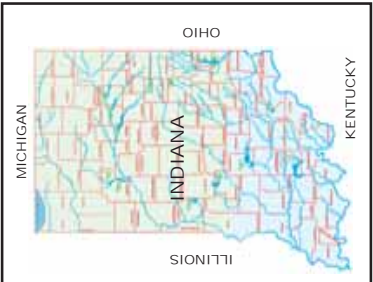


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DECEMBER 2013  
MERRY CHRISTMAS

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INDIANA SLAB MASTERS RACCOON LAKE TOURNEY RESULTS - SEE PAGE 18, 19 & 24

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"THE COST OF FREEDOM IS NEVER TO HIGH"  
LET FREEDOM RING - SEE PAGE 10

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# THE GAD-A-BOUT™



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**Created & Published by Ray Dickerson**  
105 East South Street  
Centerville, IN 47330

**TO CONTACT THE GAD-A-BOUT**  
**Toll Free: 1-877-855-4237 - Lv Message**

**Cell Phone: 765-960-5767**

**Office Phone: 765-855-3857**

**Website:**

[www.thegadabout.com](http://www.thegadabout.com)

**E-Mail: ray@thegadabout.com**

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### ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

**Top Left:** Changes are on tap for the 17th Annual Indiana Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl Expo, it will return to the Indiana State Fairgrounds February 20-23 getting an extra day and expanded hours the closing weekend of the 60th annual Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show. See more on page 13. **(Renfro Productions Photo)**

**Top Right:** After a long four years of bad luck and passing many, many smaller bucks I knew I had to change things up a bit, if this year was going to be different. I have not used any trail cameras for the last three years as all of my scouting consisted of sitting in my truck with binoculars and a spotting scope countless hours watching and trying to pattern these deer. But this year I decided to buy a few trail cameras and boy did it pay off big time. See Page 12. **(Joel Biltz Photo)**

**Bottom Left:** Should one of our freedoms, "Our Right To Keep and Bear Arms" be the victim of another freedom, "Freedom of the Press!" We need both of these freedoms, but the Liberal National Media may accomplish getting rid of both freedoms by regulating who gets news and how it's worded!

**Bottom Right:** Saturday September 21st was the last regular season tournament for the Indiana Slab Masters and with the points championship coming down to the wire with two teams tied going into the last tournament of the season it proved to be an eventful tournament. See pages 18, 19 & 24 **(Photo by Tom Hankins)**

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# Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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**WELCOME BACK JOEL BILTZ**

I was in Brookville earlier this week and took a chance to talk to Joel Biltz at their family business location there, Biltz Monuments Company, Inc. He had mentioned in an e-mail I received from him that he would be sending me an article sometime, I wanted to see if he could send me something for December. He wasn't there, but his brother gave me his cell phone so I could call him.

Joel's article, entitled "STANLEY" appears on page 12 along with photos.



AMERICAN PATRIOT BRAD CROWDER

**WELCOME ALSO TO BRAD CROWDER AN AMERICAN PATRIOT WRITER WHO I ASKED TO SEND ME SOMETHING-HE DID**

Last month in my column I wrote under the heading *US Government Shutdown & Obamacare* "It's the final hour, no hits, no runs and the bases are loaded, with no **common sense** in sight!"

This month Brad Crowder sets the record straight on a most important subject, "The Cost of Freedom is Never to High" read it on page 10.

I met Brad the first time at Frontier Days Rendezvous, he was picked from the crowd as a suspect to be wed to my daughter in a "shotgun" wedding. He was a real good sport about it, we've run into one another through the years. See photo on page 10.

Feel free to send any comments via "Letters to the Editor." See page 3 for my contact info.



Rev. Lyle Gordon Rasmussen, May 7, 1926 - March 13, 2013

**I JUST LEARNED RECENTLY THAT A GOOD FRIEND, REV LYLE RASMUSSEN, HAD DIED MARCH 13, 2013**

Reverend Lyle Rasmussen was the minister at our Methodist Church here in Centerville for a time. Lyle was a people person and above all else a friend to the young people in our church. While he was minister our MYF group never had too many dull moments.

I kept in contact with Lyle and his family through most of my life up until just a few years ago. When he retired (actually semi-retired) he moved to Washington, IN and that was part of my Gad-a-bout delivery route back then. So I saw him on several occasions up until I stopped going there probably about 2009.

Prior to that, I can't remember the exact year, but I had made contact with Lyle and it was shortly after he, one of his sons and a friend had went canoeing on the West Fork of the White River while it was in a high water condition. Somehow their canoe went into a bend that was full of tree limbs and their canoe capsized. It was near Waverly, IN. Lyle got hung up in the limbs and was being bobbed up, then down under the water. He couldn't get free. Lyle told me his son and friend saved his life that day. He wanted me write the story in The Gad-a-bout back then, so as to warn others not to canoe in high water. The three were all skilled canoeists, but accidents can happen when you least expect them.

I attended the 2013 CHS Alumni Banquet in June 2013 at the school. One of my fellow classmates, Claude Soper and I were talking, when I mentioned talking to Lyle Rasmussen earlier this year on the phone. Claude told me Lyle had died. I didn't want to believe him so when I got home I went on line and sure enough I found Lyle's obituary.

When we adopted our daughter back in 1979 I told Sherry I wanted her to be baptized by Reverend Lyle Rasmussen. We found out that Lyle was at the Corydon IN Methodist Church. We called Lyle asking if he would baptize Amy, he agreed to it. So on the appointed Sunday we were in Lyle's church. As we were attending his church

service, the memories flowed when I heard Lyle's tremendous voice singing above the congregation during the hymns. I've always believed that in those few years he was our minister there in the Centerville Methodist Church, he had a distinct effect on my life then and now. My only regret is not contacting him in person the last time I talked to him.

LYLE GORDON RASMUSSEN of Washington, Ind., 86, a retired Elder of the Indiana Conference, died Wednesday, March 13, 2013. He was the father of the Revs. Timothy A. Rasmussen, pastor of Whitestown UMC; Stephen L. Rasmussen, pastor of Union Chapel UMC in Indianapolis; and Daniel D. Rasmussen, pastor of Center UMC in Indianapolis; all members of the Indiana Conference. Visitation was held Sunday, March 17, at the Gill Funeral Home, 308 E. Walnut Street in Washington, Ind. A memorial service was held on Monday, March 18, at Bethel North UMC (formerly Otterbein), Highway 57 North, Washington, Ind. with interment at 1 p.m. Tuesday, March 19 at Washington Park East Cemetery, 10612 E. Washington Street in Indianapolis. Also surviving are wife, Mary Ann Rasmussen; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. Lyle Rasmussen served United Methodist churches in Indiana at Hartford City, Gilead/Ebenezer, New Castle Trinity/Sugar Grove, Centerville, New Paris, Frankton, Greenfield Trinity Park, Indianapolis Mt. Olive, Indianapolis Faith, Corydon Old Capitol, Washington Christ and in retirement Jasper Shiloh.

**MENDENHALL'S IN RICHMOND, IN NOW HAS A NEW SUPPLY OF THE DEER WHISTLE I WROTE ABOUT LAST MONTH**

I just wanted to let any readers who asked me about where they could purchase one of the deer whistles I wrote about last month (like the one pictured here)



Mendenhall's Hardware Store located at 125 S.W. 5th St., Richmond, IN 47374 has them. I talked to John today. He said they had just gotten a new shipment of them in, which had sold out, but he is ordering more as I write this. You might want to call them though at 765-962-4842 to make sure they still have them before leaving home. The cost is \$8.99.

I won't leave home without one being on my truck or my wife's car. There is no absolute guarantee you won't strike an animal in the road, but since installing this type of deer whistle or as I like to call it, a wild animal whistle, in 2004, I've counted hundreds of wild animals either leaving the road in front of me or not entering the roadway at all.

A key statement is in order here too, if you see an animal or its eyes reflecting in front of you, start slowing down. Then if you do hit one it won't be as devastating as if you are traveling at a higher rate of speed. If you see a deer cross the road, be alert, many times there may be more behind it. The only deer I have hit so far, prior to getting my deer whistle, was the 7th one of a small herd on Springersville Road just north of SR 44 at the break of dawn. I had almost gotten stopped, just not quite. The deer was running sideways after I hit it, but seemed okay at the time. My Cavalier station wagon had a broken plastic grill and bumper.

**1953 CENTERVILLE BASKETBALL TEAM REUNION HELD OCT 23, 2013**

I got an invite to attend the October 23, 2013 reunion dinner of the 1953 Centerville High School

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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# So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe  
Professional Fishing Guide

## Fishing Brookville Lake in December (Winter)

If your going to fish Brookville Lake in December you better be prepared. Winter fishing is a bit different then summer fishing. In the summer if it rains you get wet, in the winter if it rains you can't get your boat out of the water.

Preparation is key, lets start with the boat. You need to be fishing out of a boat that has an out-board motor. When you pull the boat out of the water at the end day, just lower the motor for a minute to drain the water from around the propeller, thats it. One thing that I do is change the lower unit oil in the motor in the fall, just in case I got any water in there through out the summer due to a faulty seal. Another thing you better have is a good battery. In the winter there is just not a lot of people around to give you a hand. I carry a set of jumper cables in the boat that will reach from my trolling motor battery to my cranking battery, that way I can just jump myself if I have to.

In your truck you need to have a couple of bags of sand, a shovel, and a couple of bags of salt. This will go a long way in getting yourself out of a bad situation at the boat ramp. When launching your boat keep in mind that the lake is down 8 feet from summer pool. Some boat ramps are unusable at this time of year, but Bonwell and Fairfield ramps have access to the lake all winter long. When you



Jigging spoons for fishing deep. (Author Photo)

go to park your truck and trailer after launching your boat just pull your trailer out of the water and let it drain at the waters edge. If you don't you will spread water all the way up the boat ramp and with in minutes this will all turn to ice.

Once you get out on the water two things to watch for is ice on the surface and the bottom of the lake. When the lake starts to freeze it will freeze in section. The first to freeze is the north end of the lake, after that its the coves, then its along the shore on the main lake and eventually the entire lake is frozen solid. Brookville lake and everything around it was built for the lake to be at a certain lake level through out the summer, but in the winter its lowered to make room for flooding in the spring. The lake level in the summer is 748. What this means is that the lake level is 748 feet above sea level. So in the winter time when they drop the lake to winter pool the lake is 740 feet above sea level. Although the lake has been 18 feet over the 748 foot mark, it has never been below the 740 foot mark. The issue in the winter time is the flats. These flat are all over the lake and are great places to fish in the summer but are hazards in the winter. When your traveling down the lake in your boat all you see in front of you is flat water you assume that its all deep. This is where the problem lies. Over these flats the water is only about a foot deep in the winter due to the draw down. So be aware get a good topo map and study it before leaving the ramp so you know where these hazards are.

In the winter time think real deep or real shallow. The surface temperature could be as cold as

35 degrees, but it could be as warm as 45 degrees at 50 foot. Another thing is bait, use some type of minnows as bait or something that imitates a minnow. In the winter there are no worms, bugs, or craw dads anywhere. They are all hibernating for the winter and the fish know this.

When fishing deep keep your eyes on your depth finder. When you see fish close to the bottom whether it's 25 feet deep or 70 feet deep throw out a marker buoy. Put on some type of jigging spoon lower it to the bottom and work your magic. If they won't hit it change to a different

style, say like a blade bait, or a different color. What your looking for is fish that are holding tight to the bottom. These are normally feeding fish.

When fishing shallow its more of a leap of faith. You make long casts to the shore, to points or over shallow flats hoping there is something there. Most fish/depth finders only shoot below the boat so this is kind of a guessing game. Just fish something like a swim bait, popping bait or twitch bait, you could even fish live bait like bass minnows. What ever it is it has to be slow moving and slow falling because the fish in this shallow cold water will be pretty lethargic. Now get out there and rip some lip.

And always let somebody know where your going and when your going to be back.

Good luck Tag

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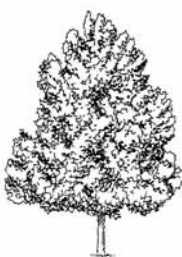
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Baits for fishing shallow. (Author Photo)



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## News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling  
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

### Pendleton District Has a New District Investigative Commander and Detective

Pendleton – On October 21st, Indiana State Police Superintendent Douglas Carter announced the promotion of Pendleton District Investigations Sergeant Keith O'Donnell. O'Donnell is promoted to the position of First Sergeant, to serve as the District Investigative Commander for the Pendleton District.

O'Donnell was selected for his new position based upon a competitive selection process that included written testing, oral interview, seniority, education, and past job performance. He began his career with the Indiana State Police in 1986, after graduating from North Judson-San Pierre High School in 1982, and Vincennes University in 1984.

During his career he worked 24 years at the Pendleton District and 3 years at the Indianapolis District. He has served as a trooper, a detective and investigative squad leader before his promotion to District Investigative Commander. O'Donnell and his family reside in Madison County.

Indiana State Police Superintendent Douglas Carter also announced the promotion of Master Trooper Ron Halbert to the position of Detective at the Pendleton Post. Halbert was selected for his new position based upon a competitive selection process that included written testing, oral interview, seniority, education, and past job performance.

Halbert graduated from the Indiana Christian Academy in Anderson in 1988, then from Anderson University in 1993. He began his career with the Indiana State Police at the Redkey Post in 1995, serving as a road trooper in Delaware County.

In 2009 Halbert transferred to the Drug Enforcement Section where he served as the marijuana eradication coordinator for the Redkey District, and since 2010, the Pendleton District. Halbert and his family reside in Delaware County.

(See photos above right)

### School Bus Stop Arm Violations- Give Our Kids a Break

Now I've said it before in these pages, one of the many things we do is track statistics and trends around the state. One trend I've seen this fall and find alarming is the number of school bus stop arm violations being reported to us from school districts all over the Pendleton District, and across the state for that matter.

The Pendleton District has started an enforcement program putting a trooper on a bus who calls out plate numbers of violators to troopers waiting down the road. The law for school bus stop arm violation states "Any person who drives a vehicle that meets or overtakes a school bus stopped on a roadway when the arm signal device is extended or proceeds before the arm signal device is no longer extended," commits a violation.

Circumstances not requiring an approaching vehicle to stop are if the roadway is divided into two or more lanes by "an intervening space unimproved and not intended for vehicle travel (like a grassy median,) or a road divided by a physical barrier," like concrete Jersey Barriers.

So even if you're on a four or more lane highway,



Sergeant Keith O'Donnell



Master Trooper Ron Halbert

if the lanes aren't split by a grassy median or concrete barrier, you have to stop. The yellow caution lights on buses mean prepare to stop, not speed up to beat the stop arm. All a bus driver has to do is get us your plate number, and we will come visit you at your house or place of business with a ticket in hand. We don't have to witness the violation to write the ticket, as the bus driver becomes the witness.

If you're running late to work and get in the school bus traffic, you still have to protect our kids and be patient. The old warnings we used to issue (and that I still use) had a convenient chart at the bottom showing miles driven at different speeds and how long it would take you to get there. An example would be going ten miles at 65 MPH takes nine minutes, but only takes 11 minutes at 55 MPH.

Running a school bus stop arm is just like running a stop sign or stop light; it's considered a serious moving violation. Getting to your destination a couple of minutes later is surely worth keeping kids safe, not to mention worth saving you \$128.00 for the ticket fine and the points on your license that will cause your car insurance to go up. So make sure you stop completely for those school buses.

### Driving Tips for Inclement Weather

With cold weather comes the ice and snow we all know and "love." Driving in this weather is sometimes more than a challenge and can be very dangerous. As a trooper I hate this weather because of all the careless and dangerous crashes we end up working where people are injured or killed.

Remember that icy roads may contribute to a crash, but these conditions don't cause crashes. YOUR driving behavior is what causes or prevents crashes. Below I've listed just a few tips to help you reach your destination safely this winter.

#### Drive according to road conditions:

- Allow extra time to get to your destination.
- Clear all windows of ice and snow and remove snow from hood, roof and headlights and tail lights.
- Beware of bridges, underpasses, overpasses and intersections where ice tends to form first.
- Don't use cruise control on slick roads.
- Avoid abrupt stops and starts, slow down gradually and keep wheels turning to avoid losing traction.
- Use headlights even during daylight hours
- IMPORTANT!! Increase the following distance between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- Decrease your speed according to the road conditions
- Make sure you have a charged cell phone in your vehicle AND NEVER TEXT WHILE DRIVING.
- ALWAYS WATCH FOR STOPPED TRAFFIC AHEAD

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**CONTINUED ON PAGE 23**

## If you drive too fast for Conditions and Crash into Water...



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Ride the Car like a Raft until Help Arrives;  
Or Swim or Wade to Safety**

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# Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



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

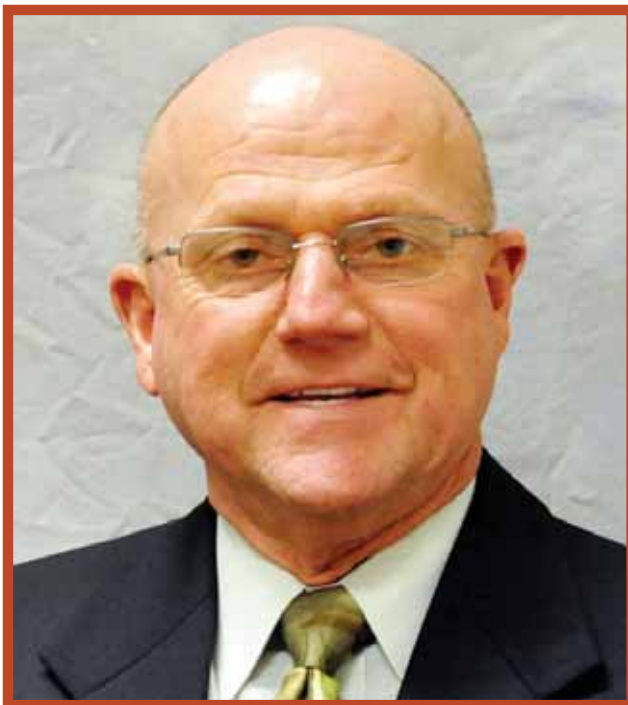
## Danny East named head of DNR Law Enforcement

Veteran law enforcement professional Danny East has been selected as the new director of DNR's Division of Law Enforcement.

"Danny East brings a wealth of public service experience to our agency," DNR director Cameron Clark said in announcing East's appointment. "Along with that experience, his time spent in leadership positions with both the U.S. military and the Indiana State Police made him an especially attractive candidate."

As the Law Enforcement division director, East will oversee 214 conservation officers and 40 civilian employees. His appointment was effective Oct. 28. He succeeds Scotty Wilson, who retired in July.

"I've always had great respect for Conservation



DANNY EAST (IDNR PHOTO)

Officers and the fact they had more authority than I did," East said. "I like to call them the Swiss Army Knife of law enforcement."

East has worked in law enforcement for 34 years. The majority of his career has been with the Indiana State Police, although he spent two years (1995-97) as interim superintendent of the Indiana State Excise Police.

He joined the State Police in 1979 and since then has been involved in field operations, training, criminal investigations, intelligence management and police administration.

East joined the State Police training section in 1983 as a sergeant and progressed to the rank of major. In 2005, he became deputy superintendent of field operations, a post he held until becoming deputy superintendent of investigations in 2009.

He currently serves as the superintendent's liaison to the Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center that collects, analyzes and shares information and intelligence that helps other law enforcement agencies and private partners detect and respond to criminal and terrorist activity.

"The opportunity to remain in law enforcement exceeds my expectations," East said. "I've had two jobs in my life; the Army and State Police, public service. That's what I know. Being able to serve (State Police and State Excise) has given me the full array of law enforcement, from alcoholic beverage to motor vehicle and criminal laws of the state. Now I'm going over to conservation. Being

at the top of caring over those entities is special."

East was in the U.S. Army from 1971-79 and was honorably discharged as a staff sergeant following overseas assignment in Iran.

He has bachelor and master's degrees in management science from Indiana Wesleyan and was an adjunct faculty member at the university from 1995-2005.

## Indiana Deer Hunters Feeding Hungry Hoosiers

This fall, some Hoosiers who need some help will be able to put more food on the table, thanks to deer hunters and the DNR Division of Law Enforcement's Sportsman's Benevolence Fund.

The fund makes it possible for hunters to donate venison through a participating butcher by paying the processing fee. To participate, a licensed deer hunter must legally harvest a deer, field dress it and deliver it to a participating butcher.

"This program provides an opportunity for our hunters to demonstrate their concern for their fellow man, allows the DNR another management tool for our deer population and provides nutritious meals to those in need," said Indiana Conservation Officer Lt. Colonel Steve Hunter. "It is a triple-win situation."

Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry, Feeding Indiana's Hungry (FisH) and the Dubois County Sportsmen's Club have developed a network of participating butcher shops throughout the state. The organizations also have coordinated with food banks serving every Indiana county to pick up and deliver the venison to soup kitchens. All venison is ground into burger and provided in 2-pound packages.

"Protein is the hardest commodity for the food banks to get," said Debra Treesh, founder of Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry. "Thanks to contributions by Indiana DNR Law Enforcement and deer hunters, we will be able to provide nutritious protein to hunger relief agencies in Indiana."

The fund received public funding during the 2013 legislative session through a bill presented by senators Mike Crider of Greenfield and Brent Steele of Bedford.

"Fighting against hunger in Indiana is a concern for us all and it makes me proud that the DNR and the outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen of our state can work together to overcome this need," said DNR Director Cameron Clark.

A video about the fund is at [youtube.com/idnrvideos](http://youtube.com/idnrvideos).

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Notes from:

## Prairie Wolf Gun Repair



by Marshall Smith  
Owner/Gunsmith

## More on Sights and The Mauser 98K and Mosin-Nagant

Last month's article addressed front sights and the adjustments to a Mauser to bring it into zero. I didn't discuss the rear sight and should have mentioned that the point of impact was 11.5 inches high with the rear sight at its lowest setting. The battle sights on the German Mauser and Soviet Mosin-Nagant that many of you have purchased are range adjustable out to a thousand meters on the Mauser and 2,000 meters on the Mosin. Note that some believe the range markings on the Mosin are in Russian Arshin which is equal to about 2 1/3 feet. That would change the 2000 to about 1,555 yards. That's still nearly a mile. Wishful Soviet thinking I think. The lowest setting on the battle sight is considered to be the 100 meter setting. With that clarified you can see that it was evident during the testing that the rear sight could not be lowered any further to lower the point of impact, only the front sight could be adjusted, or in this case replaced with a higher blade.

On most of the foreign military surplus rifles being imported into the USA, the battle sights are only adjustable for range. Most of the rifles have windage adjustable front sights. I think the intent for the use of the rifle was that the soldiers would not be shooting long range but would keep in the 100 to 200 meter range. Once the target is beyond the 100 meter range (110 yards) iron sights for most shooter's eyes are only good to get the bullet in the general vicinity of the target. Scopes are needed for sighting assistance at the 100 yard range and beyond. Maybe not for the target shooter who only prints on paper, but for most hunters to consistently place their shots accurately, a scope is preferred and necessary. Coyote and predator hunters depend on a good scope to drop their quarry. And if your eyes are like mine, that is getting older, you'll probably need optical assistance at closer ranges. Yep, I have shooting glasses, computer glasses, and tri-focals. When are they going to come out with auto focus and ranging glasses that don't look like something from the Halloween costume shop?

The military surplus rifles of the WW II and Korean War era were not originally designed for optics. It wasn't until the Vietnam War that with design of the M16 that accessories were designed and added to the rifle to accept optics and other accessories. Mounting a modern scope on the Mosin-Nagant or the Mauser usually requires the battle sight to be removed. There are a few, "no gunsmithing required" mounts that claim to be easy to

install. Easy to install is another phrase for works occasionally if you have sufficient tools and expertise to not break the gun or bend the soft aluminum mount. Then after a few shots of 7.62x54(r) or 8mm ammo it comes loose and you go through reinstalling the mount. There are mounting systems that use the dovetail mount on the Mosin-Nagant and is a stable mount. However, a long eye relief scope is required. A standard eye relief of 3 to 4 inches just doesn't work. To use the standard hunting scopes the Nagants and Mausers must be drilled and tapped for scope mounts. That causes some problems with the straight bolt models and requires the bolts be replaced with a bent handle bolt. The straight bolt's length is really too short to bend and make for a nice job. Often it requires the bolt handle be cut off and a bent handle purchased or made and welded on. ATI makes a bolt handle which can be bolted onto the stub of the Mosin-Nagant's bolt handle after the straight bolt is cut. That also requires that the stock be altered to make clearance for the bolt handle. Not generally a job most Mosin-Nagant owners want to tackle. Another option for the Mosin-Nagant is to purchase a side scope mount and scope which the Soviet's originally designed for the Mosin-Nagant. That can be a pricey option for a relatively inexpensive surplus rifle.

The Mauser is only a little bit better candidate for a modern scope mounting system in that it was designed with a bent bolt. Mounting a scope on top of the receiver requires a good gunsmith and good knowledge of the rifle. The receiver in front of the bolt and over the chamber cannot be drilled through, with the barrel attached. The barrel must be removed before drill and tapping. Drilling above the chamber of the gun without removing the barrel could weaken the chamber wall which will ruin the rifle and possibly cause a rupture in the chamber wall and blow out through the front scope mounting. Possibly injuring the shooter severely. The rear of the receiver is shaped such that a mount cannot sit level. The rear mount location on the receiver has to be milled level. The mounts for the front and rear of the receiver must be of different heights much like Ruger rifles, but a more extreme difference. This is where it becomes necessary to know the formulas for computing the proper height above the centerline of the bore to correctly position the scope. There are other mounting systems for the Mauser 98k, but all require some modification to the stock, receiver, bolt or a combination of the three. If you have a Mauser on which you want to mount a scope talk to your local gunsmith on the options available before investing in a scope or mounts. Keep in mind, this kind of custom work can be expensive.

### GUN RIGHTS

This last few months has produced some shocking news reports on shootings around the U.S. The latest occurred in Los Angeles Airport (LAX). The shooter was intent on finding and killing Homeland Security employees and guards. That's not much different when the Black Panther militant group (Gang) in the 70's was hunting down and killing Police officers in New York and Chicago. When someone wants to kill another person they don't care about the law. They don't care about background checks. Either they have bought a gun legally or not, or stolen someone else's gun. AWR Hawkins wrote an article on how more control may be an impediment and not a solution. His article can be found: (<http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Government/>)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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## Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

### DNA Magic & Science

You may not know exactly what DNA is biologically, or the exact words the letters in the acronym replace (Deoxyribonucleic Acid). But understand it or not, anyone who watches the news or crime story movies knows it's magical stuff. We have a fair grasp that everyone has DNA and know from watching Jerry Springer or who-dunnit TV that one person's DNA is different than everyone else's DNA.

How much is movie-magic and how much is sound science is lost to me. I've seen the TV detectives get DNA samples from hair, drops of blood or other body-fluids such as saliva clinging to discarded cigarette butts.

DNA magic is being used in the battle to keep the Great Lakes free of Asian carp. Actually, DNA won't keep carp out, the only way to keep them out is to haul in truck loads of dirt and plug the connection between the Great Lakes and waterways known to harbor Asian carp. But DNA evidence is being used both by those who would like to see the dump trucks start rolling and by those who are arguing the stop-gap measures in place are adequate.

The DNA evidence at issue here is called environmental DNA or eDNA. The science of eDNA

stems from the hypothesis that as organisms live and grow, they are constantly shedding DNA laden material. The flakes of dead skin that make up much of the dust in your house has your DNA in it. Fish and animal waste products have DNA in them. Slime from the skin of Asian carp has DNA in it.

When the detective tells the suspect, "We'll need a sample of your DNA," he's getting regular DNA, directly from the individual. When the detective samples the cigarette butt and finds the smoker's DNA, that's environmental. In the case of carp in the Great Lakes, researchers collect a sample of water, screen it for DNA, then look specifically for Asian Carp DNA among the DNA from the fish, birds, zebra mussels or other species that are present in the sample. Though the science may seem magical to most of us, I've never seen any questioning of the results by science based individuals. I don't think the methods used to sample for eDNA are flawed. I don't think eDNA from common carp or species of fish is being misidentified as Asian carp eDNA.

So when a researcher finds Asian carp eDNA, one fact becomes indisputable - it came from an Asian carp. How it came to be in the sample is open to conjecture.

The most obvious and most likely source is that it came from a live Asian carp that just swam through the sampling area, shedding DNA all the while.

A positive result could occur if a boat or barge took on bilge water in the Illinois River or some other place where Asian carp are present, then dumped the bilge water where eDNA sampling is taking place. This is not a completely improbable scenario in Illinois where there is a great deal of movement of boats and barges. This is highly unlikely in Lake Erie since few barges from Illinois are towed expeditiously to Maumee Bay or Sandusky, recent eDNA hotspots.

A gull or other bird could feast on a living or dead Asian carp from an infested area, then fly to a sampling area just in time to deposit its own version of ballast containing remnant carp eDNA. Though possible, even in Illinois, that scenario seems highly unlikely.

Samples testing positive for Asian carp eDNA are becoming more numerous, both in the area of major concern where the Great Lakes and Mississippi watersheds are connected in South Chicago and now in several Lake Erie locations. A part of the reason is because more sampling is being done, but that doesn't fully explain why the percentage of positive samples is increasing.

The eDNA evidence shows, to a reasonable doubt, tiny populations of Asian carp are present in Lake Michigan and Lake Erie. Let's hope the evidence soon shows these populations are not growing.

THE END

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Water samples containing Asian Carp eDNA points to a few of them being present in the Great Lakes. (Author Photo)

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# Let Freedom Ring



by Brad Crowder

## The Cost Of Freedom Is Never To High

The old saying "its going to cost more than it's worth: "it should say it's worth more than it costs." All gave some, but some gave all.

Indiana's civil war governor Oliver P. Morton said as he recalled the American Revolution, just prior to the civil war he said, "if it was worth a bloody struggle to establish this nation, it's worth one to preserve it."

The battle wasn't overseas it was right here on our soil. Soldiers and militia gave their lives for you to have the right to vote, to assemble, and say what you think. All it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God. Passing bills before we know what's in them is deception, the simple, believe every word.

The drive by socialized media has learned the pen is mightier than the sword, they are trying to divide the country and conquer. They are even starting to suppress information from reaching the public.

It is sad to see Americans, especially 30 years old and under, give away precious freedoms that were won on the battlefield. You don't value what you haven't earned. To combat the enemy you must identify and expose him. This is a given, anyone opposing the constitution or your liberties is your enemy. They have disguised themselves and slid into our two party system. Liberals and progressives have fornicated with the left, and have infected our dumb-downed people with doctrines that J.F.K. tried so hard to chase out of this country. In our past the donkey and the elephant fought each other, but they believed in job creation and independence and would rally around the flag boys. And the constitution would always trump communism.

Teddy Roosevelt had a crude form of progressivism, but never did this great hunter try to ban the 2nd amendment. Some of the leaders in Washington D.C. are European minded socialist. Wanting a strong centralized U.N. government, surrendering America to it's leadership of mass world re-distribution. The U.N. wants to disarm the U.S. immediately, and outlaw Christianity. Socialism is theft and we see incomes being attacked and re-distributed to the state to be dispensed at their discretion. We don't deserve freedom if we trade it for comfort and security. Just when we've been bullied so far, we are handed hush money (a freebie). While your rights are being taken out to sea, your satisfied to pick up starfish. Heaven grants freedoms and government takes them away.

Our forefathers knew power had to be kept in check and limited, policed by the people. Patriots



Frontier Days Rendezvous (early 90's), Brad Crowder (center-car on T-shirt) is about to be married (not really) in a shotgun wedding to Amy on his left, Brad was selected out of the crowd as the wrong do'er. Her father (holding gun), two brothers on Brad's right' and the preacher (holding bible) make sure he doesn't get away. Memories!!

dumped tea into the Boston Harbor over a 32 cent tax increase. What would they think to see almost half our income taken for taxation. You'll work till March to clear one dime.

We are placing chains back on our wrist as we see the illegal take over of the health care industry and it's skyrocketing costs. We have went from the sword to the vote, but we aren't suppose to turn those swords into plowshares yet. National or International disarmament will only lead to a tyrants throne. The 2nd amendment ensures the 1st. amendment. The true guardians of freedom are the people, we the people are the government, and this is why the Minute man was to never be phased out. Minute men were farmers that came piling out of hay piles like bee's coming out of a bee hive, grabbing their squirrel guns and assembling in a minutes notice. They hid behind the weeds, the walls, the tree's and everywhere, they fired their guns at the worlds superpower of that day, the British empire. It was a shot heard clear around the world. To prove that divine providence was with the Americans, General Washington's uniform was lull of bullet holes and he was untouched. The Indian chiefs said "the great father spirit is with him, our arrows, our tomahawks, guns and knives do not touch him." Civilian militia are not national guard or any regular infantry. They are normal every day Joe's. They have always been the citizenry that the military and police rely and fall back on. Each American home is a fort of freedom at least that's what the Japanese thought while attacking Pearl Harbor. They said we face an army inland greater than we have encountered. We have awoke a sleeping giant. They knew that the American public were well-armed since 1776.

You see, we must defend freedom at all cost, yet tempered with common sense.

This they know, if crime continues to increase we will lose self-rule in the name of chaos. Today you may not see a flintlock over the fireplace, but you'll see a gun safe. We may not wear tri-corn hat's, but we wear fitted caps, blue jeans, and camouflage, not ruffles, but business suits. From cap and ball to 223's and a 12 gauge with deer slugs. You'll still see old glory, would you still carry her into battle? That 2nd amendment still lets us target shoot, hunt and even protect your loved one. When Paul Revere's horse made his famous ride, his hooves struck the rounded cobble stones with steel that made sparks that lit a torch of freedom from Lexington to Concord. At Valley Forge

the price was paid for our freedom, like none other, men froze to death and at the least amputation. They would not renounce their new nation, nor bow to the King. When they signed the Declaration of Independence they signed their own death warrants. They knew they must hang together or hang separately. They lost families, estates, and even their own lives, to give us the blessings of liberty.

We need to indoctrinate our youth with patriotism and U.S. history. Terrorist are those who attack the innocent, they are the enemies of individual freedoms and they hate self-governance. They hate order and religion that sets men free from bondage.

Possession is 9/10ths of the law and for over 200 plus years we have had our constitution in place. We need to have a love again for the outdoors and teach our children how to live off the land, if possible. Most wouldn't know what to do if the grocery shut down for a week. You must not be overcome with self-doubt when the media and the left try to make you think something is wrong with you for protecting the Bill of Rights. George Washington had to overcome the words, rebel and traitor.

In the American Revolution there was a man named Samuel Whittamore, he was Britains most formidable opponent. He was an American agent out to stop the British and once had commanded a troop of Dragoons for the crown. He was a tough customer and at 80 years old he wasn't cowed by 1500 Red coats. Sam heard the British were coming through his town, so he spent the day gearing up. A brace of pistols, a saber, and a musket load. He told his wife he was going out to meet the regulars. He joined his men positioned at Coopers tavern, 150 yards behind a stonewall on route to Boston. He put himself directly in the path of flanking company's of Colonel Nizbit's 47th regiments and the main body. He took down several Tories then a round hit Samuel in the face and knocked him down. He was bayoneted over 13 times, they thought one of their worst tormentors was gone. With his face half shot away, he survived and lived to be 100 years old. He insisted he'd do it all over again as he told the story to one and all.

If you believe in freedom, the vision of our forefathers and pledge allegiance to the flag, you are a Minute Man.

I salute all Veterans who have served this great land, not only have they kept our Freedom, but have freed many a nation from abuse of human and civil rights, crushed by evil empires and regimes.

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# Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

## THE TERRITORY WAR

For all time there has been an ongoing war between mankind and the critters he tries to live with. I don't mean a worthless brother-in-law or a mother-in-law who thinks her baby is married to a shiftless bum, but the other types of critters that run around on four legs. Most species of wild life (that includes us) as well as some species of aquatic fish, sea mammals and birds are territorial. For instance, spend an entertaining afternoon watching the aerial dog fights that take place around the humming bird feeder. The maneuvers these birds fly to claim the feeder makes the Blue Angels look like a squadron of student pilots. And, imagine the outcome when someone spots a perfect hornets nest in late fall and decides to take it home only to find that a few of the residents decided to delay their trip to Florida for the winter. Since moving to the boondocks (more or less), I've been in a constant war with the locals who consider this property as their territory.

Their tactics vary according to the species. Anything that almost drags its belly on the ground when it runs qualifies as a rodent. If it crawls on its belly it's a reptile, and if it stands tall enough to chew geraniums out of pots on the front porch it's a pain in the rumble seat. When construction on the house was completed, it stood in the middle of two acres, and in spite of a long row of trees along the length of one side, it resembled an outpost in the middle of the Gobi desert. Even though I had planned to construct a runway on the east end for the possibility of taking up the sport of radio controlled aircraft, my wife thought differently. So, twenty two white pine seedlings were planted along with two white spruce trees, five feet tall. Then came two Bradford pear trees and one specimen I haven't been able to identify. Even though they were a nuisance to mow around, I kept a close eye on them and watched as they began to sprout new foliage. So did the deer. By mid December the forest was down to six measly little stubs and I was seriously considering wiring them with 220 volts of buck cooking juice. The next spring the stubby pines began spitting out sprigs of new foliage that offered another smorgasbord for the local livestock and reduced my vast forestry to one sickly little pine tree. To add insult to injury, it and one of the blue spruce kicked up

their heels and turned brown this last summer.

Even though a runway was looking more promising, I planted four peach tree starts and watched as they grew rapidly. Taking no chances, I surrounded them with wire mesh and patrolled the yard daily. However, just like soldiers sticking their heads up out of foxholes, they grew above the mesh and the deer began dining on green peach cobbler. I finally concluded that eventually, I would have to build eight foot high fences around them and walk night guard duty. So, there are now four peach tree stalks along with the remains of a young curly willow stripped of its bark standing in the middle of my new upcoming runway. Maybe the varmints did me a favor, but I can see cracking up a model aircraft being expensive. I can't win.

I hate rodents. When it comes to street smarts, nothing compares to moles, mice, chipmunks, and squirrels. Add to that a crustacean called a crawdad. For five years the yard looked like a miniature training ground for aerial bombardment and coal mining. Starting in the spring, small volcano shaped mounds sprung up along with a network of tunnels crisscrossing the yard. As far as I was concerned, mole traps were somewhat ineffective and I wasn't going to feed a fox terrier strictly for the purpose of digging up moles. I finally devised what I call Mole-Atov cocktails. Put a dab of peanut butter on a small square of bread and mix in D-Con. Wad it into a ball, bore a hole in a run, drop it in and close the hole. Hee, Hee. No moles for the past two summers. As for the miniature lobsters, I've tried pouring insecticide and herbicides down the holes and bombing them with firecrackers. My last desperate try will be dropping wires down the holes and cranking a generator to hopefully fry the ugly bugs.

Mice and the occasional chipmunk seem to consider our garage as the local Holiday Inn, but they don't bother to follow the procedures and check in or out. Mice will chew the sole off an old combat boot and leave little pellets everywhere as their calling cards. Even though I've snared a few this fall, I'm now considering setting the garage on fire to solve the problem. As for chipmunks, they may be cute, but instead of trying to pop them with the BB gun I'm switching to a 12 gauge. Then, maybe I won't be finding acorns in the nooks and crannies of my motorcycle engine. The determining factor as to who wins the territory wars will be if my wife finds a rodent in the house. There will then be an official declaration of war. ■



Now I gotch ya' you little varmint! (Photo by Ray Dickerson)




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# Big Game Hunting



by Joel Biltz

## STANLEY

After a long four years of bad luck and passing many, many smaller bucks I knew I had to change things up a bit, if this year was going to be different. I have not used any trail cameras for the last three years as all of my scouting consisted of sitting in my truck with binoculars and a spotting scope countless hours watching and trying to pattern these deer. But this year I decided to buy a few trail cameras and boy did it pay off big time.

By the first of October I had trail cam pictures of three bucks that were worthy of a dirt nap. I was getting quite a few pictures a week from the cameras. Deer number one on my hit list was a buck I named "Helicopter." I have been hunting this buck for two years now and was relieved when he showed up again this year after having an encounter



Last live trail camera pic of Stanley that morning. I took him later that same day from my tree stand. (Author Photo)

with him on opening day of bow season last year. I actually got within 40 yards of him bedded down and waited for three hours for him to stand up. When he finally stood I took the shot I had practiced all summer only to hit a small twig and shave some hairs off his belly and draw a small amount of blood. Knowing he was alive and well made me very happy. Helicopter is a true 30 inch wide deer and that is just unheard of for whitetail deer. Next on my list was a buck I named "Tic Toc." Tic Toc was a new buck that showed up this year. He was a real nice 11 point with a three inch drop tine. These two deer were the most consistent of all the bucks I

first two days of bow season. So on Sept 30th I went to check my cameras and low and behold there was Stanley on the 29th of Sept during the early morning but in shooting light. My buddy and I tried the first two days of the season to tag team this buck to no avail.

For the next two weeks depending on the wind I would hunt hoping for a chance at one of my three hit list bucks. It had been very slow only seeing does fawns and one small half rack buck.

On October 16th I had all but decided to stay home with the family since deer movement had been slow and it was a full moon. But for some reason my wife encouraged me to go and I was in the stand by 4:45 p.m. My trail camera is actually hung in the same tree as my stand is so I grabbed the camera card and up the tree I went. I quickly scanned through all the pictures and to my surprise Stanley was there early that morning. I immediately texted my wife and told her that Stanley was there that morning and he had to be real close. By 5:00 p.m. a lone doe stepped out of the cedar thicket into the freshly cut corn field. Ten minutes later I was watching 3 does and two fawns feed in the corn. At about 6:30 I had heard a deer walking in the thicket behind me, but I thought it had just left. I had all but forgotten about that deer when out of the corner of my eye I caught movement right behind me. For the first time I had laid eyes on Stanley and he was only twelve yards away. He glanced up at me for a minute and then looked at all the other deer in the field, so he evidently felt everything was safe, so he headed out into the field. I slowly drew my Prime Impact bow and sent a BlackEagle arrow tipped with a Steelforce Phathead broadhead right through both lungs. There is no better feeling in the world "except my wedding day, and the birth of my twins" watching your arrow fly true and hit that perfect spot. Stanley ran about 150 yards and the rest is history.

I would like to thank Tom Stricker of Cutting Edge Sporting Goods in Greensburg Indiana for hooking me up with the outstanding Prime Impact bow. The Steelforce broadhead company for making the best fixed blade broadheads made. My wife for encouraging me to go hunting the night Stanley showed up.

Until next time Hunt Hard and Hunt Safe. ■



This photo was taken morning after finding "Stanley." Stanley field dressed at 217 lbs and had 11 points. (Author Photo)

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# Changes On Tap For 17th Annual Indiana Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl Expo

*Indiana's premier hunting enthusiast event gets an extra day and expanded hours*

**INDIANAPOLIS** – The Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo, the state's premier hunting enthusiast consumer show, will return to the Indiana State Fairgrounds **February 20-23**, closing weekend of the **60th annual Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show – the largest outdoor show of its kind in the U.S.A.**

The 70,000 square-foot Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo is a one-of-a-kind event in Indiana, offering hundreds of thousands of hunting enthusiasts from across the Midwest a comprehensive collection of exhibitors providing the latest hunting-related products and services, outfitters from North America and across the globe, cutting edge seminars covering a full range of wildlife conservation and hunting topics, exciting attractions, demonstrations, contests and more.

Traditionally held during opening weekend of the ten-day **Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show**, this year's Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo is being moved to the final weekend, allowing show organizers to extend the expo an extra day while also offering expanded hours. The **2014 17th annual Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo** will open at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 20, and close at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, February 23.

Show organizer, **Renfro Productions and Management, Inc.**, is extending this year's Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo to pro-



Indiana Deer and Turkey Expo, Deer Scoring and Hoosier Hall of Fame Display at 2012 Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show at Indiana State Fairgrounds Exposition Hall. (Photo provided by Janine Lawton for Renfro Productions & Management, Inc.)

vide exhibitors and consumers more time to spend with one another while also expanding show features. "Hunting is more than a hobby or pastime," says Kevin Renfro, an avid hunter himself who spends several days in the field with his son each year. "It is a lifestyle for most," he continues. "Lengthening the Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo gives these folks expanded access to more of everything they love and look forward to about hunting and the great outdoors."

The Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show has consistently attracted all manner of out-

door enthusiasts through its doors for the past 60 years. In addition to hunters, anglers, campers, hikers and paddlers, motorcyclists comprise a substantial percentage of these enthusiasts as well, coming primarily for the show's other dedicated expo event – the highly successful Indiana Motorcycle Expo. This event will continue in full force this year, now taking place during opening weekend of the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show, February 14-16.

### Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo hours:

Thursday, February 20: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
 Friday, February 21: 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
 Saturday February 22, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, February 23, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### Admission prices:

\$13 Adults  
 \$11 Seniors (60+)  
 \$8 Kids (6-12)  
 FREE All kids 5 and under

For the latest show features, seminar schedules and information, or to purchase tickets online, go to [www.IndySportShow.com](http://www.IndySportShow.com)



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<b>SKULL CAP OR HIDE</b>	<b>\$10.00</b>	(hide must be picked up within 24 hours of drop off)

Summer Sausage	\$6.50/Roll (Approx 2# Roll)	Snack Sticks w/Cheese	\$7.50/lb. (10 sticks/#)
Summer Sausage w/Cheese	\$7.00/Roll (Approx 2# Roll)	Cheddar Cheese or Jalapeno Cheese	
Cheddar Cheese or		HOT Snack Sticks	\$7.50/lb. (10 sticks/#)
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Habanero Cheese		Deer Bratwurst	\$2.75/lb.
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The white buoys in this photo mark the safe passage through the tree stumps on Toledo Bend. (Photos by Author)



This is our fishing pontoon. We stood on the front to guide the boat through the hidden tree stumps to the brushpiles. (Photos by Author)

## Outdoors



With Rich Creason

### Southern Food, Fish and Hospitality

The large sign and extremely attractive landscaping told Susie and I we had almost arrived at our destination. Another half mile of winding driveway bordered by large trees and glimpses of water and golf course led us to the front entrance of Cypress Bend Resort on the western border of Louisiana.

We came to this area of the country to attend a four-day outdoor writers' conference. Before the event started though, we had reservations for two nights at this gorgeous resort on the shores of Toledo Bend Lake. We had contacted Linda Curtis-Sparks, Director of the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission, for assistance setting up our visit. (Go to [www.toledobendlakecountry.com](http://www.toledobendlakecountry.com)). We would be joined by two other writers during our stay at Cypress Bend Resort, Brad Wiegmann and his wife, Judy, and Jim Zumbo.

We had known Brad and Judy for several years and had fished with them on a previous occasion. Brad writes for the Arkansas Sportsman, Southern Outdoors, Outdoor Life, Bassmaster and other publications. Anyone who has read any outdoor stories in the national magazines has probably heard the name Jim Zumbo. Jim is the host of "Jim Zumbo Outdoors" on The Outdoor Channel and has had stories in probably every national out-

door magazine on the stands. He also has written numerous outdoor books and cookbooks.

We all met our first evening in the Sabine Social room at the resort for appetizers. We were joined by Linda from the Tourist Commission. A couple trays loaded with appetizers soon arrived. One item was a jalapeno pepper covered with cream cheese and wrapped in bacon. There were also two different kinds of mini meat pies. One was crawfish pie and I can't remember the name of the other. But, all were excellent! Linda entertained us with stories of Sabine Parish and the history of Toledo Bend Lake.

We then retired to the Cypress Bend Resort dining room overlooking the 18th green and fairway. While Susie and I are not golfers, I really appreciate the amount of work involved keeping these grounds maintained as I was the head groundskeeper for a large institution for 32 years. The wait staff brought baskets of great looking rolls and our menus. While there were many fine selections to choose from, when I saw frog legs listed I looked no further. The food and conversation were both excellent. (Breakfast and lunch are served here also.) We three guys were booked on a fishing trip the following day, while the girls were on their own for golf, shopping, sightseeing, hiking, or relaxing in the resort spa.

Before the activities started the next morning, we met Edith Garwood, Regional Sales Manager for Cypress Bend Resort. She asked if we would like a guided tour of the grounds. She commandeered two golf carts and one of the managers from the pro shop and we headed out. Susie rode with the guy and handled the camera while I rode with Edith and took notes.

The winding trail through the grounds was beautiful. Areas of gorgeous flowers (still

in bloom in Louisiana), vistas of cypress trees along the lake, and the well manicured lawns of the greens and fairways greeted us at every turn. Fox and deer abound on the 400 acre property and we saw eagles soaring overhead. (If you are interested in a great location for a business meeting, wedding, golf or fishing trip, or just a neat place for a family outing, get the information at [www.cypressbend.com](http://www.cypressbend.com) or call 318-256-1011.)

Toledo Bend is the largest manmade lake in the South, covering 186,000 acres. Most of it has large areas of standing dead timber above the water. Unfortunately for boaters who don't know the lake, the timber is standing just below the water also. Equipment was brought in which cut the dead trees down 12 feet below the water creating wide paths for watercraft. Buoys line these trails allowing safe passage through the lake.

We were booked to go fishing with J.T.Thompson of Living the Dream Guide Service to see if we could make a small dent in the crappie population. (Go to [www.ltdguideservice.com](http://www.ltdguideservice.com) or call 318-990-9156 for more info on a trip on Toledo Bend Lake.) We met with him on his huge dock to start our outing. His dock (and many others on this lake) has all the amenities of home. A stocked bar, large living area, sink for cleaning fish, a deep fryer for cooking them and much more makes this a home on the water.

We boarded the pontoon and headed out into

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This fine bunch of crappie decided to stay and have dinner with us. Fried with some Cajun seasonings & accompanied by a table of other delicious food just the way I like to eat.



The docks on Toledo Bend lake are not like we're used to. This one is almost the size of our house with bar, living area, sink, plus openings large enough to winch up two pontoons.

the lake. Dead standing timber was all around us, but the line of buoys helped us navigate through the dangerous areas. But to get to the fishing spots, JT had to leave this area and weave between obstructions. We stood on the front of the boat to watch for sunken snags which would damage the boat or motor.

We arrived at one of the man-made brush piles made of willow and sweet gum where we hoped large numbers of monster crappie were waiting to attack our bait. At the first stop, we caught some average size crappie plus some bluegill and several foot-long catfish. When the action slowed, we moved on to another spot.

To get to the next location, we had to thread our way between submerged trees for about a half mile. We anchored over a huge log and surrounding cover. Minnows were the bait of choice and we dropped them over the side. Almost immediately, 10 to 12 inch crappie left their watery home to start filling our livewell. Once again, several nice size catfish attacked our bait, but were quickly released to fight again.

It was almost time to meet the ladies back at the

dock to start the big fish fry. Of course, on the return trip, JT decided to try another secret location before quitting. Action was slower, but some more crappie and bluegill decided to join us for dinner. A half dozen catfish were again returned to the lake.

Back on the dock, pictures were taken, and the fish filleted, breaded and dropped in the fryer. The ladies had prepared some tasty southern dishes for our enjoyment and drinks (ours was diet pop) were offered around to friends and neighbors who joined us for this great evening.

If you are interested in a vacation down south (and you should be), contact Linda at the Sabine Parish Tourist Commission and have her help set you up with information about the area, call Edith for reservations at the Cypress Bend Resort, and then have JT and Living the Dream Guide Service take you for a memorable day on Toledo Bend Lake. And don't forget to fill up on the local cuisine.

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



Benjamin Marques with his meat eating dinosaur tooth found in South Dakota on a dinosaur bon dig with the Indianapolis Children's Museum. (Photo by Author)

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# Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

## What Will Campers Do this Winter? #2

Probably nearly everyone who camps has their own agenda for the winter months. Well, maybe. As we've suggested in earlier Gad-A-Bouts the most important thing you can start off the winter doing is to winterize your camping unit whether it might be a motor home or a tent. We alluded to motor homes and travel trailers but fold downs and tents are just as important to winterize before storing them away. Besides setting up your tent or fold down trailer to dry in the Fall sun and then waterproofing the canvas (and let dry), run the sweeper in and around all the nooks and crannies and spray a six month insect spray into those nooks and crannies. Whichever type(s) of unit you're storing we suggest plugging in pest or varmint chasers. Electronic signals are sent out and the little varmints can't stand the sound (shock) waves. Pets aren't affected as far as we've heard. Each small plug in sends waves over about 200 square feet and larger ones cover much more area. Mice, squirrels, shrews, and chipmunks don't even think about coming close to our camper any season of the year.

Varmints can make a mess in no time flat and they invite in their furry friends to party in your unit all winter. As we've said before we had over \$5,000 worth of damage in a 5th wheel we had, done by fox and grey squirrels and chipmunks. Just recently we were talking to an RV dealer and he said he had seen or had heard of other several thousand dollar amounts of damage. The little electronic chargers cost little, use pennies worth of electricity a day and can be found in many types of camper stores and/or in big box stores.

Even though we don't own or manage a campground any more we like to visit the Indiana owners we've known for years. Just recently we went to a campground about eight miles from our home and talked with some of the owners and managers. They were gathered for a monthly meeting of the Indiana Campground Owners' Association. Each month throughout the year owners go to member campgrounds in Indiana to get updated on legislation, suggestions for activities, new products on the market, etc. Their main question of us was, "do you miss the campground business?" We replied that we relish the freedom from sometimes eighteen hour days, but we do miss the people who camped with us and that we e-mail and face book with several. Now we can follow our kids and grandkids in their activities. All of this running around taxes the old bodies, too.

We follow the trends of camping in various camping magazines, newsletters, and other publications as well as on the internet. Just recently we've found that new numbers of camping units indicate a boom has returned to the RV industry. Midway through the year 2013, wholesale shipments, tracked by the Recreational Vehicle Industry Council, climbed to 174,871 units, a

12.8% increase over year 2012. Motor home shipments jumped from 12,576 in June of 2012 to 19,425 in June of 2013. Towable trailers grew from 140,412 to 153,446, a 10.7% increase. One of our northern counties, Elkhart, produces about 80% of all RV's made in the United States. There are about 30 RV manufacturers and 100 industry suppliers and world corporation headquarters in Elkhart County. The companies expect this whole gain of momentum to last the next nine to ten years and then the next generation of campers will hopefully be nearly ready to keep the trend going. This means that Elkhart and surrounding counties will need to diversify beyond just heavy and light manufacturing, including new homes, schools, shopping, etc., and will affect the whole State of Indiana, Southern Michigan, and probably North-West Ohio. Taxes on the camping units sold throughout the world stay in our counties and are reinvested into improving the local communities' infrastructure.

Write or call ahead and travel up to these RV manufacturers and take a tour of these fascinating plants. We've seen units that were built here being used all over the world. This next information comes from WNDU-TV in South Bend, Indiana. A quote from Dorinda Heiden-Guss, President of the Economic Development Council of Elkhart County says it all: "to just be able to have the freedom to go where you want, stop and have breaks when you want, is a whole different life-style; it is the freedom America is built on. Michiana is the heart of America-we're the mid-west and we make things and we make things well and it's kind of neat to see the benefactors as you drive down the road, and it's made here."

Most of you know campers who travel in their short vacations from work, or year around travelers, and many people who fly or drive to winter destinations where they have campers stored, or those who drive or pull their campers to Southeast, South or Southwest for the winter. Then there are those friends or family members who travel to warmer areas in winter or spring break. Some school districts now have a two week Fall break, a two week break over Christmas and New Years', and another two week break in the Spring. This means the kids get out of school in early June, and go back to school in early or middle August.

A lot of recreation facilities in Indiana are taking a big hit when the "normal" three months of summer are now shortened to just over two months, but other facilities will be seeing more people skiing, ice fishing, snowmobiling, sledding and ice skating in the winter. Back in early 2008 I wrote a guest column in 80 Indiana newspapers in favor of having school start after Labor Day and close before Memorial Day. Thirty minutes would be added to each school day and the total added time would replace any need of makeup days for ice or snow or fog. The two weeks of Christmas and the one week of Spring Break would be retained. One cannot count the number of amen, thank you, and agreeable e-mails we received from parents and teachers. Parents do want more valuable family time with their kids and now adjustments are going to have to be made by parents in their work schedules to facilitate the two weeks fall, two weeks Christmas and two weeks spring breaks built into many school years. Here goes Soap Box Johnny again.

Let us know about some of your new found get-aways and other special places in Indiana and we'll tell others by way of the Gad-A-Bout. If you have anything about camping you'd like us to write about just e-mail us at: [jmacnut@yahoo.com](mailto:jmacnut@yahoo.com) or call us at 260-637-3524. Have a good, safe winter.

John and El McCory

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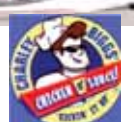


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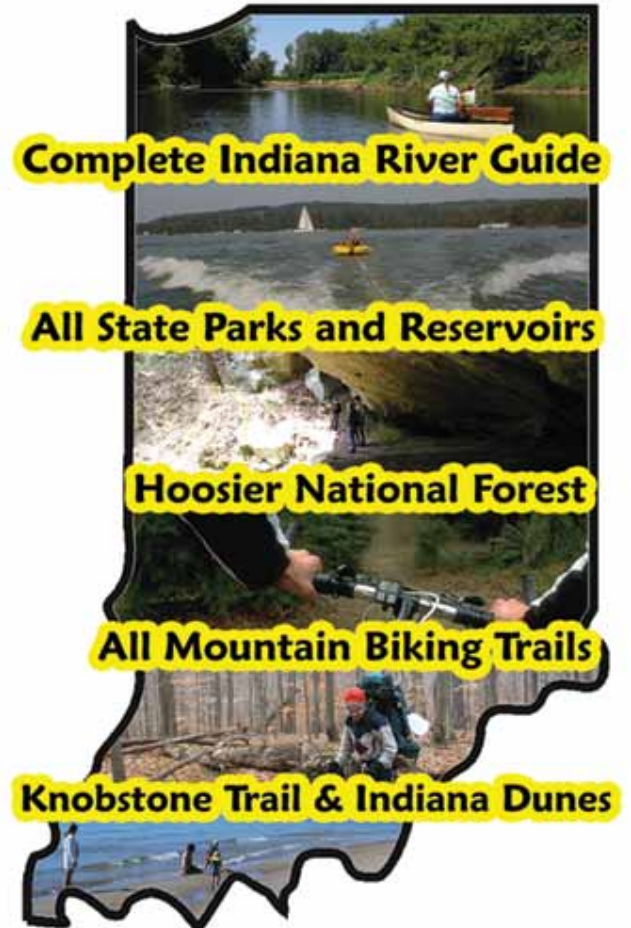
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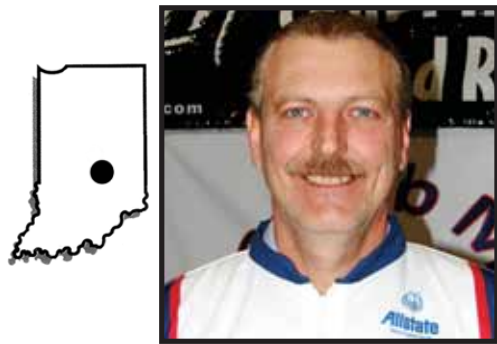


Glenn Gill & Tom Hankins with their 1st place plaques. (Photo by Tom Hankin)



Mike Bledsoe with his and Alan Suthowski's 2nd place plaque (Photo by Tom Hankins)

# Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

## Raccoon Lake Tournament

Saturday September 21st was the last regular season tournament for the Indiana Slab Masters and with the points championship coming down to the wire with two teams tied going into the last tournament of the season it proved to be an eventful tournament. The chosen lake was Cecil M Harden better known as Raccoon Lake, situated on the Big Raccoon Creek in West Central Indiana. It is a lake I had not fished in many years and had never actually been on the lake previously, only fishing the Creek.

I visited the Lake the weekend prior to the tournament to check some spots I had found on the map. I was surprised to catch the number of fish I caught in only a few hours. Size was another matter, of the fish I caught there was almost no difference in size all being between 9 1/2"-10" and all but one being black crappie.

The day before the tournament, I met my partner at the ramp to check that my spots were still holding fish and was a little worried as the bite had slowed at the first couple of spots we checked but when we moved to the third spot and the last spot we would be able to fish before dark, they were still there and we planned to start there. We spent the night in Rockville along with a few other teams and after dinner at one of the fast food

places and covering the boat in a down pour we finally made it to bed a little later than planned. The next morning after stopping for coffee we made our way to the state park ramp to help with sign ups and live well inspections. We got the 24 teams signed up and had time to stop for breakfast on the way to the ramp we planned to launch from. By daylight we were set up to spider rig and were jigging a brush pile until light enough to see our rod tips. Within the first hour we must have boat-ed 25 fish and were culling the rest of the day working to find seven good fish. In all we probably caught at least 150 crappie. Our seven biggest were only good enough for ninth place, just enough to keep us in fifth place in the BnM poles point's race.

Our preferred method of crappie fishing, as with most tournament crappie fishing teams is spider rigging. It is (to those who are not familiar with this method) a very productive way to catch crappie and at times it is very hectic trying to keep up with all the rods. At times we had fish on four and five rods at once and a couple times during this tournament we had doubles on multiple rods. Much unlike white crappie, black crappie are more exciting to catch and even smaller fish put up a good fight running and tangling lines if allowed. It was a very exciting tournament with 21 teams weighing fish and most weighing a 7 fish limit.

Coming out on top of the Raccoon tournament and with their first win of 2013 was this year's point champions Glenn Gill and Tom Hankins the team spider rigged with LakeFork Baby Shad to catch their winning weight of 5.54lbs.

The team of Mike Bledsoe and Alan Suthowski finished the day in second with a weight of 5.41lbs. Mike and Allan fished the North end of the lake. Charlie and Paul Hildreth locked up 2nd in points by finishing third with 5.40lbs also spider rigging the Northern part of the lake. The only other team to break the 5lb mark was the fourth place team of Don Licht and John Williams 5.05lbs.. Rounding out the top five with a weight of 4.87lbs is the husband wife team of Randy and Sheri Hooser.

You can view all of the Indiana Slab Masters tournament results and BnM poles points race results at [indianaslabmasters.com](http://indianaslabmasters.com) or [indianaslabmasters.org](http://indianaslabmasters.org) posted below is the top ten teams from Raccoon Lake along with pictures from this tournament and the year end Banquet.

2013 has been an exceptional year and I would like to thank everyone for their help with my position as tournament director throughout the season. I will not be able to continue in this position for the 2014 season and will really miss being as involved with the series, but I wish the best to my



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2nd Place winners Mike and Allan with their best crappie. (Photo by Tom Hankins)



3rd Place winners Charlie and Paul Hildreth with some of their crappie. (Photo by Tom Hankins)



Don Licht and John Williams with 4th place fish. (Photo by Tom Hankins)



Sheri and Randy Hooser with their 5th place fish. (Photo by Tom Hankins)

successor and will offer my assistance any way possible during the transition. I would also like to thank my sponsors for the 2013 season.

**The following are the Top Ten Teams with weights from Raccoon Lake.**

- 1st Glenn Gill and Tom Hankins 5.54 lbs.
- 2nd Mike Bledsoe and Alan Suthowski 5.41lbs.
- 3rd Charlie and Paul Hildreth 5.40 lbs.
- 4th Don Licht and John Williams 5.05 lbs.
- 5th Sheri and Randy Hooser 4.87 lbs.
- 6th Larry Yates and Doug Allen 4.84 lbs.
- 7th Bret Cunningham & Josh Kleber 4.75 lbs.
- 8th Dave Wright and Joe Long 4.72 lbs.

9th Ron Bilbrey and Damon Phillips 4.34 lbs.  
 10th Phil Grater and Dwayne Brown 4.29 lbs.

See below right and on Page 24 photos of the Indiana Slab Masters awards banquet held in the Pavilion Osprey Room on Morris Lake October 11, 2013.

Next month, January 2014 issue, Ron will have the results of the Indiana Slab Masters Classic Tournament held on Morris Lake.

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 Tight Lines Everyone  
 Ron Bilbrey

**MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 24**

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Glen Gill & Tom Hankins 2013 Points Champions. (Photo by Tom Hankins)

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# Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM

## All I want for Christmas is

A short novel by a mountain man want to be.....

My wife thinks that I probably was a mountain man in a previous life. Probably died young, and hence left my spirit restless and unfulfilled. I wonder how I died, a grizzly maybe, or a mountain lion. I sure hope it wasn't an altercation with a native American or another mountain man, but those happened too. Maybe I was thrown from my horse when a rattle snake struck out at it as we picked our way along a ledge. What became of my traps and other necessities for life. Did someone pick up my rifle, or is it still lying in some Mountain valley, rusting away. Only the All mighty Knows.

To modern day.....

It is the 15th day of December, one month since I commenced trapping as it were. The weather has been supportive, little misty rain, but not enough to make making a set an exercise in mud pie construction. My traps are all out, and the fur is coming in regular like. Most of my stretchers have been filled a time or two. Things are looking good. All of those Trapper Education Classes that I have attended, all of those demonstrations that I have watched at the various Conventions, and the private Q & A with Dennis Cobb have actually benefited the look of my furs. Wow, this year's coyote may sell for more than the \$1.00 last year's did. Wish I could find more muskrat and mink. Sure hope the weather holds out.

Now it is raining snow, hard.....

The next five days do not look promising. The weather woman says that we are in for a white Christmas, though it may be more ice than snow. I paid \$60 to get the truck out of a field yesterday. From here on, I walk. If my traps are not frozen in, they are floating on the ice. I have begun to pull those traps that lay farthest from the roads. Someone helped me pull a few of my traps that were closest to the roads. I'll be sure to thank them when they drop my traps and catch off. Yeah, like that will happen. At least I am losing some weight doing all this walking. Did find myself turned around in the woods the other day, and walked right into a barb wire fence. I think I got too cold, but the fence brought me out of my stupor. Need to really watch out for that hypothermia. It sneaks up on

you, and all of a sudden you are doing something that doesn't make sense. My waders are leaking now.

Two days to Christmas Eve.....

I caught a bright Cherry Red Fox today. As I walked back over a crest in the field, there he was jumping about,

his red in contrast to the white of winter. He fell for a regular dirt hole set that had half a muskrat in four pieces shoved down the hole. From the looks of the set, he hasn't been here long. I am glad I got to him before a coyote did. I have been trapping this spot for seven years, and he was the first red fox that I had ever caught there. I remade the set, planning for a coyote this time. Down the hill, is the Blue River and a few beaver sets. They are all empty and I pull them out so they do not get frozen in. The six beaver hanging on hoops in the garage must have been the better part of this colony this year. A new colony will be back next year, no doubt about it. It was quite a sight watching that Red run for cover.

Christmas Eve.....

Almost all of my traps are in, the weather has continued to be a challenge. Most of my dry dirt is gone. The catch as been good, and I may even be in the black after I pay my gas bill back to the household budget fund. It is time to concentrate on getting everything ready for the fur sale. This coming **January 11th, 2014**, a Saturday, the Indiana State Trappers Association will be having its next fur sale at the **Miami County 4-H Fairgrounds located at 1079 W. 200 N., Peru, IN 46970**. The doors open at 8 am and the sale begins around 10 am. Last year 35 trappers sold lots of fur containing 1800 skins, to 13 Buyers bidding against each other. Prices were pretty high compared to other venues that went on around us at the same time. Things look optimistic for this year. Hopefully a few more people will step forward and volunteer to help out. If they have any questions, they can call Fred "DR" Philips, DVM at **765.938.1806** and leave a clear message or contact him at [fpp@juno.com](mailto:fpp@juno.com). Hopefully that guy that called last year, at 7 am on Saturday morning for directions, calls a little earlier this year.

It is Christmas Morning.....Snow covers the ground.

All I want for Christmas is peace on earth, goodwill toward man, and an end to this endless senseless fighting concerning who's religion is right and who's religion is wrong. Can we not all agree to treat our fellow man as we would like to be treated, with respect, love, and mutual benefit for all. Guess I will have to settle for the half dozen Lil Grizz Traps from Sterling Fur that I bought for my wife's gift to me. God I love her. Peace on Earth, Good Will toward man. So as you go, watch your top knot, keep your eyes along the skyline.

Fred "DR" Philips, DVM  
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# Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

## In Bowhunting there are no guarantees

It felt good to be in a treestand finally this past Sunday morning. It was the first time I had a chance to get out and hunt since the early archery season opened and it was probably the only chance I would have until the next weekend.

I was really looking forward to get in and hunt this spot and I felt like my odds were pretty high. The deer were feeding heavily on the acorns that were abundant around my stand and I felt that I could easily sneak into this little corner without being detected.

Well, I was partially right. The deer were feeding heavily on the acorns; however, I was not able to sneak in undetected. No matter though, I still had hopes of at least getting a glimpse of deer before the morning was over. Barely after daylight, I heard the first tell-tell sounds of the cadence of deer hooves in the leaves lightly crunching through the woodlot behind me. Eventually, a plump doe revealed herself and made herself comfortable as she munched on acorns.

She was a mature doe, and alone, so I made the decision to try to take her if given the chance. I was also content to just watch her if a shot never presented itself. Eventually, after about ten minutes, the doe did offer me a perfect broadside shoe at a distance of only ten yards. As I began to draw my bow, it screeched in protest and was difficult to draw back, nearly stopping mid-draw. My arrow popped off the string and clumsily fell to the base of the tree. The once calm doe had since bolted and I was left scratching my head and wondering what the heck just happened.

I found that somehow, my cable had slipped off my lower cam and was pinched between the cam and the bottom limb of the bow. The only thing I could come up with was that a limb or weeds must have gotten wedged between the cable and the cam allowing the cable to roll off the cam or something. I had seen this before, but it isn't just super common either. Either way, it meant a trip to the archery shop.

Once there, it wasn't outwardly obvious to the bow technician what the problem was either. He eventually was able to determine, however, that a screw had gotten loose and backed its way out of the cam, allowing one of the lobes on the cam to roll



Given the limitations and all sorts of things that can go awry, any game animal that is legally taken with a bow and arrow is a true trophy, which is what makes bowhunting, albeit quite frustrating at times, so rewarding. (Author Photo)

backwards and allowing the cable to roll off.

I had no warning that this was going to happen. I had just shot the bow the day before with no issues or inklings that anything was awry. Heck, even if I had checked my equipment prior to the hunt, I likely would not have looked for that particular problem anyway – but from now on I will!

The only thing I did not do that morning, which I always try to do before starting each hunt, was to draw my bow a time or two after ascending into my stand. I am not sure why I didn't do it that morning; complacency I guess. Not that it would have changed the outcome of that hunt; I wouldn't have been able to shoot that doe anyway until my bow was repaired. But it sure would have saved me some time, and prevented me from spooking the deer.

Better yet, if I had checked my bow before tucking it away in the case the night before, I just might have caught that problem and had a chance to get it taken care of prior to that hunt - maybe. It is also very possible that the cable slipped off the cam as I was actually drawing the bow on that doe. I can't say for sure.

The bottom line is that as a bowhunter, you realize every little thing that can go wrong to ruin your hunt. Whether it's a cable slipping off your cam or more common atrocities such as your being deflected by a limb, a squeak in your treestand, or yes, even a piece of mud falling off your boot to the ground at the worst time, there is a myriad of things that can happen that can cause your hunt to end way differently than you had planned.

Bowhunting isn't easy, and it requires practice, patience and persistence. And for everything little thing that can go wrong, these are also the reasons that makes it so incredibly rewarding on those rare occasions when everything goes right. Taking any animal with stick and string is no small feat, regardless of species or size. If you bowhunt, you get it. ■

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and that's the news from  
**West Central Indiana**



by Don Bickel, Forester

**A Visit with Hal Bench**

Here in West Central Indiana, we haven't been over-supplied with rain in this late summer period, but last night there was a decent shower. While , in the morning at least, it was too wet to do some outside chores, the water had soaked into the dry ground.

This weather event gave me reason to think today would be the day to drive down to see my friend, Hal Bench. Hal, as you may know lives in the southwest corner of the county. The grave road he and the Missus live on can be a bit duty at times, but the overnight shower has laid the dust.

Need directions to their house? Take the state highway south west from town and turn toward Sugar Creek when you get to Mitch's Bal Hinch Store. Take that paved road till it turns to gravel and then watch for the mailbox that says "Bench".

Their house sets back at the end of a lane through the woods. The road dust never reached that far, mostly because Hal never cleared out the small trees and shrubs just so he could see the road. He said, if he wanted to see the road, he would have just put the house right by it and if anyone wanted to see the house, they could drive back the lane.

Today, as I drove back the lane, I was reminded of a number of farm homes in our part of southern Indiana where I grew up. Oaks, hickory and maple trees created a canopy over the lane and scattered redbud, dogwood and spicebush filled in the openings on the wood's floor. Seedlings and saplings of tulip poplar, sugar maple, red and white oak and shagbark hickory completed the picture of a thriving stand of forest trees.

Hal had made a timber sale or two in the past years. Those tree tops and limbs that remained after the logs were removed, had rotted and blended into the new seedlings which had germinated when sun-light reached the wood's floor. Some of the tops closest to the lane had been converted to firewood, but the remainder became shelter for a wide number of woodland creatures. Deer would bed in these brushy piles, particularly in the winter time and a myriad of forest insects would methodically convert the same brush pile to duff on the forest floor.

Hal was home - I use his pickup for a guide on the matter. I hadn't called, the trip itself was a part of the

reason for going. Even on this wet, rainy day, I might see wild turkeys or deer in a wood's edge.

"Donald, come on in. We're runnin' a bit late and wuz jist fixin' to set down fer dinner. (that's lunch for those not brought up on the farm.). They's an extry cheer and the Missus will rustle up another plate. I 'spect you don't mind eatin' leftover venison roast sandwich. It's time to use some of last year's deer meat, the season's comin' agin."

Home baked bread and venison slices taken from a hindquarter roast, provided by a fat doe taken last November by Hal, topped with tomato slices made the main menu. The tomato and cabbage slaw came from the fall garden.

"Donald, I figur'd out how to make some extry money and not have to plow up anything to do it."

I glanced over at Hal's wife and she sorta rolled her eyes upward, so I knew it would be best just eat and listen.

"Wal, I'm goin' to grow pawpaws and sell them all over the world. They's a lot of people thet don't know how good pawpaws are. They taste lik' ripe b'nanners and a lot of people like ripe b'nanners, so I now it will work."

Whoa up. It's time to lay down the sandwich and barge right in, feet first.

"Hal, you can't ship pawpaws. They get ripe too soon , once you take them off the tree. You might sell them to a Chicago tourist at the Covered Bridge Festival, but I don't think they'll make it Denver."

"Wal, I know thet. But I wuz readin' in the paper tuther day thet the givernment wuz goin' to help the peanut farmers and mohair goat growers make ends meet. So I figur's I'll do business with pawpaws."

"Now, I figur's we'll hav to struggle along fer about five years or so. I'll ship some pawpaws to some senators and other givernment folks and explain to 'em what they are. It ain't likely thet they'll hav' any idee otherwise. When they open thet package a couple of times, they're goin' to say, "Why thet poor old man needs help sellin' this exotic fruit, so we'll jist hav' to add him to the list."

"Whut we don't sell, will jist hit the ground lik' always and the coons, possums and deer will make good use of 'em. Donald, you'll be welcome to come out and get what ever pawpaws you need from Bench's Pawpaw Patch."

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My hand crafted leather belt and Holster won Best of Open Division. (Jarvis Photo)

Here I am with my hand crafted leather belt and holster tied down. (Jarvis Photo)

## Leather by Jarvis

Submitted by John Jarvis

My name is John Jarvis. I've been doing leather work since I was in the Seventh Grade. I live in Beech Grove, Indiana.

I belong with a group of leather workers called the Central Indiana Leather Guild. We also belong to the IFOLG or International Federation of Leather Guilds.

The pictures here show my leather holster and belt. This got me First in the County and Reserve Champion at the Indiana State Fair and Best of Open Division at the IFOLG Rocky Mountain Rendezvous Show in Denver, Colorado September 22-29, 2013.

It also won First, Best of Category and Best of Open Division in the year 2013.

I also help the Central Indiana Leather Guild teach 4-H, Boy Scouts etc.

Anyone reading this article who might be interested in joining the Central Indiana Leather Guild can all me at (317) 789-9442. The membership fee is \$15 for a single or \$22.50 for a family. Our

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Other views of the leather belt and holster. (Jarvis Photo)

Website [www.centralindianaleathercrafters.org](http://www.centralindianaleathercrafters.org)

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## News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

with this story. Many years ago when I worked the road at the Connersville Post I would often get public officials or new chaplains, etc. assigned to me for a ride along. This particular day I had an elected public official riding with me, when we came upon a man standing at the top of the ramp to the interstate.

He had his duffel bag of clothes, a back pack, and was eating what appeared to be a large Vidalia onion. I pulled over and asked him why he was eating an onion like an apple, and he replied he hadn't eaten in two days and had found the onion, which had fallen off of a passing truck.

I got him loaded into the car, took him over to McDonalds and got him a cheap meal and hauled him to a busy truck stop at the state line where he was more apt to get a ride. As he shook my hand, got out and closed the door, my rider looked at me and

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asked why I had helped the man; After all, "he had chosen to live that way."

As I explained to my rider, it is not up to us to judge how a man has chosen to live his life. Then I made the person read my badge, which says Indiana State Police Service. I explained that we are not just a department, but a service to all citizens in our great state, including those traveling through. We respond to tornado scenes, flood scenes and we assist motorists. Simply put, we go wherever citizens need us.

I'm in my 23rd year and am still very proud and thankful you allow all of us to work for all of you. I hope you and your families have a safe holiday, and know that when you get up in the morning, and when you go to sleep at night, there are policemen and women out there working, 365 days a year, serving you.

## Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

**2013/11/03/What-If-Gun-Control-Is-An-Impediment-Instead-Of-A-Solution**) He talks about the recent shootings and notes that the shooters were not hindered in any way by some of the strictest gun laws in the United States. Gun control is only used to control those who will comply with the law and abide by government restrictions with little complaint.

On another front, the U.N., the administration's signing of the gun control treaty still has to go before the U.S. Senate if it is ever presented to them Please consider the consequences of allowing our Constitution to be rewritten by other countries including those countries ruled by religious fanatics. Support those who are willing to fight for your civil rights, your Constitutional rights.

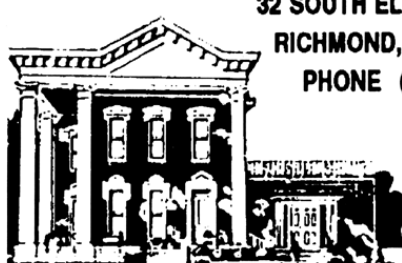
That's all for this month. These notes are mine alone and do not represent the opinion or position of anyone, just me. If you have a question or a comment on guns, gunsmithing, gun rights, or, would like to just make a comment, email me with your comments at [Marshall@MarshallJSmith.com](mailto:Marshall@MarshallJSmith.com). I'll try and answer your questions as best I can and some answers may be included in this column. Protect your Constitutional rights, exercise your voice to be heard, contact your Congressional Representative and Senator and express your opinion. Be Heard. Be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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# More Indiana Slab Master Awards Banquet Continued From Page 19



Charlie & Paul Hildreth 2013 2nd in points. (Photo by Tom Hankins)



Jim Raymer 3rd in points (missing is Jims Partner Doug Sikora). (Photo by Tom Hankins)



Gail Risner & John Quinn 4th in points. (Photo by Tom Hankins)



Ron Bilbrey & Damon Phillips 5th in points. (Photo by Tom Hankins)

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**Editor's Note:** I met Danny West at the Seabee Memorial Dedication at the Marion National Cemetery, he is the Membership Chairman of the Seabee Veterans of America. He gave me one of these "Streak Free Microfiber Cloths" and they really work! Give Danny a call, tell him you read about his Streak Free Microfiber cloth in The Gad-a-bout.

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# Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

**Editor's Note:**

Sherry and I visited with Golden Eagle on Saturday October 26th. We had a wonderful visit and even had lunch with him there at Triple Creek. He didn't have anything written for this issue and told me to find something from a previous issue. In the mean time I got his News Letter he sends out to everyone from Triple Creek. I asked him if I could reprint it here and he said it would be okay. He also said that if anyone wants to receive his News Letter he would add them to his list.

## News Letter Volume Five #9

Hi gang

Well, fall has arrived, the leaves are falling and jack frost is nipping at our noses. We had a fantastic summer and it looks like a wet fall.

The birds flocked early around here. Mostly the little chickadees which I had never seen before. I always thought they stuck around for winter. That may be an omen of what's ahead for us weather wise. I'm glad I have a nice warm, nest in which to stay.

I heard from two old and dear friends. they are both in nursing homes and seem happy. Louise Jennings, Bright Light Woman, she had the brightest aura I had ever seen. She played my wife in the trader's skit we used to do at frontier village. She has a new dog which I named 'Magic Spirit'. David Mayor, my 'youngest son', was my drum for the 'oyate wachipi' dance group. He made me a song drum that never loses it's tone no matter how damp the air is. I don't play it much lately, however I dreamt a song for my sister friend 'Singing Beaver' and tried it out on my drum. It fits well in english, but she is Tlingit so I don't know how it will sound in that language.

We have a new executive director. He is the fourth in a year. the first three were women. All very nice. Now we have John. He is knocking himself out trying to impress all of us. He is following Tri-health tradition that everyone on the staff 'doubles in brass' by waiting on tables for breakfast. I hope he stays with us for awhile.



This photo was taken at our last Frontier Days Reunion May 1, 2010. Ray, Sherry and Hank "Golden Eagle" Stock.



Sherry Dickerson and Hank "Golden Eagle" Stock.

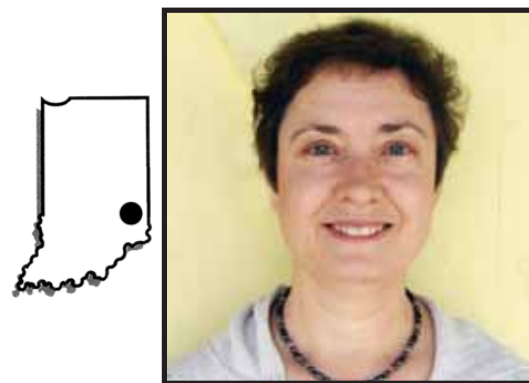


This is the Dining Room at Triple Creek where we had lunch with Hank. The food was very good. We have eaten here with Hank several times. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



This is the guest area at Triple Creek, yes the sofa and chairs are very comfortable. Its a real nice retirement home. We have visited Hank many times here. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

# Happenings in Metamora, Indiana



by Janice Hunsche



Whitewater Canal and Aqueduct. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

## December Activities

### Metamora, A Historical Canal Town

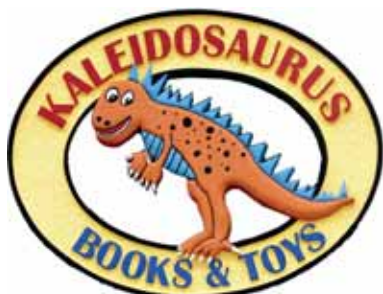
The season is coming to a close in Metamora. If you haven't been to Metamora during Christmas Walk you have been missing a magical time of year. The hours are extended on Friday and Saturday to 10pm. The buildings are lit up with Christmas lights and luminaries line the canal and walking paths. Santa is in the Santa house on Saturdays and there is live music and carolers around the village.

The Whitewater Valley train will be making special runs on Saturday Dec 7 and 14. The departure time from the Connorsville station is 4pm with a 3 1/4 hour layover in Metamora. Reservations must be made in advance by calling 765-825-2054. This train sells out very quickly.

The final day of the season is Sunday, Dec. 22. The Gristmill closes at 5pm and with it many of the stores. Then winter descends on Metamora. This is a quiet season with only a few shops open. Acoustic Final Friday returns in January after a 2 month hiatus. It is located indoors at the Cat and the Fiddle with sign up at 6:30pm and music starting at 7pm.

While you are visiting Metamora, be sure to check out the Whitewater Canal Trail. The trail located just east of Metamora stays open year around. It is about 2 miles long, just the right length for a short winter hike or if the weather permits cross country skiing or snowshoeing.

So if you are looking for a day or evening trip, be sure to come and see us in Metamora.



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1953 Centerville Basketball Team members (names & number underlined), friends and family October 23, 2013 at the MCL Cafeteria in Richmond, IN. Front Row L to R: Bill Harrison #44, Coach Les Slinker, Dale Temple #55, Barbara Widau and Sally Cook. Back Row L to R: Ron Harris #32, Bill Burris #51, Coach Keith Castelluccio, Pete Widau #22, Don Cook, Claude Soper and Don Jobe. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Looking at Mortonians, news clippings and scrap books are from left to right, Bill Burris, Ron Harris and Bill Harrison. In the background is Don Cook. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Sitting with their backs to the camera at nearest table L to R is Keith Castelluccio, Sally Cook and Bill Burris; facing is Claude Soper and Pete Widau. Backs to the camera at far table is Ron Harris and Bill Harrison, facing the camera is Coach Les Slinker and Barbara Widau, near the door is Don Cook (hidden) and Don Jobe (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

## 20th Reunion of Centerville 1953 Basketball Team

by Ray Dickerson

I attended the 20th Reunion of Centerville's 1953 celebrated basketball team at the MCL Cafeteria in Richmond, Indiana on October 23, 2013.

I got the jump on this one, last time I almost missed it, this time I called Bill Harrison ahead of time inquiring when the next reunion would be held.

Here are some statistics for this team. During the 1952-53 basketball season the team won 21 games and lost only 2. Losing to Knightstown during the regular season and to Richmond at the Sectional. After winning the final game of the season against the Brookville Greyhounds they won the title of East Central Conference and received the traveling covered

wagon from Cambridge City.

The original team members were Jim Cihlar, Billy Harrison, Pete Widau, Jerry Wickersham, Dale Temple, David Nuss, Don Chance, Lon Hamilton, Ron Harris and Bill Burris. The coaches were Les Slinker and Keith Castelluccio. The cheer leaders were Wanda Howell, Ralph Bowles and Mary Lou Loudy.

Of the original ten players five attended this reunion, they were Billy Harrison, Pete Widau, Dale Temple, Ron Harris and Bill Burris. Both coaches attended, Les Slinker and Keith Castelluccio.

Also attending was Barbara Widau (Pete's wife), Don and Sally Cook (1955), Claude Soper (1958), Don Jobe from Brookville, IN and myself (1959).

Even though I didn't graduate from Centerville until 1959 I have come to really enjoy attending their reunion. I made a point of telling those attending this

time that my photo was in their 1953 Mortonian too. On page 40 is the Centerville High School Band and I was in the 6th grade and played trombone in the band.

After sitting and talking, lunch time rolled around and we all headed for the feeding trough. I think I read somewhere when attending functions, diet's are forgotten, or maybe that was just wishful thinking.

After stuffing myself, I mingled, took photos and some ribbing from the upper class-persons. For some reason a couple of the 1953 and a 1958 basketball team member get a kick out of calling me by a couple of nicknames I thought was buried in my past.

It was great though attending their reunion, sitting and listening to them reminisce about those good ole' days back in the 50's.

Soon everyone started putting on their coats and jackets, we all headed for our cars, saying as we went out the door, see you next time. ■

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# Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

the squeaky wheel, demand your rights.

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# Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Basketball Team at the MCL Cafeteria. Go to page 26 to see new photos and some malarky I've written.

## DEER ATTRACTANTS: LEGAL TO BUY BUT NOT FOR USE IN HUNTING

The Department of Natural Resources is reminding Indiana hunters that even though deer attractants found at retail stores can be purchased and used in the wild, hunting near them is illegal.

They are considered bait.

Indiana regulations prohibit the hunting of deer with the use or aid of bait, which is defined as "a food that is transported and placed for consumption, including, but not limited to, piles of corn and apples placed in the field; a prepared solid or liquid that is manufactured and intended for consumption by livestock or wild deer, including, but not limited to, commercial baits and food supplements; salt; or mineral supplements."

This includes artificial products marketed under names such as Deer Co-Cain, Buck Jam, Trophy Rock, as well as mineral blocks, salt blocks, and even natural foods such as corn and apples.

"Basically, if you place anything that isn't grown in the area and hunt there, it's illegal," said Lt. Larry Morrison, outdoor education director for DNR Law Enforcement. "Hunting next to a corn field or from an apple tree is legal, but placing corn or apples under your tree stand would put you in conflict with current Indiana law."

An area is considered baited for 10 days after the product and the affected soil is removed from an area.

Odor differs from bait. Cover scents or scent attractants are legal to use when hunting.

Archery season currently is underway in Indiana and continues through Jan. 5, 2014. The urban zone segment in designated areas continues through Jan. 31, 2014.

The most popular segment of Indiana's deer hunting season - firearms - begins Nov. 16 and ends Dec. 1, followed by the muzzleloader season (Dec. 7-22) and the special antlerless season (Dec. 26-Jan. 5, 2014).

A violation of Indiana's no baiting regulation is a Class C misdemeanor.

## COMMUNITY: THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY STATE POLICE PATROLS

In an effort to make the upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday travel period safer, the Indiana State Police will be joining approximately 250 other law enforcement agencies statewide in participating in the annual Safe Family Travel campaign. Beginning Friday, November 8th and running through Sunday, November December 1 the Indiana State Police will be conducting high visibility enforcement efforts including sobriety check points and saturation patrols targeting impaired drivers and unrestrained motorists.

In 2012, alcohol-impaired driving in Indiana was linked to 150 fatalities (increase from 140 fatalities in 2011) and 2,112 injuries. Alcohol-impaired collisions were less than 3 percent of all Indiana crashes, but accounted for 20.3 percent of Indiana 779 traffic fatalities in 2012.

Roughly six out of ten fatalities in alcohol-impaired collisions were the impaired driver from 2008 to 2012. Approximately 80 percent of serious fatal and incapacitating injuries from alcohol-impaired collisions occurring during the 2008-2012 period were suffered by impaired drivers and their passengers.

Please help, do you part to make the Thanksgiving Holiday travel period safe by observing the following safety rules:

- Ø If you are planning to travel make sure you are well rested, a fatigued driver is a dangerous driver
- Ø Avoid tailgating; remember the two-second rule
- Ø Make sure everyone is buckled up
- Ø Put down the electronic devices and drive
- Ø DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE
- Ø MOVE OVER - SLOW DOWN for emergency and highway service vehicles

## INDOT ADVISING MOTORISTS TO BE PREPARED FOR WINTER WEATHER

Use Caution As Some Drivers Re-Learn Safe Winter Driving Habits

GREENFIELD - The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is focusing attention on what is likely to be the first statewide winter weather event of the season, and is asking drivers to do the same.

INDOT's drivers are trained and its salt supplies are stocked for winter operations well in advance of Winter Weather Preparedness Week, which begins Nov. 17. The first snow of the season typically brings a higher rate of crashes and slide-offs as some drivers become accustomed to driving in winter weather conditions. Drivers are asked to promote their own safety and that of others by reducing their speed according to road conditions and increasing the distance between themselves and other vehicles, especially INDOT's yellow plow trucks.

Current forecasts are tracking rain moving into central Indiana, which is predicted to change to snow as temperatures are expected to drop rapidly tonight through tomorrow. INDOT will continue to monitor multiple developing forecasts, as well as a statewide network of road and bridge pavement sensors, to deploy the needed personnel, equipment and materials ahead of the anticipated changes in

precipitation and temperatures. INDOT's top winter priority is snow and ice prevention and removal to ensure its more than 30,000 lane miles of interstates, U.S. highways and state routes are as safe as possible.

At this time, INDOT's Greenfield District is scheduling 97 drivers to patrol roadways and apply anti-icing agents as needed through the Tuesday morning commute hours. The Greenfield District consists of five subdistricts (located in Indianapolis, Greenfield, Cambridge City, Tipton and Albany) with unit locations spread throughout East Central Indiana.

Motorists can plan ahead to safely reach their destinations by staying updated on the latest weather and road conditions. Visit [www.TrafficWise.IN.gov](http://www.TrafficWise.IN.gov) or dial toll-free **1-800-261-ROAD (7623)** for updated Indiana travel information, including road conditions, road closures, construction information, crashes and other traffic alerts. For social media updates during winter weather, visit [www.socialmedia.indot.IN.gov](http://www.socialmedia.indot.IN.gov) to find your regional INDOT district on Facebook and Twitter.

## VEVAY CHRISTMAS PARADE DEADLINE EXTENDED; PRIZES AWARDED

The deadline has been extended to Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. to enter the 2nd annual Vevay (IN) Christmas parade. There is no cost to participate and prize money will be awarded.

The event will be held Saturday, December 7 at 4:00 p.m. The parade coincides with the annual "Paul Ogle Festival of Lights" holiday light display held at Paul Ogle Riverfront Park on Ferry Street in Vevay throughout December.

The parade line-up is at 2:30 p.m. at the Switzerland County Fairgrounds in Vevay. Floats, decorated vehicles, horses, walking entries, golf carts, marching bands and others are encouraged to participate. All entries must be at least 50% decorated for Christmas, be family-oriented and in good taste. Lights are encouraged.

Santa Claus will be the featured guest so participants should refrain from using a live Santa.

Prizes will be awarded as follows: Best overall entry, \$200; First place, \$150; Second place, \$100; and \$50 for Third place.

Entries must be pre-registered. Entry forms with a complete set of rules and guidelines are available in Vevay at the Switzerland County Visitors Center located at 128 West Main Street, MainSource Bank on 102 West Main Street and other locations. Participants may call the Visitors Center at **(812) 427-3237** to have entry forms mailed by U.S. Postal Service or e-mailed. Submission of a completed entry form does not guarantee acceptance of unit(s) into the park.

The parade route will be Vineyard St. to Main St.; left on Main St to Ferry St.; and right on Ferry Street to Paul Ogle Riverfront Park. Santa will meet with children after the parade while cookies and hot chocolate will be served. A line-up of fire trucks will be on display for the judging of a special \$200 award for the Best Decorated Fire Truck (Switzerland County units only). The winning fire station will have a \$200 check donated to a charity of their choice.

The annual Vevay Christmas Parade is sponsored by Switzerland County Tourism. Sponsors, the town of Vevay and the Vevay Christmas Parade organizers and volunteers will not be held responsible.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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# Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

ble for any accidents or injuries that may occur before, during, or after the close of the event.

For more information on the parade or to volunteer, contact the Visitors Center at (812) 427-3237, Marylee Tolbert at MainSource Bank. E-mails can be sent to [visitsc@switzcotourism.com](mailto:visitsc@switzcotourism.com) or [mtolbert@mainsourcebank.com](mailto:mtolbert@mainsourcebank.com).

Information on lodging, local businesses, and events in Switzerland County can be found on the Switzerland County Tourism website at [switzcotourism.com](http://switzcotourism.com) or by telephoning the Visitors Center at (812) 427-3237. Join the Switzerland County Tourism-Vevay, IN, or Vevay Christmas Parade Facebook page for up-to-the minute information on county events and more.

## HRI ADDS 500 ACRES IN MUSCATATUCK RIVER PROJECT AREA

The Healthy Rivers Initiative continues to grow along the Muscatatuck River with the recent acquisition of nearly 500 acres for the Department of Natural Resources' land conservation project.

The area, which is being called Austin Bottoms Conservation Area, has added parcels in three counties - 121 acres in Jackson County, 184.5 acres in Scott County, and 192 acres in Washington County.

"These parcels are important because they move the program a few steps closer to its long-range land conservation goal," said DNR director Cameron Clark. "Piece by piece, acre by acre, we're making progress, but most importantly we're protecting natural areas that will provide habitat for wildlife and recreational opportunities for Hoosiers."

The Healthy Rivers Initiative, or HRI, began in 2010 with the objective to permanently protect nearly 70,000 acres along the Muscatatuck, the Wabash River, and Sugar Creek. To date, the project has protected 30,500 acres, including DNR purchases of almost 10,900 acres. The total acreage includes lands newly acquired through HRI, existing lands owned or managed prior to HRI, and acreage enrolled in the federal Wetlands Reserve Program.

The three recent purchase sites boost HRI success in the Muscatatuck project area to 7,800 acres, almost half of which is under DNR management. The new parcels are being managed jointly by the DNR divisions of Fish & Wildlife, Forestry, and State Parks & Reservoirs.

The DNR opened 2,355 acres of the Austin Bottoms Conservation Area to public use this past spring and is developing plans to open additional areas next spring.

For more information on HRI and to view maps of the areas now open to the public, visit [healthyivers.IN.gov](http://healthyivers.IN.gov).

## FEDERAL FUNDING CALL ISSUED FOR 2017 RURAL LOCAL PROJECTS

The Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) is now accepting applications from rural cities, towns and counties for federal transportation funding. Rural communities may submit any local project eligible for federal highway funds, including bridge, road, safety, trail and Safe Routes to School projects.

INDOT programs 25 percent of its federal highway appropriation each year to fund larger local

transportation projects. Metropolitan Planning Organizations distribute federal highway funds to local communities within the state's larger urbanized areas while INDOT distributes such funds outside MPO areas. To receive federal funding, typically communities must pay 20 percent in local matching funds.

Awarded rural projects would be designed, developed and have purchased land according to federal standards prior to bid during the state fiscal year beginning July 2016.

Local public agency employees certified as an "Employee in Responsible Charge" must submit applications electronically using INDOT's website. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 13 and project awards will be announced no later than Jan. 31, 2014.

More information is on INDOT's website at [www.in.gov/indot/2390.htm](http://www.in.gov/indot/2390.htm).

## PUBLIC DOG PARK AT FORT HARRISON SP HONORS DNR K-9 TEAMS

The first dog park in an Indiana state park was dedicated Wednesday in honor of DNR Law Enforcement K-9 teams who serve and protect Indiana's citizens and natural resources.

An honor guard with police officers from DNR Law Enforcement, Indiana State Police, Lawrence Police Department, Marion County Sheriff's Department and Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department presided over the ceremony at Fort Harrison State Park Dog Park in Indianapolis.

"We're proud that this dog park will not only offer a new recreational opportunity, but also raise awareness about the contributions that canine conservation officers have made in keeping Hoosiers safe and solving crimes," said Lt. Col. Steve Hunter of Indiana DNR Law Enforcement.

The park opened Labor Day weekend with a grassy 1.3-acre play area called Herrin Hill. The dedication ceremony also marked the opening of a second 3.5-acre play area called Platoon Run with a mix of grass and trees. In 2014, the final play area, Brigade Landing, is expected to open and offer 5 acres of woods for exploration.

It is unlikely that DNR will develop dog parks at other state parks, but the urban nature of Fort Harrison and the isolation of this piece of land from the rest of the park made it an ideal location.

"We see lots of people walking their dogs on trails in the park, and know that dog parks are popular and successful in urban park systems elsewhere," said Dan Bortner, director of DNR Division of State Parks & Reservoirs.

Fort Harrison State Park Dog Park is in a gated area accessible only by driving to 8725 Fall Creek Road on the north side of the state park, north of Fall Creek. It is not reachable from the main park entrance.

To use the dog park, dog owners must purchase an annual pass and collar tag from the park office. Tags will cost \$75 per dog. Tags for the remainder of 2013 will be prorated at \$30 per dog. About 200 tags have been issued already.

Dog owners must provide copies of current vaccination records for rabies, parvo, distemper and bordatella and must complete and sign the dog park annual membership application, which is at [stateparks.IN.gov/2982.htm](http://stateparks.IN.gov/2982.htm). The website also includes additional information on the dog park and answers to frequently asked questions.

Established in 1999, the DNR Law Enforcement K-9 program has been used to find lost hunters and

lost children, and to sniff out evidence in criminal cases ranging from murder to poaching to illegal ginseng harvesting.

The program currently consists of seven conservation officers and their partners, six Labrador retrievers and one Airedale. Fifteen dogs have retired from the program. Two of the founding dogs, Journey and Judge, are honored in memorial plaques on park benches.

## MORE THAN 4,000 WALLEYES

### RELEASED AT PINE LAKE, LAPORTE

Fishing at LaPorte's Pine Lake received a boost this month as the DNR stocked 4,018 walleye advanced fingerlings there.

The walleyes were reared by inmates at Terre Haute's Federal Correctional Complex as part of a partnership between the DNR and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The same facility grows catfish for the Go FishIN in the City program, a program to enhance fishing opportunities in Indiana's urban areas.

The walleyes were stocked Oct. 8. They averaged 7.5 inches and are expected to reach legal size for fishermen to keep (14 inches) in two or three years.

Pine Lake is a 564-acre natural lake in the town of LaPorte. It is connected by a channel to 125-acre Stone Lake, which has a public access boat ramp.

Pine Lake was stocked with walleye fry in 1992 and spring fingerling walleyes in 1993 and 1994. Additional walleye stockings were conducted in 2001 and 2002 with advanced fingerlings.

During a largemouth bass evaluation by DNR biologists last year, two walleyes around 27 inches were collected near the channel that connects Pine Lake to Stone Lake and are believed to have come from the 2002 stocking. Biologists believe the current stocking of walleyes could produce fish that large also.

Fisheries biologists will evaluate the success of the walleye stocking as well as any impact to the other fish populations.

## GREEN BEAN DELIVERY STEPS UP TO THE PLATE FOR IHT

Green BEAN Delivery is boosting land conservation efforts in Indiana by replating its delivery vans and other fleet vehicles with the DNR's Indiana Heritage Trust Environmental License Plate, the company and DNR announced this week.

The partnership is the result of a chance meeting last year between representatives of the home-grown Indiana company and Nick Heinzelman, director of DNR Land Acquisition and the Indiana Heritage Trust Environmental License Plate pro-


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gram. Green BEAN has 21 Indiana vehicles.

"It was immediately evident that they take great pride in their employees, customers and the environment," Heinzelman said. "We are grateful they have decided to plate all of their vehicles with the Eagle and Sun license plate. This will serve as an example to other companies and help take our land conservation efforts to the next level."

Since its introduction as the state's original specialty license plate in 1992, sales of the Indiana Heritage Trust Environmental License Plate have helped protect more than 56,000 acres across the state, including such areas as Eagle Marsh in Fort Wayne and Kankakee Sands in Morocco.

"Working with Indiana Heritage Trust toward land conservation is an obvious fit for Green BEAN delivery," said Lincoln Sanders, director of public affairs for Green BEAN Delivery. "As a company that promotes health and wellness, we understand the importance of natural areas as a source for recreation and happiness."

The Environmental Plate costs \$40, which includes a \$15 processing fee for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The remaining \$25 goes directly to the protection of Indiana's land, waters and wildlife. For more information, visit [Enviroplate.IN.gov](http://Enviroplate.IN.gov).

Green BEAN Delivery is an online home delivery service that provides organic produce and natural groceries to its members in Indianapolis and Fort Wayne, Ind.; Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton, Ohio; Louisville, Ky., and the greater surrounding areas. The company provides an avenue for local artisans and farmers to share their crafts and talents with community members. For more information, visit [GreenBEANDelivery.com](http://GreenBEANDelivery.com).

**COMMUNITY: LAW ENFORCEMENT RAISED \$13,962 TO BENEFIT SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

Red Robin Gourmet Burgers and Local Law Enforcement Officers from around Indiana participated in the annual Tip-A-Cop Day that raised \$13,962. The grand total is expected to rise to more than \$15,000 as two restaurants have yet to report their totals.

Who: Special Olympics Indiana (SOIN), local Law Enforcement Torch Run officers, and Red Robin Gourmet Burgers (Red Robin International, Inc.), Plainfield Police Department, Porter County Sheriff's Office, Schererville Police Department and multiple Indiana State Police Districts

What: Local law enforcement traded in their handcuffs and badges for gourmet burgers and aprons at Red Robin® restaurants in Indiana as part of the national Tip-A-Cop event benefiting Special

Olympics. Law enforcement across the U.S. helped collect tips and serve Red Robin restaurant guests from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Was held on Saturday, Oct. 12, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where: All ten Indiana Red Robin® restaurants. Special Olympics Indiana was excited to have the Superintendent of the Indiana State Police, Douglas G. Carter participate at the Clay Terrace location. (SEE ATTACHED PHOTO OF SUPERINTENDENT CARTER AND GUESTS)

(Locations: Carmel, Carmel-Clay Terrace, Fort Wayne, Noblesville, Plainfield, Evansville, Mishawaka, Valparaiso, Schererville, Merrillville-Hobart)

Event Day Results: Officers raised a grand total of \$13,962 across the state in one day. The grand total is expected to rise to more than \$15,000 as two restaurants have yet to report their totals.

**ABOUT SPECIAL OLYMPICS INDIANA**

Special Olympics Indiana is a not-for-profit organization that provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in more than 20 Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, reaching more than 11,000 athletes across Indiana. Special Olympics Indiana is part of the international network of accredited Special Olympics Programs that reaches nearly 4 million athletes with intellectual disabilities worldwide.

**ABOUT LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN**

Tip-A-Cop® is part of the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run® (LETR) campaign. LETR, which includes an international series of relay runs and special events like Tip-A-Cop®, is presented by more than 144,000 law enforcement officers worldwide to help raise money and public awareness for Special Olympics. LETR is the largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle for Special Olympics through which funds raised go directly to local programs in states or countries where the funds are generated.

**CONTACT:**

Duchess Adjei, PR & Marketing

Special Olympics Indiana

317-260-9553

[dadjei@soindiana.org](mailto:dadjei@soindiana.org)

Stephanie Stewart, Community Partnerships

(LETR)

Special Olympics Indiana

317-508-2373

[sstewart@soindiana.org](mailto:sstewart@soindiana.org)

**PEREGRINE FALCON DELISTING SPELLS PROGRAM SUCCESS**

Beginning Sunday, Indiana's peregrine falcon program officially and legally can claim an extra adjective - successful.

To be more precise, make that an adverb and adjective - wildly successful.

That's because the peregrine falcon officially comes off Indiana's endangered species list on Sunday. It was removed from the federal endangered list in 1999.

"With the delisting of peregrine falcons in Indiana we celebrate their dramatic population recovery and expect them to continue to thrive in the future," said John Castrale, a DNR non game biologist who has spearheaded the state's peregrine reintroduction program that began in 1991.

Indiana's initial goal was to establish four nesting pairs in the state. It took only six years to reach

that mark, and the numbers have climbed ever since with 10 or more successful nesting pairs for 12 straight years. This summer, peregrines were present in 24 locations across the state, 17 pairs nested and 46 young were produced from 15 of the nests.

Having exceeded the original goals, the DNR sought approval to remove the peregrine falcon from the state endangered list, which the Natural Resources Commission authorized in July.

"Although this takes the peregrine falcon off the state endangered list, it's still a species of special concern and will have the same protections enjoyed by other migratory birds under state and federal laws," Castrale said.

The delisting allows Indiana to change falconry regulations, which will now let one to two juvenile falcons migrating from Arctic regions to be captured annually by licensed falconers for use in that sport.

"Also future efforts to monitor nesting falcon pairs will be lessened, but relationships will be maintained with building and plant managers that have nesting falcons and nest boxes," Castrale said. "The goal is to ensure the birds can continue to nest successfully."

A half-century ago, habitat loss and decreased reproduction resulting from use of pesticides, such as DDT, put peregrine falcons in peril of surviving as a species. By 1965, no peregrine falcons nested east of the Mississippi River, and western populations had declined by 90 percent.

In response, Cornell University established the Peregrine Fund in 1976 to study, breed and restore peregrine populations. The first U.S. reintroduction projects began in 1974.

Through these efforts, it was discovered that urban settings offered nesting areas in tall buildings that mimic the peregrine's natural cliff-side habitat. It was this fact, not pigeon control, that led biologists to target large cities for peregrine reintroduction efforts. Over a four-year period beginning in 1991, the Indiana DNR released 60 young falcons in Indianapolis, Fort Wayne, South Bend and Evansville.

**GEOLOGY DRIVING TOUR OF MONROE LAKE DEC. 1, 2013**

Are you fascinated by rocks? Intrigued by anticlines? Captivated by fault lines?

On Sunday, Dec. 1 at 9 a.m., you can join naturalist Jill Vance for a free, three-hour driving tour of Monroe Lake's geology. Stops will highlight the Mt. Carmel Fault, Leesville Anticline, Edwardsville Formation, Harrodsburg Limestone and the Salem Limestone.



Vance will explain these geological features, including what they tell us about the area's past, and how they influenced our present landscape. The tour is recommended for ages 16 and older.

Registration is required by Nov. 25 and is limited to 15 people. Sign up by emailing [jvance@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:jvance@dnr.IN.gov) your name, phone number and number of people in your group, or call the Paynetown Activity Center at (812) 837-9967.

Participants will meet Vance at the Monroe Lake office at the entrance to Paynetown State Recreation Area, 4850 S. State Road 446, Bloomington.

The tour will end at the southeast end of the lake, next to SR. 37. Participants should expect to spend time outside at each stop, and some walking will be required.

Monroe Lake [stateparks.IN.gov/2954.htm](http://stateparks.IN.gov/2954.htm) is at 4850 South State Road 446, Bloomington, 47401. ■

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# Gad's Corner

Photos sent to The Gad-a-bout for GAD'S CORNER must contain enough identifying information of the person who took the game or caught the fish to make it interesting for the reader. I prefer photos to be of a regular size, i.e. 3" Tall x 3" Wide, 4" Tall x 6" Wide, 8" Tall x 10" Wide. All other sizes including vertical photos may be omitted due to space restrictions. Send Photos to: The Gad-a-bout, 105 E. South St., Centerville, IN 47330 or E-mail .jpg photos to: [ray@thegadabout.com](mailto:ray@thegadabout.com) Questions Call: 1-877-855-4237 (Toll Free) or Cell: 765-960-5767



Sam Roszell, age 10, took his first deer an 8 point buck on October 14, 2013 in Decatur County with a Crossbow. It field dressed at 154 pounds. Sam is the 4th generation to hunt deer in Indiana. (Photo by his Grandfather Stephen (Pete) Roszell) *Sam you have a family reputation to be proud of, congratulations for taking your first deer.*



Jenna Garden took this 6 point 140 pound buck in Union County Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Whitney Frame took this 9 point 165 pound buck in Union County Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Brooke Townsend, age 13, took her very first deer while hunting with her father during the 2013 Youth Season in Fayette County. The buck weighed 205 pounds and had 11 points. (Photo submitted by Jane Townsend) Here at The Gad-a-bout we would call that a whopper, congratulations Brooke.



David Holt took this 11 point 220 pound buck in Wayne County Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



John Lakes took this 10 point 160 pound buck in Wayne County Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)

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