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NOVEMBER 2012

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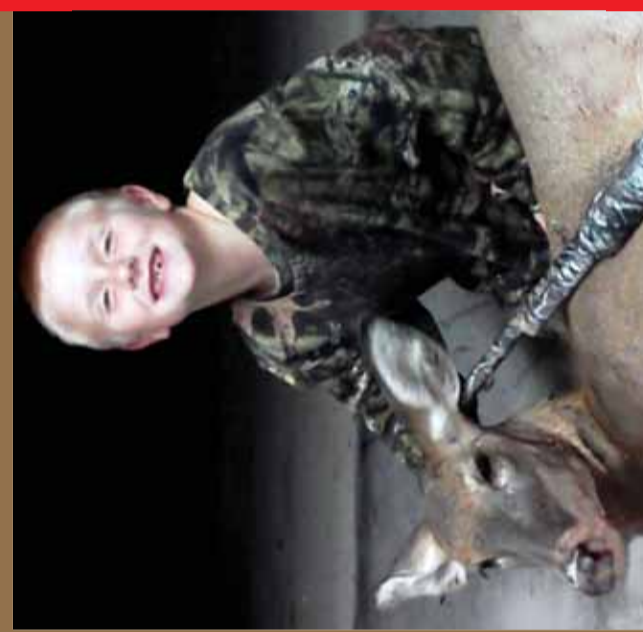
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DOROTHY SINGS TO SEABEES SEE PG 31-37



COLIN TOOK HIS DEER IN 2012 YOUTH  
HUNT SEE GAD'S CORNER PG 38-39



JAY CAUGHT THIS 22 INCH 4.5 LB.  
WALLEYE IN BROOKVILLE LAKE

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## THE COVER PHOTOS

**Top Left:** Colin Roush, age 6, of Shoals, IN. took this doe at 30 yards with a 20 gauge shotgun hunting the 2012 Indiana Youth Hunt with Jordan Hurt, a White River Outfitters employee. (Photo submitted by Cody Roush, White River Outfitters)

**Top Right:** Mr. Ed Grogan and his assistant stroll the streets and businesses playing the violin for the enjoyment of all. (Photo by Pendleton Merchants)

**Bottom Left:** Jay Bias, owner of Jay's Midlake Bait and Tackle caught this 22 inch, 4.5 pound walleye fishing in Brookville Lake. (Jay's Midlake Bait &

**Tackle Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)**

**Bottom Right:** Dorothy Combes wearing a Navy hat, singing special song (s) for the Seabees, she sang directly to us (see photo on page 33) her rendition of the Seabee Song. She was great, I know those Seabees in attendance appreciated her tribute to them. She also sang "I'm Sick of Guadalcanal" and "God Bless America." Dorothy Combes was married to Seabee Roy E. Combes, Jr who was in the 26th NCB at Guadalcanal and Tulagi. See more on pages 31-37. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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# Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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### DELANEY CREEK LONGBEARDS SUPERFUND MEMBERSHIP BANQUET JANUARY 25, 2013

The Delaney Creek Longbeards Chapter of Washington County are doing a Superfund Membership Banquet, (N.W.T.F.) on January 25, 2013 at 5 p.m. at the Cornerstone Hall.

Mark your calendars, plan for a family fun night with us.

Contact Byron Fagg 812-620-2245 or [bwfagg@blueriver.net](mailto:bwfagg@blueriver.net)



### The Bride and Groom COUNTRY MARK MANAGER ANNOUNCES MARRIAGE

The former Teri Frye, manager of Country Mark in Greensburg, Indiana is now Teri Beard. She and her new husband are honey mooning in parts unknown.

The Gad-a-bout wishes to congratulate Teri on this momentous occasion and good luck.

### 79th NCB & CBMU# 624 - 67th REUNION

I've been writing about this event since last September. Read all about it on pages 31 thru 37.

### HELP A FRIEND OF MINE

See below, Jay Bias, owner of Jay's Midlake Bait and Tackle, needs to sell this beautiful home in Liberty, if interested contact him @ info below.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37



Beautiful Brick home on corner lot in Liberty within walking distance of downtown, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, den, Florida room, finished basement, lots of storage, private patio, 2 decks, one car detached garage, plenty of parking in the back .. privacy fence in the back and down the side for back yard. 1.5 story central air, city sewer, dishwasher, disposal, fireplace, gas heat.. ready to move in. Contact Jeff King @ American Heritage 765-825-1103 or look at additional pictures at <http://www.ah-realty.com> or Jay Bias @ Jay's Midlake Bait and Tackle 765-458-7554 Asking price: \$129,900.00

# On The Cutting Edge

By Ray Dickerson

## IN MY WORLD

Beginning in the December Gad-a-bout I am starting a new column entitled, "In My World."

It will be mostly common sense subjects that I've been wondering about for a long time and waiting for it all to happen. But evidently I'm the only one who thinks about these things. So I'm going to put my two cents worth into the bucket and see what comes out. This is what I was trying to write about last month, but had writers bloc and couldn't think of a thing. After I sent October to the printer, then "In My World" mysteriously appeared in my mind. Oh well, maybe you are like me and suffer from CRS!

### Hmmmm.....

### WAS I MISTAKEN OR DID I SEE A RERUN LAST THURS EVENING OF LAUGH IN??

**This is strictly my Opinion of these Debates.**

The Vice Presidential Debate was a unfair and unbalanced laugh fest by a over-bearing 69 year old left to run amuck by a moderator who unfairly gave the Vice President a free hand to interrupt Congressman Paul Ryan when he was trying to answer serious questions.

I don't know why when everyone knows that the National Media are Liberals and that we are not given a better choice of moderators. For a fair and balanced debate why can't the moderators originate from a pool of highly intelligent Americans that don't work for the National media?

Why, because the National media wants to be unfair and unbalanced.

I recorded the Vice Presidential Debate because I was working on this paper and couldn't stay home to watch it. I don't have a TV where I work so I watched the debate after I went home in the wee hours of the morning. What a waste of time! Half-way through the debate I became so disgusted with the way Vice President Biden was laughing and interrupting Congressman Paul Ryan, that I turned the recording off. It wasn't a debate, it was a Laugh-in rerun. The moderator, Martha Raddatz, works for ABC, a member of the Liberal National news media. She let the Vice President run rough shod over Congressman Paul Ryan for the entire debate.

Who won the debate, I turned it back on and watched the rest, even though it was unfair and unbalanced. Vice President Joe Biden had his moment on National TV and used it without showing this American why I should vote for four more years of the Obama administration. With the help of the National media including newspapers, TV, radio, internet, twitter, facebook, and all forms of electronics we have today to communicate I will not be surprised if we get four more years of Obama as president. Governor Mitt Romney may be rich and powerful in the business sector, but he can't win in the National press with performances of the moderator (s) in his debate (s) and Ryans.

When this paper goes to the printer, October 16, 2012, the next debate will be in progress on TV's across the nation and broadcast on all forms of media. This debates topic will be: Town meeting format including foreign and domestic policy, Air

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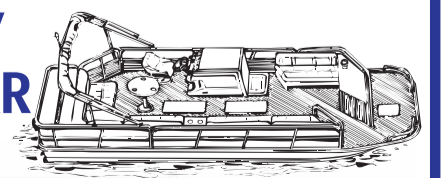
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# So You Wanna Catch More Fish



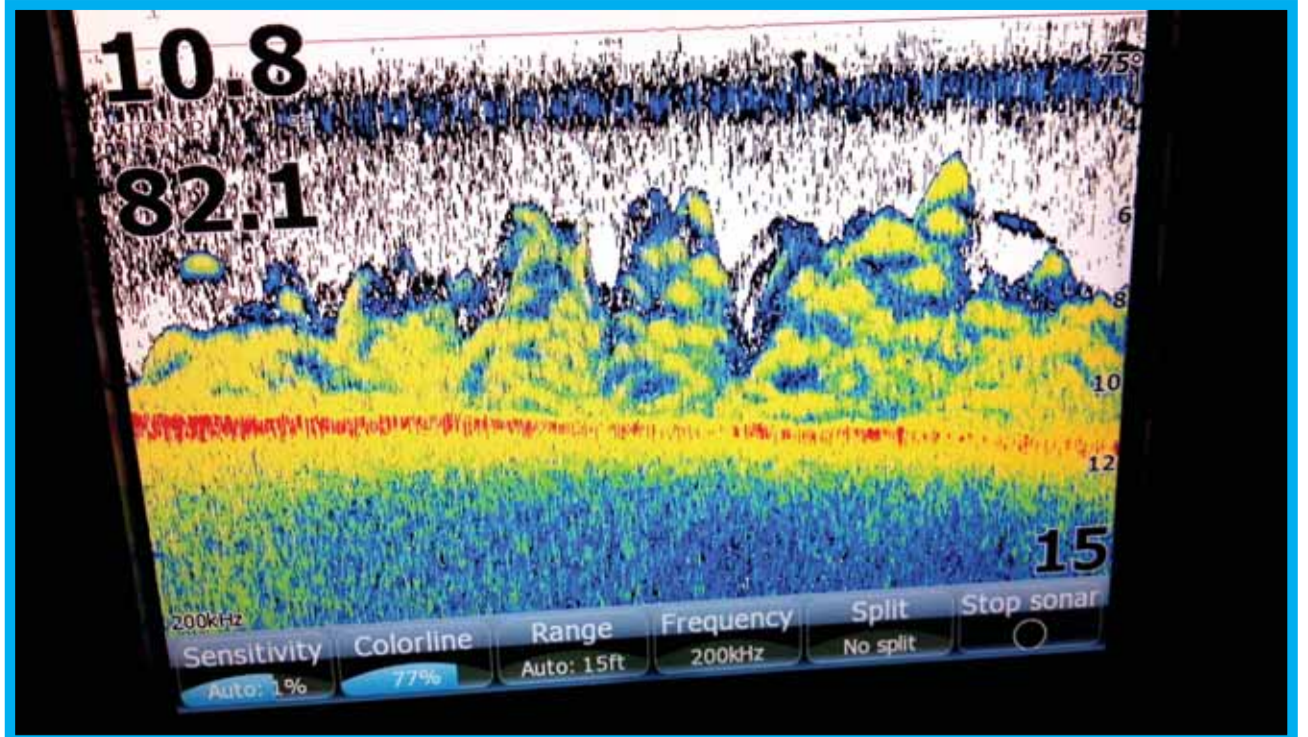
by Tag Nobbe  
Professional Fishing Guide

## Spoon Fishing in November

Spoon fishing can be one of the best way to catch every species of fish in the lake, especially in the winter time. I have to tell you that most of the time when you catch a walleye on a spoon their usually a little bigger then average. But on the other hand I have caught plenty of crappie and blue gill on the same spoons. There are three different types of spoons casting, trolling, and jigging spoons the ones I am talking about are jigging spoons. The best way to fish it is to drop it straight over the side of the boat or under hand pitch it at a 45 degree angle and let it fall all the way to the bot-



Walleye caught by Tag while spoon fishing (Author Photo)



This is the way a school of white bass will show up on your fish finder when you see them on the flats or in deep water on the bottom. (Author Photo)

tom. If your fishing in the summer the under hand pitch is usually best because the fish are shallower. But in the winter time straight over the side of the boat is best because the fish are deep.

In the late summer to early fall the lake is full of young of the year shad swimming in large schools all over the surface. This is a prime time to be fishing with a spoon. What you look for are these large schools of shad spread out over the flats not over deep water. If their spread out over deep water their prime food for white bass but thats a whole other story. If you don't see large schools of shad spread out over the flats stick with trolling or jig fishing. The key to spoon fishing in the summer to late fall is the shad being on the flats.

What you look for on the flats are high places sticky places inside or outside turns drop offs and ledges. These are places where walleye like to feed. On Brookville Lake the flats run between 8 to 12 feet deep. When choosing a spoon I like to fish a spoon that is a light as possible but still heavy enough that I can feel the spoon. For instance if I was fishing 30 feet deep in the winter I would fish a 1/2 to 3/4 ounce spoon but if I was fishing 8 to 12 feet deep in the summer I would fish a 1/8 to a 1/4 ounce spoon.

Fishing a spoon is all about the reaction. The way I like to fish a flat with a spoon is to stand on the front of the boat watch my bow mounted depth finder with my foot on my electric trolling motor looking for any irregularities on the flat. At the same time looking for fish on the bottom and clouds of shad moving around on the flat. Just give the spoon a simple under hand pitch at about a 45 degree angle out in front of you. As soon as you feel the spoon hit the bottom give it a short quick hop up and reel up your slack and repeat this as soon as you feel the spoon hit the bottom again. Do this till your spoon is back to the boat ,or a fish grabs it. Take a picture of the fish throw it back, or release it in the grease what ever soots your fancy. Then under hand pitch it somewhere else and catch another one. What your doing is trying to make the spoon look like a dying shad. Usually the fish will hit it on the flutter down so when you go to hop it

up again it will just be there so pay attention.

Winter fishing is a little different do to where the fish are. In the winter the surface temperature gets colder then the deep water which in turn makes it heavier and causes fall turn over. This action re oxygenates the deep water and allows the fish to go as deep as they want to escape the colder water on the surface.

When fishing a spoon in the winter you still stand on the front of the boat watching the bow mounted depth finder. With your foot on the electric trolling motor your trying to hold yourself in one spot so you can fish straight up and down. What your looking for is steep drop off ledges deep under water humps or sticky places on the bottom. At the same time looking for fish and clouds of shad close to the bottom. What you do is let the spoon free fall all the way to the bottom. Once there reel up about a crank off the bottom and give the spoon a simple hop up and flutter down. Trying to vary the movement till you key in on what triggers a bite. The only difference in the winter spoon bite is that some times they will hit the spoon on the hop up or if you just hold it motionless. I believe just the shaking of your hand is enough to trigger a strike. Remember this is winter time.

Good Luck Fishing Tag Nobbe

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## News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling  
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

## Pendleton Troopers Honored At Oct 4th Awards Ceremony

At an awards ceremony held at the Government Center in Indianapolis on October 4th, an award was given by Indiana State Police Command Staff to Pendleton Senior Trooper Shawn H. Cosgrove, a 14 year member of the Indiana State Police. Senior Trooper Cosgrove was honored as Pendleton "Trooper of the District."



Pendleton Senior Trooper, Shawn H. Cosgrove, honored as "Trooper of the District." (Indiana State Police Photo)

Factors that district personnel used to determine the "Trooper of the District" included, but were not limited to, traffic and criminal enforcement, community involvement and specialty assignments such as SCUBA, ERT, Meth Lab Team, Instructor ratings, or other services performed for the department beyond normal expectations. Each district recipient was awarded a plaque by Indiana State Police Superintendent Dr. Paul Whitesell for their outstanding service that reads:

**Presented in recognition for the high level of service, dedication and professionalism exemplified in service to the citizens of Indiana and the Indiana State Police. Presented October 4, 2012.**

Trooper Cosgrove graduated from Mitchell High School in 1991 and graduated from Ball State in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He started his career with the State Police in 1998 at the Lowell District then transferred to the Indianapolis District, and later to the Redkey District until that district became part of the Pendleton District.

Some of Cosgrove's accomplishments during the past year included 49 criminal arrests, 24 operating while intoxicated arrests and 210 police services (assisting stranded motorists.) During his career Cosgrove has served as a K-9 Officer and has completed duty assignments in Investigations and in the Drug Enforcement Division. Cosgrove lives and works in Delaware County.

Also honored at the same awards ceremony was Pendleton Trooper Tom Harbison. He received the 2012 Life Award for leading the Pendleton Post in



Pendleton Trooper Tom Harbison receives the 2012 Life Award. (Indiana State Police Photo)

DUI enforcement. Harbison made 105 DUI arrests in 2011. For his efforts Trooper Harbison was awarded a plaque by Indiana State Police Superintendent Dr. Paul Whitesell that reads:

Presented in recognition for his outstanding effort toward removing impaired drivers off Indiana highways.

Trooper Harbison concentrated his enforcement efforts on removing impaired drivers from Pendleton District roadways before they caused needless pain, suffering, and death to innocent victims. The Indiana State Police stays committed to reducing the number of impaired driving crashes as well as all crashes.

Harbison, a Yorktown native, is a five year member of the Indiana State Police and is assigned to Madison and Delaware counties.

## Excuses, Excuses, Excuses

As you know, in our daily dealing with people we hear a variety of excuses for illegal behavior. A driver that recently rolled through a stop sign out in front of me asked me where I'd been hiding. When I told them I was driving down the road in a fully marked car right at them, they actually didn't believe me! Or the guy who ran a stop light and said "well, it hadn't been red that long."

When we stop a car and the driver bails out as we get out, it usually means two things to an officer, and neither is good. It usually means the guy is about to take off running, or he's trying to beat me out of my car to take me to a gun fight. A guy I stopped recently just couldn't understand why I "disrespected him" in his words, by ordering him back into his vehicle, or why I wouldn't let him wander around outside and do a "farm chore" as I wrote his ticket. (He had pulled into a driveway.)

He had bailed out and reached in the bed of his truck. My first thought was for a long gun, not the feed he ended up getting out. I meant no "disrespect" it's just that we have to be direct sometimes for your safety and ours. Remember if stopped, stay in your vehicle, for your safety and ours.

I was recently talking to a detective about a case he had worked. This man had said by phone he wanted to speak to the detective, but when the detective arrived at the guy's home, the man said he was just leaving to "go buy some stamps."

These excuses continued, so the detective showed up unannounced one day to find the guy sitting out on his porch. When the man realized it was the detective, he jumped up and said "Hey, I'd love to talk to you, but I have to go in and do the dishes." Now, I don't know about you, but I don't know of ANY grown man that would rather do dishes than anything else, including a trip to the dentist. Gee, that excuse didn't raise any red flags!

I was on my way to talk to some kids at a school recently when a detective called me for a press release on a case he had worked. It seems a small child had been battered to the point of needing to be airlifted to Indy. As a parent, and a human being, I know there is not one of us that this type of crime doesn't anger. I had this case on my mind the whole time as I spoke to the kids.

As I finished and was leading the kids out to look at my car, a little white haired girl with bright blue eyes walked by, reached up and grabbed my hand, tugging at me making me walk with her. She explained that she liked me because she knew that policemen were her friend. I looked at her little smiling face, and I realized something.

Its little incidents like this that serves as a reminder to all of us why we serve all of you. It's to make sure justice is served for all, including those too small to protect themselves. Thanks to you all for allowing all of us to serve all of you. Take care of yourselves and your families, and we will talk again next month.

## Report Illegal Drug Activity



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# Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



by I.C.O. Gary Catron  
LE Division Spokesperson

## A Training Site to Behold

A major goal of training, especially among emergency responders, is that the training offers students the most realistic circumstances possible. At times the desired circumstances can be manufactured and of benefit. Better yet, utilizing any naturally occurring desired variables is invaluable to productive training. Allow me to introduce you to the Indiana River Rescue School that in the spirit of training in 'real-life' conditions is arguably, the best.

Initially, the Indiana River Rescue School (IRRS) provided an extension, of sorts, to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) renowned breakthrough program which began in 1979. The ODNR river rescue program derived from the recognition of the once-common failure to recognize the dangers of river current as a powerful force by emergency services as they responded to river related incidents. Dealing with river current and incidents in and around low head dams too often led to drowning deaths among emergency responders. The ODNR program instilled the need for safe, systematic, team-based approaches to fast water rescues.

Based in South Bend, Indiana, the Indiana River Rescue School has trained well over 2500 students from many corners of North and Central Americas. My own involvement in the IRRS began in 1985, the same year in which I became an Indiana

Conservation Officer. I was freshly out of the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy when I attended as a student. The following year six fellow officers and I traveled to Ohio and attended an ODNR river rescue instructor course. During the initial years the South Bend Parks and Recreation Department administered the IRRS. The core group of instructors from Indiana consisted principally of Indiana Conservation Officers, South Bend Firefighters with several from Mishawaka fire and police departments. These (we) instructors would teach the river rescue curriculum with ODNR river rescue instructors. Through the years that followed, additional agencies added trained instructors to the IRRS roster. Indiana Conservation Officers began to include the IRRS as part of the required training during recruit classes.

Today, the IRRS is one of the leading swiftwater rescue schools in the nation. But how, you might ask, given the topography of our region and fairly 'flat' rivers, can Indiana have a top-notch swiftwater rescue course? It's like realtor's preach; location, location, location. The river areas in and near downtown South Bend have pretty much everything needed for the river rescue school. One distinct characteristic in the St. Joseph River is the South Bend dam. A typical low head dam, similar to a concrete wall, allows water to flow over the structure in a uniform manner. As the water flows over and into the lower pool, a hydraulic current and boil line may form. This recirculation of water will hold, and keep objects whether they are discarded trash items, trees, boats and unfortunately, people. The South Bend dam is unique due to its 'L' shape. To maneuver boats slightly downstream takes a great deal of practice and requires a would-be rescuer to read the currents present as they weave their way downstream.

Near the dam along the east shoreline of the St. Joseph River (next to the fish ladder) begins another integral portion of the IRRS training site. This is the East Race Waterway. Once upon a time, the East Mill raceway and dam diverted water from the river to generate power for manufacturing purposes. As time went where it usually does, things changed and the raceway was no longer needed. Years passed. In the late 1970s, construction was started on the raceway site to make it an artificial whitewater course. The East Race was born into the South Bend riverfront park system and was the first artificial whitewater course in North America, and opened to the public in 1984.

The East Race is approximately 2000' long and drops approximately 12' along its length. To describe it, think of a creek about 6' deep with steep banks and then trowel concrete along the banks and creek bed. Now, take a generous amount of fiberglass obstacles resembling port-o-lets and bolt them to the concrete upright, sideways and lengthways in a sort of random manner. When regulated water flow is added and reacts as water should over and around the man made obstacles (fake boulders), a competitive canoe and kayak course develops. Many times the East Race has played host to U.S. Olympic regional kayak trials. Close the dedicated dam providing water supply, allow to empty, move the obstacles around and you have an entirely different course with no need to move to a different river.

The many characteristics that make the East Race a gem for competition make it a pearl for river rescue training. One important aspect to the IRRS curriculum is that the student become proficient in self-rescue. That is, when a person suddenly finds their self in swiftwater current, there is proper body posturing and some very important 'Dos and Don'ts' to successfully maneuver downstream. The currents change dramatically as they flow over and around the various obstacles and an object, whether it is a boat or body, will also react differently within these currents. Accurately reading the current when it's at eye level is much more of a challenge than when viewing it from overhead. Students do perform self-rescue exercises down the length of the East Race and additional 'wet' type rescues many times during the 5 days of training...in their mandatory high-floatation life jacket, wetsuit and helmet, of course. It is not a small challenge to properly navigate one's self down the 2000' of the East Race while avoiding the artificial boulders and obstacles. If needed in event of an emergency the dam head gates can be closed and the water flow closed in minutes. A friend of mine would humorously boast that he had performed a perfect self-rescue down the entire East Race waterway and despite having the usual water being forcefully splashed, and even smacked into his face, he was able to keep his cigarette lit throughout. I was witness to this. I do not recommend anyone ever do this. Not even a little bit. Not at home, not anywhere. After all, cigarette smoking is hazardous to one's health.

Now administered through the South Bend Fire

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 37**



Vertical rescue practice. (Photo provided by ICO Darren Reed)



Victim entrapment extrication. (Photo provided by ICO Darren Reed)

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Winners of the Walleye Tournament (Photo by Dianna Koester)



Winners of the Bass Tournament (Photo by Dianna Koester)



Winners of the Catfish Contest (Photo by Dianna Koester)



Left to right: Dustin Fain, Caroline Koester and Kraig Schwab, the team who got things done at the Gaston Memorial Tournament. (Photo by Dianna Koester)

## Richard T. Gaston Walleye/ Bass/Catfish Tourney Results

by Amy Gaston Stehr, Dianna Koester  
and Ray Dickerson

The 2012 Richard T. Gaston Memorial Walleye/Bass/Catfish Tourney began on the cool side as Autumn made an early appearance in Indiana almost to the day that Fall arrived, September 22nd. The weather probably affected the catch as few fish were caught.

But weather doesn't hold back fishermen though when it's tournament fishing time.

I have attended the Gaston Tournament non-stop for a long time, but this year I only got to see the fishermen off and I was almost too late for that. I pulled into the parking lot just in time to see the last boats leaving the beach. The Seabee Reunion I've been preparing for since Sept. 2011 was Sunday, Sept. 23rd thru Thursday, Sept. 27th. I had to get things ready on the 22nd which just happened to be this tournament day. Fortunately for me, Dianna Koester (Parkside Marine & More) stepped up and took photos for me, in my absence. Also Amy Gaston Stehr provided us with lists of the winners.

I really appreciate Dianna and Amy's help. You can read about the Seabee Reunion in this issue. Next year though I intend to be at the 2013 Richard T. Gaston Memorial Walleye Tournament and Catfish Contest at Brookville Lake.

### WALLEYE TOURNAMENT

1st Place was won by Brian and David Adair who caught 4 walleye weighing in at 4.60 pounds.

2nd Place was won by Tim McFarland and Geoff Church with 4 walleye weighing in at 4.30 pounds.

3rd Place was won by Rick Mofield and Bobby Singleton with 4 walleye weighing in at 3.85 pounds.

4th Place was won by J. Black and Mike Vaughn with 4 walleye weighing 3.75 pounds.

5th Place was won by Junior Newton and Tony Basham with 2 walleye weighing 2 pounds.



Left Photo: Richard Hollanbach & Indiana Conservation Officer Cory Norrod weighing fish. Right Photo: Eric Boger and Richard Hollanbach count & weigh fish as Amy Gaston Stehr (at right) observes the process. (Photos by Dianna Koester)



Big Fish for walleye was won by M. Bishop for a fish weighing 1.85 pounds.

### BASS TOURNAMENT

1st Place was won by Kenny and Mike Bennett with 3 bass weighing 6.85 pounds.

2nd Place was won by Jeremy and Justin Smith with 3 bass weighing 6 pounds.

3rd Place was won by Max Axmacher and Jordan Smith with 2 bass weighing 3.70 pounds.

Big Fish for bass was by Kenny Bennett for a bass weighing 3.75 pounds.

### CATFISH CONTEST

1st Place was Tim Harper with 12.45 pounds of catfish.

2nd Place was Curt Callicoat with 8.60 pounds of catfish.

3rd Place was Mark Sebesky with 8.35 pounds of catfish.

4th Place was Brian Sebesky with 7.65 pounds of catfish.

5th Place was Mark Blauvelt with 7.50 pounds of catfish.

Big Fish for catfish was Tim Harper with a 3.15 pound catfish.

Winner of the Queen Mum Smallest Catfish Award was won by Tracey Jacobs with a .15 pound fish.

We hope to see you all here next year.

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Notes from:  
**Prairie Wolf Gun Repair**



by Marshall Smith

**Let me introduce myself**

For this second installment of "Notes" I want to introduce myself to you. I'm a lifelong resident of Wayne County in eastern Indiana. I joined the U.S. Navy at age 17, just out of high school in August of 1964 and served until December 1967. I was one of the lucky ones who didn't have to serve in Vietnam or in the waters off shore. I was stationed States side at the Naval Weapons Testing Station, China Lake, California. After leaving active service I joined the Richmond Indiana Police Department and served another 20 years in the service to my community. I am now working part-time for Wayne County Government as the County's Veterans Service Officer. On the civilian side I own Prairie Wolf Gun Repair, a BATF licensed Firearms Manufacturer. As a gunsmith I hold a manufacturer's license as on occasion I will modify (or redesign) a firearm from its original caliber or design to another caliber and design. I don't make or manufacture my own line of guns. I have over 20 years experience with guns and the design, form, function and repair of all types of handguns, rifles and shotguns.

I'm a strong advocate of our 2nd amendment right to "bear arms". I've been an NRA Life member for over 30 years. I am a strong advocate for firearm safety and believe that every person wanting to carry or own a firearm must be trained in its safe handling, maintenance, and use. It is important that owners of concealed or carry firearms be licensed and know when the weapon can and cannot be used. You might have thought that from my first article in "The Gad-A-Bout".

After 40 years in the service to Federal, State, County, and City government my belief in the U.S. Constitution and the rights it sets forth for the citizens of this great nation is stronger today than ever. When I joined the U. S. Navy and again when joining the police department I took an oath to protect our constitution and way of life from all enemies both foreign and domestic, and to faithfully serve my nation and community. I have spent a lifetime serving and protecting our rights under that constitution and will continue until the time comes that I can no longer voice my opinion or cast my vote. If you read this before the 2012 election, be sure to get out and cast your vote. If you don't vote and don't participate, then what additional rights are you going to give up without so much as a whimper?

Veteran's Day is Sunday November 11, 2012. While many realize that Veterans Day, which always falls on November 11, is a day to honor our Veterans, few realize the historical significance behind the day. And, few realize that it didn't always

fall on November 11. For a brief time it was legislated that Veterans Day be celebrated on a Monday to provide a long weekend for everyone. However, there was many who strongly urged their congressional legislators to return it to its original day.

Veterans Day originated as Armistice Day and marked the end of fighting in World War I. The fighting came to an end at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. However, it wasn't until June 28, 1919, that the "war to end all wars," also known as "The Great War" and World War I, came to its official end through a treaty signed in Versailles, France. The day the fighting ended was originally set aside to honor the Veterans of World War I with a day of parades, picnics and other celebrations. Usually with a ceremony commemorating veterans 11AM.

However, after World War II and the Korean War, Congress recognized a need to expand the meaning of the day to recognize all of our Veterans and not just those of World War I. In 1954, the word "Armistice" was replaced with "Veterans" as a way to formally include all Veterans of all American wars in the day of remembrance.

This year, 2012, we will honor veterans of all wars of the United States on the 11 hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. I hope all that can will go see the parades in their area and to the ceremonies. Check with your local Veterans organizations such as the American Legion, AMVETS, DAV, Marine Corps League, or VFW to get the times and activities going on.

Remember, Veterans Day is not only to remember those who died in service to our country, but also to recognize and honor all those who have served and those that continue to serve today. For those readers who are veterans and have yet to register with the VA medical services, please contact your local CVSO and apply for your benefits. Since January 17, 2003 the VA medical benefits are only offered to those veterans who meet the income threshold set out by Congress. I hear your grumblings, I too was told that because of my service to my country (U.S. Navy Air Traffic Controller), I would always have the benefit of VA medical care. Well, that changed. There are still many benefits available to veterans who qualify. If your unsure if you qualify or not contact your CVSO and discuss the benefits available to you. However, for those of you whose service included time in country in Vietnam (August 5, 1964 to May 7, 1975), in the Korean Demilitarized zone from April 1, 1968 to August 31, 1971, Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn, the income thresholds don't necessarily apply. Please contact your CVSO for more information. You can go online to <http://www.in.gov/dva/2370.htm> to locate your Indiana county's veterans service officer. More information can also be obtained from the VA's website at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov).

In future editions of "Notes from Prairie Wolf Gun Repair" I will write on gunsmithing issues, gun safety and responsibilities, and I will be including notes on Veteran issues and announcements. If you have a question or comment on guns, gunsmithing, gun rights, or, would like to just make a comment send me an email at [PrairieWolfGuns@gmail.com](mailto:PrairieWolfGuns@gmail.com). I'll try and answer your questions as best I can and some answers may be included in this column.

Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible  
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# Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

## Fall is in the air

Fall is in the air. The wind is a bit sharper and rain soaks the ground.

The leaves, having finished their job are slowly changing color and breaking loose from the branches and slowly swirling to the ground. Then there are the colors. Those wonderful reds, yellows and browns that brighten our days and give us something to remember before the dull days of winter set in.

It used to be the time for me to take long walks in the woods. I'd watch the squirrels scurry about preparing for winter and see the birds massing for their annual flight south. If I was really lucky I'd see a flock of Canada Geese fly over making a perfect 'V' in the sky, calling out as they go hurrying by, to any stragglers, to come up and join them before it was too late.

Once upon a time, before the do gooder's took over the world, you could smell the

burning leaves in several yards around the neighborhood. Of course, if your lucky, there are still some homes with a real fireplaces which send out the smell of wood burning on the night air. And, if your real lucky, you might be invited to a wiener roast or to make 'smores' over a campfire.

Than, of course, this is the season one of my favorite holiday. 'Samheim' or as you know it 'Halloween' The ancient Celtic New Years Eve..The Night of Darkness..When the spirits of the dead return to avenge themselves on the living, who did them wrong. Each family gathered in their home, the men armed as though waiting for an enemy attack. Food was placed outside to appease the spirits. The fire was put out and the fireplace cleaned. A new fire was laid but not lit. At dawn a fire was lit in the village square. A woman of the family went out, escorted by an armed male. She obtained an ember from the central fire and took it home to light the fire in her hearth, Thus began the New Year.

Amazing how out of this came the celebrating on 'All Hallows Eve'. The night before the Christian Holy Day of All Saints and all the customs we have today of dressing in costumes (evil spirits) and Trick or Treat (appeasing the spirits with food.) Other customs have been added..carving a pumpkin from Ireland (where it was a turnip); bobbing for apples from England and many others that have come and gone over the years.

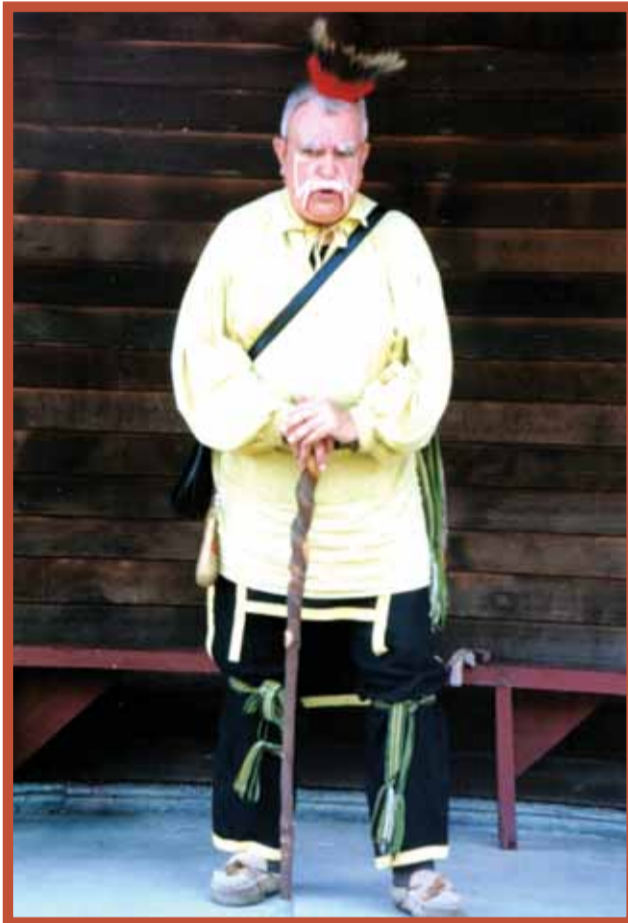
Finally there are the harvest festivals in and around the small communities which make up the look of what's left of America's glorious past.

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Golden Eagle telling an Indian story at Frontier Days Rendezous in front of Quakertown Store. (Ray Dickerson)

Corn Roasts; Bar-B-Qs; Apple Festivals; Pancake Breakfasts all are a part of the living breathing days of October.

There are still some places, maybe you know of them, when walking through a wooded section you can still fill the spirits of the Miami, Shawnee and Wyandot warriors watching from the trees. Look quickly and you will see them before they slip away into the shadows.

May Grandfather Great Spirit always guide you in your journey over the four hills.

#### Old Chief Says:

There are two kinds of people; those who work and those who take the credit.

Try to be in the first group; there is less competition.

**Editor's Note:** Golden Eagle requested me to put an article he had written in a past issue this month. He lives in a assisted living development in southwest Ohio and is moving from his apartment into the "Big House" as he calls it. He said he wouldn't be able to send his article this month due to his changing quarters. Rest assured he will be back in just as soon as he is able. Ray

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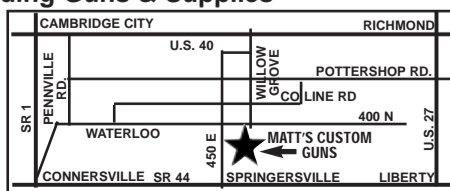
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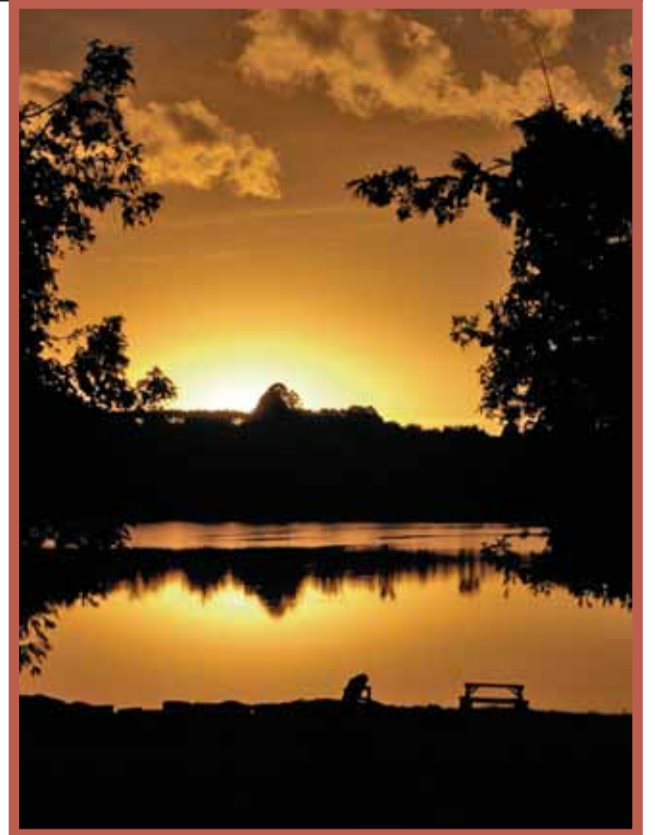
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## Outdoors Tales



by Phil Junker



Sunset at Cedars Resort on Benway Lake in Antrim County, MI. (Author Photo)

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## Unplanned trips can be fun

Some of the best vacation plans are impromptu, maybe no plan at all. Certainly planning can be beneficial, but sometimes it is fun just to do it, "go with the flow" as flow used to say.

For our 25th wedding anniversary, my wife, Phyllis and I had a well planned trip to Ontario, Canada. We visited three different fishing camps. It was a great trip. However, 25 years later, things were different. We had less coins in our pockets, less mobility in our bodies, and less time between doctor appointments.

We had planned to take a trip in June, but that didn't work out. Then came July, followed by August, and finally September rolled around. There was a week on the calendar with nothing scheduled.

As to planning, we only knew we wanted to head north and we would like to spend at least part of the time in a cabin surrounded by the great outdoors.

Using the internet, I found Michigan's Pure Michigan tourism site. It is a good site, packed with information on visiting the state whether you are looking for antiques, top-notch hotels or golf resorts, or looking for a northwoods getaway. Somewhat by accident, I found a link to Cedars Resort near the small community of Central Lake in the far north-west corner of the lower peninsula of the state.

It is not unusual to find a place that looks better on the internet than it does in reality. But, after talking with Jo Ellen at Cedars, I decided it was the place with a cabin in the woods on a lake for us. It didn't disappoint. The cabin, the resort, and the owners were far better than I anticipated.

And, I found heading north after Labor Day, rates at most motels and lodges are less than summer season rates, and most places you visit are less crowded. There may be a few exceptions during peak fall foliage time. We also discovered some businesses close early for the season, and ferries on the lakes run less often.

On the way north, we had a late pleasant lunch at the Streamline Family Restaurant in Rochester, IN, and then spent the night at a local motel at Montague, MI, a pretty little town near Lake Michigan.

The next day we headed on up the west coast and stopped in Ludington to view the lake. At a lake front park, we also found a dog park where our rat terrier

Tyler could get in a run on the beach. Then it was on north to Central Lake and Cedars Resort.

Cedars has five rental cabins on one of several interconnected natural lakes, which eventually make their way to Lake Michigan. The lakes offer plentiful boating and fishing opportunities. Panfish probably are the primary target of most anglers, but there are walleye, northern pike and several area lakes contain muskie.

One of the other cabins was occupied by a pair of young men who specialize in muskie fishing. They primarily fish Michigan, Kentucky, Ohio and Indiana. In the Hoosier state, they concentrate on the Tippecanoe chain of lakes in the northeastern part of the state.

Cedars is centrally located between Traverse City and Petoskey in Antrim County. There also is skiing, snowmobiling, golfing, hunting, kayaking, canoeing, and lots of opportunities for exploring back roads and small towns as well as a large variety of shopping and restaurants.

The Cedars is operated by Chris and Jo Ellen Dick, who have been operating the resort for 14 years. Boats are included with the full-furnished cabins.

We enjoyed side trips to Traverse City, Torch Lake, Petoskey, Charlevoix, and a visit to a friend at Lake City.

As always, we found a wealth of good places to eat, including many locally owned family-type restaurants. One unique spot is the Front Porch in the village of Ellsworth (less than 400 people).

Several years ago the community's only restaurants went out of business. There was no place for locals to gather for breakfast or lunch, no place for coffee drinkers to gather and discuss the happenings of the day.

So folks got their heads together and opened the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 37

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# Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

## BOIL THOSE PEANUTS

One of the many reasons I took the time to go to Branson for a conference being held by the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers was the chance to fish Lake Taneycomo, one of the best trout fishing places in the world. Meetings, parties, coffee breaks and other outings all came and went, Thursday was for fishing.

On the way to Lilly's Landing to purchase licenses and meet our guide, our route took us down Fall Creek Road where we passed a country store advertising "BOILED PEANUTS." That got me thinking.

I love peanuts. I'm convinced, were they not so common, inexpensive, available, easy to find and even easier to use, peanuts and peanut butter would rank above French truffles and Russian caviar as one of the world's most flavorful foods. Peanuts would be food for the rich and famous only. Luckily, they are something everyday people can afford and enjoy.

I love peanut butter. I love peanuts other ways, as well. Peanuts in the shell were a fall staple at the hunter check-in station where I used to work. A jar of dry roasted Planters is as good a snack as I can imagine. But boiled? I couldn't imagine. Neither could fishing partner, Bill, so we vowed we'd stop on the way back from fishing to investigate.

What we found was the an eclectic mix of tourist stop, local corner store, antique boutique and just a fun place to be. Whisker's Country Corner wasn't built. It evolved. It probably started as a roadside stand selling fresh produce (and perhaps boiled peanuts) and then it just grew and took over the sturdy but somewhat ramshackle buildings, nearby. You can even get a haircut there! But this is a story about peanuts.



Peggy goes through about 4 gallons of boiled peanuts daily. (Author Photo)

Store owner and chief peanut "boiler," Peggy Stevenson didn't share the exact recipe, but it involved raw peanuts in-the-shell, plenty of water a pinch or two of salt and, no doubt, a few secret herbs. Put it in a large roasting pan and let it stew for several hours - or all day, I suppose.

"Some people eat shell and all," said Peggy. "They cook, but are stringy like celery. Most people peel off the shell, just as you would with roasted peanuts."

So with those instructions, Bill and I were soon sampling this traditional southern snack.

How were they? I agree with most people. Peel off the shell. I didn't on the first one I sampled and it was indeed stringy. More than stringy, actually. Don't do it. The rest I peeled. I say "peeled" because the process is a bit harder than cracking open a roasted peanut - more like peeling a cooked shrimp.

Inside, the peanuts were done perfectly. But no peanut flavor! Their texture was more that of a navy or lima bean cooked "al dente." (Peanuts are a legume.) The flavor was more bean-like than anything. If you like navy beans, ham'n beans, black eyed peas and the like, you could easily become a boiled peanut fan. I do and I now am a fan. Until I get back to the Ozarks, I'll stick to peanut butter.

So how was the fishing? Maybe I'll tell that story next issue.

THE END



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# Bass Fishing Techniques



by Bill Embry

## West Boggs Creek Reservoir

In the last few months there have been only speculations on the cause of a man's death after swimming at West Boggs Creeks Reservoir earlier this year. This has never been proven from anyone. The local media & the Indianapolis area media have said that this man contracted a disease from West Boggs Reservoir. The gentlemen in

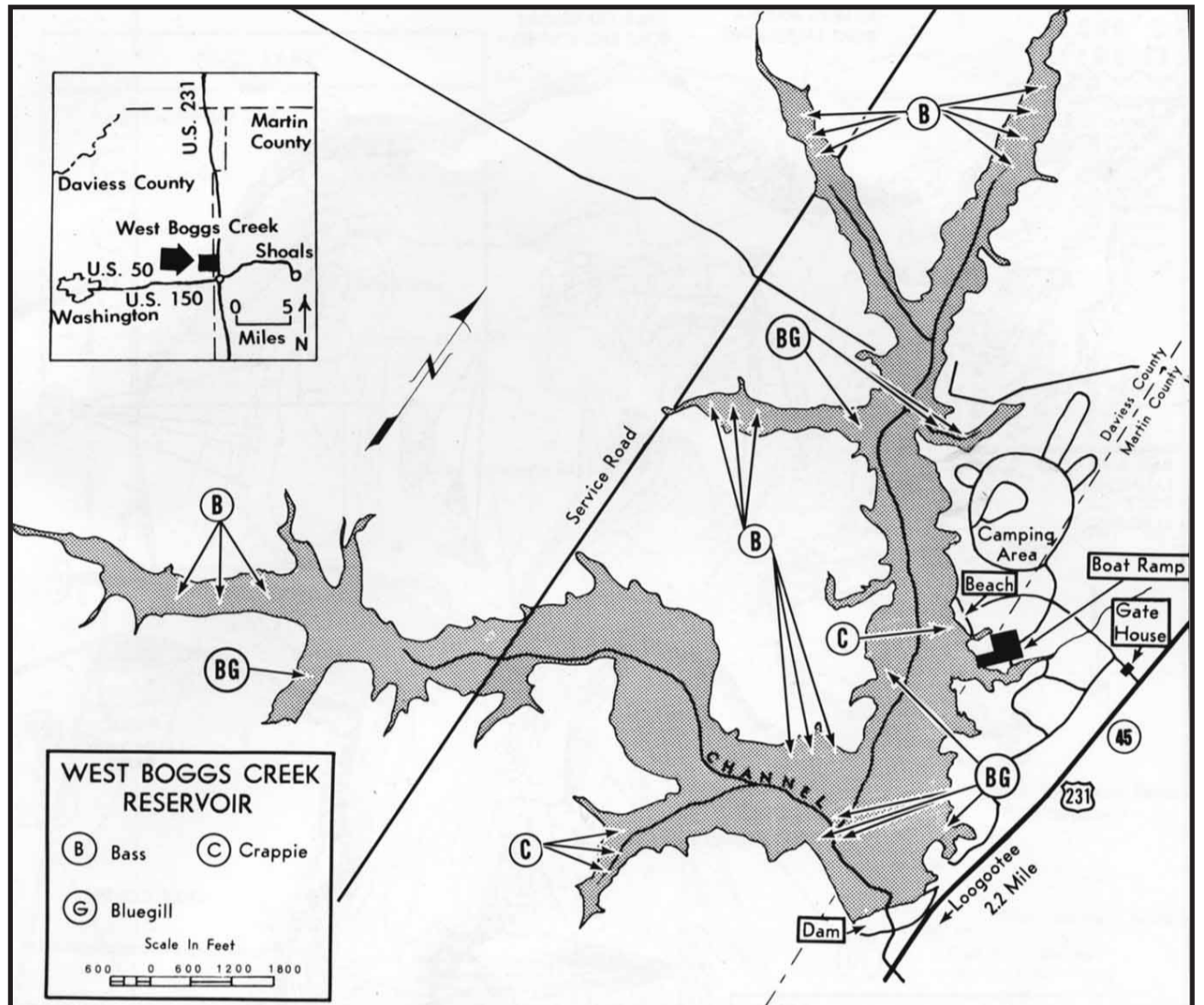
question also swam in the White River very often I have been told. The incubation period for this disease to infect one, to kill them was not long enough period from when the man swam in West Boggs Reservoir to the time of his death I have also been told. So I guess what this really boils down to is making the news, without to any regard to any consequences that it may have to the community or any business around the area. I have spoke Robert & Heather Douglas the Owners of the Pit Stop Bait & Tackle which is located just across the road from the entrance from West Boggs Reservoir, they have told me that business

has dropped off as much as 60% since these accusations have arisen. There is no doubt that false information like this has hurt many business's in the area. It's kind of like our presidential elections, it's only news? What is a shame is when the media makes statements about things they are not real sure of, just to make news & to cause panic.

"Good Fishin"

Bill Embry

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# Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

## A Quick Trip West & Back

Back in late August our son Bob and our seven year old grandson, Adrian flew in to Midway Airport in Chicago from north of the Golden Gate Bridge. Daughter-in-law Donna stayed home to dog sit. We picked the boys up and got back to Ft. Wayne early the next morning. Since we're moving from a house of over 3,000 square feet and a 1400 square foot basement to a 1581 square foot villa we needed Bob and daughter Mo, who lives near us, to get the things they wanted to keep as we're in the mood to give away, donate, sell or throw away. Since Mo is close by, she and husband Russ and our two local grandsons, T.J. and Connor, made several trips to get her stuff and help us carry large items to the new place. We told Bob we'd bring his stuff to him in California. We starting Labor Day and stayed in motels for four nights going west. Does any of this sound familiar? We could hardly get to the cooler for water or soda because of the tight packing I had done in our high top conversion van.

It was a good plan to motel as campers were getting in their last big fling as school was starting all over the country. We knew that on the way back we'd have little trouble camping the north route back to Indiana during the week while school was in session. We did call ahead and make reservations where we thought it was needed. After a quick three day visit before the family had to go back to work and school we took coastal Rt. 1 from San Francisco, 101 to Tillamook, Oregon (and of course bought some Tillamook cheese), then I-84, I-90 and I-94 back to the Indiana toll road and home. A couple of days we drove nearly 600 miles so we could spend some time seeing some of the not-so-popular sites we hadn't seen on several trips in years before this. Being retired we hate to get up before 7:00 A.M. so we didn't.

A couple of campgrounds, one in Reed Point, Montana and the other in the Dells, Wisconsin, had new owners and each owner had a lot of questions. We, of course, knew most of the plus and minus situations of their state was similar to campground/state problems across the country so we had time to discuss various aspects of campground ownership/management. In many of the campgrounds throughout the country new owners retain their old jobs for a while to help pay for the new job and any additions he/she might want to make in the camp. We did the same by overlapping our campground owner/management for our first 20 of the 32 years. We usually had good work campers to tend to the business and/or work involved around the park until we got to the park on Friday night

after having taught school all week and then driving 70 miles. Rarely were we called to make the drive during the week to clear up any problem. Our work campers usually called us as to how or where or when or why and that's all it took.

One new owner had purchased a campground out in the middle of nowhere and was trying to add to and change things in his park while his wife was still in Minneapolis teaching. He said he'd be happy when the next five years were up since his wife could get full retirement and come and help make decisions. He was looking forward to closing for the winter so he could go back up home and lead snowmobile trips. The other new owner had a good job as an architect and had developed an office right next to the campground office so he could take care of both jobs while his wife was working a criminal justice job in a local prison. They were just four months into their ownership and their plans were working out well. We suggested that the owners of each campground might join their state and also the national organizations so they could meet other owners from all over the country to get ideas and also get big discounts on the purchase of machinery and other things they might need in their daily operations.

As we might have expected, the season was near the end and the restrooms at six of the nine campgrounds where we stayed on the way home were not up to our personal standards and had not been cleaned for days and maybe weeks. We were caught between a rock and a hard place as we had pre-registered and had paid ahead for three of the six bad ones. There were no other campgrounds around and when you've driven over 500 miles you're ready to bite the proverbial bullet and take what actually appears. The cleanest we actually saw was in a primitive campground in the Lolo National Forest at exit 47 in Montana. We had no running water, no electrical hookups and no showers but we had the vault toilet. It was a very modern and handicapped access and quite clean. I might write back to the National Forest Service and get the specifications and suggest those of our parks in Indiana with some of the old pit toilets to check on this modern version.

I don't believe that in 32 years as owner/managers of a campground we had any major complaints about our restrooms. That is except some paper on the floor or shower liners over to edge that let the water out into the wrong area or usually, "John or El, you're out of toilet paper in number three." We're not above telling the management or calling the state campground organization to get the guilty campground management on the ball to clean up the restrooms and keep them clean and we have done so over the last 47 years of camping.

There are many local activities still going on around the state in October, November and December, including

festivals, re-enactments, Christmas crafts, and ethnic festivals and food tasting. Check out IndianaFestivals.org and VisitIndiana.com on your internet search engine for local activities and guides for 2013 usually published in December. Be sure to check with your local visitor bureau or rest area on the nearby interstate highway for brochures. When you make choices as to what events you want to visit in 2013, phone, e-mail or write a letter to the event and get early reservations. Spaces in campgrounds fill up quickly and we've seen quite a few unhappy people having to drive many miles to visit an event when they could have camped next door. Most campgrounds now have websites and you can get their address, phone number and/or e-mail to get other information not found on the website.

Until the December Gad-A-Bout---get ready for winter and if you have anything about camping you'd like us to research and write about, contact us at: **260-637-3524** or e-mail us at: [jmacnut@yahoo.com](mailto:jmacnut@yahoo.com).  
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Left Photo: Navy Seabee Veteran Tim Mahoney on Veteran's Day November 11, 2010. Right Photo: Tim and Betty celebrating their 62nd Wedding Anniversary on September 5, 2011 in Houston, TX. They got married on September 5, 1949 and honeymooned in the Ozarks. From left to right sitting Tim, his wife Betty and their daughter Ann Mahoney. Standing from left to right daughter Timie Creedon, son Joe Mahoney, daughters Margy Mahoney, Mary Clare Droecha and Bettsy Dreicer. (Tim Mahoney Photos)

### Concerning Tim Mahoney CBMU# 624 & Since Then Part III

by Seabee Tim Mahoney (WWII)

Dear Ray:

It has been difficult to put these things in print but I believe it is accurate although I wish I had some of the men to talk to. Murphy, Neitzke, Compty and I were going to meet in Chicago in August for the NFL /College All Star Game, but that did not happen. But I am trying to learn how to write on the computer and I am going to go ahead and flesh our life out this way

in the future for my children. So you are providing a great service in allowing me to do this. Your paper is excellent and you are marvelous in what you do for people.

I am going to describe some pictures for you and hope that I will be able to scan them into the computer and send them to you. Here goes. I was in Omaha attending Creighton University in pre-med when I met Betty in September, 1948. I changed my plans. We were married on September 5, 1949 and honeymooned in the Ozarks. She got a job at Prudential. I enrolled in pharmacy school working nights with the intention of becoming a registered pharmacist and having a sales career with a pharmaceutical company. We did all of this, had our first baby girl in July of 1951. I secured a job with the Wm. S. Merrell

Company of Cincinnati in March of 1952. We began in St. Joseph, MO and had successive assignments in sales and management in Kansas City, Dallas, Denver, Cincinnati and Houston where we have been for the last 45 years.

The photo of the group at Gulfport (not shown) shows Ensign Perkins in the center with the plaque, Buddy Howard second row center with face occluded. I am on his left next to the Seabee. Betty and I at the motel and me at home with my cap I brought back from the base exchange with my seventh grand daughter. Buddy and I (not shown) - tall isn't he? I did not meet him in CBMU# 624. He was in CBMU# 617 at Yonton and then came over to CBMU# 624. Betty and I are seated on our 62nd anniversary with our five daughters and one son. A picture of Betty and I on our silver anniversary.

Hope I can get these printed in the computer and on their way to you.

Best wishes,  
Tim

**Editor's Note:** Several of the photos Tim mentions above got lost in transit via the internet. It wasn't his fault. My webmaster called to tell me that a virus had gotten into his server or something like that and he had sent several e-mails that had been held lumped together in a group and I should have received them. Unfortunately they were lost or deleted by mistake. The photos here on this page was given to me by Tim himself at our reunion here in Indiana. See the story about our 67th 79th NCB reunion beginning on page 32. This is the last part of Tim Mahoney's Seabee story, Part III.



Tim and Betty's 62nd Wedding Anniversary (Betty in blue dress) surrounded by their family with daughters and grand children, two grand children missing. Photo taken on September 5, 2011. (Photo by Tim Mahoney)

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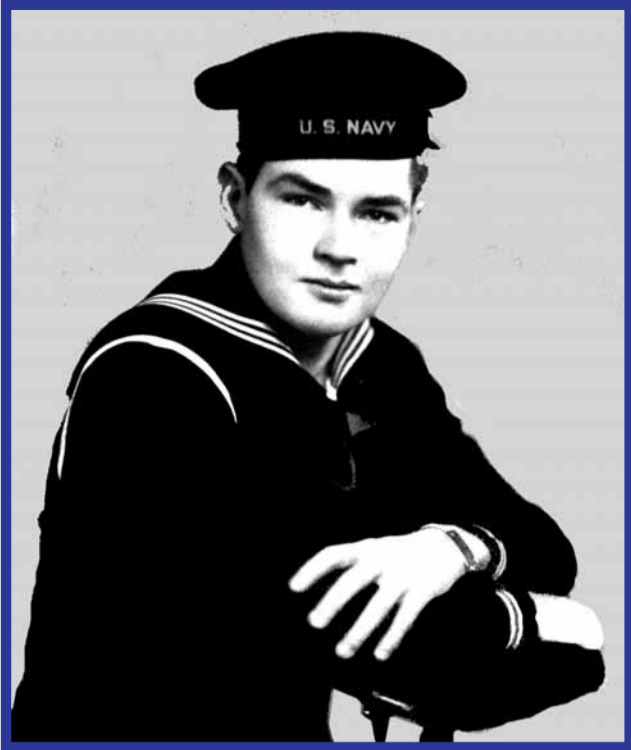
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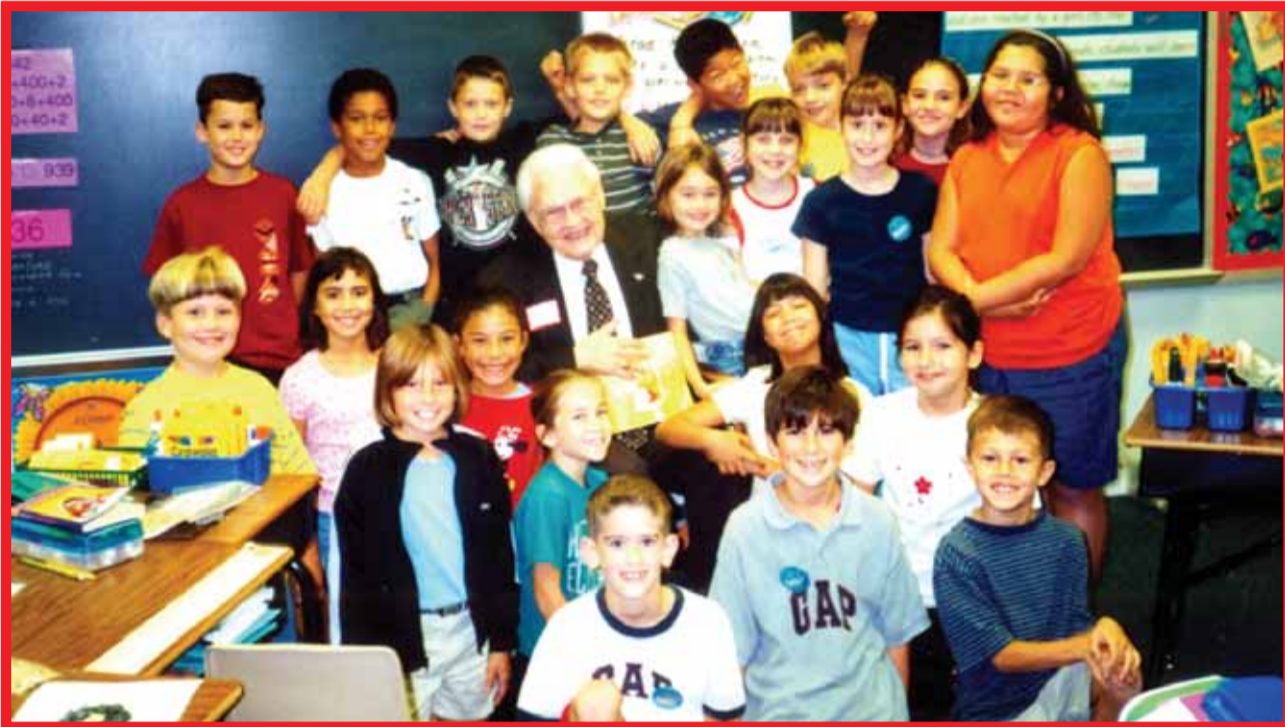
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Left Photo: Seabee Tim Mahoney in his dress blues. Right Photo: Tim and Betty Mahoney at left and Buddy and Belle Howard at the 50th Reunion of CBMU# 624 at Gulfport, Mississippi in October 1995. (Tim Mahoney Photos)



Left Photo: Tim among a 4th Grade Class in 2003. Tim was a reader to grade schoolers for eight years. He taught 15 and 16 year olds &(who is Jesus?) for fifteen years and he called on patients at Methodist Hospital under the direction of the Catholic Chaplain. Right Photo: Tim, just waiting for dinner. (Tim Mahoney Photos)

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# Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

## Remember to mind your manners this hunting season

Excitement was high as I pulled into my hunting spot for my first hunt of the fall season. My excitement was short-lived, however, as shortly thereafter I noticed a truck pull into the property. A couple of individuals bailed out and began loading their guns – with no regard to me and my son who were a short distance away.

I knew that I was the only person with permission to hunt here, so I asked the men if they had permission to hunt this property. One of them quickly piped up, "It shouldn't hurt your hunting any." Well, whether it would or would not didn't matter. The fact was that they did not have permission to be there so it wasn't their decision to make.

I gently reminded them that they did not have permission, to which they turned a deaf ear and proceeded to go about their business anyway. Frustrated, and honestly, quite ticked off, I did my best to explain to my son that what these two were doing was not the conduct of ethical, law-abiding sportsmen. He just couldn't understand why these men were doing this. He said it wasn't fair, and he was right.

I had a few different courses of action I could have/can take with regards to this situation. One would be to call the local law enforcement personnel, another to have a discussion with the local landowner,



The sight of game or thought that the grass is greener on the other side of the fence can sometimes cause those without a moral compass to break laws and ethical boundaries. The end result of such actions is certainly negative for all involved.

and the third to do nothing. It's trickier than it sounds. Landowners may become agitated if problems between hunters persist, thereby eliminating all hunting altogether, however, a good first step is usually to speak with the landowner as he/she may not be aware that other people are trespassing on their property.

Trespassing is not the only form of misconduct that people sometimes perform. There are other, "unwritten laws," or ethical boundaries that are often crossed when it comes to hunting.

When I approach a landowner to seek permission to hunt on their property, a lot of times they inform me that they already have others whom they have given permission to hunt, so the answer is no. I thank them for their time and also thank them for allowing others to hunt their property. I also thank them for not allowing me to hunt as well, since they already have others that do. The last thing I intend to do is to disrespect the hard work, planning and excitement of other hunters by intruding on what is sacred to them. Even if the landowner has a hard time saying no and says something like, "well, there's plenty of room," or "There are too many deer here anyway," and grant me permission to hunt there anyway, I decline the invitation out of respect for others. If only everyone else did the same.

If you hunt on an adjoining property to where others hunt, always be mindful of where they are at and show common courtesy. Placing a treestand or ground blind right on the property line and/or near someone else's is never courteous. It's selfish and rude. And remember – it is still trespassing to shoot onto property or track a wounded deer onto property you do not have permission to hunt.

Littering and property damage are also big no-no's when it comes to hunting on other people's property. Be mindful of tossing out garbage or cutting fences or leaving ruts in the fields.

Remember to follow all game laws while in the field as well. Part of what builds character is how one acts when no one else is watching. The risk of getting caught should never be the driving force of whether or not someone breaks a game law. The importance of doing what is right should be.

I didn't pen this column to be negative or point fingers, but every year a lot of honest, law-abiding hunters' seasons are ruined by the selfish acts of others.

I have witnessed people do dumb things for a shot at a deer. It's never worth sacrificing your integrity and character.

I honestly believe that the majority of hunters do things right and overall, hunters have a good reputation within the non-hunting community, but the inconsiderate actions of a few can tarnish the reputation of the whole.

So remember, hunt hard and have fun, but don't do it at the expense of others or of the wildlife in which you pursue.

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Santa and Mrs. Claus are cheered by the crowd as their carriage rolls by during the Christmas in Pendleton Parade sponsored by Citizens State Bank.



Christmas in Pendleton snowball toss and parade banner at front of parade on SR 38 through downtown.

## CHRISTMAS IN PENDLETON November 10, 2012

by Rich Creason  
Photos by Pendleton Merchants  
& Bonny Clark

Christmas in Pendleton has been sponsored by the Pendleton Business Association since 1998. The goal of this unique event was, and still is, to promote the town of Pendleton and the surrounding communities. It invites visitors to discover the area and the shopping, dining, local attractions, and colorful history available here while enjoying the special activities which make up Christmas in Pendleton.

This festival began in the late 20th century with a Christmas Open House for the entire downtown area including a parade. Toss in the "special snow", add Channel 13 weatherman Bob Gregory for the local snow forecast and to measure the "snow" for the 1st official snowfall of the season, and this annual event was started. Since the original event, over 12 local weatherpersons from local TV and radio stations have participated in the forecast and snow measuring. The celebrity weatherperson is also the Grand

Marshall for the parade.

Christmas in Pendleton has become such an attraction it has garnered coverage from Chicago to Tampa and from New York to California stressing the special snow and the small town "Dickens" feel. To insure a white event, Diane Ashley of The Flower Cart has been responsible for making the snow appear early in the morning on the day of Christmas in Pendleton. This special snow glistens, it sparkles, it swirls, it blows around, it's cold, and it's not real. But seeing all the children (and adults) enjoying a day in the snow is what it's all about. Throw in over 2500 "snowballs" for everyone to toss across the street for about a half hour and everyone turns into a kid again.

Start the day early by visiting the 1st United Methodist Church just a half block west of the post office on State Street for their famous pancake breakfast. This starts at 7 AM and continues until 10:30 AM. As you wander the town, listen to Mr. Ed Grogan as he strolls the sidewalks and businesses playing the violin for your enjoyment. Stop in the local post office to purchase the special postal cancellation stamp which has been designed by local artist Kelley Jent each year for your Christmas cards. Take time out for a carriage ride in Falls Park from 10 AM to 3 PM, sponsored by State Farm Agent,

Amy Turner.

There's a lot for the youngsters to do at Christmas in Pendleton. Take them to the Three Little Monkey's Consignment Shop at 129 S. Pendleton Ave. for story time at 10 AM and 2 PM. Visit Bobbi Jordan Allstate Insurance Office just east of the downtown stoplight on the north side of State Street. From 10 AM to 1 PM, Bobbi is offering free Christmas cookie decorating for the kids and coffee and hot cider and a free drawing for the Allstate Chopper for the adults.

Then, cross the street and let the young ones enjoy the Kid's Zone from 9 AM to 4 PM next to First Merchants Bank. There will be snow piles in a large 12' X 12' play box to make snow angels or build snowmen. This Snow from the Pole is sponsored by Wood Realty. This is also where the kids can pet the llamas and participate in other activities.

The Town Hall is the gathering place for several different activities. There is a silent auction with items donated by many of the local merchants. Stop in and make a bid, then come back later and see if your bid is holding up. The Snow Queen crowning will be in this building at 9 AM, sponsored by First Merchants Bank. The Grand Marshall/celebrity weatherperson will be at this location for a reception.

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 22**



These kids are really enjoying the downtown snowball fight.



Llamas decked out for Christmas are a big hit in the annual parade.

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Horses are part of any parade and especially a Christmas Parade like the one here in Pendleton, Indiana.



The snow box in Kid Zone with youngsters making angels and playing in the "snow" while Frosty watches.

The Santa House, sponsored by Fredricks Contractors, with Santa and Mrs. Claus will be available here at 2 PM to greet the children and get their pictures taken with the famous couple.

Shopping will be available all day as many of the local merchants will be offering special bargains for the visitors. Over 50 outside vendors will be set up along the streets of downtown with a huge variety of wares available to look at and take home.

Become a Sugar Plum Princess at the Sugar Hair Salon from 8 AM to 2 PM located at 118 S. Pendleton Ave., just south of the downtown stoplight. Caroling will be on the steps of the Post Office by the Pendleton Heights High School Choral Group at 3 PM. Other special groups who help make this event a success are the Pendleton Cub Scouts and the Pendleton Garden Club who judges the Window Display Contest. Many other groups, businesses, and individuals, spend their time, money, and effort to make Christmas in Pendleton enjoyable for all. Very special thanks to St. Vincent Anderson Regional Hospital, Pendleton YMCA, and St Vincent Medical Group for their sponsorship and support.

Be sure to stop at one of the many dining establishments in Pendleton for lunch, but be sure to allow time to be finished by 1 PM for the start of the big parade sponsored by Citizens State Bank. The

Snow Queen and princesses will be waving at the crowd, and of course, the big man himself, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be rolling by in a carriage instead of a sleigh.

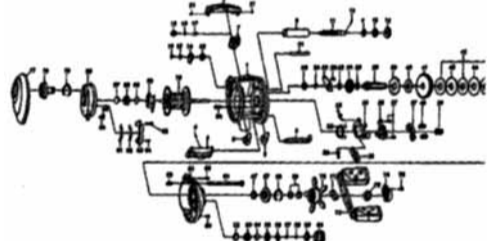
As soon as the parade is finished, the great snowball toss will begin. Over 2500 "snowballs" will be passed out for tossing back and forth across the street. Most of the local stores will be open from 9 AM to 6 PM while the outside vendor booths will open at 9 AM and close at 4PM. While the Christmas in Pendleton event is free, there is a cost of \$5 for the bracelet for the youngsters to participate in the activities inside the Kid's Zone.

Pendleton is located along the banks of Fall Creek in southern Madison County. It is easily reached from the north or south on Interstate 69 at either exit 19 or 22. State Roads 36, 38, 9, and 67 will also bring you to this historic town. For info on booth space, parade, or sponsorship information, contact Cayla Truman, Event Coordinator at 765-610-6737 or at [ct.christmasinpendleton@gmail.com](mailto:ct.christmasinpendleton@gmail.com).

NOTE: This four-page full color Christmas in Pendleton special pullout is sponsored by the advertisers on the center pages. You can locate these businesses on the map by utilizing the numbers 1-14 located in the bottom left or right hand corner of their advertisement. You can then find them on the street map by their number. See the inset for down-



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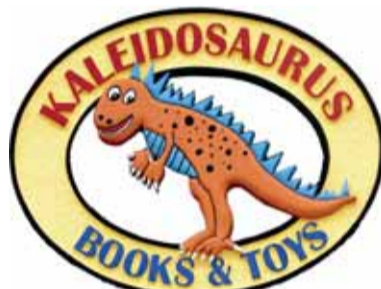
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## Happenings in Metamora, Indiana




by **Janice Hunsche**  
**Owner of Kaleidosaurus Books**

## Metamora, Indiana Activities for Nov-Dec

It's hard to believe that Christmas is almost here. But first, we need to say goodbye to fall and what better way to do that than the Metamora Annual Chili Cook-off on Nov 3 at the firehouse. The festivities start with live music from 11am-3pm. Chili tasting and judging starts at noon. There will be awards for first place, second place and people's choice. So if you make a great chili without beans this is a fun contest to enter. For entrance forms, rules, and more information please visit [http://www.metamoraindiana.com/chili-cookoff\\_entry.htm](http://www.metamoraindiana.com/chili-cookoff_entry.htm).

The open jam session with the Baggy Bottom Boys is Nov 14 and Dec 12 from 6-8pm at the Cat and the Fiddle. All are invited to attend and join in. In case you are wondering what happened to Acoustic Final Friday, it takes a 2 month hiatus and returns Jan 25, 2013 from 7pm-10pm at the Cat and the Fiddle.

Metamora loves the Christmas season and starts it off on Nov 17, the Saturday before Thanksgiving, with the 29th Annual Metamora Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. This is a fun program from 6:30pm-7:30pm at the gazebo. Music is provided by The Baggy Bottom Boys, as well as sing-alongs, the Christmas Story, free hot chocolate, coffee, and cook-

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ies. Who knows? Maybe even Santa will show up.

The last big festival of the year is Christmas Walk. This year Christmas Walk is Nov 23-Dec 16 but many of the shop owners are planning to be open Dec 21, 22, and 23 as well. The hours are Friday and Saturday 10 am- 10 pm; Sunday 10 am to 5 pm. The grist mill will be open noon-9pm. If you've never been then stop by and enjoy the festivities. Luminaries light the pathways and lanterns the canal, the shops are decorated for Christmas. Santa is at the Santa House and would love for you to stop by and get your picture taken. Carolers are strolling throughout the village and of course you should be on the lookout for that special gift in the many shops that make up the village.

The Whitewater Valley Railroad runs several holiday themed trains this time of year. Nov 16-Dec 16 the Polar Express Train departs from Connersville's Grand Central Station. The Polar Express comes to life for a journey through the quiet countryside and a special visit to the 'North Pole' with Santa Claus. Cost \$29 per person. This train sells out early. Reservations are required. More information and reservations: <http://www.whitewatervalleyrr.org/excursions/> or call **(765) 825-2054**.

Nov 23, the Friday after Thanksgiving, the Santa Claus Limited Train Excursion will be running. This is a one day event. The train departs the Connersville station and picks up Santa along the way. Once on board Santa will visit with each child on the train. Departures are at 10am, 12pm and 2pm. Tickets are \$7 for ages 2 and up.

One of the fun things to do during Christmas Walk is to take the train from Connersville. The Metamora Holiday Special will be running Nov 23, 24, Dec 1, 8, 15. This train sells out early. Reservations are required; call the reservation hotline at **765-825-2054**. All trains depart at 4pm with a 3 ¼ hour layover in Metamora. Cost Adults \$25, Children 2-12 \$15.

Once Christmas walk is over Metamora closes down for the winter. Most of the shops are closed until spring although a few of the hardier shop keepers stay open all winter long. If we don't see you during the Christmas festivities have a happy holiday season and stop by and see us next year. ■

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Glen Gill and Tom Hankins with their winning Salamonie crappie. (Author Photo)



Tom Hankins and Glen Gill with their winning Ohio River crappie. (Author Photo)

## Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

## INDIANA CRAPPIE TOURNAMENT SERIES

Winter is quickly on its way and the 2012 Indiana Slab Masters tournament series is coming to an end. In order to give each of the last four tournament lakes some coverage before the end of the year, I'm going to give the results and some facts from each of the last four tournaments, which were held at Salamonie, Cataract, Ohio River (Tanners Creek) and Brookville Reservoir.

As I write this, I think back to three years ago, when I started fishing small local tournaments with my son, since then I have learned not only about tournament fishing but crappie fishing in general. Being a member of the Indiana Slab Masters has in fact made me a better crappie fisherman. With hearing each team share the details of how and where fish were caught to win the day's event and through conversations with other fishermen, I've learned from my mistakes and have been offered other possibilities on where to catch bigger crappie.

If you are an avid crappie fisherman and have a little competitive spirit, come out to one of the Slab Masters tournaments and meet some of the competitors in this series. They are all good guys, and they will help you any way they can. (Probably not by giving you their best spots) but most will point you in the right direction to catching bigger crappie. I

speaking from experience, as they have all helped me at one time or another. Some have answered my questions and some have even offered to take me out with them to learn some of their techniques.

Now don't get me wrong, you do learn a lot by talking about fishing, but there is no substitute for practice and time on the water. Myself, I probably spend at least two weekends a month on the water as well as two weeks of vacation-time each year, including my next vacation which will be spent on Kentucky Lake at the end of October. The following are the results from the last four regular season tournaments.

### SALAMONIE TOURNAMENT

The lakes of the Wabash are what I consider to be my home lakes, because I fish the Salamonie more than any other lake in Indiana, so I always look forward to fishing this tournament. This year, a major cold front moved in just before the tournament started and made it tough to catch fish but as always someone finds good quality crappie. This year it was Tom Hankins and Glen Gill who won the 2011 classic on the lakes of the Wabash; these guys have figured these lakes out quick with two top finishes on this reservoir. Tom and Glen were using Lake Fork Baby Shad and Juiced up Baits to catch their winning fish in the brisk winds. Only 15 of the 32 teams weighed in a full limit of seven fish the five top teams and their weights are as follows.

- 1st Tom Hankins and Glen Gill 7.78lbs
- 2nd Jeff Yeakle and Jonathan Brumley 7.40lbs
- 3rd Charlie and Paul Hildreth 7.17 lbs
- 4th Mike Bledsoe 6.88lbs
- 5th Gary and Allen Reed 6.62lbs
- Big Fish- Mike Bledsoe 1.61lbs

### OHIO RIVER (TANNERS CREEK) TOURNAMENT

First I would like to thank Jim Raymer for the results and facts from the Ohio River tournament which due to other obligations I could not attend, Jim is a good friend who is dedicated to the sport of Crappie fishing and a true sportsman believing strongly in catch and release and strives at every tournament to make sure all fish are released back into the water alive and strong.

The Ohio River greeted our members with hot temperatures, hot fishing, and a similar outcome as many other tournaments this season. Our BnM

points champs were decided and they left no doubt in anyone's mind that they are the team to beat. Finishing in first place on the Ohio River and the 2012 points champions, the team of Tom Hankins and Glenn Gill, they have won 3 tournaments this year and two in a row. Tom and Glenn were spider rigging with two poles and each casting a third using Lake Fork Baby Shad, and spraying their baits with Juiced Up Baits, Tom and Glen found the bite better not tipping with minnows. The following are the top five teams from the Ohio River Tournament.

- 1st Tom Hankins and Glenn Gill 6.90lbs
- 2nd Tommy Allen and Troy Chandler 6.74lbs
- 3rd Larry Yates and Tim Allen 6.51lbs
- 4th Jim and Bob Raymer 6.29lbs
- 5th Eric Milsaps and Jason Snyder 5.45lbs
- Big Fish Tommy Allen & Troy Chandler 1.30lbs

### CATARACT TOURNAMENT

Conditions for the Cataract tournament were brutal with 100 degree days leading up to the tournament and 90 degree temperatures on tournament day. High temperatures made for a tough bite and a tougher time keeping fish alive after catching them. After hearing stories from other competitors I feel we did pretty well only losing one fish in the live well, unfortunately it was our biggest of the day. Would it surprise anyone to read that Tom Hankins and Glenn Gill won this one as well? Their third straight tournament win. Tom and Glenn were again using Lake Fork Baby Shad and Juiced Up Baits fishing in 8-14 feet of water to catch their fish. Top five teams include.

- 1st Tom Hankins and Glen Gill 5.78lbs
- 2nd Don Licht and John Williams 4.92lbs
- 3rd John Quinn and Gale Risner 4.73lbs
- 4th Ron Bilbrey and Don Mandrell 4.46lbs
- 5th Doug Laake and Ryan Rohl 4.45lbs
- Big Fish Tom Hankins and Glen Gill .95lb

### Brookville Tournament

With high winds and high waves (from the large boats that frequent Brookville) conditions were tougher than tough outside the idle zones. Then add a severe cold front passing through on the Friday before the tournament and you have some of the worst conditions to fish a tournament in, but with 19 teams capable of moving into the top ten in the BnM

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



Glen Gill and Tom Hankins with their winning Cataract crappie. (Author Photo)



Don Licht and John Williams with their winning Brookville crappie. (Author Photo)





Winners of the Trapping contests. (Author Photo)



Charlie Masheck of Hoosier Trappers Supply doing a Coyote Demo. (Author Photo)



Hal Sullivan talking about using Conibears. (Author Photo)



Kenny Peregrine talking about Beavers.. (Author Photo)

## Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM

### ISTA 51st Convention and Rendezvous, a success!

The ISTA 51st Convention and Rendezvous was held on Sept. 21 & 22, 2012 at the Tipton County Fairgrounds, Tipton, IN. The weather during the day, Friday and Saturday, was absolutely beautiful. Vendors had begun setting up Thursday and didn't get finished till Friday afternoon. Booseway Tom Morelock did an absolutely splendid job organizing the Convention and setting up the demonstrations.

Demonstrations began on Friday morning and continued through Saturday afternoon. I have misplaced my list, and I am on a deadline, so to the best of my recollection there were demonstrations on coyote trapping

by Charlie Masheck, beaver by Kenny Peregrine, skinning beaver by Tom Morelock, canines by JR, conibear usage by Hal Sullivan, dog proof traps by Jeff Dunham, and many more that I am missing. My apologies to anyone I have missed here, and my great thanks to every one who helped with getting the demonstrations set up and done. All members of the Board pitched in somewhere.

Through the weekend, door prizes were handed out every couple of hours. Tickets for the Bear Trap donated by Sterling Fur Co., and the two gun give-a-way sold briskly. The Bear Trap was won by Deane Brady. Brian Garr won the Henry Lever action and Brian Wilson won the Marlin .22. A voting station was set up where people could use their change to vote for where they would like the next Convention to be. Tipton received 1100 votes while the next closest was Peru with 100.

Friday night saw the ISTA Benefit Auction and a planned members dinner. The Auction went very well with Corbin Bultemeier making the call as long as the rain held off and let him be heard. The Auction had to be paused twice when the rain pounding on the metal roof became just too much to hear anything. The Auction was extremely successful and generated in excess of \$2,000 for the ISTA. After the Auction, the Board held a Meeting to take care of house keeping items. Next year the cookout will be before the Auction and on Saturday there will be a silent auction of specific items from 8am - 2pm.

Saturday broke bright and shiny with the ground just a little damp. The Vendor buildings were opened at 8am and the first door prize was given away at 10am. The crowd was modest, but the vendors say that the sales were good. At 10 am the Membership meeting

began and it was over by 10:45am. NAFA presented the ISTA with a check for over \$1500. Our big thank you to NAFA doesn't seem to be enough gratitude. President Fred hung around to talk with several members and answer questions for another hour. At 4pm, the Election closed and ballots were counted. All incumbents were re-elected to their positions and changes of their expiration dates have been made on the website, [www.indianatrappers.org](http://www.indianatrappers.org).

Two awards were then handed out. Avery Setser received the Youth Trapper of the Year Award. Avery has been very active with the ISTA helping with her Dad's, Tom Setser, Trapper Education Class and even manning the Booth at the Convention. Way to go Avery. Dan Watkins received the Trapper of the Year Award. Dan was instrumental in getting our Trapper Education classes going. It is through these Classes that we will be able to keep the tradition of trapping alive. Dan was unable to attend our Convention due to his health, but Bill assured me that he would get his award.

Well, there is so much more to report, but I just do not have the room here. See the website: [www.indianatrappers.org](http://www.indianatrappers.org) to read and see more in the near future. I cannot thank everyone who helped out, and made this Convention the success it was, enough. However, I have to especially thank Keith Winkler of Sterling Fur, Sterling, OH, for his multiple donations of materials for the Auction and the Bear Trap. Also NAFA for it's unending support of the ISTA and the fur industry in general. There are so many to name, that I will have to do it on the website.

Watch your top knot. Keep your eyes along the skyline.

Fred "DR" Philips  
Pres. ISTA



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Bob and Jim Raymer came in 1st overall with 5.75 lbs. (Author Photo)



Ron Bilbrey and Damon Phillips came in 2nd with 5.31 lbs. (Author Photo)

## Great Lakes of the Wabash River - Fishing News



by Ryan Pershing  
Mgr of Bozarth Country Store

### Bozarth's Crappie Tournaments Raymers' Dominate

The month of September concluded the 2012 season for the Bozarth crappie tournaments. Our last two tourney's of the year were held on the 15th and 29th of September and as you will find out proved to be difficult times for our fishermen. The theme of these tournaments turned out to be the challenge wasn't the quantity of fish caught but rather the quality of the fish! Teams didn't seem to have a problem landing crappie but they did have a problem landing the big



Doug Clay and Elmer Griffey tied with Big Fish that weighed 1.23 lbs. (Author Photo)



David Bowser tied with the Big Fish with a weight of 1.23 lbs. (Author Photo)

ones. There was one team that was fortunate to locate a few stumps holding big fish and then utilized this location to catch the big ones and sweep both tournaments. That team was Bob and Jim Raymer.

Our September 15th tourney had 14 teams entered and turned out to be a nice day and as mentioned earlier was a tough day on the lake to land the big ones. Team Raymer, fishing their two stumps, caught 13 fish total but of those fish was able to weigh in a total of 5.75 pounds and capture first place. They used a Southern Pro tube

tipped with a shiner to land the winning total. Coming in second place and also with an impressive total weight considering the conditions was the team of Ron Bilbrey and Damon Phillips with 5.31 pounds. Rounding out the top three was David Bowser with 4.98 pounds. The Big Fish came down to a two way tie as David Bowser and the team of Doug Clay and Elmer Griffey each landed a crappie that weighed in at 1.23 pounds. These teams should be lauded for their

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Bob and Jim Raymer repeated as champs with a total weight of 5.6 lbs and Big Fish of 1.32 lbs. (Author Photo)



Steve Pershing and Mike Bowser came in 2nd with a total weight of 4.55 lbs. (Author Photo)

efforts as there were only 5 of the 14 teams able to top the three pound weight for seven fish!

Our season ended on September 29th and it included 12 teams that battled to claim title as the Bozarth Classic champs. Teams were able to choose to fish either the Salamonie or Mississinewa Reservoirs. Much like our previous tourney held two weeks earlier teams had trouble locating the big fish. Once again, Team Raymer came away victorious as they went back to the same two stumps they fished in the previous tournament and it proved to be the right move.

Fishing the Salamonie, they used a Southern Pro jig tipped with a shiner and fishing 9 to 10 feet deep they were able to bring a total of 5.6 pounds to the weigh in table and repeat as champions. They said they only caught a total of nine fish all day but the ones they caught were good ones! They also captured the Big Fish award with a crappie weighing 1.32 pounds. Congratulations to Team Raymer for the repeat victory! Coming in second place was the team of Steve Pershing and Mike Bowser with 4.55 pounds. They were fishing in 5 to 10 ft of water off the points.

Capturing third place with a total weight of 2.5 pounds was the team of David Bowser and Doug Maddox.

We would like to thank all teams for participating in our tournaments and hope to see you all again next year. These events are a lot of fun and give the chance for anglers to fish in a relaxed tournament atmosphere. We would also like to thank Ray Dickerson and the Gad a Bout for allowing us to share our fishing adventures with you. For more information about our fishing tourneys you can contact us at (765) 981-4522. ■

**INDIANA SLAB MASTERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24**

points race there was a good turnout of teams. The crappie did not cooperate on this tough day and several teams came to the scales with less than their seven fish limit. Don Licht and John Williams had no trouble catching their limit of fish and brought 5.94lbs to the scales to capture first place in the Brookville tournament. Don and John fished live bait under a bobber in 8 foot of water around standing timber to catch their seven fish limit and secure second place in the BnM point's race. Congratulations to the top ten teams in the points race.

- 1st Don Licht and John Williams 5.94lbs
- 2nd Larry Yates and Doug Allen 5.07lbs
- 3rd Charlie and Paul Hildreath 4.77lbs
- 4th Tommy Allen and Troy Chandler 4.40lbs
- 5th Damon Phillips and Maggie Phillips 4.09lbs
- Big Fish Damon and Maggie Phillips .94lb

Hope everyone enjoyed the regular season tournaments as much as I have this year and thanks to all the officers that put this tournament season together. Look for the 2012 classic coverage in the next issue.

Tight Lines everyone  
Ron Bilbrey

Thanks to Team Bilbrey and Mandrell sponsors. ■

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# Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

## Almost Year 'Round Fishing

The fishing season is almost over. At least for me it is. I have a rule when it comes to being comfortable and enjoying myself while wetting a line. "If I ain't sweatin', I ain't fishin'". I've had numerous opportunities to fish during the cold months, but with every invitation I explain that fish are like geese. They migrate south in the winter and I'm not going to waste my time trying to catch the few that are either too weak or too dumb to make the trip. I confess to violating that rule a few times in the past when I've tried to work a rod with snow blowing up my nose, or going after trout by crunching through a thin ice layer wearing thermal long johns under waders. But as far as I'm concerned, you only stick your finger in a light socket a couple of times before you learn a lesson.

So, I spend the winter months reminiscing about the summer's so-called exciting fishing adventures. Not that there were a lot of heart stoppers, but I've found that the older you get, the more your eyesight changes, and as a result the fish seem to be getting bigger. What was an eight inch crappie last year now looks like a keeper. I can't wait until I'm eighty years old and anything I catch will be worth a trip to the taxidermist. I can see it now. The walls of my room in the nursing home will be lined with mounted examples of four inch bluegills and seven inch crappies.

With the first snowfall I'll be sitting in my rocker in front of the window, my shawl wrapped around my shoulders, my dentures floating in a glass of water and a copy of "How To Keep A Straight Face While Lying To Your Grand Children About The Size Of The Fish You Used To Catch" laying on my pill table. But before my head lolls back and I start making noises like a cheap chain saw, I'll recall those times on the lake with Rollin.

There are those who fish to live and those who live to fish. Rollin falls into the latter category. He must know every fish in the lake on a first name basis because he has caught every one of them at one time or another. The semi-retired owner of a large tool and die and production stamping operation, he turned part of the reigns over to his son and began making a larger nuisance of himself with the local fish population.

Armed with a 20 foot Triton bass boat and a 200 horse engine he can outrun anything short of a Double A fuel dragster in getting to his favorite fishing spots. As for fishing equipment, Bass Pro Shop calls him occasionally to ask if he has a certain piece of gear that he would like to sell. I'm amazed every time he opens a locker on the boat to select a rod or a bait. There are short rods, medium length rods and long rods, each equipped with a reel best suited for whatever he's going after. His lure selection is contained in compartmented boxes the size of glass showcases in a jewelry store. After years of fishing this lake he has discovered what colors the local crappie prefer in jigs, much like the proprietor of a clothing store knows which customer prefers what color outfits.

A normal day of fishing starts with him picking me up at the dock. He always asks where I would like to go. That's like asking a guy with a push lawn mower where he would like to start mowing a three hundred acre lawn. He knows my normal answer is going to be "I dunno", and since he already knows where the little finned delinquents are probably hanging out, he pegs the throttle. After what feels like two seconds from pulling the eject handle in an F-16 fighter, he deploys the drogue chute and we coast into one of his favorite spots and the trolling motor is lowered. Now the fun begins.

One of Rollin's favorite methods is jigging for crappie. Seated on the bow swivel chair with two loaded rods, the trolling motor control under his right foot and his eye on the fish finder screen between his feet, the battle is on. With lines lowered on either side of the boat we troll slowly looking for the enemy. From my position on the stern chair Rollin looks like a old western sheriff facing down an outlaw on the main street of Grimy Gulch. As for me, I like to cast. So, while I'm beating the water into a froth and catching nothing, Rollin is snaking crappie out, sometimes two at a time. Occasionally, he turns around and asks if I'm catching anything, to which I reply, "Mind your own business." Eventually, I give in and load another rod and join him in the jigging contest. However, he still beats me five fish to one and I inevitably ask what color jigs he's using.

"One is called a Paris Lady Of The Night. It has a pink body with green stripes and a purple and orange tail covered with sparkly things. The other is a Chicago Thug in black and crimson."

Grumbling, I normally scratch through my tackle box looking for anything even close to those color combinations. Since my selection is pretty sparse compared to his, I usually settle for something in lavender and chartreuse, or green, yellow, and violet polka dots. In spite of all my efforts, he still out fishes me by a large margin. I know that fish are color blind and I finally figured out why he pulls in more than me. The fish in this lake would rather be jerked out by a hot shot business owner than a worn out old engineer. But, I intend to turn the tables next year. My jigs are going to be tipped with a little something with a fuse and a flashing light attached. I'm going to call it The New Jersey Bomber. Lets see Rollin top that one. ■

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by Don Bickel, Forester

**Hal, PETA and Deer**

I like to read, in fact, I love to read. Reading was a part of growing up on the farm. Our library was a small, a little alcove fitted with several shelves on each wall just down the hall from my sister's and my bedrooms. The windows on this reading nook looked out over the pasture and the crop field beyond.

Hal Bench is a reader also. He says there is nothing to beat a newspaper, magazine or good book when there's a fire going in the wood stove and it is feeling like snow outside. And even sometimes in the summer when it is cool in the shade, a time spent on the back porch in a "rock-er-cheer" can be time well spent with a book in hand.

Several days past, I was on my way down to Hal's. It is a wonderful time to get out and see the fall colors. This year, it would seem the trees are putting on their finest fall coat. Have you ever attempted to identify the trees by their color and shape? During the summer, with all in green it can be hard to visually separate one tree from another.

But, now the yellow, rounded shape of the sugar maples and the taller, purple tinge of the white ash can really make a statement of the

wood's edge. If the wood's area is damp, the common red maple makes a show of it's fall red leaves. The sassafras, although now losing its leaves, was yellow to deep orange. Regardless of the identification, don't miss the show, whether on Main Street or out in the country.

Yep, Hal is home, the pick-up is just off the edge of the driveway. I've driven down here to set up a deer stand back in Hal's woods. This fall, I found a place where several deer trails come together and now in that part of the woods, a buck or two or three are making scrapes. If the weather remains cool and onto cold, the high point of the rut will begin about the second week of November.

Hal's stand is on a deer trail crossing Sugar Creek over a shallow riffle. I wouldn't ask or even consider setting in that stand until Hal has taken a deer and that will probably happen during the opening weekend.

A deer each is all either of us need or want. However we might consider a second one if we know of someone who would use the venison.

I didn't have to knock on the back door, since she, the Missus, saw me pull in the driveway. "Hal's in the front room by the fire, go on in."

"Donald, hit's good to see you. Set in the cheer over yonder. It's not quite cold enuff to hunker down by the fire. I'll bet ya' come down to put the ladder stand back in the woods. I seen a purty nice buck the other day out behind the chicken house and he wuz headed to that part of the woods."

"Course, he crossed down at the crick crossin' before he got to the chicken house. Now if he does that on openin' day, I'll let you help me drag him to the pick-up."

"Well, thanks a bunch, Hal. But if I catch him in the woods headed for the creek crossing, you can help me drag him out."

"Donald, I was just readin' the paper here and there's a letter about the good PETA is doin'. Now from what I know they got their facts a little mixed up."

"Hal, sometimes it's hard to know what some

people are getting at. It's a cinch, I've got nothing good to say about PETA or People Eating Tasty Animals. Some think when there is no more hunting, PETA will be satisfied, but don't you believe it. When stores don't sell meat and chickens and pigs run in the street, then they might be happy. By the way, you didn't read about PETA rescuing pets from any of the hurricanes or floods. And I'll bet you won't, all their money goes to talk and how they want to convince our school kids it's wrong to keep a canary in a cage, a goldfish in a bowl or a dog on a leash."

"Wal, Donald, sumtimes hits more than I kin understand or mebbe want to. And now they's pickin' on poor ol' Brent Wheat. Why whuts' wrong with a last name lik' thet? Don't thet feller know how fine a good piece of bread is with a good piece of meat? Now wouldn't it be sumthin' if everybody wuz named after meat. I believe I'd pick squirrel."

"Well, while we are kicking around "Letters to the Editor", there was one in the Indy Star that I read. Seems a Jennifer down at Vincennes thinks we've got to go out of the state to get a wall-hanger buck. She says, it's because of the deer seasons, that these hunters pay big money to kill big bucks in Illinois, Missouri and other places."

"Now, I tell you whut, Donald, if you want a layin' hen, you don't kill it when it's a fryer. It takes a 4 or 5 year old buck to git a set of trophy horns. If you want to see where the beginnings of these big racks are, just spend a little time at a check-in place on opening day of gun season.. Th' dates of th' season don't have much to do with gitin' a big buck. But th' trigger finger does."

"You are right, Hal.. When those little fork-horns and basket-racked six and eight points are checked in, at times the guys that killed them laugh about the guy checking in a doe. But the hunter that took the doe is doing more for the future of the deer herd and the possibility of a big-racked buck two or three years down the road, than the buck killer who is bragging about his 2 1/2 year old eight point."



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This is a closeup of the Horseshoe Falls (Canadian side) from the Maid of the Mist.



Benjamin Marques enjoyed the various cannons of Fort Niagara. (Author Photo)

## Outdoors



With Rich Creason

### Chasing the Niagara Rainbow

The "Maid of the Mist" rocked as we drew closer to the massive wall of water. Over 75,000 gallons per second dropped from the American Falls 200 feet above as we passed. The Horseshoe Falls on the Canadian side was flowing at almost 700,000 gallons per second as we approached. The sun shining through the water droplets always creates a rainbow across the Niagara River and often there is a double rainbow. If the sun is shining, you can always find a rainbow here hiding in the mist.

The mist from the Falls would have soaked us if not for the complimentary rain ponchos we were wearing. The roar of the cascading water made normal conversation impossible. Our two cameras, one waterproof, the other with a waterproof cover, clicked constantly even though we had been here numerous times. We were visiting Niagara Falls, one of the most impressive and beautiful spots I've seen in six decades of traveling.

On this trip, Susie and I took our daughter, Angi, and our seven year old grandson, Benjamin to see this spectacular destination. They had been here two years ago, and Benjamin had asked to return ever since.

We started by making reservations at the Comfort Inn the Pointe. This is where we always stay when coming to this area. Prices are reasonable, the staff is courteous and helpful, the rooms are great, and it's the closest hotel to the Falls. It's so close to the Falls you can feel the mist. Walk

out the back door, cross the street and you're in Niagara Falls State Park. (Go to [www.comfortinthepointe.com](http://www.comfortinthepointe.com) or call 716-284-6835.)

Next, we acquired four Niagara USA Discovery Passes, available at many locations around the area. This booklet has tickets to the Maid of the Mist boat ride (an absolute MUST when here), Cave of the Winds, Niagara Gorge Discovery Center, Niagara Legends of Adventure Theater, and the Aquarium of Niagara. Buy the booklet and save 30% off the individual prices.

We decided to use our tickets on the Maid of the Mist first. After donning our rain ponchos, we boarded the boat, cameras at the ready. We approached the Horseshoe Falls so close we had to look up to see the top. Water from the mist ran down our faces. The captain held his craft in the turbulent water close to the base of the Horseshoe Falls for several minutes before continuing past the American Falls and back to the dock. The first time we took this ride many years ago, when we reached the landing, Susie said "Let's get two more tickets and do it again!"

As we disembarked, I asked Benjamin if he was ready for more water. Naturally, he was. We walked a short distance and surrendered our tickets for the Cave of the Winds. This boardwalk leads visitors zigzagging down and back up bringing them closer and closer to the thundering waters of the American Falls. More and more water came streaming under and around the walkway. We finally arrived at the entrance to the Hurricane Deck.

For those brave enough, this optional narrow section will actually lead close enough to touch the thundering water. Most adventurers find it easier to back towards the Falls using the guardrails to push themselves further. The force of the wind off the falling water is trying to push them away and it's a struggle to see if they can reach the far end of the walkway. The noise is deafening and the power of the Falls is unforgettable. Benjamin opted to watch while I made my trip to challenge the Hurricane Deck.

After this adventure, it was time to make our choice of dining spots. Niagara Falls (the city) has many outstanding choices. For our first evening, we picked the Hard Rock Café because it was on the way toward our hotel. That evening, the fireworks display over the Falls was at 10 PM, but we were too tired to go watch. (The following night,

we did walk over to the Falls from our hotel to watch the colored lights display illuminating the tumbling waters.)

The next day, our discovery tickets admitted us to the Niagara Legends of Adventure Theater showing The Falls Movie. This 45 minute film whisks you back 12,000 years to teach you the history of the area, take you on an exhilarating ride over the Falls, and show you death defying stunts by the daredevils who challenged the fury of Niagara Falls.

After the movie, our next destination was the Niagara Gorge Discovery Center. This is a hands-on attraction for the entire family with multiple interactive displays depicting the history, geology, and other aspects of the entire region.

While not on our Discovery Passport tickets, we continued farther along a few miles until we arrived at Old Fort Niagara. Over 300 years of history are on this site. These buildings have been preserved as they were almost three centuries ago for the public to view. Three flags fly over the Fort symbolizing France, Britain, and the United States, which held the Fort for various periods. Tour the inside (and outside) of this setting and learn its colorful history and watch reenactments of Fort Niagara's past glory.

By this time, we were ready for a late lunch. The Niagara Tourism folks know us well and always direct us to small, well known (by the locals) eateries. We prefer dining where the food is great, the crowds are small, and at locations few tourists know about. This time, we were directed to the Youngstown Village Diner just a few minutes from Fort Niagara. Our table overlooked the nearby marina and we watched the boats sail by as we ate. Everything we ordered was excellent and the selection was huge. Find this diner at 425 Main Street in Youngstown. Call 716-745-9858 for information or directions (but it's very easy to find).

Our two days were almost over. We could visit the last location on our Discovery Passport, the Aquarium of Niagara, or return to view the Falls one more time before our departure. While the Aquarium has outstanding viewing, demonstrations, and even feedings of its creatures, nothing can beat the sights and sounds of Niagara Falls. We made our choice. The Aquarium will have to wait for our next visit.

The author may be reached at [eyewrite4u@aol.com](mailto:eyewrite4u@aol.com).

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Attending the 67th 79th Naval Construction Battalion Reunion in Richmond/Centerville, Indiana was 4 Seabees from the 79th NCB, 1 Seabee from CBMU# 624 and 1 Seabee from the 123rd NCB. Above in (Left Group) on the left is Kay Johnson, Sales and Banquet Manager for The Quality Inn in Richmond, next to her in front left to right is Lenora Hummel, Joyce Seikmann and Timie Creedon. Back row left to right, Fred Hummel-79th NCB, Vern Seikmann-79th NCB, Tim Mahoney-CBMU# 624 and Jeannie Winter. (Right group) in front row left to right, Janice Plaskett, Charles Lawburgh-123rd NCB, Glenna Lawburgh and Don Palme-79th NCB. Back row left to right, Ray Dickerson, Conrad Shoup-79th NCB and Dennis Good.

## U.S. Navy 79th Construction Battalion / CBMU# 624 Celebrated at 67th Reunion in Richmond/Centerville, Indiana

Article & Photos by Ray Dickerson  
(Except where otherwise noted)

It took a long time getting here to the 79th U.S. Naval Construction Battalion 67th Reunion that I volunteered to host on Wednesday September 14, 2011 in Pekin, IL at the 79th's 66th Reunion.

Actually it goes a lot further back than that to when my Dad, Raymond Eugene Dickerson joined the U.S. Navy Construction Battalion (NCB) nick named Seabees) on July 2, 1942. After training at Camp Bradford, VA he was assigned to the 79th NCB and sent to Kodiak, Alaska. Returning to Port Hueneme, Camp Parks California where he was re-assigned to Construction Battalion Maintenance Unit# 624 and was then sent to Okinawa landing their with Marine Air Group 33 on April 1, 1945. After the atomic bombs were dropped on Japan he came back home aboard the U.S.S. Topeka.

Returning to civilian he continued doing what he did before enlisting in the Navy, being a d--- good auto mechanic, then delivered new trucks all over the U.S., Canada, Alaska and even Central America. On June 28, 1992 he died in Centerville. I'm



MMS 1/c Raymond E. Dickerson, Sr.

typing this article in my former bedroom of our house here on South Street, the old home place.

Even though we hunted and fished together all of my youth and adult life, hardly ever did we talk about WWII and his being a Seabee. Maybe an occasional conversation waiting for a fish to bite or waiting for a squirrel to begin cutting a nut or just to move. Dad belonged to the VFW, American Legion and Marine League and I suppose that is where he reminisced about WWII with them. I don't know for sure.

Then in 2007 I received an e-mail from my sister, Wilma who had been flying back from Washington state and had been thinking about Dad's trip out that way in 1990 to a Seabee reunion. She had her laptop with her and googled "The Seabees" to see what came up. She found the website for the 79th NCB, Dad's former unit. She sent me the website address to me in case I wanted to check it out.

Well, not only did I check it out, Wilma and I got invited to the their reunion by Jeannie Winter, webmaster for the 79th NCB website. We attended that reunion in Lancaster, PA where we got to know a swell bunch of Seabee families from across America.

Thanks to Queen Bee Lenore Hummel, wife of Seabee Fred Hummel from Ephrata, PA in 2010 she gave me the contact information for a friend of hers (high school classmate), retired Major General John Hurt. He advised me to contact Quantico Marine Base in Virginia, Historical Records. I sent Quantico an e-mail on September 20, 2010 requesting information concerning my father, MMS 1/c Raymond E. Dickerson who served with the Seabees on Okinawa. I told them I wasn't in any hurry.

Three days later I got an e-mail from GS11 Annette Amerman from Quantico, VA which included a e-mail from Gina Nichols, Historian at Port Hueneme giving me complete information on the movement of Dad in the South Pacific.

Talk about a quick response.

Since that time, thanks to Gina Nichols (Port Hueneme, CA) and Linda Streuding (Gulfport, MS) there's not much I don't know about my Dad a U.S.

Navy Seabee and many, many more Seabees.

Since Pekin, Illinois and volunteering to host the 2012 Reunion here in Indiana I've been in contact with several more Seabees across the United States trying to find 79th NCB and CBMU# 624 members to invite to the reunion. As you can see from the photo above, I didn't have much luck finding many still alive or well enough to travel here.

Through out the next few pages you will get to see what we did at the 79th NCB 67th Reunion which I was given permission from the 79th Seabees at Pekin, IL reunion, to invite members of CBMU# 624 to our reunion here September 23-27, 2012. The reason being that Dad served with both the 79th NCB and CBMU# 624 and it was in his honor I wanted to host this event.

I had no idea the amount of work it would take to host the 67th 79th NCB Reunion, but I can tell you for sure it was well worth the effort. It helped me by attending the 2007 and 2011 reunions by knowing what kind of things they liked to do. Probably the biggest challenge was finding someplace for them to visit. Here in Indiana, we don't have much in the way of Navy facilities or enough water to float a battleship or a Tin Can (destroyer) for that matter. Last year at Pekin the LST 325 berthed in Evansville happened to be in Peoria, IL, which gave the Seabees an excellent activity. I did contact that LST group to see if they might be up near Cincinnati in September 2012, but they said they didn't plan that far ahead.

I had Reunion sport caps printed for those who wanted them, a couple of banners like the one shown at the top of this page, that Quality Inn let me display for when the Seabees arrived and for one for Webbs Antique Mall in Centerville for when they arrived there on Monday afternoon.

So I planned the following activities you will read about in the next few pages and information about the 79th NCB, CBMU# 624 and other Seabees who joined in to make our reunion very special and about one who didn't get to come on page 36-37

Most of the Seabees arrived on Sunday afternoon  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 33**

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1st Photo: On Monday, after meeting for breakfast at the Quality Inn, we traveled to Webbs Antique Mall, which is located at 200 Union Street in Centerville for the Seabees to visit until it was time for us to gather in Maplewood Park for a catered meal and vintage World War II music of the big band era. From left to right, Webbs Antique employee Ruby Carpenter, Lenore Hummel, Fred Hummel, Jeannie Winter, in back Rev. Woody Woodford, sitting in front Wilma Woodford, in back Joyce Seikmann, Janice Plaskett, Conrad Shoup, Vern Seikmann, Dennis Good and Jim Webb. 2nd Photo: Jim McKinney, leader of his Jazz Band "Moment's Notice" playing his trombone for the Seabees. 3rd Photo: "Moment's Notice" Jazz Band playin "Swing Band" era music for Seabees in Maplewood Park in Centerville Monday evening, from left to right, Paul Moran on bass guitar, Tom Walker on keyboard, Jim McKinney, Jim Johnson on drums, Dorothy Combes singing for the Seabees and Bill Perkins on flugelhorn. 4th Photo: Time to eat, meal catered by Hometown Deli & Catering, l to r, Woody Woodford, Jeannie Winter, Dennis Good, Vern & Joyce Seikmann, Janice Plaskett, Lenore and Fred Hummel. 5th Photo: Conrad Shoup, Eric Marshall, Priscila and Doug Christian. 6th Photo: Wilma Woodford and Carrol Rhodes. 7th Photo: Esther Kaucher, Jeannie Dunlap and Sherry Dickerson. 8th Photo: Gary Killen who helped me provide music for the meal.

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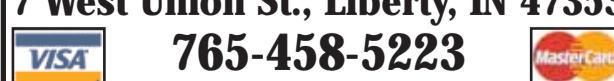
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1st Photo: Maplewood Park one of two shelters at right, on the stage Jim McKinney's "Moments Notice" Jazz band performs vintage "Swing Band" music to the delight of the audience. 2nd Photo: Special guest, Queen bee Dorothy Combes, sang special songs to the Seabees and guests. 3rd Photo: School Bus driver Mr. Philip Alvey drove us to the Air Force Museum on Tuesday, September 25th. Philip was an excellent driver, safe and very courteous. 4th Photo: Our school bus. 5th Photo: Seabee Conrad Shoup and Janice Plasket enjoyed our trip to the Air Force Museum. 6th Photo: World War I airplanes in the Air Force Museum. 7th Photo: Jeannie Winter standing next to a World War II B-26 bomber, similar to the one her Uncle flew in the war.

**SEABEES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31**  
 at the Quality Inn Conference Center and Inn in Richmond around 2 to 3 p.m. Lenore and Fred Hummel from Ephrata, PA though were early birds they arrived on Saturday evening. Don Palme from Greenville, Ohio registered for the Reunion, but due to his being a care giver for his wife he would only attend Wednesday, the day of the banquet. Jeannie Winter was arriving at Dayton International Airport at around 12:30 p.m., I was waiting in the Cell Phone parking area for her call that she was in the terminal waiting for me. We arrived back at the Quality Inn around 1:30 p.m.

Jeannie asked me enroute when Don Palme was arriving, she was anxious to talk to him in person. She had found out earlier that Don and her Seabee father, Fred Taake were on LST 736 in the South Pacific. I told her he would be in Richmond on Wednesday.

When we went through the door we saw many familiar faces waiting in a room off to the right, check in was at 3 p.m. Joyce Seikmann came out and gave me a big hug, saying she and Vern were eager to see me again. Others waiting was Janice Plasket from Canton, OH and Conrad Shoup from Fremont, OH. Keeping them company was Fred, Lenore Hummel and Dennis Good all from Ephrata, PA. Later on my sister Wilma and her husband Woody arrived. Woody is a Methodist minister, they couldn't come until after their church activities were finished back home in Danville, KY.

The only two missing was Tim Mahoney and his daughter, Timie Creedon who would be arriving in Dayton on Tuesday and they would meet us at the Wright Patterson Air Force Museum and come back with us on our bus.

Oh yes, there was one other, my wife Sherry, who had to work during the reunion, but was with me

every step of the way after she got off work.

After meeting everyone I left to pick up Sherry at home, she and I had to load up all the food and drinks, stop at Walmart to load the pop and ice into the coolers and deliver it to our hospitality room at the Quality Inn. Sherry and I had a room on one end of the hospitality room and Wilma had a room on the other end. The Quality Inn really gave us a good deal, we had to meet their criteria and did, we got the hospitality room and Banquet room free of charge. I recommend them for your next reunion, you can call them at 765-966-7511, ask for Kay Johnson, tell her you talked to Ray Dickerson who held the Seabee Reunion there September 23-27, 2012. They are located at 5501 National Road East in Richmond, Indiana. Exit either way off I-70 and travel west past the third stoplight, watch for a left turn (U turn) and go back east a very short distance into their parking

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 34**

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SEABEES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

lot. Early on Monday many of us had the free hot breakfast at the Inn, let me tell the food was plentiful and delicious. I then went to get the 12 passenger van I leased and returned to the Quality Inn. At around 1 p.m. we traveled to Centerville, IN, where I live, I dropped the Seabees, family and friends off at Webbs Antique Mall located at 200 North Street in Centerville.

I then left to set up the shelters at Maplewood Park to get ready for the caterer to set our meal up at around 4 p.m. I enlisted the help of Gary Killen, a good friend, to set up a sound system so we could play Big Band era 78 rpm record music while the Seabees, family and friends ate their meal. Due to the low number of Seabees who came I took the liberty of inviting several friends to eat with us including my dear friends, Esther Kaucher, her daughter Jeannie Dunlap, Carrol Rhodes, Doug and Priscilla Christian and a Vietnam Seabee Veteran, Eric Marshall from Richmond. I also invited Gary and his wife to eat with us and my wife, Sherry, arrived after work. It was a little blustery and chilly, the weather had suddenly turned fall-like the same day Fall arrived on Sept. 22nd. I thought I had a building available to use, nearby, in case of inclement weather, but didn't. So everyone was a good sport dressing for the cooler than normal weather and brisk wind.

While we were eating the really good and warm food, from the Hometown Deli and Catering business brought to us from Richmond, we listened to Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Frank Sinatra, Doris Day, Gene Krupa, Harry James and more on some 78 rpm records given to me by Rich Creason who writes and sells advertising for The Gad-a-bout. The sound quality was kind of scratchy, but that just added to the moment.

Soon Jim McKinney and his Jazz Band members arrived, they began setting up their instruments and sound equipment for their 6 to 7 p.m. music show on the Performance Center stage in the park. I found Jim from the band director at Centerville High School. Jim came highly recommended and if you have a need for a really good high quality jazz band you can reach Jim at home 765-966-5719 or his cell 765-969-6063.

At precisely 6 p.m. Jim McKinney introduced his band, Paul Moran on bass guitar, Tom Walker on keyboard, Jim Johnson on drums, Bill Perkins on flugelhorn and himself on trombone.

Then he introduced Dorothy Combes, who was going to do a special song (s) for the Seabees, she

sang directly to us (see photo on page 33), her rendition of the Seabee Song. She was great, I know those in attendance appreciated her tribute to them. She also sang "I'm Sick of Guadalcanal" and "God Bless America." I wondered at the time if she had a connection to the Seabees.

Since that evening I have learned a bit more about Dorothy Combes, who by the way will be 85 in a few weeks. She was married to a Seabee who was in the 26th NCB at Guadalcanal and Tulagi in the South Pacific, Roy E. Combes, Jr. On Tulagi Roy suffered greatly from a bomb concussion and had to be sent home. Roy passed away November 22, 1999. In a future issue of The Gad-a-bout we will all know more about this wonderful Lady and her very special Roy.

For the next hour Jim's Jazz Band played vintage hits of the "Swing Band" era including A String of Pearls, Stompin' at the Savoy, Don't Get Around Much Anymore, All of Me, A Foggy Day, I'm Getting Sentimental Over You, Ain't Misbehavin', Perdido, I've Got You Under My Skin, Sweet Georgia Brown, Indiana and Moonlight Serenade, The Mood and others. His special guest, Dorothy Combes sang a couple more songs too.

For those who would enjoy hearing Jim McKinney here is where he will be appearing next:

Upcoming Notice Moment's Notice Gigs

Oct 18 Grand Opening, Holiday Inn, Richmond, IN, 5 to 7 PM.

Oct 27 With Donna Frost, Taffy's, Eaton, OH, 7:30 to 10 PM.

Nov 3 Joe's Pizza, Richmond, IN, 5:30 to 8:30 PM.

Nov 9, Common Grounds Coffee Shop, West Richmond Friends Church, Richmond, IN 7 to 9:30 PM.

Nov 24 Taffy's, Eaton, OH, 7:30 to 10:30 PM.

Dec 4, Historic Christmas at the Depot District, Richmond Furniture Gallery, Richmond, IN 6 to 7 PM.

After the music show ended we cleaned up the area, loaded into our van and I took the Seabees back to the Quality Inn.

I reminded everyone that we would be leaving the Inn at precisely 8 a.m. Tuesday morning for Dayton.

Sherry and I went to the Hospitality room and visited for a while. Sherry spent the night at the Inn and got to try out the jacuzzi in our room, she liked it.

We got up early to eat breakfast before the bus got to the Inn. She couldn't go to the museum with us.

At about a quarter to 8 a.m. the bus was sitting outside in the parking lot. I introduced myself to the driver as we boarded the bus. We then traveled to the United States Air Force Museum near Dayton, OH. We were scheduled to leave at 3 p.m. or before depending on how long everyone wanted to stay. As



CBMU# 624 Seabee Tim Mahoney from Houston, TX and his daughter Timie Creedon visiting the Air Force Museum near Dayton. Standing here in front of the B-29 that dropped the atomic bomb on Nagasaaki, Japan and made it possible for Tim to go home instead of being part of the invasion force that would have gone to Japan.

it turned out we didn't leave until 3 p.m.

I've been to the Museum many times, in fact I had visited it in April to see how long it took to get there, what facilities they had for senior citizens, how long it took to walk the entire area, food availability, and other amenities. I spent six hours there photographing about every plane in the museum and visiting the memorials on the grounds outside. We arrived at the Air Force Museum right on time, we all went our separate ways to see the museum. I first went to information desk to see a friend. He remembered me, we chatted for quite a while. I then headed for the World War II area. I run into Conrad and Janice, Jeannie, Philip Alvey, Eric, my sister Wilma, Joyce and Vern Seikmann. No one wanted to leave early.



Left Photo: 79th NCB Seabee Don Palme from Greenville, OH with Jeannie Winter on Wednesday, the only day Don could attend the reunion. They had talked previously by phone about his being on LST 736 in WWII. Center Photo: Seabee Vern and wife Joyce Seikmann standing next to Oliver, the Quality Inn's mascot. Right Photo: Sherry Dickerson at left and our good friend Esther Kaucher from Centerville. Esther took me to get my drivers license back in the 50's, but that is another story I'll tell you some time.

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Attending the 79th NCB and CBMU# 624 67th Reunion banquet at the Richmond Quality Inn was from left to right, front row: Joyce Seikmann, Sherry Dickerson, Lenore Hummel, Janice Plaskett, Wilma "Dickerson" Woodford, and Esther Kaucher. Middle Row: Nancy "Seikmann" St Clair, Jeannie "Taake" Winter, Vern Seikmann, Glenna Lawburgh, Charles M. Lawburgh, Don Palme, Fred Hummel and Timie "Mahoney" Creedon. Back Row: Dan Miller (SMSA), Dennis Good, Tim Mahoney, Conrad Shoup, Pamela Minnix, John Minnix, Rev. John "Woody" Woodford, Eric Marshall and Ray Dickerson.



Everyone enjoyed the banquet meal, many went back for seconds, me too.



Seabee families, friends and guests enjoying each others company for the banquet.

I was becoming concerned about Tim who was to meet with us at the museum. He and Timie was flying into Dayton from Houston, TX at around 12:20 p.m. and I hadn't heard from him. Then my cell phone rang and it was Tim. They were on their way but wouldn't be here right away. Later on they called me again and said they were down at the Information booth in the museum. So I headed towards them, they stowed their baggage in a locker and we headed back into the museum.

As it approached 3 p.m. I got a call from Wilma asking if we were going to get together to leave before 3 p.m., she was in the Cafeteria with the others, so we headed their way. Philip Alvey, the bus driver headed out to bring the bus up to the loading area, then we all got aboard and headed back to Richmond and the Quality Inn.

It had been a good day, everyone was a bit tired, it was a free evening to do whatever. Six of us got into Janice's van and went to Fazoli's for supper or for you other people, dinner - depending on where you hail from.....

After we returned everyone went to the hospitality room to munch on snacks, drink whatever we wanted to drink, talk and look at pictures, scrap books and memorabilia that we had all brought to the reunion. I had received two packets of photos and other mementos, one from Ms. Maybelle Mooney from Independence, MO, whose husband had died,

she wanted me to let the Seabees at the reunion look at them. Also Belle Howard from Forsyth, GA sent some additional photos and memorabilia to add to what I got from her earlier. You might remember I did a article on her husband, Buddy Howard, a couple issues ago. Buddy had passed away too. I tried to get her son, Nolan, to bring her up here for the reunion in trade for giving him a fishing trip on Brookville Lake. He likes to fish for Walleye, but it didn't work.

Most everyone stayed in the hospitality room until late, mostly due to us having a free morning and early afternoon on Wednesday, we would be attending our reunion banquet at 7 p.m. followed by the business meeting to see who would be hosting the 2013 reunion.

I slept in Wednesday morning, missing that hot breakfast. But needed the rest.

Don Palme the Seabee from Greenville, OH came to the Inn to spend the day with us and met with Jeannie Winter, whose father was in the 79th NCB (see story Jeannie wrote about him in the April 2012 Gad-a-bout at [www.thegadabout.com](http://www.thegadabout.com)). Jeannie had contacted him earlier by phone about her father and him being on LST 736 together when they traveled from Saipan to Okinawa in May of 1945. She had been searching for some time to find someone who was on the LST with her dad. Jeannie is the webmaster for the 79th NCB on their website

[www.79thseabees.com](http://www.79thseabees.com).

As the day passed, evening was approaching and I began to prepare for the banquet. I checked downstairs and the banquet room was all set up, the only thing needed was food and people.

Due to my not finding very many new Seabees to come to the reunion, we were short on our count so I took the liberty of inviting some local Vietnam Veteran Seabees and a few others too. I became aware of two additional guests who were coming to the banquet because they were picking their parents up to take them home to Wisconsin. Vern and Joyce Seikmann daughter and son-in-law, Gary and Nancy St Clair.

Our banquet attendee list included Seabee Fred and Queen bee Lenore Hummel from Ephrata, PA their nephew Dennis Good also from Ephrata; Seabee Don Palme from Greenville, OH; Queen bee Janice Plaskett from Canton, OH; Seabee Conrad Shoup from Fremont, OH; Seabee Vern Seikmann and Queen bee Joyce Seikmann from Green Bay, WI; Jeannie "Taake" Winter from Norfolk, VA; Seabee Tim Mahoney and daughter Timie Creedon from Houston, TX; Seabee Charles and Queen bee Glenna Lawburgh from Milan, IN; Ray (son of Seabee Ray Dickerson) and Sherry Dickerson from Centerville, IN; Rev. John "Woody" and Wilma Woodford from Corinth, KY; guests - Vietnam

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 36**

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SEABEES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

Veteran Seabees Eric Marshall and Steve Brasfield from Richmond, IN, John and Pamela Minnix from Centerville, IN; guest Dan Miller, representing the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association from Danville, KY and guest Esther Kaucher from Centerville, IN.

I would like to mention the names of fellow Seabees who wanted to come, but for various reasons couldn't make the trip. Seabee Bob and Queen bee Carolyn Huls from Pekin, IL; Seabee Charles "Chuck" and Queen bee Erma Sarahan from College Park, MD; Seabee Joe and Queen bee Dot Accetta from Pearl River, NY; Seabee Bill and Queen bee Ruth Burke from Livingston, NJ; Seabee Guy and Queen bee Mirian Large from Orange City, FL; Seabee Lindy and Queen bee Mary Lindroff from Bakersfield, CA; Seabee John and Queen bee Isabelle Serra from Caldwell, NJ; Seabee Jack Taggart from Collegeville, PA; Seabee Earl Dushane from Fallon, NV; Seabee Joe Rudy from Jeanette, PA and Seabee Richard "Dick" Patrick from Ashland, KY. Our thoughts and prayers are with them always.

At 7 p.m. we sat down to a wonderful meal in the Quality Inn Banquet room with the room filled with United States Navy Seabees, their wives, guests and friends. My brother-in-law Reverend John "Woody" Woodford said a prayer for the meal.

Again I must say the Quality Inn did a superb job of serving us a great meal and all the trimmings, no one left the room hungry.

After the meal Dan Miller who had called and asked if he could attend the banquet got up to tell us about the the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association (SMSA). Dan is the Chief Development Officer, he is the grandson of a WWII Seabee.

Dan told us all about the purpose of their organization which in a nutshell focus's on the children of

Seabee family's. He informed us that the Seabees are just as active in the military today as they ever were in WWII, in fact maybe more so. Except now they travel around the world at a minutes notice, highly mobile and expressing their motto "Can Do!"

From their newsletter, from the Chairman "The SMSA awarded the first four scholarships to children of Seabees in 1972. The Seabee Memorial wouldn't be dedicated for several years, but the mission was clear as these four students got \$500 and began their college educations. As we celebrate the past 40 years of scholarships, our mission remains just as clear - help educate the children and grandchildren of Seabees! Over the past 40 years, SMSA has helped over 700 students go to college with scholarships totaling over \$3,000,000. We now have 116 Named Scholarships, three of them Jumbo scholarships which will be award \$4,000 or \$5,000 every year....We have a wonderful shared heritage. The future of SMSA is bright. Please join us with your ideas, your time and your contributions and truly help the deserving children in our Seabee family get a college education. Dave Nash, RADM, CEC, USN (Ret.)

The address for the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association, Inc., P.O. Box 6574, Silver Spring, MD 20916

Dan said it better in person, their cause is great and I personally hope that some of you find it in your heart to support the Seabee Memorial Scholarship Association.

We next held the business part of the gathering. The only subject was who attending would like to host the 2013 Reunion. Unfortunately no one came forward. I told everyone that I had talked to Chuck Sarahan on the phone previously and he mentioned to me that he might consider hosting the 2013 reunion. I still have to talk to him about that and will

do so immediately after I finish the November Gad-a-bout.

We then adjourned the business meeting. I thanked all of them for coming to our 2012 79th NCB and CBMU# 624 Reunion and to have a safe journey home and added I hoped to see them all again at the 2013 79th NCB Reunion.

All that was left officially to do was meet for the last time for breakfast Thursday morning, then all go our separate ways home.

Myself I wasn't finished with my responsibilities, I had to take Sherry and Esther Kaucher to Centerville so I could use Sherry's car to go to Dayton Airport later on. She arranged to get a ride to work very early Thursday morning, she works at Reid Hospital in the Cafeteria.

I had to deliver Tim Mahoney and his daughter Timie to the Dayton Airport in the wee hours of Thursday morning, then take Jeannie Winter there later on. While I was waiting for my first trip to Dayton I packed up all the food, drink and other in my van.

After returning to the Quality Inn from Dayton, I dozed for about an hour then went for my last delicious "free" hot breakfast in the Inn at 6:30 a.m. The usual early rising Seabees and friends were already there eating. Then it was time to take Jeannie to Dayton.

When I got back my only chore left in Richmond was to fetch my wife from work, drop her off at the Quality Inn so she could drive her car home and I could take the van. I hate to admit this, but I was happy it was all over or was it?

I had gotten several e-mails from Carolyn Huls about Bob since August 25 when she told me they couldn't make it to the reunion. On September 28th she wrote, "My wonderful husband, my best friend, passed away this morning at 12:45.

Read about my trip to Pekin, 10-5-12 at right. ■



Top Left Photo: Robert "Bob" Huls October 17, 1926 - September 28, 2012, Bob's photo at left and Urn at right. In between the 79th NCB Reunion Cap I took to him in Pekin, IL. Top Right Photo: Flower arrangement I sent to Carolyn Huls for Bob on behalf of the 79th NCB and all his Seabee friends who attended our 67th Seabee Reunion in Richmond, IN. Lower Left Photo: Local Military Honor Guard firing volley of shots as a salute to a fallen Veteran. Lower Center Photo: U.S. Navy Honor Guard from Chicago, IL salutes and plays taps for fallen Veteran. Lower Right Photo: Honor Guard folds American Flag then gives folded flag to Bob's wife, Carolyn Huls. (Photo by Marlene Breaden)

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Robert "Bob" Huls the last time we saw him at the 2011 79th NCB reunion in Pekin, IL last September.

## An Unscheduled Trip to Pekin, IL

by Ray Dickerson

After I got the e-mail (as stated at end of reunion article at left) from Carolyn Huls, "My wonderful husband, my best friend, passed away this morning at 12:45."

I sent flowers with a card with all of Bob and Carolyn's Seabee friends names on it. I e-mailed her that I would be attending Bob's funeral there in Pekin on Friday, October 5, 2012.

I left at 3 a.m. for Pekin, IL arriving there an hour early, I forgot that they were on CST. But I found that the Preston-Hanley Funeral Home was open and most of Carolyn's family was inside. They let me go on inside. Carolyn thanked me for coming and for sending the flowers, she took me over to where they were located. Others came in and I mingled with the increasing number of people who came to pay their respects to Bob.

The funeral service was wonderful, I don't know if that is the proper way to describe it, but the minister touched on all of Bob and Carolyn's life there in Pekin, family, friends, co-workers, etc.

After the service I told Carolyn that I had driven my van and I wanted to go to the Cemetery. She told me I could ride with her brother, Lloyd Braden and his wife Marlene. I went outside with her, she pointed to Lloyd's car, she got in also. What a privilege, I've never said it in print, but I admired Bob Huls a great deal, I know my Dad would have liked him too, them both being in the 79th NCB, not together physically, but in spirit. Here I was following right behind Bob travelling with Carolyn too.

We traveled for some distance to Swan Lake Memory Gardens in Peoria where Bob would be laid to rest. As we arrived the local Military Honor Guard stood ready as we passed. At the tent two U.S. Navy Honor Guards stood at attention as the family was ushered into the tent. After the minister held the service, the local Military Honor Guard fired 3 volleys of gunfire to salute the fallen Veteran. Then on cue the Navy Honor Guard played taps in honor of the fallen Veteran. Then they took a folded flag off the table where it had laid during the service, unfolded it, refolded it and gave it to Carolyn Huls (see photos at left).

The service was over. Lloyd drove us to the clubhouse on the lake where we had a fish fry at the 2011 Seabee reunion in Pekin.

You can log onto [www.preston-hanley.com](http://www.preston-hanley.com) then click on Robert Huls to read Bob's obituary. ■

## GOT A GROUP TRIP IN MIND NEED A BUS???

When I was looking around for transportation to take the 79th NCB to Wright Patterson Air Museum near Dayton. I had the good fortune of finding the Student Transfit, LLC. Their Transportation Administrator, Darlene Morrison did all the arranging for me. Contact them at: 3175 Salisbury Rd. N., Richmond, IN 47374, Phone 765-973-3449, Fax 765-973-3308. ■

## On The Cutting Edge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Time: 9:00-10:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Location: Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York (Tickets), Sponsor: Commission on Presidential Debates, Participants: President Barack Obama and Governor Mitt Romney, Moderator: Candy Crowley (CNN Chief Political Correspondent). The substance of the second presidential debate will take the form of a town meeting, in which citizens will ask questions of the candidates on foreign and domestic issues. Candidates each will have two minutes to respond, and an additional minute for the moderator to facilitate a discussion. The town meeting participants will be undecided voters selected by the Gallup Organization.

The moderator works for CNN, another Liberal news media member whose broadcasts lean more left than right. However, I do like Piers Morgan because he is a typical bloke, he follows orders well from CNN, but takes us on an occasional trip into a unbiased destination every now and then. As for the rest of the CNN announcers I only watch them to get a sample of their subjects because I don't like to watch advertising on the other station, so I switch back and forth to avoid the advertising announcements. The problem here is that it seems anymore all the stations are running ads at the same time, which thwarts my effort. My favorite station on TV is Encore, no ads and I spend a lot of time watching black and white westerns, some color.

The last Presidential debate will be on Monday October 22, 2012, Topic: Foreign policy, Air Time: 9:00-10:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Location: Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida (Tickets), Sponsor: Commission on Presidential Debates, Participants: President Barack Obama and Governor Mitt Romney, Moderator: Bob Schieffer (Host of Face the Nation on CBS). The format for the debate will be identical to the first presidential debate and will focus on foreign policy.

The first debate was on Wednesday October 3, 2012, Topic: Domestic policy, Air Time: 9:00-10:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Location: University of Denver in Denver, Colorado (Tickets), Sponsor: Commission on Presidential Debates, Participants: President Barack Obama and Governor Mitt Romney, Moderator: Jim Lehrer (Host of NewsHour on PBS)

The debate focused on domestic policy and was divided into six time segments of approximately 15 minutes each on topics selected by the moderator and was announced several weeks before the debate. The moderator opened each segment with a question, after which each candidate had two minutes to respond. The moderator used the balance of the time in the segment for a discussion of the topic.

The debate (s) was and/or are being moderated by PBS, ABC, CNN and CBS. The National TV Liberal media giants. Now that's unfair and unbalanced. ■

## Indiana Dept Natural Resources

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Department, Indiana Conservation Officers continue to make up a good chunk of the primary instructor staff. The curriculum includes boat operation in heavy currents, various rope system rescues both horizontally across the river and vertically, shore-based and boat-based rescue techniques, low head dam rescues, proper rescue knots and their usages, medical considerations, etc. You get the idea. To successfully complete the week-long school all students participate in practical rescue scenarios during which each rescue team is evaluated. Each student must also, independently exhibit proficiency in rigging the various rope systems and knot tying. Of course, there is always a written test to top it all off, isn't there?

Many have found this to have been an exhausting school to attend and complete. But, I cannot recall anyone that has ever told me that they did not learn a great deal, nor meet some really neat people or have any less than a huge amount of fun. And that's not commonly said of any long running, physically demanding training course.

I'm confident that my words haven't painted a picture to do the IRRS complete justice. As the saying goes, a picture is worth a thousand words, and there are many more pictures and much more IRRS information you can view by visiting [www.indianariverrescue.com](http://www.indianariverrescue.com).

Be Safe. ■

## Outdoors Tales

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Front Porch, It is a nonprofit that was opened by the local ministry. Only the cooks are paid, the rest of the staff are volunteers. There are no fixed prices and the foot is great. People pay what they feel they can afford.

Should you decide to visit Ellsworth and the Front Porch, there is a wonderful shop across the street that features Michigan raised or built products.

The Junker's trip was a pleasant getaway with very little planning. For the most part, it just happened. The weather was beautiful and nothing was more enjoyable than a sunset across the lake one evening after a rain. The sky was golden, and I was lucky enough to grab my old Nikon for a photo. It will be a lasting memory of a fun trip with wife, Phyllis, and our dog Tyler. And by the way, Cedars Resort is pet friendly.

If you go, possible websites:

Pure Michigan tourism: [www.Michigan.org](http://www.Michigan.org)

Cedars Resort: [www.cedars-resort.com](http://www.cedars-resort.com)

Front Porch: [www.frontporchellsworth.org](http://www.frontporchellsworth.org)

###

Contact writer Phil Junker by email at: [outdoorscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:outdoorscribe@yahoo.com)

For more outdoors with Phil Junker, contact his blog at: [outdoorscribe.blogspot.com](http://outdoorscribe.blogspot.com) ■

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# Gad's Corner

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Cody Pies of Brookville, IN caught this 35 pound Shovel Head catfish in a private lake in Camden, OH on 9-16-12. Note: Ray, I'm sending this photo of my son hoping to get in your paper. I grew up in Centerville, IN, you probably remember my Dad, Jerry Catron and my Grandpa Harold Catron. I'm a long time reader of The Gad-a-bout, thanks for the informative reading. (Photo submitted by Cody's Dad, Dale Catron)



Bailey Baker, age 9, of Williamsburg, IN took this 7 point buck during the 2012 youth hunt. (Submitted by Lynn Tool Company, Lynn, IN)

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Dylan Redd, age 11, of Connersville, IN took this doe in Union County on 9-30-12 during the 2012 youth hunt with a Mossberg Model 500 shotgun. This is Dylan's first deer. (Submitted by James Redd)



Colin Roush, age 6, of Shoals, IN took this doe at 30 yds with a 20 ga. shotgun hunting the 2012 youth hunt with Jordan Hurt a White River Outfitters employee. (Photo submitted by Cody Roush, White River Outfitters)

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Sean (Carlos) Howard of Cambridge City caught his first Pike on Lake Vermillion in Minnesota on 9-9-12. He caught it on live bait, it was 41 1/4" long and weighed 16 pounds. Sean is a local UPS driver. (Photo by Steve Corrington, Steve's Marine, Liberty, IN)



Terry Lamb of Cambridge City caught this 38" Northern Pike on Lake Vermillion in Cook Minnesota on 9-9-12 using live bait. he is a local UPS delivery driver. (Photo by Steve Corrington, Steve's Marine, Liberty, IN)

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FULL PAGE 15.75" X 10.37"	1/2 PAGE ALT. SIZES 7.82" X 10.37" 12" X 6.88" 15.75" X 5.13"	1/3 PAGE ALT. SIZES 5.25" X 10.37" 7.82" X 6.88" 15.75" X 3.37"	1/4 PAGE ALT. SIZES 4" X 10.37" 6" X 6.88" 7.82" X 5.13"	1/8 PAGE ALT. SIZES 3" X 6.88 4" X 5.13 6" X 3.37	1/10 PAGE ALT. SIZES 3" X 5.13 4.5" X 3.37	4 COL. INCH ONE SIZE 4" X 3.37"	1/15 PAGE MONOPOLY CARD SIZE ONE SIZE 3" X 3.37"
94.5 COL. IN.	48 COL. IN.	32 COL. IN.	24 COL. IN.	12 COL. IN.	9 COL. IN.	8 COL. IN.	6 COL. IN.
1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME
\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI	\$7.00 PCI
<b>\$651.00</b>	<b>\$336.00</b>	<b>\$224.00</b>	<b>\$168.00</b>	<b>\$84.00</b>	<b>\$63.00</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>	<b>\$42.00</b>
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
<b>\$558.00</b>	<b>\$288.00</b>	<b>\$192.00</b>	<b>\$144.00</b>	<b>\$72.00</b>	<b>\$54.00</b>	<b>\$48.00</b>	<b>\$36.00</b>
12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES
\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI	\$5.00 PCI
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**Abbreviations: ALT - ALTERNATE / COL. IN. - COLUMN INCH / PCI - PER COLUMN INCH**

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