 to the Red Barn.

Amos has been a advertiser in The Gad-a-bout for quite some time. If you take a deer, turkey or other wild game, catch a fish or a waterfowl drop the photo off their and Amos will forward it to me to be put in Gad's Corner, as I have space. You don't have to be an experienced hunter or fisherman, if you've taken your first deer, turkey, fish, etc, Amos and The Gad-a-bout would be honored to publish your photo.

If you need hunting and fishing equipment of any kind, I recommend for you to stop by the Red Barn. And remember you can now eat at their new Deli, right next door in a nice country setting, they have a picnic area for you to enjoy your meal. Tell them you read about them in The Gad-a-bout.

For information contact Amos or Jennifer by calling 812-883-6483.




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Top: Turkey Run State Park Inn, Sherry walking ahead of me. We arrived late in the day. Middle: On Trail 1 in Turkey Run, Sugar Creek near the swinging bridge in Oct. Bottom: The Nature Center, Sherry and I had a very interesting visit in it. We learned a lot from Jenna Pyle, especially about Ruby-throated Hummingbirds.

Top: At left, Desk Service Agent Anita Myers and at right, Shift Leader of Guest Services Cheyne Brown. Middle: Sherry Dickerson (Mrs. Gad-a-bout) reads a information plaque next to the Nature Center. Bottom: Just one of the views in the all new exhibit, inside the Nature Center.

Turkey Run State Park H.O.W. Conference 2011

Photos & Article by Ray Dickerson

When I got the e-mail from Tom Berg about the Hoosier Outdoor Writer's (H.O.W.) annual Conference way back when and saw the dates I knew I couldn't attend again this year. It fell right in the middle of delivering the May Gad-a-bout.

As the time got closer though I figured out a way to attend one day, Sunday, maybe. I e-mailed Tom and asked if there was anything going on Sunday, that I might get to see some of the members who stay over. Saturday was the big day.

Tom said that nothing was going on for the conference, but some was going canoeing, hiking and just visiting the park on Sunday. If I wanted to come on Sunday and visit with them I could, there wouldn't be any cost from H.O.W. for that day.

As it happened Sherry was off that weekend, so I invited her to go with me. Originally I was going to deliver northern Indiana on Saturday as usual, then high tail it home that evening, then go back to Turkey Run on Sunday morning early. My new plan involved Sherry going with me to make my deliveries, then we would spend Saturday night at a motel and be there for breakfast with the H.O.W. members, if all went well. She said she would go with me, she needed to get away for a couple of days.

About the middle of the week I took a chance



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Top: Jenna Pyle who takes care of the Nature Center gave us a wonderful presentation on hummingbirds and information on all the exhibits. Middle: This is a hummingbird nest, its very tiny. Bottom: A Copperhead snake captured in Turkey Run State Park. The Copperhead is poisonous, one of 3 poisonous snakes found in Indiana.

Top: Jenna asked for volunteers to help carry feeders and feed outside onto the animal viewing area, so I volunteered. Middle: A squirrel finds a hiding place inside a hollow log that has food in it for him. Bottom: A nice layout of all the trails that you can hike on in Turkey Run. We like the dreaded Trail 3, we hiked it in October 2010.

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and called Turkey Run to see if they had a room available for Saturday night. They did, so I reserved the room for us. I arranged my schedule so that we would arrive at Turkey Run at check-in time, 4 p.m. It was a very nice room, all the furniture and even the picture above the bed was carved out of natural wood.

As I was unloading the van several H.O.W. members was getting ready to leave, they stopped to say hi. Gene Clifford and Don Bickel chatted with me for a while, they were going home. They both write columns in The Gad-a-bout. Brandon Butler greeted me too, he told me he was the new President of H.O.W. Brand appeared in The Gad-a-bout a year or so ago, he moved to Missouri. Also talked to Bill Keaton for a bit and Tom Berg, saw Eric and Cara from the distance, they were

heading for their car.

I finished unloading everything, gave a couple of bundles of papers to Cheyne Brown at the desk. Let me tell you something that really makes Turkey Run Inn stand out, the staff. Cheyne Brown, Guest Services Shift Leader and Anita Myers, Guest Services Agent were behind the guest check in desk. You couldn't ask for two more friendly people to help you. Cheyne has been at Turkey Run for 3 years. I first met and talked to him in October 2010 when we visited the park with Amy, Dylan and Breanna to hike Trail 3. Anita has been at Turkey Run for 14 years in Guest Services and 6 years in the Dining Room. Since we were staying at the Inn, when Anita and Cheyne wasn't busy we talked about the park, the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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W. Central Indiana News

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pontoon, Holschlag advises, "Park and Wade." In other words hit the highlights, those areas which hold the most promise, beach or anchor the craft and wade the immediate area. Then paddle like heck to the next likely location.

Canoe rentals are available. Sugar Valley Canoe Trips, 800-422-6638, www.sugarvalleycanoes.com. Clements Canoes, 765-435-7285, www.clementscanoes.com

Editor's Note: See pages 26-27 for an article and pictures of Turkey Run State Park. ■

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Whitewater Valley Railroad, 25 minute ride with a full size Thomas the Tank Engine™. Meet Sir Topham Hatt. Storytelling, Live Music, Build with Mega Bloks® and Much More! More information at www.whitewatervalleyrr.org/downt or call (866) 468-7630

Jun 18 Red Hat Society Day, Join us for a special day set aside just for the Red Hat Ladies. Be sure to wear your best hat for the Best Hat Contest. Registration at 9:00 a.m. at the Gazebo. Opening ceremonies will be at 10:00 a.m. Pre-register your group today! Cost is \$10.00 per person. For more information call (765) 647-2650.

Jun 24 Open Mic Music Night, Metamora Music Fest Stage – Lovers Lane, Signup 6:00pm Performance 7:00pm – 10:00pm, Come to play, come to listen, or both! This is your opportunity to get on stage and show off your music skills. If you just love to listen this is a FREE opportunity to enjoy an evening of music. ■

H.O.W. & Turkey Run

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

local area and other things.

Sherry and I had a wonderful supper at the Inn, as usual we had the buffet. The food was delicious and our waitress (s), we had two, one was training the other and they both had the same name, we called them Haley 1 and Haley 2. They came back several times checking to see if we needed anything. They get my vote for waitress (s) of the year. Thank you Haley 1 and Haley 2.

I saw Phil Bloom in the dining room, we had a nice conversation, Phil is a H.O.W. member and he is also the DNR Division Director of Communications.

(I had talked to Tom Berg earlier to find out what was happening Sunday morning. He told me he and a few others were going on a canoe ride on Sugar Creek. He said we were welcome to come along.)

After supper we browsed in the gift shop, I talked to Cheyne and Anita a bit more, then we went to our room to get some rest.

The next morning we were up early and headed for breakfast. Already eating were the writers who were going canoeing on this very cool morning. They asked us if we were going canoeing and I said in a word, no. Sherry and I was going hiking and visit the Nature Center. No swimming for us. I remember my last canoe trip.

The writers who were going canoeing was

Eric and Cara Stallsmith, Tom and Lori Berg, Phil Bloom and an unknown fellow sitting with them.

After breakfast we went back to the room and dressed for our hike. We walked Trail 1 to the bridge over Sugar Creek, then walked south toward the Nature Center, which didn't open until 10 a.m. We filled the time with walking around nearby. I found that the squirrels were really active and I photographed the more photogenic ones.

At exactly 10 a.m. a lady opened the Nature Center and we entered. She told us that the exhibit was new, it had just been installed in last 3 months. The exhibit was really beautiful, I took a couple photos of it, a live copperhead and layout of the trails in the park. See photos on page 26 & 27.

A few minutes after entering, we heard the lady asking for volunteers to help put out feeders and feed outside the animal viewing room at the back of the Nature Center. Of course, I volunteered. Sherry stayed inside and took some photos. I asked the lady her name, she replied, "Jenna Pyle." (I hope I spelled her first name correctly.)

Jenna is one of those special people who just exude information and interesting facts about all kinds of wildlife, she is especially interested in the Ruby-throated Hummingbird. She gave us a test sheet on what we knew about the hummingbird, I failed. I knew it was a bird!

Had I had more room in this issue I wanted to share more of the information here she talked about and handed out to us. I recorded all of it.

I know how you can find out for yourself though. Go visit Turkey Run State Park and you will see why we go there as much as possible. Visit Jenna at the Nature Center and tell her you would like to know about the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird.

Indiana has an abundance of Beautiful and interesting State Facilities including Parks, Reservoirs, Nature Preserves, Forests and etc. In the years of my 70 when I was old enough to drive I've visited most of them. Have fun. ■

On The Cutting Edge

"IT BEGINS HERE"

HIGH COST OF GAS HAS DAMAGING EFFECT ON NATION'S BUSINESSES & AMERICAN'S WAY OF LIFE

On March 12, 2008 gas cost at the pumps here in East Central Indiana was \$3.45 per gallon. The headlines read, "Cost of gas skyrockets!" At the same time a barrel of oil was \$109.72 on the New York Mercantile Exchange fluctuating up and down a few cents during that day on open trading.

Recently the cost of crude oil was \$113.93 and at the pump locally the cost of gasoline was \$4.19 a gallon. Elsewhere in Indiana the cost of gas was \$4.29 to \$4.32 per gallon.

In last weeks newspaper it said that the oil companies were making record profits.

Well this small businessman, can't make a profit anymore due to what it costs for gasoline and maintenance cost of my delivery van. I'm not alone, I talk to hundreds of small business owners during a month and they too are having a very rough time making ends meet.

In my opinion, what it all boils down to is out and out greed. As long as the demand is higher than the

output, then it is okay to rob from the poor and give to the rich. Because lets face it, we here in Indiana are becoming poorer by the day, especially all of us who need to travel to make our living.

Late last week a barrel of oil plummeted down to \$97 a barrel. Down from around \$113 a barrel. CBS news reported on the evening report that we had saw our highest peak in the cost of gasoline. Well today, Tuesday May 10, the cost of a barrel of oil is \$102 and the cost of gasoline at the pump here in Centerville is \$4.15 per gallon. The cost has dropped 4 cents a gallon since last week. Previously when oil was between \$97 and \$102 per barrel, gas was costing around \$3.89 per gallon. Yesterday the gas here was \$4.09, it went up 6 cents over night. Why isn't the price of gas falling like it should? In my opinion the oil companies want to stay in the record profit category.

What this country really needs more than anything else is a reliable nationwide mass transit system. America fell in love with the automobile back when Henry Ford began mass producing Model T Fords early in the 20th Century, so everyone could own their own personal way of getting from here to there. Its time we see the writing on the wall, one day soon we won't be able to afford our own personal car. It won't do us much good when gas is \$10 or more a gallon and we can't afford driving our vehicles anymore.

I will miss my individual freedom of hopping in the ole' Chevy and going where I want to go, when I want to go. But alas, those days may be gone forever.

If President Obama or the U.S. Congress really wants to make a change for the better in this United States he/they should move forward with the creation of a mass transit system immediately. To this end the mass transportation of people can be accomplished using trains with electromagnetic propulsion, i.e. **electromagnetic propulsion is utilized in transportation systems to minimize friction and maximize speed over long distances. This has mainly been implemented in high-speed rail systems that use a linear induction motor to power trains by magnetic currents.**

Here are some current one gallon unleaded gas prices in U.S. Dollars for March 2011 - Oslo Norway \$6.82, Hong Kong \$6.25, London England \$5.96, Rome Italy \$5.80, Tokyo Japan \$5.25, United States Average \$3.85, New Delhi India \$3.71, Mexico City Mexico \$2.22, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia 9 cents, Kuwait 8 cents, Caracas, Venezuela 12 cents. The difference here is the price for those who import their oil and those who export it.

Indiana Congressman Mike Pence has indicated in the press that we need to drill for more oil in the United States. I don't think that would help our current situation. I have been told that all the oil that is piped out of Alaska via the Alaskan Pipeline is exported to the Far East. If the oil companies were somehow convinced to drill for more oil in the United States, what guarantee would we have that it would stay here and benefit Americans. In my opinion none, it would likely be sold to whoever paid the highest price for it. Remember oil companies are driven by greed, not by compassion.

No, what we need is a mass rapid transit system that does not require a fossil fuel to run it, we need a Electromagnetic Propulsion mass rapid train system nationwide. The electricity needed to run the train system should be obtained from either wind turbine, solid waste or solar, not by any type of fossil fuel. We need to utilize "Green Power" from now on. ■



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Wyatt and Waylen Case took their Turkeys on 4-23-11 during the Youth Season in Decatur County. (Country Mart Store Photo, Greensburg, IN)



Ashley Newby took this Doe on 11-14-10. This is Ashley's first deer. (Red Barn Bait Shop Photo, Salem, IN)



Lori S. Powell caught this Walleye in the Maumee River on 4-2-11 in Toledo, Ohio fishing at Petersburg Park. It was 23 inches long. She caught it at 10 a.m. fishing with a floating jig head, it was a bright orange jig with bright green and gray spots. (Lori S. Powell Photo)



12 year old Lane Bohlander, son of Nancy & Jason Bohlander from Connerville, took this 23 lb. Turkey in Fayette County on the second day of the youth season. This is Lane's first turkey, he took it on his parents farm in Connerville area on Easter Morning at 8:45 a.m. It had a 11 inch beard and 22mm spurs. He checked it in at Parkside Marine & More. (Photo taken by his very proud Dad Jason Bohlander) (Editor Note: Lane, that's a real nice turkey. Ray)



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Jami Croucher, son of Jim Croucher from Connersville, took this 24.5 lb. Turkey on 5-5-11, it had a 11 inch beard. It was taken in Fayette County. Jim delivered 3 photos to me in Centerville (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Darius Gregory, friend of Jim Croucher from Connersville, took this 21 lb. Turkey on 5-6-11, it had a 11 inch beard. It was taken in Fayette County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Tanner Steele, Nephew of Jim Croucher from Connersville, took this 25 lb. Turkey on 4-23-11 at 7:15 a.m. It had a 10.5 inch beard, a 3 inch beard and 15mm spurs. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)




Charles Crane caught this nice stringer of Crappie on 4-14-11. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Travis Kershaw age 14 shot this 21 lb tom with a 10 in. beard and 28mm. spurs. He got it on the first day of youth turkey hunting of 2011. (Photo e-mailed from Jennifer Brummett)

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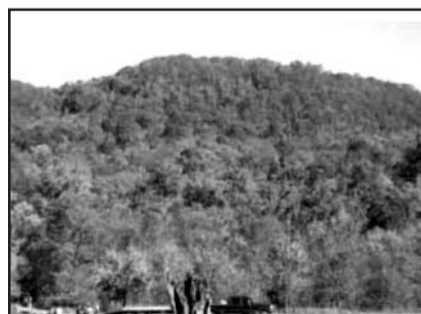


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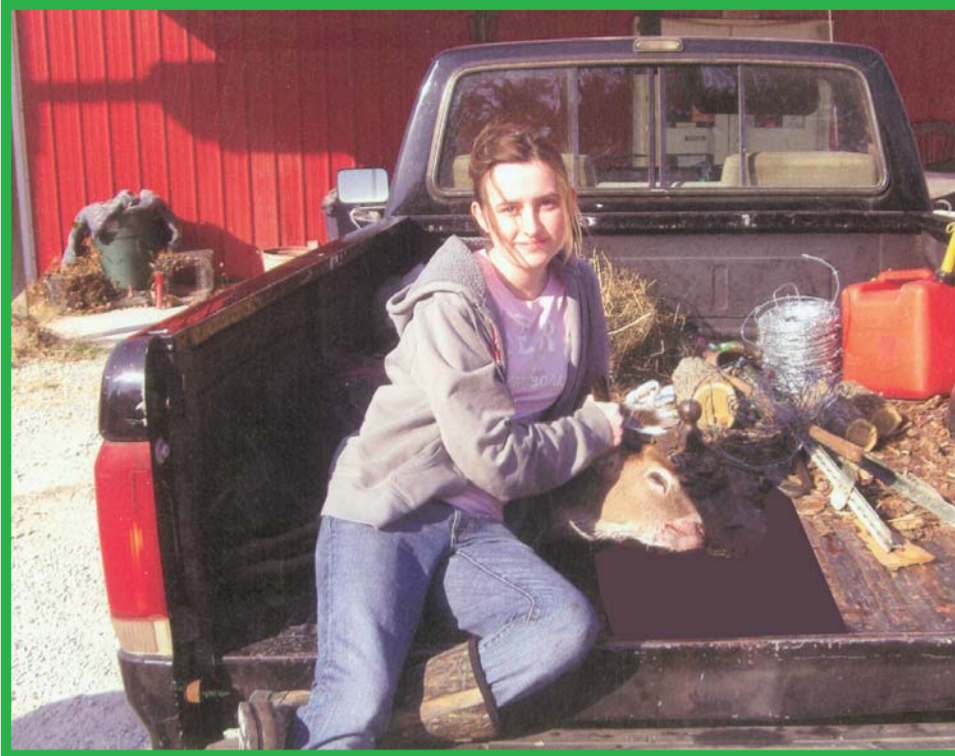
FROM VEVA - SR 129 NORTH 1 MILE TO LEFT ON DETOUR RD.
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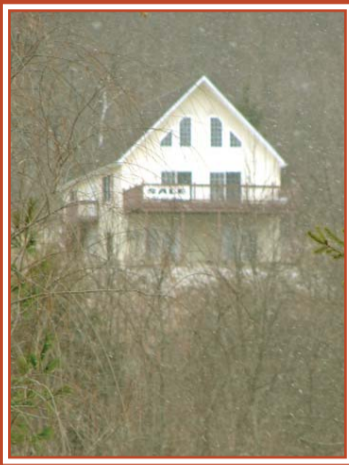


Lindsey Russel took her first deer on 11-13-10. (Red Barn Bait Shop Photo, Salem, IN)



Lori S. Powell took this 6 point buck on opening day with a 20 gauge shotgun. The Buck was 1 1/2 years old. This was Lori's first deer she took with a gun. She harvested it in the Alpine area south of Connersville, Indiana. (Lori S. Powell Photo)

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2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES
\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI	\$6.00 PCI
\$558.00	\$288.00	\$192.00	\$144.00	\$72.00	\$54.00	\$48.00	\$36.00
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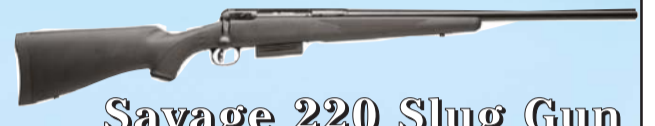
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