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FEBRUARY 2013

THE

GAD-A-BOUT™

HUNTING, FISHING, ARCHERY, CAMPING, HUMOR, MILITARY, ISP & IGO NEWS, EVENTS, TRAVEL, OPINIONS, ETC.



THE EAST CENTRAL INDIANA CHAPTER OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING BANQUET 2-9-2013 SEE PG 18-19



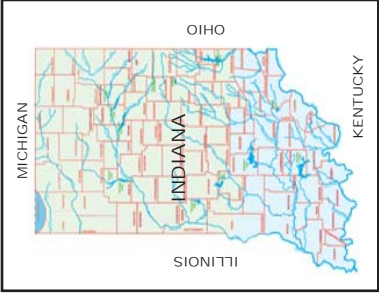
RON ALEE CAUGHT THIS LARGEMOUTH BASS SEE MORE GAME PHOTOS ON PAGES 28-31

BOAT SHOW ISSUE
INDIANAPOLIS SHOW FEBRUARY 15-24, 2013
ADVERTISER LOCATION CODES
READ ABOUT THEM ON PAGE 2 & 4
ADVERTISER LOCATION MAPS ON WEBSITE:
www.thegadabout.com
NEW LAKE & AREA MAPS INCLUDE
Hardy Lake, Salamonie Lake,
Patoka Lake, Monroe Lake,
Summit Lake & Prairie Creek Res
(LOCATION MAPS PROJECT PENDING)



THOUGHTS ON GUN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITY - SEE PAGE 11
A MUST READ FOR THOSE WHO ARE NOT SURE ABOUT GUN CONTROL LAWS

ADVERTISER'S INDEX & PICK-UP PTS PG 2 ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS SEE PAGE 3



TO ADVERTISE IN THE GAD-A-BOUT SEE RATES ON PAGE 32 • CALL TOLL FREE 1-877-855-4237 • CELL 1-765-960-5767 • ray@thegadabout.com

ANDERSONS'

Sales & Service

Madison, In

2914 CLIFTY DR

812-273-4262

July 1 - February 28

M-F 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM / Sat 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

March 1 - June 30

M-F 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM / Sat 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SHADOW SPIRIT 750

LONG, LOW, LEAN MACHINE.

How low can you go? With the Shadow Spirit 750 you'll be skimming just 25.8 inches above the pavement. And out in front the Spirit offers something else that's unique in the style department: a 21-inch front wheel. Best of all, like every other Shadow here, you get Honda's reputation for quality. The Spirit is a bike you'll enjoy for years, no matter how long your riding resume.

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Sport cruiser style, 21-inch front wheel, Shaft final drive, 25.8-inch seat height.

Shadow® Spirit 750 honda.com ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET, EYE PROTECTION AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. NEVER RIDE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL, AND NEVER USE THE STREET AS A RACETRACK. OBEY THE LAW AND READ THE OWNER'S MANUAL THOROUGHLY. For rider training information or to locate a rider training course near you, call the Motorcycle Safety Foundation at 1-800-446-9227. Shadow® is a registered trademark of Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (09/12)

2012 RANCHERS/RECON



Honda's Four Trax® have long been America's best-selling all-terrain vehicles, and for good reason. They're tough, offer legendary reliability, and are full of innovative features. But most of all, you can count on them day after day, year after year, to pitch in and help you tackle the big jobs on your to-do list. Whether it's ranching, farming, hunting, fishing, or just getting away from it all, you can depend on your Honda Rancher.



Electric Power Steering-Both speed- and torque sensitive, Honda's Electric Power Steering (EPS) helps minimize fatigue over rough terrain. EPS also reduces kickback through the handlebar.

Independent Rear Suspension-The Rancher AT's standard Independent Rear Suspension (IRS) helps improve your ride and offers greater traction in uneven terrain.

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Winch with Mounting Bracket with 2500 pounds of pulling power (All mounting hardware included).



STOP BY TODAY AND SEE OUR FULL LINE OF

Honda ATV'S

&

MOTORCYCLES



ShadFourTrax® Rancher® 4X4 ES / FourTrax® Rancher® 4X4 ES with EPS honda.com UTILITY ATVs ARE RECOMMENDED ONLY FOR RIDERS 16 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER. ATVs CAN BE HAZARDOUS TO OPERATE. FOR YOUR SAFETY, BE RESPONSIBLE. READ THE OWNER'S MANUAL. ALWAYS WEAR A HELMET, EYE PROTECTION AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING. BE CAREFUL ON DIFFICULT TERRAIN. ALL ATV RIDERS SHOULD TAKE A TRAINING COURSE (FREE FOR NEW BUYERS. ASK YOUR DEALER OR CALL ASI AT 800-887-2887). NEVER RIDE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ON PAVED SURFACES, ON PUBLIC ROADS, WITH PASSENGERS, OR AT EXCESSIVE SPEEDS. NO STUNT RIDING. RESPECT THE ENVIRONMENT WHEN RIDING. FourTrax® and Rancher® are registered trademarks of Honda Motor Co., Ltd. (09/12)



THE GAD-A-BOUT™



IN THIS ISSUE

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Created & Published by Ray Dickerson

P.O. Box 85

Centerville, IN 47330-0085

CONTACT THE GAD-A-BOUT

Toll Free: 1-877-855-4237 - Lv Message

Cell Phone: 765-960-5767

Office Phone: 765-855-3857

Fax: 765-855-3857 (Call First)

Website:

www.thegadabout.com

E-Mail: ray@thegadabout.com



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ADVERTISING SALES

RAY DICKERSON
UNLIMITED AREA

CELL: 765-960-5767 OR 1-877-855-4237 Toll Free

RICH CREASON
CENTRAL INDIANA STATE WIDE

CELL: 765-215-3478

BILL EMBRY
S CENTRAL & SOUTHWEST INDIANA

CELL: 812-325-0328

ERNEST McCLEERY
SOUTHEAST & S CENTRAL INDIANA

PHONE: 812-866-4510

SPECIAL FEATURES

40th Annual Spring Show Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil Show & Sale March 1-3, 2013 Wayne Co Fairgrounds . . . Page 8
15th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show, March 22-24, 2013, IN State Fairgrounds .Page 8-9

REGULAR FEATURED OUTDOOR WRITERS

Roaming The Outdoors by Ray Dickerson (*Ferris Pindell, Advertiser Locations, EHD, New ISP Supt, DNR*) Page 4
 So You Wanna' Catch More Fish by Tag Nobbe (*Winter time fishing in Indiana*) Page 5
 News from the Indiana State Police by Sgt. John D. Bowling (*Nixle, Sgt Chris Barr; Stranded in Cold Weather*) Page 6
 IDNR News by PIO Gary Catron (*Shouts...out loud, Yes, we're still falling*) Page 7
 Talking Leaves by Golden Eagle (*Brother Friend versus Brother*) Page 10
 Notes from Prairie Wolf Gun Repair by Marshall Smith (*Thoughts on Gun Rights & Responsibility*) Page 11
 Fishing Lake Michigan by Capt. Mike Schoonveld (*Aluminum or Glass? Which to Buy?*) Page 12
 News from West Central Indiana by Don Bickel (*Hoosier Record Buck*) Page 13
 Bass Fishing Techniques by Bill Embry (*Bass Fishing Tournament Schedules Released 2013 Season*) Page 14-15
 Outdoors with Rich Creason (*Twenty Eight Years Helping Wildlife*) Page 18-19
 Indiana Outdoors by Joe Martino (*Author's son was right - And the author is sure glad.*) Page 20
 Misfires & Snags by Dan Graves (*Resolutions - Make 'Em and Break 'Em*) Page 21
 Outdoor Tales by Phil Junker (*Cure Winter blahs with antler hunt*) Page 22
 Indiana Slab Masters by Ron Bilbrey (*2013 Slab Master*) Page 23
 Camping Here & Beyond by John & El McCory (*RV Manufacturers' Problems, continued*) Page 24
 Looking Downstream by Paul McCloud (*Bass Fishing Basics*) Page 23
 On The Cutting Edge, Here's My Opinion on Gun Control Page 31

GAD-A-BOUT DEPARTMENTS

Advertiser Index including Map Location Codes Page 2
 Advertising Sales Representatives Contact Information Page 3
 Gad's Corner (Readers and Other Fish & Game Photos, Send in your Photo or other) Page 28 thru 31
 Rate Sheet, Contract Form (July 2012)) Page 31

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Right: This majestic bull surveys his domain on a snowy, foggy mountainside in KY. "To ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, and their habitat" was the mission statement of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for over two and a half decades. 14th annual Fundraising Banquet & Auction on Saturday, February 9, 2013 in Anderson. For more information on this event, contact Rich Creason, 765-649-8482 or 765-215-3478 or e-mail eyewrite4u@aol.com. (Photo by Dave Baker)

Bottom Left: Marshall Smith (Retired Richmond Indiana Police Officer) writes about "Gun Control" beginning with "Guns of History," "Gun Rights and Responsibility," "His thoughts on Assault Style Weapons and Self-protection in the home and training" and ending with his Column Motto - Remember

BSAR (Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible) See Page 11. (Marshall Smith Photo)

Bottom Right: Ray, I caught this bass on Monday 12-3-2012 at 5:00 PM. My fishing partner, Dean Hill and I caught 12 bass, 11 keepers. This fish weighed 8 1/2 pounds. I talked to some other boaters who were catching small bass on jerk baits. We were catching ours on plastics & jigs. The DNR told a guy this was the biggest largemouth they know of this year. Overall I would say this was a tough year on Brookville for bass. I know a few guys who are real good that had way less than normal catches this year. No one found fish in July and August where they normally find them. I fish Brookville about two times per week. I would say November might have been the best month this year, maybe better than May. I caught several nice bass in November. Thanks, Ron Allee, Richmond. (Photo was sent to me by Ron Allee. Taxidermist Bert Vanfleet is mounting Ron's Largemouth Bass, Photo by Dean Hill)

CRESTLINER BOATS

DEALER OF THE YEAR



1750 FISH HAWK



1900 SUPER HAWK



1600 FISH HAWK

HARRIS Flotebote



200 CRUISER CX



250 GRAND MARINER

"2013"
BOAT SHOW SPECIALS
COME SEE US AT THE
INDIANAPOLIS IN, SPORT,
BOAT & TRAVEL SHOW AND
"OUR OPEN HOUSE MARCH 9"
AT
7191 Fox Run Rd Brookville, IN 47012
765-647-4619

E-mail: pmarine@wwremc.net Website: parksidemarineandmore.com

"We are located across the road from Mounds S.R.A. Entrance at Brookville Lake"



A Family Owned Restaurant
In Liberty, IN 765-458-5812

J's Dairy Inn

A Family Destination of Boaters, Campers and Hikers Since 1957. Stop in and see us, it wouldn't be the same without you.

Chicken, Sandwiches, Wings, Shakes & Soft Serve Desserts
(See our complete menu at www.jsdairyinn.com)
Hwy 44, One Block West of Traffic Light

Open Everyday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.-Summer. 11 to 9 - Winter

THE COUNTRY STORE

SUPPLIES FOR A COUNTRY WAY OF LIFE!

CRAFTS • GIFTS • HOME FURNISHINGS
FISHING & HUNTING LICENSES
CAMPING SUPPLIES • LIVE BAIT
LP GAS • FIREWOOD • ICE
"CASE KNIFE DEALERSHIP"
302 S. Main St., Liberty, IN 47353
765-458-9977

Roaming The Outdoors

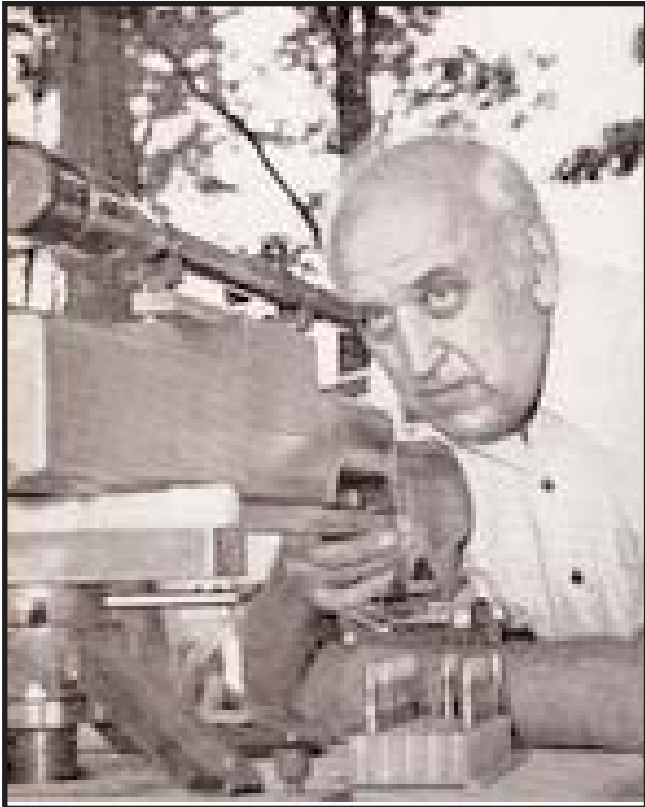


by Ray Dickerson

THE GAD-A-BOUT IS FREE

At Advertiser locations and Advertiser support locations (see advertisers index on page 2) and read The Gad-a-bout for free on my website: www.thegadabout.com

JAKE CAMPBELL TO AUCTION FERRIS PINDELL BENCHREST EQUIPMENT



FERRIS PINDELL 1920-2011

Ferris Pindell, 91, of Connersville, passed away Monday, April 11, 2011 at the Lincoln Centers, where he had been a resident since February 15, 2011

Ferris was born in Laurel, Indiana in 1920, one of four children, the son of Buford and Mayme Pindell. When he was five his family moved to Connersville. He attended school there graduating from high school in 1938.

On June 14, 1941, he was married to June L. Henry of Milton, Indiana.

Ferris, a Veteran of WWII, joined the Navy serving as a Fireman 1st Class, was honorably discharged December 8, 1944.

For many years, Ferris was a tool and gauge maker, working for 20 years at Knowles Tools and later for 6 years at Sierra Bullets. From 1970 until his retirement, he was self-employed as a tool and gauge maker.

He was an accomplished Benchrest shooter, known all over the world for a combination of his shooting skills and his skills at developing accessories relating to improving the marksmanship of Benchrest shooting. He won 10 National Championships and 11 World Records as a marksman. He was co-inventor of the 6 PPC cartridge with Louis Palmisano, which is still used today at Benchrest Shooter Contests, he developed the REM CLEAN gun cleaner, and was a respected member of the International Benchrest Shooters

Association and the National Benchrest Shooter Association. In 1980, he was honored as a member of the Benchrest Shooters Association "Hall Of Fame" located in Austin, Texas.

Because of his many accomplishments, he was honored locally in 1975 as Connersville Kiwanis "Citizen of the Year". He was a member of the Connersville Baptist Temple. He was a member of the American Legion, the AMVETS and National Rifle Association. In his leisure, he was an avid pool player.

Ferris Pindell was laid to rest on April 13, 2011 in the Westside Cemetery in Milton, Indiana by Miller-Moster and Robbins Funeral Home, with Dr Steve Davis, Pastor Tim Billups and Rev Eric Hopkins officiating. The Fayette County Veterans Council Honor Guard performed his Military rites.

On Saturday, February 23, 2013 at 10 a.m., Jake Campbell (Campbell Auction Team) will be holding an auction arranged by June L. Pindell (Ferris Pindell's wife) to sell Ferris's Machinist Tools and Shop Equipment at the Union County 4-H Building located at 410 Patriot Blvd in Liberty, Indiana. A list of the sale items is listed on this page at right. Inspection of the items may be made on Friday, February 22, 2013 from 5 to 7 p.m.

For more information contact Jake Campbell at 765-458-6441, e-mail campbellauction@aol.com or by mail to 19 S. Market St., Liberty, IN 47353. **UPDATE ON ADVERTISER LOCATION MAPS ON MY WEBSITE** www.thegadabout.com

It seems that my expectations of having all my maps and advertisers located on them was a bit premature. The project is moving slower than anticipated. Mostly due to the time it is taking for me to draw and ensure the accuracy of the maps, plus locating the advertiser on them. I have most of the addresses of my advertiser's, but actually putting them on the maps in their exact location has been a stumbling block mainly due to my not having enough time to do the leg work and being able to contact them at this time of year. So it's going to take a bit longer to get this all accomplished. Please be patient.

As of this issue I am still working on finishing all the Reservoir and Lake advertiser areas. Once I have this accomplished I will do the town, city and country areas where the advertisers are located.

I'm not going to give a completion date until I know for sure when they will all be finished. The biggest stumbling block is of course that me, myself and I find time to do it all.

To date when you go to www.thegadabout.com and the page opens you will see three icons on the sun setting picture (looking west from McMinn Road in July). *This is a pdf document that you scroll down through the individual pages using your mouse or other device.* The icon on the left (Cover of the current issue) is the low resolution version for internet dial up readers, the icon on the right is the high resolution version for internet DSL, Broadband or other high speed readers. The icon in the middle (Map of Indiana) is the Advertiser Location Maps. Click on it and it opens, the first page is a map of Indiana with location codes appearing on the counties that currently have location codes on them. Example: Franklin County has the codes BV & BVL, under the code is the page number the map

appears on. Scroll down to Page 2 and there is a list of the maps and the page they are on. The list is as follows:

Indiana State Map Page 1

Lake Michigan Area (LMA) Page 1

Index Page 2

Brookville Lake (BVL) Page 3

Town of Liberty (LB) Page 4

Town of Brookville (BV) Page 5

Hardy Lake (HDL) Page 6

Salamonie Lake (SNL) Page 7**

Patoka Lake (PTL) Page 8**

Monroe Lake (MRL) Page 9**

Summit Lake (SUL) Page 10

Prairie Creek Reservoir (PCR) Page 11

followed by the instruction on viewing the maps

****NOTE:** On line Viewing This Lake Map, Right Click Mouse to **Rotate Map Clockwise** for Horizontal View. (*left handers left click mouse*)

After Viewing Right Click Mouse on **Previous View** to Rotate Lake Map Back to Vertical. (*left handers left click mouse*)

(The LMA is the code for Lake Michigan Area advertisers, see Page 2 of current Gad-a-bout Newspaper for a complete list of advertiser codes.)

Eventually it is my intention to provide recreational opportunities on my website for everyone to view, not just advertiser locations. But that will be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli

"NEW ADDITION"



Hunting, Fishing, Camping,
Guns, Ammo & Accessories
Buy - Sell - Trade

Open 7 Days

Phone: (812) 883-6483

For all your hunting & camping needs stop by the Red Barn

3 1/2 Miles North of Salem on SR 135

FERRIS PINDELL ESTATE AUCTION

Due to the death of my husband, I will sell the following located at Union County 4-H Building, 410 Patriot Blvd. (East End of East Union Street). Liberty, Indiana on:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2013
AUCTION TIME: 10:00 A.M.

MACHINIST TOOLS & SHOP EQUIPMENT

MSC 951730 (12x30) Engine Lathe — Comes with Unused Steadyrest Followrest; Aloris Tool Post — 3 Jaw & 4 Jaw Chucks; Cincinnati Milacron Toolmaster Milling Machine with Knee, Table 10 x 42, Knee Approximately 18" Travel, Superflex Collet Style Spindle Nose; Boyar-Schultz Surface Grinder 6" x 12" with Magnetic Table; Powermatic Belt-Disk Sander with 6" Belt and 10" Disc; Sunnen Honing Machine; Rotary Table with X-Y Sub Base 10"; Douglass 10" Indexer; Rigid Horizontal 12" Cutoff Saw; Small Toolmaker s Indexer; Height Master 20" Height Gage; 16" x 24" x 3" Granit Surface Plate; Die Grinder; New 10" Chucks; Power Hacksaw; 8" Rotary Table; Micrometers; Dian Indicators; Reamers; Machinist Vise (Ferris Made); Hard Tester; Drill Bits; Pin Gauge; Tool Bits; Double End Grinder; HD Vise; Clamps; End Mills; Cutting Oil; Shooting Bench; Work Bench; Mag Light; 3 Phase Convertor; 50 Ton Hydraulic Press With Stand; Air Compressor and Shop Vac 6.0 H.P.

NOTE: Ferris Pindell Member of Benchrest Hall of Fame. Ferris Won 10 National Championships and 10 World Records.

INSPECTION: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2013
5:00 P.M. — 7:00 P.M.

JUNE PINDELL, OWNER
WWW.CAMPBELLAUCTIONTEAM.COM

CAMPBELL AUCTION TEAM

"Jake" & Mike Campbell Auctioneers
19 S. Market St. Liberty, IN 47353 PH: (765) 458-6441

www.campbellauctionteam.com

Jake Lic. #AU01005687

Mike Lic. #AU01048954

DAIRY COTTAGE RESTAURANT

(765) 647-5451



Home Of Flavor Rich Fried Chicken

Complete Line of Sandwiches, JoJos,
Fries, Mozzarella Sticks, Onion Rings, Etc.

LARGE SELECTION OF ICE CREAM,
SHAKES, SUNDAES, CYCLONES

1116 Main St. Brookville, IN 47012

Est. Oct. 02, 1958



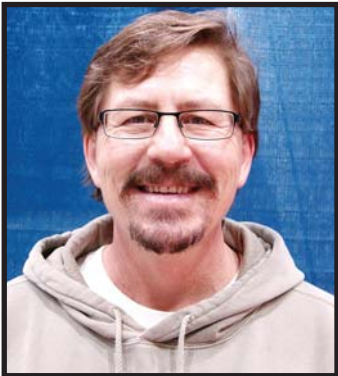


Bonwell Hill Ramp covered with snow and ice, not very inviting. (Author Photo)



Best place to fish in winter, Stilling Basin at base of Brookville Dam. (Author Photo)

So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe

Professional Fishing Guide

started to come done pretty heavy about 11 o'clock. I thought to myself I can't leave now this guy is paying me, so I stayed. At noon I crept down towards the lake in my 4 wheel drive truck and trailer with 2 inches of fresh snow on the ramp. I was able to get the truck turned around and the trailer in the water with out to much trouble, so I loaded the boat. As soon as I hit the throttle I knew I was in trouble. It took the entire width of Bonwell hill boat ramp fish tailing back and forth twice pulling my \$50,000 Lund boat just to get off the ramp, trust me you do not want to be that guy.

If this is the case drive down to the stilling basin or the tailwater just below the dam. This area will never freeze due to the water coming off the bottom of the lake. If there is low flow or very little current fish in between the concrete walls of the stilling basin. If there is a lot of current fish the slack water areas below the stilling basin. If you find yourself fishing the tailwater with no current stick with a spoon or a blade bait. Just under hand pitch the spoon or blade bait from the top of the walls over the fence and frog hop it just off the bottom 4 or 5 times. When a fish hits with this method of fishing it will just be there, so you gotta be ready for it.

If you get to the tailwater area and there is a lot of current due to them dumping water off the lake, this method will not work. Put the spoons and blade baits away and get out the stick baits. What you are looking for here is areas in the water that are protected by something like a wall, a rock, a point something that breaks the current and creates a little bit of slack water for the fish to lay in and not be in the current. They will lay in these areas and wait for the current to bring them an easy meal. All you have to do is pull your stick bait

through these areas when the predator fish are feeding.

If you're a fly fishermen and like to fish with a fly rod, fish the east fork of the whitewater river from 101 bridge to where the east fork river meets the west fork of the whitewater river. In the spring the trout hit like crazy all the way up and down this stretch of river, but as the summer heats up the water they start to get pretty sluggish. In the fall the lake is drawn down to winter pool. This makes the river below the dam unfishable for trout. After about a month of this draw down the river is brought back down to normal flow and the river is rejuvenated. The water is cold and the trout are ready to put on the feed bag. The only catch is that trout season is closed. What this means is you can't keep the trout, it doesn't mean you can't fish for the trout. Just be respectful to the property owners and their property along the river. The water may belong to the state but the property under it belongs to a United States citizen who is paying taxes on that property, God bless America.

Now if we have a good long cold winter a farm pond is what your looking for. This is where you definitely have to know somebody and be a very good friend of the family or own your own pond. A pond or what is commonly known as a farm pond is usually from a 1/4 acre to 2 acre in size. These bodies of water will freeze way before the lake or any river, but you still have to be careful when you first walk out on them. I like to just step onto the ice and drill a test hole. Another trick is to tie a long rope around your waste and tie the other end to a big tree. This is all done just to keep yourself safe. I personally like for the ice to be at least 4 inches thick. All the tackle you need are ice fishing poles, jigs, wax

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

Winter time fishing in Indiana

In the Brookville lake area you have lots of options. The Brookville lake, the West and East forks of the Whitewater river, and lots of small farm ponds. In the winter time there are a couple of things that are going to keep you off the lake. The first is ice and the second is snow. The lake does not always freeze in the winter, but if we get snow you will be stuck looking at the lake from the top of the hill. If this happens don't try it, the snow will melt soon enough. About 10 years ago I had a customer out on the lake guide fishing. The snow

Gittin Jiggy With It
Bait & Tackle Store

765-524-6484
THE "ICE" IS ON!

All the bait and gear you need for a great day on the ice!
Stop in and warm up, sit & share a story over a warm beverage.
We have a great selection of jigs, augers and shanties too.
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Owner: Scott R. McFalls
• We offer RV repair 5 days per week... Wed-Sun by Rams Mobile RV Service
4277 E SR 36 (Corner of 36 & Messick Rd) • Mooreland, IN 47360



Farm ponds will freeze way before the lake or any river, test it before fishing. (Author Photo)



When it comes to fueling your outdoor needs

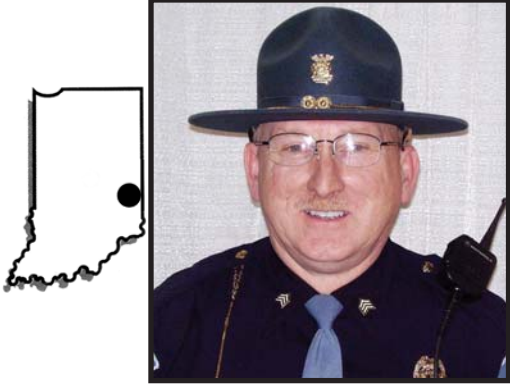
Gasoline • Fresh Coffee • Deli Style Sandwiches • Fountain Drinks • Snacks • Sporting Goods
Live Bait & Tackle • Guided Fishing Trip Information • Hunting & Fishing Licenses • Check Station and More



Brookville Lake Guide Service
Guide: Tag Nobbe
Phone: 765-647-4329
Cell: 765-265-3238
Web: brookvillelakeguideservice.com

Near Brookville Lake just south of Brookville on U.S. Hwy 52 (765) 647-3600

News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

Nixle-The way to get ISP News

Since early October of 2012 the Indiana State Police Public Information Office began utilizing a web-based notification service called **Nixle** to distribute news releases, Amber/Silver Alerts, traffic updates, and other important information to media and the public. Nixle is a service that began in 2009 to provide communities throughout the country with news and information that is both proximate and personally relevant. Nixle makes information instantly available over, SMS (text), mobile application, email, and the web.

Utilizing Nixle will enhance the effectiveness of the Indiana State Police to help keep media and the public informed of the day-to-day operations of the department that are of public interest. Information posted via Nixle will notify subscribers of news worthy events, emergency situations, and traffic updates simultaneously via email, SMS (text message), mobile application, web, and it will automatically post these notifications to the already established ISP Facebook account and Twitter feed.

There are several ways to sign up for this **FREE** service. **To create a user account from the Nixle website:**

1. Visit the Nixle website at www.nixle.com
2. Click the orange **Sign Up Free!** button
3. Follow the prompts

Once you have created your Nixle account from the website, click the **Home** tab then click on **Search for Businesses, Agencies, & Community Groups** located on the right side of the page. In the **Find** box type **Indiana State Police** and click the **Go** button. This will open a page in which you can select from which Indiana State Police District(s) you'd like to



Sergeant Barr and his blood tracking dog Gerti. (Photo by PIO Sgt. John Bowling)

word, you will only receive Alerts and Advisories. You will not receive Community Messages (news releases). In order to receive Community Messages in addition to Alerts and Advisories via SMS, you must go to the Nixle website www.nixle.com and open a user account (see above instructions) and select the types of messages (Alerts, Advisories and/or Community notifications) you would like to receive. It is highly recommended media personnel create a user account through www.nixle.com.

receive news releases and other notifications. Simply check the box or boxes next to the district(s) from which you wish to receive notifications then at the bottom of the page click the **Subscribe to selected agencies** button and you will begin to receive news release information and other notifications from those selected Indiana State Police Districts. In addition to selecting the individual districts in which you wish to receive news releases, you are also encouraged to include in your selection(s) the **Indiana State Police Headquarters-Statewide option to receive news releases and information of statewide interest.**

***Note:** By selecting the *Indiana State Police Headquarters-Statewide Option*, you will **NOT** automatically receive news releases from **ALL** ISP districts. The *Headquarters-Statewide account* will be utilized by the *Indiana State Police Public Information Office* to send notifications of interest on a statewide basis such as Amber/Silver Alerts, announcements of upcoming state police recruiting drives, or other information intended for statewide distribution. In order to receive notifications from individual ISP district PIO's, you must select the particular district from which you would like to receive these notifications.

To receive notifications via SMS (text message only):

From your cell phone text your zip code to 888777 and you will receive text messages anytime an Alert or Advisory is sent from the Indiana State Police PIO from the ISP district serving that zip code. To receive messages from a specific ISP district (not serving your zip code), text the "keyword" assigned to that ISP district to 888777.

***NOTE:** By texting your zip code or ISP key-

Sgt Chris Barr-“Born to Track”

In last month's issue I included a picture of Sergeant Todd Wallace with a large buck he had killed during bow season in Henry County. Also in that picture was Sergeant Chris Barr, and if you look closely in his hands, is his highly trained Wirehaired Dachshund, Gerti. Chris and his dog had trailed and located Todd's deer in short fashion.

Chris belongs to an organization known as "United Blood Trackers," a national organization specializing in blood trailing Wirehaired Dachshunds. The dogs are based on European breeds and are used by hunters and outfitters all over the country for tracking wounded game such as bear and deer. The service they provide is invaluable to hunters all across America.

According to Chris, breeder statistics show these dogs' average finding 33% of wounded deer; but they also show 33% of wounded deer are not mortally wounded. That brings their average to finding one of every two wounded deer. The ones not found could be due to the deer not being mortally wounded, weather changes, tracking conditions, mistakes by the tracker or hunter, or maybe just an off day for the dog.

Just as Chris approaches his job with ISP, he is also very passionate about the job he and Gerti do. In their four tracking seasons together they have been on 64 tracks and have found 25 deer. For more information regarding their service and the trackers nearest you, go to www.unitedbloodtrackers.org and click on find a tracker.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19
(SEE NEW ISP SUPT. NEWS PAGE 27)

Gary's Indiana Muskie Experience

Gary's Indiana Muskie Experience is a Professional Muskie Guide Service with over 34 years of Muskie fishing experience. Gary fishes the lakes of North Webster area in Indiana. Contact Gary to schedule your Spring Muskie Experience 574-275-1885 or garymuskienut@aol.com

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INDIANA STATE POLICE CRASH REDUCTION PROGRAM

Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



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

Shouts...out loud

Okay, I feel obligated to give a bit of a deserving 'shout out' to my DNR sister divisions.

As many know, this time of year one doesn't usually have to fight the crowds in our Indiana State Parks and Reservoirs and Forestry properties. Apart from when the ice thickens on the lakes, bringing the herds of migrating hard water fishers, one can find enough unoccupied space to take leisurely hikes to enjoy the winter scenery and often view wildlife from a different perspective.

At least that is the kind of stereotypical thought one may have in mind as perhaps a recent weekday afternoon drive through their favorite State Park or Reservoir property is recalled. During the winter months recreational and educational activities don't stop. Our State Parks and Reservoirs continue to provide many of the same high quality services after the leaves fall and the temperatures drop. Guided hikes, various demonstrations and workshops and educational programs can be found at many of these properties. A listing of these scheduled workshops and events can be found by visiting: www.in.gov/dnr.

The DNR's Outdoor Recreation Division doesn't slow down in the winter months either. There are four snowmobile trails operated by this division.



Snowmobile: from DNR Law Enforcement Division archive.

Not too surprisingly, all are in northern portions of the state and are open from December through March when conditions allow. Large portions of these trails are a result of leasing privately owned properties. The Snowmobile Trails Program is funded entirely from registration fees and law enforcement activities. Maps of these trails along with current conditions and information about 'everything snowmobile' can also be located at the above listed website. Follow the appropriate options on the Outdoor Recreation Division web page.

Our Indiana DNR properties often partner with various organizations, sharing their space hosting public events. On any given day, State Park occupancy can go from rather peaceful to just plain wild. No, I'm not referring to the wildlife kind of 'wild', but rather the people craziness kind. You know the kind. It's the kind when watched, it forces you slowly shake your head a bit from side to side.

One such event is to begin soon. For several years two of our DNR properties, Versailles State Park and Deam Lake State Recreation Area, have hosted Polar Plunge events for Special Olympics Indiana. Described as an extreme fundraising event for the warm at heart, the Special Olympics Polar Plunge can be just what you may need to brush away the winter doldrums. Each Saturday in February will find several Polar Plunge sites scattered around Indiana for a total of 12. In a festive carnival-like

atmosphere, the soon to be plungers stage for their upcoming ritualistic swim, often donning silly attire befitting of the task at hand. Maybe their presence is to fulfill an "I bet you won't" dare. The common denominator of why we, uh, I mean they gather to take the icy plunge is to help raise serious fundraising dollars for Special Olympics Indiana through pledges and donations.

After the opening ceremony a torch bearer and entourage take the initial

plunge. Deep breath after deep breath can be heard quickly followed by quite audible exclamatory statements as small groups rotate in turn, facing their moments of truth. Plungers quickly exit to the applause and cheers from their warmly dressed families and friends who tilt their head slightly to the side and shake it slowly from side to side while their favorite plunger shakes their head, uncontrollably, not so slowly in every which direction.

To find out how you can donate to Indiana Special Olympics Polar Plunge visit: www.soindiana.org. Or better yet, instead of putting yourself through the agony of staying in the warmth of your home, come join the dedicated Polar Plungers and find out personally why they're freezin' for a reason. Maybe I'll see you there.

YES, WE'RE STILL FALLING

As of mid-December, tree stand falls have accounted for a large percentage of the total number of hunting related accidents. Of the 40 reported accidents, 27 (67.5%) were tree stand related falls and injuries. Unfortunately, this is not a new trend. Although the 2012-13 deer seasons are nearly fully completed, many of you may yet venture out

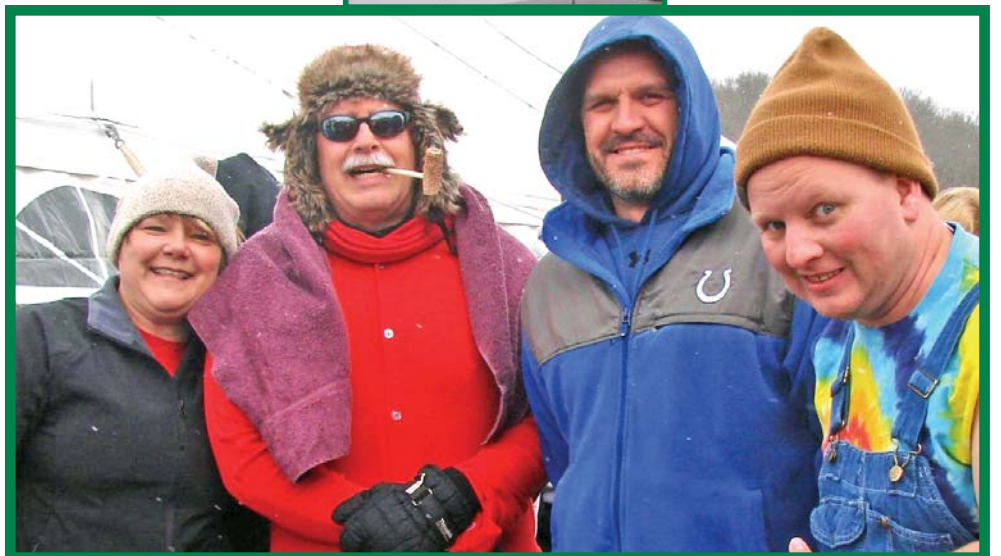
CONTINUED ON
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Pre-Plunge Versailles State Park 2012: Team 'Rancid Crabtree' members, Carla, Yours Truly, Dustin and Corey (Author Photo)

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John Lamont and Charlene Reidenbach, LaMont's Rock Pile. John brings minerals, carvings made from stones. John is also one of the contact persons for the Eastern Indiana Gem, Mineral, Jewelry & Fossil Show March 1-3, 2013, see on this page below. (Photo by Van Wimmer)



Rose and Van Wimmer, owners of Treasures of the Earth Gem and Jewelry Shows at one of their shows in Indianapolis, Indiana. To attend their upcoming Spring Show, March 22-24, 2013 read the article below. Also see the many photos from their shows on the next page. (Photo by Van Wimmer)

40th Annual Spring Show Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil Show & Sale Wayne Co. Fairgrounds March 1, 2, 3, 2013

by Ray Dickerson

The Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society's (EIGGS) 40th Annual Spring Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show will be held at the Kuhlman Center located at the Wayne County Fairgrounds on March 1-3, 2013.

The show opens at 10 a.m. Friday and closes at 6 p.m., then opens at 10 a.m. on Saturday and closes at 6 p.m., on Sunday it opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m.

A Donation is collected at the door, Adults \$5.00, Seniors 60 and older \$3.00, Youth ages 7 to 18 \$1.00, Under 7 FREE.

Sherry and I make a point every year to attend this entertaining and educational gem show. We have both been avid rock hunters through the years. We mostly though just look for pretty rocks, however, Sherry is a little more serious about her visits to the gem shows.

For those of you who would like to be a bit more creative with your finds, the best place for you to attend is one of these gem shows. March has two of the finest Gem shows in America, the first one is this one, March 1-3, 2013 in Richmond, Indiana and the second one is Treasures of the Earth March 22-24, 2013 in Indianapolis at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

The Wayne County Fairgrounds is easy to find, just exit I-70 at U.S. 35 south to the 4th stoplight, turn right onto NW L Street going west and enter the fairgrounds off L Street. (Word of caution, Salisbury Road is scheduled for reconstruction in 2013.

For more information contact Dave Straw 765-966-4249 or John Lamont 765-647-4894.

15th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show Indiana State Fairgrounds March 22-24, 2013

by Van & Rose Wimmer

If you come to our 15th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show on March 22-24, 2013 the hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

Our show will be held in the Ag/Horticulture Building located in the Indiana State Fairgrounds at 1202 E. 38th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

The admission is \$5 per ticket good all three days. There is no admission charge for children under sixteen (16).

You can find out more information by visiting our website: www.toteshows.com or by calling (540) 384-6047.

Collectors and jewelry enthusiasts will be able to find some of the most unique gems and beads from around the world this weekend in Indianapolis.

The 15th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show will showcase national dealers, several of whom make regular trips to countries as far away as Russia, Bali, Brazil, China and Hong Kong for gemstones and beads.

Dealers who sell jewelry and similar items in the show must make part of their products to get into the show.

Some of the rarer stones that dealers will bring include alexandrite, named after the Russian Tsar Alexander II and first discovered in emerald mines near the Tokovaya River in Russia.

Another unusual stone that will be available is Larimar, found only in a one-square-mile area on an island in the Caribbean. Another is actually a sea

shell called Spiny Oyster which is made into jewelry by American Indians.

There are a lot of interesting things like this at our show that you won't see at a jewelry store. That's why we get a lot of repeat customers.

An item likely to be popular at the show will be beads, particularly those sold by Canton Collectibles, a Martinsburg, WV company whose owner brings back high-quality beads & pearls from China and Hong Kong.

We try to keep bead dealers that only deal in first-quality beads, not the fake stuff. Mei Leung of Canton Collectibles is one of them. Her beads are made of real stone, and she also has high-quality pearls. She's building a fantastic business for herself.

Other services and products at the show include: Custom-made jewelry and jewelry repair or alterations by gold and silversmiths.

Wire wrap, wire sculpture and gem trees, some of which the dealers demonstrate making at the show. Show goers often bring stones to have mounted.

Classes will be available.

Mineral and fossil dealers, who will sell rocks from \$1 and up.

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March 1, 2, 3, 2013

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Top Left: Rose Wimmer, Treasures of the Earth and her Gem Tree's that she makes. She uses real gem stones for the leaves, a mineral specimen for the base and twist the trunk with one piece of wire. Top Right: Mei & David Leung, Canton Collectibles bring high quality beads and pearls from Hong Kong and China. Middle Left: Carrie Bridgeman & Jay Rosendahl, Crystal Dawn bring rare and hard to find minerals and crystals. Middle Right: Randy Jones, Lost Cove Mineral, bring beautiful petrified wood. Bottom Left: Cecilia Koch, Gems With A Smile, brings faceted stone mostly from Brazil. Bottom Right: Ralph & Eileen Marble, Marbles Gems, sell minerals, fossils and will wholesale if buying in volume. (Photos by Van Wimmer)

Society will both have displays at the show.

We hope you enjoy our shows as much as we do providing them for you. Have a great day and be sure to visit us at our 15th Annual Indianapolis Fall

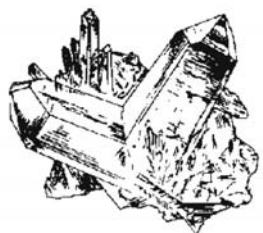
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Check out our Website www.toteshows.com/ for a complete list of upcoming shows, Door Prizes & Mailing List, Links to our

Guide, Free Stone Polishes Guide, Description of Larimar-Jewel of the Caribbean, Description of Septarian Nodule, List of State Gemstone, Mineral & Rock, List of State Fossil, List of Birthstones, List of Anniversary Gifts, Our wire that we use, Scouting Geology Merit Badges, 4H Geology - Self Directed Projects and Premire List of Shows.

Van Wimmer, Show Director - Treasures Of The Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows, 5273 Bradshaw Road Salem, VA 24153 Telephone: (540) 384-6047.

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**15th Annual Indianapolis Spring
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March 22-24, 2013

Friday & Sat 10am-6pm Sunday 11am-5pm

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Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

Brother Friend versus Brother

Several people have asked me about the terms of address I sometimes use when writing about certain individuals. Certain ones, I call Brother or Sister Friend...others I call Brother or Sister.

In the old days the children of the clan could go from lodge to lodge freely visiting their cousins and friends. They were treated as family when they were visiting in a lodge. If someone should inquire about new people eating with them, the mother might say: "Oh they are our children's very good friends, they are almost like relatives." Often they were referred to as a Brother-Friends or Sister-Friends. When I began naming people back in 1950, I decided that any of those I named would become members of my extended family. In fact I had a crazy dream of bringing them all together some summer weekend for a huge gathering. The closest I've come was in the summer of 1990 when the North American Indian Council of Greater Cincinnati honored me at California Nature Preserve. All those present were blood family, people I had named or they received their name that day. I had named new members to the council every year, I have named the students, who took my Native American Class, at the Communiversy, I have named members of my dance groups, a large number of people at Frontier Days in Indiana, plus many individuals I have personally called out to be named. Of course all the members of my family by blood or marriage have been given names. The name on their Name Certificate, when I gave them reflected the group they were a member of the time. In recent years I have named the presenter as 'WAMBLI TIOSH-PAYA' EAGLE'S FAMILY. They are my Brother-Friends and Sister-Friends. I kept records of them for years, but since we sold our home 12 years ago many have been lost in the moving. I do still have a list of the Native American Council members, I named, and of my family by blood and marriage, recent Frontier Day Reunion names and most recent invited individuals.

In fact I had a Naming Ceremony here at Triple Creek right after Christmas. Two were staff with native heritage and two were staff members, who I

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Golden Eagle, at left, doing a naming ceremony at Treaty Line Pioneer Village, at right, Sherry Dickerson the recipient of the naming on September 30, 2000. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

have come to regard as special friends

The Lakota have a ceremony called 'ALOWANPI'. 'To Sing For Someone..', also called 'HUNKA' and the Relative By Choice Ceremony. I have used a version of this ceremony as a way of joining with friends in a very special manner. The ceremony is conducted in secret, usually outdoors at night. I give them a secret name and pledge to respond to them if they summon me using that name. In all the time I have done this, only one of them called for my help. When the commitment was complete, he is the only one, I can remember, who thanked me by giving me the 'double handshake.' The first time I did the 'Hunka Ceremony' was back when the North American Indian Council of Greater Cincinnati was just getting started. We were holding our first annual Native American Weekend at California Wood Nature Preserve. I called out a group of the Charter Members to be Sung Over. I led them up to the council ring above the ball field and called then individually into the tipi for the ceremony. These special people I call out for Hunka I consider the same as my relatives by blood, my "Relatives By Choice", I call them my Brothers and Sisters.

I know there are some of you reading this who

are wondering why I have never called you out.

I have no excuse, you certainly were worthy, however, I never had a place or the conditions necessary to conduct the ceremony. Please forgive my failing to honor you in this way as you are all my friends and relatives.

Hope things are starting off well..the Great Spirit look with favor on you all.

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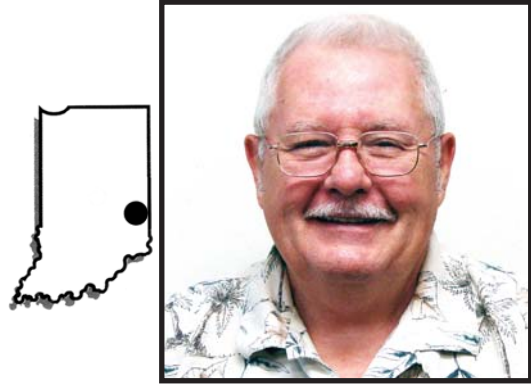
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by Marshall Smith

THOUGHTS ON GUN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITY

GUNS OF HISTORY

You don't see too many of these around. The other day a customer brought in a U.S. Springfield Model 1866 .50 cal. trap door breech loading rifle for me to look at and appraise. Admittedly I was amazed at the condition of the rifle. Sadly, it had been left in a room with a leaky roof and the exterior of the barrel had significant pitting and rusting. The steel butt plate was pitted and rusted so that any markings on it were indistinguishable. The receiver had some rust but much of the browning was left and markings were clear. The hammer and trap door worked well. The hammer spring felt strong and solid. The stock had some usage dents and dings and the metal spring barrel ring locks were still working. It was missing the ramrod. The bore of the barrel appeared to be in excellent shape from what I could tell. I didn't have a bore scope to look closer but the rifling looked good and still held sharp edges. Less than 24,000 of these guns were made according to the NRA book of gun values. According to Wikipedia the guns were issued to troops in 1867 and were instrumental in the Wagon Box and the Hayfield fights along the Bozeman Trail in 1867. The "high rate" of fire pro-



The U.S. Springfield Model 1866 .50 Caliber rifle. (Author Photo)



Close-up of the right lock plate on the Springfield rifle. (Author Photo)

vided by the trap door cartridge loading system of the U.S. Springfield Model 1866 .50 cal. trap door breech loading rifle made the difference in those battles.

THOUGHTS ON GUN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITY

The Journal News, a Gannett owned newspaper, headquartered in White Plains New York, published an article and interactive map exposing legal gun owners names and addresses in the Rockland and Westchester Counties in New York state. Is this a violation of the gun owner's right to privacy and to own a gun? In New York the legislature felt it necessary to make the licensing of gun owners public record. Here in Indiana the legislature specifically made the records of gun owners non-public.

In my opinion the Journal News' action "exposing" licensed gun owners in those counties is an example of irresponsible reporting by a newspaper, an irresponsible, knee-jerk reaction without thought or concern over the consequences the article may generate. It is obvious to me that many people live like an ostrich, with their heads in the sand, never seeing the danger of their actions nor the outcome of their actions. Worse, not caring nor considering how their irresponsible actions may result in outcomes hurting and injuring others, or the possible loss of their freedoms they now take for granted. It is obvious that the paper was looking to instill fear in their non-gun owning readers with an unstated but obvious inference that all the legal gun owners were potential **IRRESPONSIBLE KILLERS**. When in fact the opposite is true. Gun owners have proven to be the most responsible people in our society. Frustration with those who are not responsible, or driven by fantasy movies and video games of war or destruction, or of the criminal mindset is attacking the frustrated citizens and causing a demand for more protection through the denial of rights, more restrictive laws, and restricted rights. The only people these actions will truly effect are those willing to abide by the law.

In history's past and today, authoritarian and total-

itarian rulers use such irresponsible acts like that of the Journal News to justify their suppression of freedom of speech and the press. The government directs the news media and it is no more than a pawn of the government. Maybe, it already is. In this day and age of liberal reporting the journalist in and visiting foreign soil is used by the foreign governments to report only what the government allows. Our reporters in many foreign countries are accompanied by government handlers and editors who "guide and restrict" the reporter on what can be said, where they can go, what they can see. The government doesn't want to be exposed, doesn't want public scrutiny, it wants, it needs to operate outside the public view. Because of the irresponsible acts of the Journal News, I wonder how many homeowners in those areas who legally possess a firearm may now have their homes burglarized for their guns. I think if it were my name and address, publicized in the a news media and then my home was burglarized and guns stolen, I would sue the newspaper, the editor, the reporter, the county and its officials, and the state for advertising to the criminal community where to find the guns they wanted. And, wouldn't the so called public records of gun ownership be an infringement of our rights under the second amendment? Which says in part, "...the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed" (emphasis added). Well, the U.S. Supreme Court has already violated the infringed part by allowing the government to regulate and record the ownership of certain types of firearms.

MY THOUGHTS ON ASSAULT STYLE WEAPONS

Assault style weapons such as the Mini-14, the Mini-30, the AR series of rifles, the AK variants, and others which handle large capacity magazines are intriguing, often cool to look at, and always fun to blast away at the targets at the range. As for hunting, they are generally not accurate enough for long range shots, and, in Indiana, not used for hunting deer, or small game animals. The .223, .30 cal/ 7.62mm rounds are too powerful to successfully hunt for rabbit, squirrel, quail, etc. Good for Coyotes or Wild Boar though as long as you're aware of the area behind your target and it is safe to fire. Is it necessary to carry a 20 or 30 round magazine in the field to shoot a Coyote or Boar? I don't think it's necessary if you are at least a decent shot. I supposed there are some who might need all 30 rounds to hit the target, but, maybe they should consider more training or better yet, a shotgun. I was raised on the apparently old belief of one shot = one kill. A good hunter only needed one shot to bring home dinner. I think most hunters today still pride themselves on being able to get the game with the least amount of ammo expended.

The large capacity magazines were a necessity for
CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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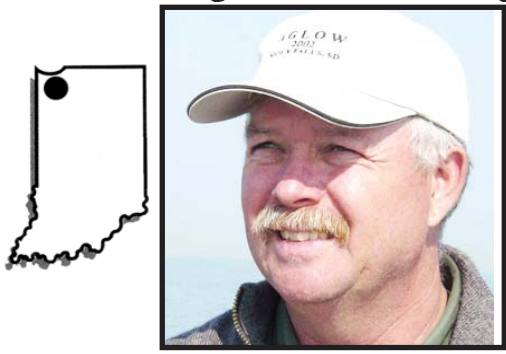
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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

Aluminum or Glass? Which To Buy?

Just as it's become commonplace to be asked "paper or plastic" when checking out at the grocery store, today's boat buyer has to ask himself "aluminum or glass?" If you are in the market for a new or used boat, you may be asking yourself right now, "Should I get one with an aluminum hull or would I be happier with fiberglass?"

The answer isn't as simple as selecting whether you want to have paper bag or a plastic bag at the check out counter. Both materials work to contain the groceries but there are good aspects and bad aspects of each substance.

Part of the answer to paper or plastic is to appeal to a person's environmental conscience-although environmentalists are split as to which is better-logging pulpwood to make paper or using petro-chemicals to make plastic bags.

I would guess there are environmental differences in the construction of aluminum and fiberglass boats, as well. I don't know them and I'm not going to try to learn them. The differences I want to highlight are those which will help an angler choose a fiberglass boat or an aluminum boat to rig up for his or her Great Lakes fishing. I've had both and as my needs changed from then to now, at the time I owned each boat, I made the right choice.

First let's cover some generalities dealing with boats made with the two substances.

Weight-Aluminum boats weigh less than fiberglass boats.

Price-Aluminum boats cost less than fiberglass boats.

Ride-Fiberglass boats cut through the waves better than aluminum boats.

Looks-Some people like Chevies some like Fords. You decide.

Durability-Both materials (with a little care) will last forever (or at least as long as you'll need it to last.)

Resale value-I'd probably give the nod to a better resale for 'glass but wear and tear is probably more a factor than hull material.

"Fish"-ability-There are more models of aluminum fishing boats than aluminum pleasure boats. There are more models of fiberglass boats which would make lousy fishing boats. In the end, perfectly wonderful fishing boats can be constructed of either material.

Size-The smaller the boat, the more apt it is to be aluminum.

Maintenance-very little for either, but required for both in about equal amounts.

Repair-ability-both are repairable, ease of repair depends on the nature of the problem.

Now that I've made these generalities, let me be


the first to say there's not one of these statements which can't be excepted. I've been on 30-plus foot aluminum boats on the Great Lakes but my first boat was a 14-foot fiberglass run-about. I once owned an 18-foot aluminum boat which rode the waves like a battleship and a 21-foot aluminum model which would churn cream into butter in a 6-inch chop.

I included some of these generalities because of statements I've heard over the years which

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 26



Both aluminum and fiberglass boats suitable for Great Lakes use are available. (Author Photo)



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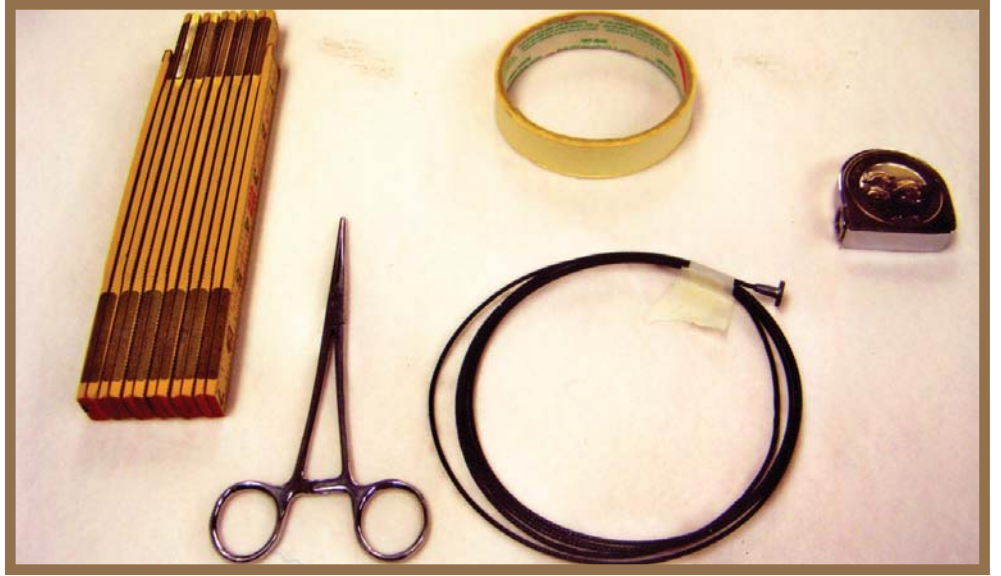
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Brian Bechtol measuring length of tine using light wire cable. (Author Photo)



Tools of the trade. Carpenters folding rule, Wire cable to determine length of beam & tine, Masking tape to hold it in place, Forceps to mark the end & 1/4" tape to measure cable. (Author Photo)

and that's the news from
West Central Indiana



by **Don Bickel, Forester**
Hoosier Record Buck

Trophy -- Something symbolizing victory or success. A mounted fish, animal head, etc. This in part is the definition of the word trophy as written in the Readers Digests Encyclopedia Dictionary for 1966.

Today, Indiana's 2012 Deer Season is completed and statewide, a number of exceptional whitetail bucks will be recorded in the Hoosier Record Buck Program. Quite likely some of these outstanding sets

of antlers will also find a spot in the records of Boone and Crockett (firearms) or Pope and Young (archery).

While many would consider the trophy to be a whitetail buck with antlers that in size and configuration stand above the average, that may not always be the case. That young hunter who has spent two years going "deerless", may consider the doe or yearling just taken as an absolute trophy. And truly it is, in that the trophy value is in the eyes of the beholder or hunter in this case.

This same young hunter, whether he or she, if they stay "in the hunt", may reach the point of attempting to better last year's buck deer by taking a buck with a higher scoring set of antlers. It is this head-gear worn by mature male deer - in our case whitetails - that determine trophy status.

A measuring system ultimately defines a numerical score which places the buck in the sequence of bucks taken in past years. In Indiana, the Hoosier Record Buck Program recognizes these trophy deer and establishes a permanent record of the quality of deer taken in Indiana.

The program was established in 1975 by Indiana's Division of Fish and Wildlife. In 1993, the administering of the program was passed on to the Indiana Deer Hunters Association - a volunteer organization.

Outstanding sets of deer antlers are measured through the system of antler scoring established by the Boone And Crockett Club and used throughout North America to classify all trophy whitetail antlers.

Antler scoring is divided into two categories - typical and non-typical. Typical antlers are those that are normal, symmetrical, well-balanced antlers. Non-typical antlers possess a number of points that are abnormal in shape or position. To qualify for the Hoosier Record Buck Program, the minimum typical score has been set of 140 points and the minimum non-typical score is 160. Nationwide, standards to enter the Boone and Crockett Club record book are a bit stiffer, minimum typical score is 170, while the non-typical minimum is 195.

Antler measuring follows a standard procedure. The score for a typical head is the measurement in inches of the distance between the main beams, plus the length of all normal points, plus four circumference measurements on each main beam, minus the abnormal points. Non-typical antlers are scored in the same manner except the total length of all abnormal points is added to the score rather than subtracted. To be considered a point, a projection must be at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



Top: Brian Bechtol, Taxidermist measuring inside spread with Carpenter's rule. Middle: A "Found Antler and Skull" which measured 166 2/8, Typical. Bottom: Buck taken in Montgomery Co., 2012 with clothes line wrapped around antlers. Note the stick or piece of sapling on the antler right side of the picture. (Author Photo)

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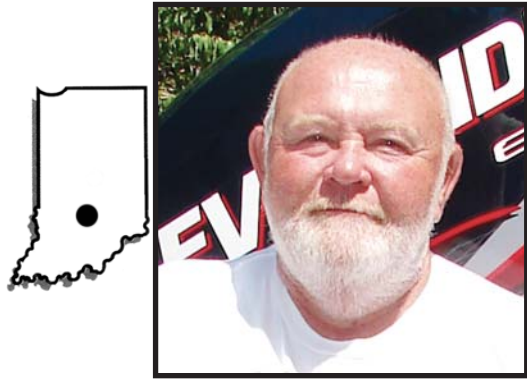
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Bass Fishing Techniques



by **Bill Embry**

Bass Fishing Tournament Schedules are starting to be released for the 2013 Season!

I have compiled the 2013 bass tournament dates for the avid bass anglers. If anyone else would like to add to this list please e-mail me at embrygot2loveit@aol.com with your dates by February 4, 2013 and I will get them on the list for next month's issue. Please let me know if you see any goof up's I have made, so I can get them changed before next month's issue.

Are you in the market for a new boat? Legend Boats of Mountain Home, Arkansas, is offering a great new contingency program if you win a tournament in one of their boats, ordered or purchased now through April 15, 2013. You can win up to an additional \$10,000.00 in events that are sanctioned by Legend Boats and have more than 60 boats in it. Great deal from Legend Boats, no other boat company has ever put this much money on the table for their owners to win!

As of today the Indiana Bass Federation Tournament Trail, Hoosier Open Team Trail, The Wish & Riley's Tournaments are Legend Boat sanctioned here in Indiana. Remember there must be 60 boats in these events to qualify.

Go to www.ridewithalegend.com for more

details. If you're interested in taking an up close look at these boats, contact S.M.I. Marine in Louisville, Ky. They are a Legend Dealer. Just call Tim Addington 502-435-8113. Tim told me the other day that he had all 3 models on the showroom floor & one 2012 demo boat for sale.

S.M.I. will also be at the Louisville boat show on **January 23, thru 27th 2013** at the fairgrounds in downtown Louisville. They will have all three models to see, Legends 191, 199, & Alpha 211. Plus they will have an Alpha 211 Tactical; this awesome boat is made for military veterans. A real must see! This boat will only be at the Louisville show!

S.M.I. will also be at the **2013 Indianapolis Boat Sport & Travel Show in the West Boat Pavilion.**

On **February 15th thru 24th** and will also have all three of Legend model boats there for you to see.

I consider S.M.I. an excellent dealership. I have seen first hand how they take care of their customers. It amazes me what they do for their customers. Please give them a chance to earn your business, you won't be dissatisfied! Even if you don't buy a boat from them their service is unheard of!

Monroe has some ice on it now, and about a foot of snow on the ramps. With temps raising this week I'm sure that won't last to long. We have been getting dumped on down here in Bloomington, 16" since the day after Christmas. So all I have been doing is loading the stove & pushing out the driveway. Fun-huh? Well look at the bright side I keep saying spring is on its way & so are the boat shows, so get out of the house and buy new toys! Hope to see you at a one of the boat shows in the next couple of months.

If any of you readers are not bass fishermen and would like to learn this wonderful sport & hobby, And can not spent the money it takes to buy the equipment that it takes or the expense. But you would like for you or your family to learn this great sport we call bass fishing, let me teach you. It's a lot of fun & very challenging. Learn the basics and you can bass fish from just about any kind of boat. See my ad or go to www.learn2bassfish.com.

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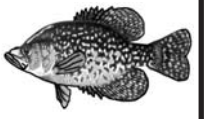
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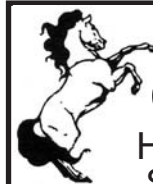


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2013 INDIANA BASS TOURNAMENTS

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>Organization</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Ramp</u> | <u>Contact Person</u> | <u>Phone #</u> |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 17-Mar-13 | Hoosier Open Team | Patoka | N.S.S. | Jeff & Terri Rude www.hoosieropen.com | 765-434-3636 |
| 21-Apr-13 | Hoosier Open Team | Patoka | N.S.S. | | |
| 19-May-13 | Hoosier Open Team | Ohio River | Tanners Creek | | |
| 23-Jun-13 | Hoosier Open Team | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 14-Jul-13 | Hoosier Open Team | Ohio River | Rocky Pt. | | |
| 18-Aug-13 | Hoosier Open Team | Patoka | N.S.S. | | |
| 21,22 Sept- 13 | Hoosier Open Team Classic | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| April 7 2013 | Indiana Bass Federation | Patoka | N.S.S. | Kenny Swint www.Indianabass.com | 317-416-4579 |
| May 12 2013 | Indiana Bass Federation | Brookville | Fairfield | | |
| June 1 & 2 2013 | Indiana Bass Federation | Ohio River | Rocky Pt. | | |
| Aug. 4 2013 | Indiana Bass Federation | Ohio River | Tanners Creek | | |
| Sept.8 2013 | Indiana Bass Federation | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| Oct. 5&6 2013 | Indiana Bass Federation Classic | Patoka | N.S.S. | | |
| 23-Mar-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | Travis Feverbach www.Anglerschoice.com | 317-445-0386 |
| 6-Apr-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 4-May-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 8-Jun-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 14-Jul-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 10-Aug-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 7-Sep-13 | Anglers Choice | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 6-Apr-13 | Anglers Choice | Geist | Olio Rd. | Jim McWhiter www.Anglerschoice.com | 574-870-0037 |
| 18-May-13 | Anglers Choice | Morse | Marina Ramp | | |
| 9-Jun-13 | Anglers Choice | Geist | Olio Rd. | | |
| 30-Jun-13 | Anglers Choice | Shafer | Beach Ramp | | |
| 21-Jul-13 | Anglers Choice | Freeman | Dodge Camp | | |
| 17-Aug-13 | Anglers Choice | Morse | Marina Ramp | | |
| 21-Sep-13 | Anglers Choice | Geist | Olio Rd. | | |
| 23-Mar-13 | B F L | Patoka | N.S.S. | www.Flwoutdoors.com | |
| 13-Apr-13 | B F L | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 8-May-13 | B F L | Patoka | N.S.S. | | |
| 27-Jul-13 | B F L | Ohio River | Rocky Pt. | | |
| 9/14 & 9/15 2013 | B F L | Ohio River | Tanners Creek | | |
| April 24 2013 | Hoosier Open Seniors | Patoka | N.S.S. | Jeff & Terri Rude www.Hoosieropen.com | 765-434-3636 |
| 22-May-13 | Hoosier Open Seniors | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| 26-Jun-13 | Hoosier Open Seniors | Morse | Marina Ramp | | |
| July 24 2013 | Hoosier Open Seniors | Shafer | Beach Ramp | | |
| Aug. 28 2013 | Hoosier Open Seniors | Giest | Olio Rd. | | |
| Sept. 25 2013 | Hoosier Open Seniors | Monroe | Cutright | | |
| Oct.16 &17 2013 | Hoosier Open Seniors Classic | Shafer | Beach Ramp | | |
| 20-Apr-13 | Indiana Childrens Wish Tour. | Patoka | N.S.S. | Jeremy Case A20 Boating Supplies | |
| 15-Jun-13 | Rileys Childrens Tour. | Monroe | Cutright | | Troy Keen www.Indianabass.com |
| July 20 & 21 2013 | T.B.F State Finals | Wawasee | Syracuse ramp | | |
| June 29 & 30 2013 | B.A.S.S. State Finals | Wawasee | Syracuse ramp | www.Infn.us | |
| 6-Apr-13 | Fisher's of Men South Division | Monroe | Cutright | Nathan Sipes www.Fonmtt.com | 317-512-3946 |
| 27-Apr-13 | Fisher's of Men South Division | Brookville | Fairfield | | |
| 1-Jun-13 | Fisher's of Men South Division | Patoka | N.S.S | | |
| 22-Jun-13 | Fisher's of Men South Division | Patoka | N.S.S | | |
| 13-Jul-13 | Fisher's of Men South Division | Ohio River | Charlestown | | |
| 10-Aug-13 | Fisher's of Men South Division | Patoka | N.S.S | | |
| 6-Apr-13 | Fisher's of Men North Division | Geist | Olio Rd. | Sharon Tighe Fonmtt.com | 765-620-3753 |
| 4-May-13 | Fisher's of Men North Division | Shafer | Monon | | |
| 8-Jun-13 | Fisher's of Men North Division | Raccoon | Park ramp | | |
| 13-Jul-13 | Fisher's of Men North Division | Morse | Marina Ramp | | |
| 10-Aug-13 | Fisher's of Men North Division | St.Joe River | Margaret Pritckett Ramp | | |

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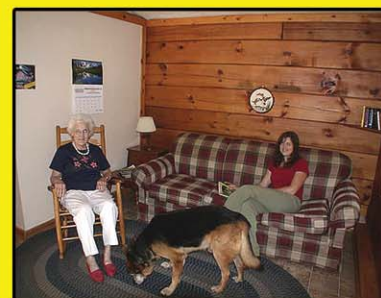


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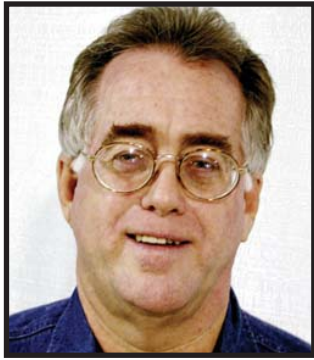


A large crowd of onlookers watch as the trailer door opens releasing the first wild elk into their new Kentucky home, December, 1997. (Photo by John Perkins)



Several cow elk take their first steps on KY soil. Then governor of Kentucky, Paul Patton (white hair by trailer) watches. (Photo by John Perkins)

Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Twenty Eight Years Helping Wildlife

“To ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, and their habitat” was the mission statement of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation for over two and a half decades. In the past year, the phrase “and our hunting heritage” was added to the end of that statement. While the RMEF has always supported hunters and hunting, they felt it was time to highlight this aspect by adding it to their mission.

This organization was started in Troy, Montana in 1984 by four elk hunters. Since that time, the RMEF has grown to over 500 chapters across the country with 10,000 plus volunteers, and almost 200,000 members. But, this is not just another outdoor group reaching into the pockets of the public for money which ends up going everywhere except to the cause. The American Institute of Philanthropy consistently recognizes the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation as one of America’s most efficient conservation organizations with over 90 cents of every dollar going directly to on-the-ground conservation achievement.

While wild elk were extirpated from the eastern and Midwest states around a century ago, the RMEF has helped reintroduce a sustainable herd to several states in recent years. Wisconsin, Tennessee, the Great Smoky Mountains National Park,

Pennsylvania, and most recently, Virginia and Missouri are hearing bugling in their wild spaces. Michigan and Ontario have wild herds as do other states. Feasibility studies to reintroduce elk into Maryland are ongoing.

But the most successful project was restoring elk to the southeastern portion of Kentucky. With the outstanding help of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, restocking started in 1997 and continued until 2002. Kentucky now has the largest herd east of Montana with over 11,000 wild elk, making it the state with the tenth largest elk population, roaming on four million acres of land, in a sixteen county restoration zone. With the absence of predators, mild winters, and abundant food, the herd in the Bluegrass State has a 90% breeding success with a 92% calf survival rate. The elk are also 15% larger than those from western states and many have record size racks.

Since its early beginnings, the RMEF has conserved over six million acres of prime elk habitat and opened up 600,000 plus acres of permanent public access. In 2011 alone, volunteers worked on projects in 19 states doing prescribed burns, invasive weed removal, pulling old fencing, building water guzzlers in dry regions, planting native forage seedlings, and working on other conservations measures covering over 111,000 acres. Most of the money for these and other projects came from membership dues, philanthropic donations, corporate sponsorships, merchandise sales, grants, raffles, and mostly Big Game Banquets.

Closer to our area, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has twelve Indiana Chapters. In 2012, these local chapters achieved record numbers of attendance at their banquets and memberships for the RMEF. Their efforts raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for the mission. At present, the active chapters in Indiana are Bloomington, Columbus, Corydon, Elkhart, Evansville, Ft. Wayne, Indianapolis, Lafayette, Terre Haute, Valparaiso, Vincennes, and the East Central Indiana Chapter which was formed in Muncie and holds its banquets in Anderson. I am presently the Chairman of that chapter and have been for 10 of its 14 year existence.

Still, when I talk to Hoosiers about joining the RMEF or attending our annual fundraising banquet, they usually reply, “But, there are no wild elk in Indiana.” This is a true statement, and there probably will never be wild elk here because of the population, available habitat, and other reasons.

I guess I could tell people about the Elk Foundation purchasing the 5,200 acre Elkhorn Ranch near Medora, ND formerly belonging to Theodore Roosevelt. I could mention acquiring a 3,000 ranch in California or the 1,300 acres in Clinton County, PA, or the 1,150 acres in Sawyer County, WI, or the purchase of thousands of other acres to acquire habitat for elk and other wildlife, but that might not impress them.

Maybe if I told Hoosiers about Conservation Education Programs or partnering with the Boy Scouts to allow thousands of youths to backpack in the Elk Foundation’s 95,000 acres in New Mexico, they would understand why I work so hard as a volunteer.

But still, Indiana has no wild elk. So maybe I should explain the RMEF donates monies to Indiana through grant programs to assist organizations such as the National Archery in the Schools Program, hunter education classes, 4-H Shooting Sports, and Conservation Officers Kid’s Camps. RMEF also supports Women in the Outdoors, Hunter’s Feeding the Hungry and offers scholarships to Wildlife Management students.

As a last effort to convince you the RMEF is an

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This 6 X 6 bull elk bugles his challenge to any and all comers. The sound of this echoing through the mountains is unforgettable. (Photo by Fred McClanahan, Jr.)



This majestic bull surveys his domain on a snowy, foggy mountainside in Kentucky. (Photo by Dave Baker)

organization well worth supporting, I must mention sometime in the next few years (I am getting old fast) I hope to go elk hunting again. I would like to hunt for a mule deer one time and maybe get another record book pronghorn with my bow. The Elk Foundation is doing their best to preserve the habitat for all of these critters, plus many other animals and plants.

But the biggest reason I want them to succeed is because we have a seven year old grandson. I want him to see the elk and the deer and the pronghorn on the prairies and foothills instead of seeing a strip mall. I want him to hike the mountains of the west instead of walking through a housing addition perched on the side of the Rockies. I want him to catch a trout in a clear mountain stream instead of looking at a muddy ditch. And the RMEF wants the same thing.

How can you help? One way is by finding out more at www.rmef.org. Another is supporting your local chapter by attending a banquet. The East Central Indiana Chapter is holding its 14th annual Fundraising Banquet & Auction on Saturday, February 9, 2013 in Anderson. The event will feature a live and silent auction, assorted raffles and games. The door fee is \$25 and includes a buffet meal catered by O'Charleys. A new or renewed RMEF membership is \$35 at the banquet and you will receive a \$32 Buck knife with your membership.

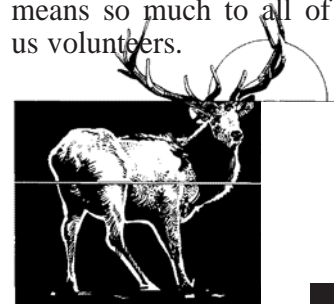
Besides a wide variety of outdoor hunting and fishing gear, knives, guns, taxidermy donations, and

camping gear, we have some special offerings again this year. Fishing trips to northern IN for musky, two days on Reelfoot Lake in TN, and a fishing package on Lake of the Woods in MN are on the auction block as are Scuba Dive lessons from Divers Supply, a round of golf for four from Hawkstail in Greenfield, a Discovery Flight at the Anderson Airport, classes from FlyMasters in Indy, and Vera Bradley products for the ladies.

Assorted jewelry items, a "Romantic Package" including room, meal, movie, candy, balloons, a couple's massage, and a diamond necklace plus other items specially selected for the ladies by our committee will appeal to your wife or girlfriend. We will also have our perennial special donation from McGee's Fine Jewelers in Greenwood. Our deep freeze with a \$250 gift certificate from both Rihm's Meats and Knightstown Locker will be on the raffle table.

Doors will open at 4:30 to view auction items and begin buying raffle tickets, bidding on silent auction, and socializing. Dinner will be at 7 PM with live auction to follow. If you or your business would like to donate a new item or underwrite some of our event expenses, I can help you with that. Donors get their name and contact info in our program thanking them for their support. All attendees and donors get a copy showing those who support our cause. For more information on this event, contact Rich Creason, 765-649-8482 or 765-215-3478 or e-mail evewrite4u@aol.com.

I hope I have been able to encourage you to find out more about the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Please join us at our upcoming banquet to see why this organization means so much to all of us volunteers.



News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

Stranded In Cold Weather

With the frigid cold temperatures of late winter, a vehicle that becomes disabled can make for a life or death situation for the driver and passengers.

Following are a few tips you can follow that could save your life:

- Before you leave check the weather forecast and let someone know your route of travel.
- Always keep your gas tank full when driving in cold weather.
- Carry a winter survival kit in your car which is to include: blankets, flashlight, extra batteries, brightly colored cloth, sand or a bag of cat litter, shovel, candles and matches, non perishable high calorie foods, (nuts, raisins, and candy bars), newspapers (for insulation), a first aid kit and jumper cables.
- Do not leave your car if stranded, it is your best protection. Do not panic, an idling car only uses one gallon of gas per hour.
- Roll down a window a very small amount for fresh air.
- Make sure the car's exhaust pipe is not blocked to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning.
- At night, leave your dome light on.
- Carry a cell phone to call 911.

The tips provided sound simple and include several items to place in your car, but they could save your or a family member's life. For Indiana road conditions call 1-800-261-7623 or visit the INDOT web site at www.TrafficWise.IN.gov.

Indiana Dept Natural Resources

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

for the purpose of taking down your tree stand which has remained attached to your favorite tree since you last saw it. Please remember to follow the manufacturer's disassembly instructions. Don't forget to take your safety harness and fall arrest system with you and use it appropriately. Turkey season is but three months away and it wouldn't do you any good to be laid up with a serious injury due to a senseless fall!



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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Author's son was right — And the author is sure glad

I have often written that I have been humbled while hunting and of how I have often had the opportunity to learn quite a bit from my eleven year old son Nicholas. While I am proud to be teaching him the finer points of hunting, he has also been instrumental in making me see the more important aspects of the sport – the things that really matter.

This past muzzleloader season was no different. After a failed attempt at a particular buck early in the 2012 muzzleloader season, I once again had the chance to be humbled by a child, yet learn an important life-lesson at the same time.

After the buck outsmarted us, seeing that I was visibly upset, Nicholas tried cheering me up by telling me that I would get that deer if I kept trying. I appreciated his sincerity and his attempts at making me feel better, all the while realizing that he just might be correct. But deep down I also know that deer hunting is never easy and the odds were just as good that I may not ever see that buck again.

But Nicholas did have a point. It was muzzleloader season and the deer seemed to be on a fairly predictable feeding pattern. Plus, I had the following week off, allowing me to spend at least some of it pursuing the buck.

So, during the next week, I spent several

the buck never showed himself. Later in the week, found me still plopped down in my little corner of the world in that brushy fence row. On this particular evening, I was having another great hunt. I was tempted to take a fat doe early in the hunt but I decided that I wasn't done playing chess with that buck yet so any attempts at a doe would either have to come at last shooting light or on another day.

The afternoon passed with several does filtering in and out of the field to feed. With not more than just a handful of minutes left of legal shooting light, a noise to my right grabbed my attention. Two fat does and a nice buck were hastily making their way down the fence row towards me. Before I knew it they were standing a mere fifteen yards in front of me, and although the buck was pretty decent, it wasn't the one I came to settle the score with. I contemplated taking one of the large does but the jig was up by this time. They spotted me and made haste in the direction from which they had come.

It was then that I noticed a large deer standing alone at the end of the field. A quick glance through my Alpen binoculars revealed that it was a nice buck, and I presumed it to be the one I came here for. The other three deer ran right by him and I was afraid that he, too, would be gone in a flash so as soon as I could get the crosshairs of my scope settled on his chest, I squeezed the trigger. It was going to have to be a free-hand shot at over a hundred yards. A shot I might not normally take, but with the gun I was cradling, I knew that buck was in trouble. As the Thompson-Center Encore barked, I heard deer scattering through the far end of the field. I was a bit apprehensive at that moment because I knew it wasn't going to be easy to pinpoint the exact spot where the buck was standing when I shot, and I didn't see him at all after the shot.

With darkness closing in, I waited a few moments and decided to just walk to the area where the buck was standing when I shot. Why, I don't know, but I guess it was out of hope to find signs of a hit as I thought I may have actually missed. Well, as I made my way to the spot, I

didn't even make it all the way there before I spotted the snow white underbelly of the buck as he lay a mere forty yards away!

It never ceases to amaze me how sometimes life's biggest lessons can be learned from the smallest individuals. In this instance the lessons were those of patience and persistence – and I'm glad Nicholas was right again!



The author's son called it. After a hunt a week earlier that resulted in a close call with this buck, yet yielded an empty truck bed on the ride home, the author was finally able to make good on the dandy 10-pointer. Nicholas was right on the money this time, and the author was sure glad! (Author Photo)

evenings hunting that same picked corn field in hopes of getting another crack at him. I had a couple of things going for me. First, I had the right winds that would enable to hunt that field without blowing my scent through it. Second, I could hunt the field with very little impact. I could easily access my vantage point within a short distance of the truck and I didn't have to cross any good deer cover to get to it. The scenario was perfect.

The first few evenings my anticipation was high, and although I had some good hunts,



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by Dan Graves

RESOLUTIONS - MAKE 'EM AND BREAK 'EM

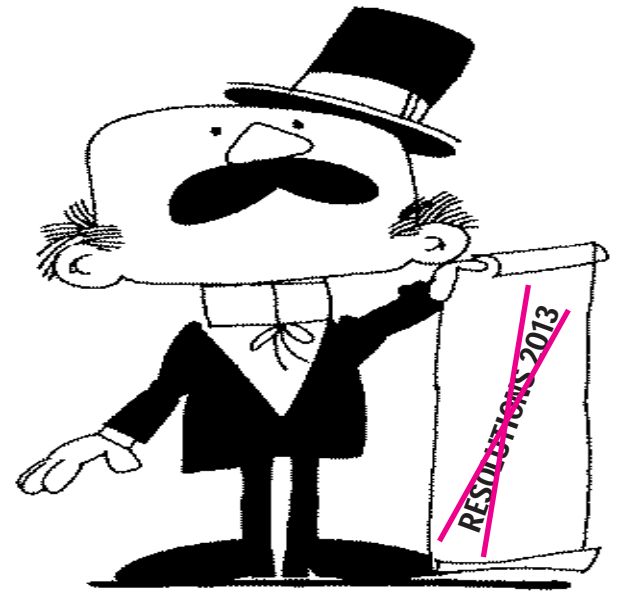
Websters definition of a resolution is as follows:
"A resolve or determination. The act of resolving or determining, as upon an action or course of action, method, procedure, etc. The mental state or quality of being resolved or resolute; firmness of purpose."

Every year, on January 1st, it's common practice for some people to make their New Years resolutions, to commit themselves to be either being a better person towards family and friends or at least being less of a pain in the rumble seat. For the avid sportsman or woman the more common commitments might be to work harder to improve their aim with a shotgun to avoid a repeat of last years vet bills for 'Ol Shep, the pointer, or to improve their casting skills and thus reduce their socially unacceptable vocabulary when small mishaps occur, which they will only when there's an audience present. Speaking from experience, I wouldn't suggest trying to be too restrictive with your vocabulary, because that can cause extreme mental stress when your techniques don't improve enough to satisfy you. Expression of your emotions serve to work like a pressure relief valve, thus sparing you a heart attack or worse yet, the explosion of an arterial embolism when internal pressure builds. If you feel that you won't be able to control yourself, learn the basic four letter expletives in a foreign language and express yourself to your hearts content when the need arises. As for me, I know @\$%#@ in Japanese and %\$#@ in Navajo. I would suggest a short correspondence course in Slavic.

Don't set your goals too high. Give yourself some latitude. Accept the fact that by engaging in any form of outdoor sports there will be errors, so take these occasional goofs into consideration when making your resolutions. I'm planning to follow some simple rules in fishing for the coming season. They are as follows:

You overcast and hook the cover on a boat in a dock with a sign that reads "No Trespassing! This Means You!" Make attempts to dislodge the hook by gently working the rod tip. When this inevitably drives the hook deeper into the cover, quietly mutter %\$#@ in Japanese, grab the line and jerk it until it breaks. Take a little satisfaction in knowing that the unsociable boat owner will have to remove the hook without damaging his precious cover.

While jigging for crappie you fail to notice the boat slowly turning and your line wraps around the trolling motor prop about 1400 times. As your fishing partner, who incidentally owns the boat, unwinds the line, smile meekly at him and sweetly say %^\$#@ in Slavic as humbly as possible. This will make him feel superior to you and help you avoid an arterial embolism.



Your fishing partner is seated on the bow and you are on the stern. He's catching twice as many fish and if you should start getting lucky and his action stops, the boat will slowly turn around. Start casting over his head, making sure not to get your line tangled in the trolling motor and having to revert back to smiling meekly and speaking in Slavic or Japanese.

On a retrieve your line snags something heavy on the bottom. All attempts to free it fail and you decide to break the line. Instead of grabbing the line and pulling, you use the rod with one big tug and break six inches off the rod tip. At this point it would have been to your advantage to have taken a full semester course in Egyptology, including the syntax of their ancient language. At this point a heart attack would probably be welcome, but simply resign yourself to fishing with a rod that has the flexibility of a fence post. Rest assured that, from experience, duct tape, in spite of its many uses, will not remedy the problem.

You are a guest on a bass boat that cost the owner a sum well north of \$30,000 and in the middle of the lake the engine quits and refuses to start. Give whatever meager assistance you can and offer sympathy while helping the owner curse the motor (in English). Do not, and I repeat, do not ask if he has an oar or paddle aboard. That is like asking a jockey on a thoroughbred horse if he's wearing spurs. And, do not offer to strip to your speedos and jump overboard with a rope to swim/tow the boat to shore. Sit quietly and meekly while agreeing with the ranting and raving. Teach the owner one mild expletive in Japanese.

You and your fishing buddy have finally found the honey hole and are reaping the profits when a boatload of teenage water skiers blast by at an arms length, rolling your boat on a monstrous wake and scaring every fish into the next county. This is a case where extreme diplomacy must be used. Retrieve your lines, pull the anchor and run down the offending boat. Pull up beside them, stand and say %\$#@^%\$&* in Japanese while bowing low at the waist. Reach into the live well, pull out a fish, describe the species and explain to them how traumatic their inconsideration is on the local fish population, not to mention the fishermen. Tell them in your best Slavic that any further incidents will result in their boat taking a direct hit from a torpedo. Bow again and leave.

These are just a few examples of possible resolutions that should make your fishing season more pleasant and relaxing. Just remember that unless you swore your resolve while on your knees in front of the Arch Bishop, nothing says you can't revert back to good old English expletives when the situation warrants it. Just make sure that a houseboat carrying the ladies club from the Second hilltop baptist Church isn't floating by.

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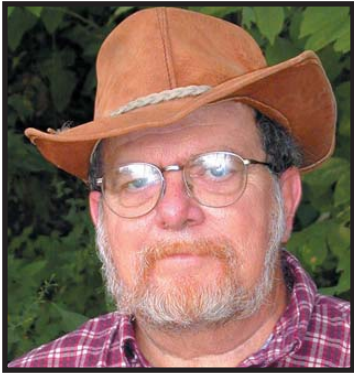
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Outdoors Tales



by Phil Junker

Cure winter blahs with antler hunt

Hoosier hunting seasons are over, and the cold keeps the fishing gear of most anglers in the closet, so what's a person to do on these midwinter days?

Some weekends there are sports and travel shows. Then you can attempt to organize your tackle boxes, or you can head to the woods to look for shed deer antlers.

Yes, hunting shed antlers is becoming a popular pastime among both deer hunters and non-hunters.

There are several reasons for hunting for the shed antlers. They can provide a nice trophy for a "man cave", they can provide valuable information for hunts next fall, and they can create winter outdoor fun and exercise. And when hunting for sheds, you may get a good view and perspective of the woods and wildlife you might not see during other times of the year.

Hunters know, but not everyone may be aware that whitetail deer bucks lose their antlers every winter, following the annual rut.

Bucks grow antlers in the spring for use during the fall mating season. When the antlers begin to develop they are covered with a material often referred to as "velvet". As the antlers mature, the bucks rub off the "velvet" on trees and bushes.

Once the mating season is over, the bucks no longer need the antlers as weapons against other bucks, and the antlers drop off during a period of several weeks. The timing depends on the location, but in this area, usually takes place sometime in January or February. It can happen earlier or later.

By spring it is unlikely antlers will be found. As soon as deer season is over is not too early to begin looking for sheds.

The antlers are composed of calcium, and when they are shed, mice rats and other small animals make quick work of them. They become tasty meals for many forest creatures.

Under normal conditions, bucks grow larger antler racks as they age. If you find a large rack, it indicates a big buck made it through hunting season. It may be a good place to consider locating a deer stand next fall.

Racks usually are found in locations where deer spend considerable time. Bedding and feeding areas, plus heavily traveled trails are good place to search. Places where deer jump at a creek or ravine are spots where sometimes the antlers are shaken loose.

Shed hunting can be fun and informative, and is kid and family friendly. It is a good time to bundle up the family and head out to your favorite hunting grounds in search of antler sheds.

####

KENTUCKY BEAR HUNT -- For the



Buck (male) deer grow antlers each year starting in spring. They lose the antlers late in the year or early the next year following the annual rut. Hunting for the shed antlers has become a popular winter activity. (Author Photo)

first time since 2009, when bear hunting became a reality in Kentucky, hunters met the annual quota of 10 bears. It was fitting then when the last bear checked set a new state record by tipping the scales at 410 pounds... field dressed.

Kentucky's bear population has grown significantly in the eastern mountain portion of the state, and the big animals have been seen numerous times not far from the Cincinnati airport, just across the Ohio River in Kentucky.

There have been bear sightings in Indiana, but the numbers are not large, and there certainly isn't a huntable population in the Hoosier state.

Overall, 11 bears were harvested this year in Kentucky with nine of those taken on opening day of Dec. 8. As such, the quota was not met and the season remained open until Sunday when two bears were harvested before rain moved into the area.

Although the annual quota was exceeded this year, the season is structured for this possibility and the base-line quota will prevent an excessive harvest. Doug Adkins of Jenkins, KY, took the 410-pound record male in Letcher County, besting the previous record bear of a 350-pound field dressed bear taken last year by Neil Perkins of Hallie, KY.

All of the bears taken during this season came from Harlan or Letcher counties. Of those, 10 had never been handled before. One male had been previously captured for research efforts on Black Mountain.

####

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

For more outdoors with Phil Junker, contact his blog at: outdoorscribe.blogspot.com.



A found antler and skull which measured 166 2/8, typical. (Photo by Don Bickel)

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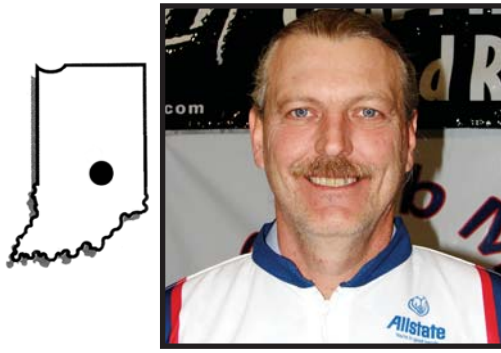
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Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

2013 Slab Master

Here we are in the midst of winter, the boat is in storage and the lakes are frozen over here. I've been talking to a few guys who are going out ice fishing for the first time this year but with only three inches of ice, I won't be one of them. I'm not much of a hard water fisherman. I usually only go a couple times a year just to get out of the house. Winter time for me is time to relax a little and spend time with my family and friends as I know spring is just around the corner. As I write this, our first tournament is only a little over two months away.

What does a tournament fisherman do in the winter? A lot of prep for the upcoming season, for instance, I spend time going over lake maps concentrating on the contour lines looking for water depths and contour that might hold fish at the time of year we will be fishing that lake. I like the Hot Map series of lake maps because they show contour depths and structure pretty accurately. I also have some old maps of a few lakes that my uncle passed on to me, these maps are not as accurate but do help especially since he marked them up over the years with his hot spots. I also do a lot of work on my gear. With the boat up north in storage I won't have much time to prep it between pulling it out and the first tournament so all my equipment must be done and ready to go by the first week of March. That will leave me about a week to prep the boat before our first pre-fishing weekend. This year my big expense on the boat will be a new side imaging unit which must be up and running by the second week of March. It will be interlinked with my 787c unit which will be on the bow and allow me to transfer waypoints from the side imaging to the 787.

Also I will have a new partner this year, Damon Phillips. I have fished with Damon several times in the past few years but I've only fished one Slab Masters event with him. As for Donnie Mandrell who I have fished with for the past two seasons, unfortunately he broke his foot two years ago and after going back to the doctor in November found it never healed and is still broke in several places. He has dealt with the pain for the last two years, but he is probably facing surgery sometime in the near future so he will be off his feet for several months. He didn't want to jeopardize my season so he made the decision to not fish the full tournament trail and will only fish a few tournaments with me this year. I wish him the best on his recovery and will miss him in the boat as we were really starting to put



While at the classic on Kentucky Lake I got to spend a beautiful day on the water with my wife (Photo by Michelle Bilbrey)

things together on the lake.

This year I plan on fishing the eight Slab Master tournaments and the two day classic mostly with Damon. We will also fish the two Crappie USA tournaments here in Indiana trying to qualify for the Classic on Kentucky Lake in October. As of now I will be fishing the Crappie USA super event on Lake Cumberland in March with Tom Hankins and would really like to fish at least one more CUSA tournament this year. I am waiting on the Bozarth's schedule to come out for their Salomonie tournaments to determine how many of these I will be able to fish with Donnie. As of now I am scheduling to fish 15-17 tournaments this year.

This year the Slab masters have switched up their schedule changing the time of year we will be fishing each lake. This will ease the fishing pressure on lakes that have been fished hard in the last few years during the spawning season. The 2013 Slab Masters classic will be held on Geist and Monroe with each lake being fished one day. The 2013 schedule is up on the website.

This year the Slab Masters have decided not to have a booth at the Indianapolis boat sport and travel show and the fishing expo at the Johnson county fairgrounds has been canceled. At this time I am not sure if we will be doing any shows this winter but you can check the website for upcoming events for the Slab Masters.

With the new schedule a new partner and fishing the extra Crappie USA tournaments I'm looking forward to the upcoming year. Hopefully this year I will get the chance to fish with other members as well, the only way to stay competitive is to continuously improve and learn new techniques and be able to post good weights no matter the conditions or lake.

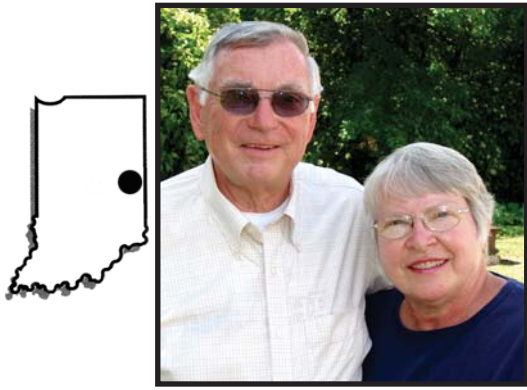
To learn more about the Indiana Slab Masters visit the website at www.indianaslabmasters.com. The 2013 schedule is posted on the home page. Tom and Jim do a great job keeping the site updated with all upcoming events also anyone can come to the weigh-ins and talk to the members or just listen to how the winners caught their fish. I look forward to seeing everyone at Monroe March 16th.

Tight Lines Everyone!
Ron Bilbrey



Mom wanted to go fishing on mothers day (Photo by Michelle Bilbrey)

Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

RV Manufacturers' Problems, continued

If a substitute part, sometimes not of the highest quality, is purchased and installed in the camping unit (not in just one unit but in hundreds) serious problems may occur. Sometimes, somewhere along the way, the part in question is found to be just a little off measurement, has leaks, or improper movement takes place. "On the site" repairs, return to the dealer or total recall of all units with the problem must occur. A local technician or a dealer's technician may make repairs but the frustration of waiting in line to get service or waiting for the "improper part" to be sent to be replaced is quite annoying to the customer.

As campground owners we would try to placate the customer as they would bide their time at our park awaiting the scheduled date and time for the repair of their problem. They're in a new and strange territory not knowing what to do locally, where to eat, etc., and this can get rather miserable, especially if they have young children and if there happens to be little to do at the camping grounds.

We usually supplied a packet of where to go, what to see and do, and where to eat, to our first time campers or those just passing through our territory. Tell your local campground or RV park owner about this and they'll soon learn that campers are great at passing the word along if they are satisfied customers and even more so if something doesn't quite satisfy them. If the owner/manager of the campground follows campground etiquette and goes out of his/her way to oblige the new camper he'll find this is the least expensive advertisement for his business he can find. It's free. Usually the new customer will return their packet on the way out their last day and the management can update for future use. If any changes need to be made in the packet such as a restaurant going out of business, hours changing in a business, etc., most campers using the packet will report it to campground management.

Sometimes a family can stay in their unit during the evenings when the camper is not being repaired but need to be away during the daytime during repairs. We've even seen some camping units with so many problems the owners were put up in a motel for as many as four weeks. On other occurrences the motor home was the only transportation the people had without a car in tow. Local rental car

dealers or car dealers can make a lot of friends by cutting the price of rental/week for the stranded campers. We've also heard of local campers loaning cars to the people. Usually though the repairs are taken care of in short order.

Small towns are usually known for their friendliness and benevolence to visitors. Remember "Hoosier Hospitality?" This can make a great impression on the stranded traveler. Bed and breakfast or just local residents can open their homes to these people in case of no available motels, etc. As we've related before, word travels quickly among campers. We've traveled across the country several times and we've heard of kindness expressed (especially in the towns in the Midwest) and that these campers would not only go back to or through the towns being discussed but would stay extra time in certain locations. They almost always have said they had related their stories to many people across the country. We had a lot of repeat cross country travelers over the thirty two years we were in the camp-ground business. Upon many occasions the travelers would relate that not only was it the friendliness of the people that brought them back but also sugar cream pies and breaded tenderloins.

The dealer sometimes tells the customer that even though they're three or four or more states away the problem can't be "fixed" where they're located and has to be taken back to the place it was built for repairs. It's difficult for local technicians in a local RV dealership to know how to repair every type of problem. The units change so much every few years that trying to keep up with the trends means more training for the technicians and unless the manufacturer provides training sessions at the home office, on line, or in sessions where manufacturer's representatives go out in to the field and work with several technicians to bring them up to date, it's impossible for the local dealership technicians to keep up with the changes. This means that the local technicians need to be able to interpret the repair orders in up-to-date manuals or training by means of manufacturer's technicians giving training over the internet. It's imperative that proper instructions are given since there are a lot of costs involved when even small changes are made in new RV models and new parts and new instructions need to be imparted to the local techs to get the job done right.

Have a great and rewarding Christmas and New Year season and don't forget to call, e-mail or write to local and state visitors' bureaus for up-to-date local activities. See also interstate rest stops for local and state festival guides. All of these booklets and brochures should keep camping families busy throughout all of 2013. If camping near where your chosen activity is located, get your reservation in early as sites saved for these events fill up quickly.

In the March issue of the Gad-a-Bout we'll relate some easy-to-build outdoor games that don't take up much traveling space which you can make yourself and be ready for a lot of fun beginning in the Spring and continuing throughout the Summer and Fall. At the campsite you'll seldom have difficulty getting your next door camping neighbors to participate in these games. Get your screwdriver, saw, power drill and tape measure ready. We could use more game plans as people like to introduce new games as they travel. If you have anything about camping you'd like us to write about e-mail us at jmacnut@yahoo.com, or call 260-637-3524.

John and El McCory

So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

worms, ice auger, ladle, and a bucket.

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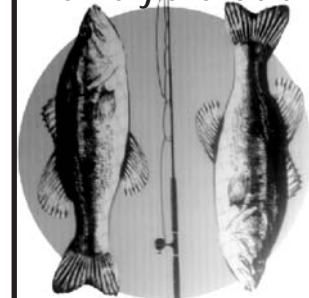
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Looking Downstream



by Paul McCloud

Bass Fishing Basics

Here we are, in our frosty winter wonderland and ice covering our favorite fishing waters. Out by the barn my snow covered fishing boat waits silently for the spring thaw and the action the warm air and waters will bring. It seems as if every day our local letter carrier seems to bring me another spring fishing tackle catalog filled with all the latest super lures and electronic fishing gadgetry reminding me how much I miss being out on the lake.

My father's 90th birthday rapidly approaching gives me cause to reminisce of my youth tagging along with him and one or the other of my grandpas as they plied the local creeks and ponds for large and smallmouth bass. This was the 1950's; state of the art tackle consisted of small simple open faced casting reels mounted on 4 1/2 ft. steel rods with braided nylon line. Lures were simple wooden lures by either Heddon or Garcia the big fishing companies back then.

Dad had not made the transition to artificial baits yet; he used live baits exclusively back then. We would prowl our backyard at night after a good rain with flashlights to catch nightcrawlers. Our neighborhood back then had a very healthy population of the giant worms and we seemed to always have a good supply of them in our old garage fridge. The whole nightcrawler hooked about an inch back from the head end on a number 4 or 2 bait hook with no sinker and allowed to fall around stumps, large rocks, dock and bridge pilings will produce fish, but not always bass. Sunfish and catfish will also attack a chubby crawler, with the sunfish usually stealing your bait. A bass, even a smaller one will inhale the whole crawler, where a bluegill will just grab an end and when you set the hook you'll usually come up with a bare hook. This procedure works well with most of the modern artificial worms too. Today guys run the hook through the end of the worm turn it around and hide the tip of the hook back in the worm making it less likely to get snagged.

We would visit one particular stream near our home. We'd use pieces of redworm on small number 8 hooks with a small split shot and matching bobber to fish for large chub or shiner minnows. Bass, being at the top of the food chain in most creeks and ponds naturally prey on smaller fish even other bass. I've actually caught keeper Largemouths while in the process of landing a small bass. When a bass is hungry, if it can get that big mouth around it, its food. We'd keep the bigger minnows in the 4-inch to 7-inch range for bass bait. Fishing large live minnows is tricky, whether you hook them through the lips or the tail it's normal for them to want to get into brush or roots, or under a rock or other structure to hide



Author and two man limit of bass. (Author Photo)

from predators. You have to work hard to control the bait while still trying to make a natural looking presentation. This is a tiring procedure, but the results can be very rewarding. Several of dad and his dad's biggest bass were taken this way. It is still one of the preferred ways of fishing for trophy fish from Southern Indiana to Florida. Goldfish and some other pet shop fish have been successful baits and are legal in some states. Due to a spreading fish virus found in some goldfish and Koi, Indiana has laws prohibiting their use or introduction into Indiana DNR controlled waters. I have seen large goldfish used in Tennessee and Kentucky on Dale Hollow Lake to catch not only Large and Smallmouth bass but Walleyes and Muskies as well.

We would seine creeks at night in months with no 'R' in them in search of what dad considered the "perfect" bass bait the "soft craw". I was taught that from May till late August crayfish shed their hard outer skin and are very attractive to fish during this vulnerable period. I remember that soft craws were so very popular that dad had no trouble selling them when we had an exceptionally good harvest and had more than he needed. The practice with the soft craws were to hook them on a number 2 Eagle claw bait hook, through the back of the head and back up through the body. He had a nine-foot bamboo rod that he'd use to dip the craw around stumps, logs, rocks etc. hoping to temp a lurking predator. He had fairly good success, as he'd usually catch at least half dozen keepers. This is especially good bait for both largemouth and smallmouth bass as crayfish are high on both fishes natural menu.

I recall seeing dad use aquatic frogs (non-toads) as well as salamanders and have success, but today with many of these amphibians scarce and endangered I in good conscience would urge the use of artificial substitutes.

As far as basic artificial bait fishing the whole idea is to trick the fish into reacting to what it perceives to be a natural food. Spinner baits try to get the bass to react to the flashing blades and bright colors. Crank baits also try to imitate a baitfish or crayfish. I like shallow diving crankbaits in fluorescent reds and oranges. I had my best bass outings throwing a lure made by Rebel called a Wee-R. On shallow banked lakes like Indiana's

Whitewater Lake, Ohio's Hueston Woods Acton Lake, and the upper end of Indiana's Brookville Lake, a shallow running crank bait can be a reliable producer. The plastic or "jelly-worm" is very popular with a lot of the guys, though I have little experience with them. The old-timer in me still feels why use an imitation bait if you have access to the real thing as long as it's not endangered. Enjoy your dreams and memories and here's hoping you get to make many more good memories this year. Your comments and suggestions are welcome.



Author with string of large bass taken from Ohio river tributary. (Author Photo)

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Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

the military fighting man. If fire power helped to protect himself and his fellow G.I.s in battle, to allow one man to appear to be 2 or more men with the availability of providing a large amount of covering fire, keeping the enemy pinned down while advancing or retreating from one cover to another. Sweeping the field with bullets from many assault rifles was the proverbial "wall of lead" as the fighters moved during battle. However, the 30 round magazine, in my opinion is not of great value in hunting for supper, nor protecting your home from home invasions. And responsible gun owners understand that for protection in the home a high powered rifle with a high capacity magazine is the last gun you'd want to shoot inside your home. However, the key word here is responsible.

THOUGHTS ON SELF-PROTECTION IN THE HOME AND TRAINING

My thoughts only. How many guns should you own? I believe that every family member of responsible age should be trained in the use, safe handling and maintenance of all guns in the household. When I was young, 7 or 8 years old, my father made sure that I and my older brother knew how to shoot, how to clean his guns, and the safety procedures to make the gun safe. I can't remember a time that I was not allowed to handle his shotguns. I hunted with my father, as did my brother, and neither of us ever handled the guns for any reason other than to hunt or to clean them. Or go to the Turkey shoot with Dad. They weren't toys, they were tools. I had a BB gun to target shoot with and a .22 bolt action single shot Winchester to hunt squirrels and small varmints. When I became a parent I taught my children respect for guns as they grew up just like my father taught me. They never played with the guns nor caused me any worry over the guns. Knowledge is power, and knowledge on the proper and safe handling of guns, on hunting, on target shooting, seems to satisfy most young people with their curiosity towards firearms. I believe that every household should keep in the home a sidearm for personal protection, a shotgun for hunting small game and birds, and possibly a rifle for hunting larger game.

I am a strong proponent that everyone should have training in the use and handling of firearms. Maybe that could be a required class in schools. There are programs available to teachers to help educate the children in safety handling of firearms. The Boy Scouts of America still support the Rifle badge. The NRA, and the gun clubs in America promote and assist youth in the skills needed to become proficient in the safe handling of firearms. The Indiana State Department of Natural Resources promotes youth outdoor activities including hunter, boater, trapper, bowhunter and snowmobile education courses. The DNR doesn't provide gun training though. We have to get back to teaching our children to be more responsible in all aspects of our daily lives. That is the only way we can lower or reduce the fantasy role playing which has caused the tragedies we see occurring today at Virginia Tech, Columbine and Sandy Hook. Changing the Law will have no long term effect. I heard that Congress has more important matters to address immediately than the gun controls being proposed. That is code for "Let's wait until things cool down and off the radar of most folks, then we can pass legislation before they can react." Write your congressman now, and tell him how you feel. Keep a copy of that letter and later remind him or her with a follow-up copy of that letter.

OK, that's my thoughts this month. These notes are mine alone and do not represent the opinion or position of anyone, just me. Please have a safe and rewarding month and I'll have more thoughts in the March issue.

Remember B SAR, Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible
Marshall Smith
Owner and Gunsmith, Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

Editor's Note: Comments may be sent to Ray Dickerson, Publisher/Owner:

Website: www.thegadabout.com

E-mail: ray@thegadabout.com

U.S. Mail: P.O. Box 85, Centerville, IN 47330-0085 ■

Fishing Lake Michigan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

opined that a person would never get an aluminum (or 'glass) boat because it wouldn't last, because, it couldn't be repaired or was costly to repair and maintain. In my experience none of these opinions are correct.

The rest I included because each individual is unique in what they are going to demand of a

Great Lakes boat. Some people are never going to take more than one or 2 friends along with them to fish. Others, are confident they will often have larger groups on board.

Some people are never going to trust themselves out on the lake in any wave conditions bigger than 1 to 2 feet. Others are going to head out in anything short of a force-ten gale. Some people are going to buy boats which will have to serve as much for pleasure boat for the family as do duty as a fishing boat. (That's what I told my family on my first few boats.) The one I have now has never seen a water ski or has had it's rear seats installed. Some boats are going to have to be towed half-way across Indiana to get to the lake. Others may be permanently moored or trailered only a few blocks. Some boats will see more action for walleye or panfish on an inland lake and only occasionally be taken to one of the Great Lakes. Some people don't have and won't ever get a full sized tow vehicle and will have to be content with a boat towable by a 4 or 6 cylinder auto. The point is, by factoring all the needs, wants and limitations together-including price-almost anyone with the desire can have a boat to put to use on one of mid-America's Great Lakes.

THE END ■

W. Central Indiana News

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

least one inch long and its length must exceed the length of its base. All measurements are made using a quarter inch steel tape and are rounded off to the nearest eighth of an inch.

Who may enter the Hoosier Record Buck Program? Any deer legally killed in Indiana since the 1951 deer hunting season started is eligible. The individual submitting the trophy must attest that the deer was taken in Indiana with legal weapons: shotgun with slugs, rifle with pistol cartridges, muzzle-loading rifle, pistol, bow and arrow or crossbow. The deer must also have been killed during the legal hunting season and taken in Fair Chase. According to the Boone and Crockett Club, Fair Chase means the animal was not taken by spotting or herding from the air, was not taken by herding or pursuing from motor powered vehicles and was not taken by using portable radios for locating locating and keeping trophy animals in sight and guiding hunters to them. Fair Chase also includes the absence of night hunting and use of light for locating the animal.

Both head and antler-skull mounts can be submitted for scoring. But all trophies must undergo a 60 day shrink period from the time of the kill to the date of scoring. All individuals having a buck that meets the minimum score in either the typical or non-typical categories will receive a certificate acknowledging their deer's entry in the Program.

The Hoosier Record Buck Program printed edition is on an every two year basis. At present the record book for 2011 is available for \$20 by contacting John Bogucki, 66601 Pine Rd., North Liberty, IN 46544 or phone 574-656-4271. An application form for obtaining the current record book is available at www.Hoosierhunting.com. The deadline for entries in the next record book is October 1, 2013.

The HRBP book lists, Top 50 Typical, Top 50 Non-typical, Top 50 Archery, Top 50 Shotgun, Top 50 Muzzleloader, Top 50 Handgun, all typical records by county, all non-typical records by county and Found Dead records. Yes, there is a category for that deer skull and antlers found dead from whatever cause after the season is past, perhaps during a mushroom or shed hunt.

To obtain the location of an official Hoosier Record Buck Program scorer, use either John Bogucki's address or phone number. Official scorers are located in over one half of Indiana's counties and the two Bass Pro Shops in Clarksville, IN and Portage, IN.

In this area of West Central Indiana and Montgomery County in particular, the HRBP scorer is Brian Bechtel, taxidermist. Bechtel's Taxidermy is located at 2132 W. U.S. 136, Crawfordsville, IN 47933, phone 765-918-1170. Bechtel suggests the hunters who feel he or she has a potential record buck, do a rough measurement with a quality measuring tape.

This rough or green measurement will give the hunter an indication if the rack (antlers) are close to the 140 or 160 minimum point range. Bechtel will not score antlers until the afore mentioned drying period is past. For scoring information, a score sheet is available at the Boone and Crockett website.

This writer welcomes comments and inquiries at www.edgeoftheprairie@sbcglobal.net. ■

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

after I accomplish my current task. Please note that none of these maps comply to general mapping standards, they are hand or computer drawn versions of the map that you are looking at, whose sole purpose is to provide information for you the reader of The Gad-a-bout Outdoor Newspaper.

I have always enjoyed drawing, ever since I was old enough to pick up a crayon, pencil or other marking device. If you were to ever find one of my school books you would undoubtedly see hundreds of airplanes drawn throughout the pages and other scribbles, some of which would, probably be objectionable in the zero tolerance atmosphere of today. I liked guns back then too. In fact once when I was in high school I rode home with one of my classmates,

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who lived in the country, I was carrying a .22 rifle on the school bus (with the bolt and ammunition removed) so we could go squirrel hunting in the woods behind their farmhouse, that was probably the fall of 1955. Life was better back then.

This thought leads to my next subject which I will refer you to my "On The Cutting Edge" column, see page 31.

DEER HARVEST DOWN FROM 2011

The 2012-13 deer check-in was way down from 2011-12 season. The factor is unclear. Many hunters think that EHD or possibly Blue Tongue was the factor, as many dead deer were found in some numbers laying in fields and woods. The long hot summer and drought made for a better chance that Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease (EHD) may have been the cause, given that the gnats that transmit the disease to the deer, could have been sucked up into the deer more readily from the few and far between water sources available for the deer.

Others think that the new way of checking in deer in Indiana on line has affected the deer check in's at local sport shops. I have less deer photos in here too.

Here is a little more information on EHD from Chad Stewart, DNR deer management biologist.

Indiana Investigating EHD Outbreaks in Deer

Wildlife biologists from the Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife have been investigating reports of sick or dead deer to determine if the cause is epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD).

Morgan and Putnam counties seem to be experiencing the most intense outbreaks thus far, but suspect reports have come from 11 counties in total.

EHD is a viral disease that likely affects white-tailed deer every year. It typically occurs during late

summer and early fall, and there is evidence that shows outbreaks may be worse during drought years. EHD is transmitted by flies commonly known as biting midges, sand gnats and no-see-ums.

"Although the reports DNR is receiving are consistent with EHD episodes of past years, it's important for testing to be done on viable samples before it can be confirmed," said Chad Stewart, DNR deer management biologist. "Samples need to be collected within 24 hours of the deer expiring to be viable."

Stewart was able to collect an adequate sample Wednesday from Morgan County and forwarded it to a national disease testing laboratory in Georgia. He expects the results in one to two weeks.

The test will either confirm EHD or may indicate something else, such as bluetongue virus, another hemorrhagic disease that can affect domestic livestock as well as deer.

Deer infected with EHD may appear depressed or feverish. They often seek comfort in or around water. Other signs may include blue-tinted tongue or eyes, ulcers on the tongue, sloughed hooves or an eroded dental pad.

Hemorrhagic disease is often fatal to deer, but some will survive the illness. Not every deer will contract hemorrhagic disease, which can be present or absent in any area. Death losses during an outbreak can range from negligible to greater than 50 percent. Severe outbreaks rarely occur in later years due to immunity gathered from previous infections.

"If you see a deer that you suspect may have died from EHD, contact your local wildlife biologist to report the location and possibly arrange a sample to be collected," Stewart said.

A list of district biologists and contact information is at dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/2716.htm.

The Division of Fish & Wildlife has monitored EHD for the past five years after a significant outbreak in 2007. Monitoring statistics for the past five years:

2011 - 9 counties received reports of EHD; 2 counties confirmed through lab tests.

2010 - 10 counties received reports of EHD; no counties confirmed.

2009 - No reported EHD

2008 - 20 counties received reports of EHD; 7 counties confirmed through lab tests.

2007 - 59 counties received reports of EHD; 17 counties confirmed through lab tests.

For more information: Chad Stewart, DNR deer management biologist, (317) 334-1137.

DOUGLAS G. CARTER TAKES OATH OF OFFICE AS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE INDIANA STATE POLICE

Shortly after 1:00 p.m. today (Monday, January 14th), in the Indiana Supreme Court, Chief Justice Brent Dickson administered the Oath of Office to Douglas G. Carter, making him the 20th Superintendent of the state police.

Superintendent Carter previously served 18 years with the state police from November 1984 until December of 2002 and was assigned to the Pendleton State Police post where he worked in Hamilton County. (Hamilton County is now part of the Indianapolis Post) He successfully ran for the elected office of Sheriff of Hamilton County, serving two terms from January 2003 to December 2010. After leaving the Sheriff's department Superintendent Carter accepted a position with the RQAW Corporation, an architectural firm specializing in the design and building of municipal buildings inclusive of jails, police and fire stations and criminal justice facilities.

Superintendent Carter was raised in LaPorte, Indiana where he graduated from LaPorte High School in 1980. He attended Ball State University and holds a Bachelor of Science degree with emphasis on Management, Leadership and Organizational Structure. He and his wife reside in Hamilton County, Indiana and have one daughter.

COMING EVENTS FOR 2013

Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show, Indiana State Fairgrounds, February 15-24, 2013. See Page 17 in this issue for more information or go on line to www.indysportshow.com

SHOW HOURS

Friday, February 153:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Saturday, February 1610:00 am - 9:00 pm

Sunday, February 1710:00 am - 5:00 pm
Monday, February 181:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Tuesday, February 19 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Wednesday, February 20 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Thursday, February 213:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Friday, February 223:00 pm - 9:00 pm
(Kid's Day) Sat February 23 10:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday, February 2410:00 am - 5:00 pm

MAR 1-3 40th Annual Spring Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil Show and Sale at Kuhlman Center in the Wayne County 4-H Fairgrounds. Located on North Salisbury Road between U.S. 40 and U.S. 35 in Richmond, IN. [See Page 8 in this issue.](#) For more information. Contact: Dave Straw 765-966-4249 or John Lamont 765-647-4894.

MAR 22-24 Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Show, 15th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show. Indiana State Fairgrounds - Ag/Hort. Building at 1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN. Times: Friday & Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5. Admission \$5 Ticket good for all 3 days. Children under 16 FREE, hourly door prizes. [See Page 8-9 in this issue.](#) For more information website: www.toteshows.com

MAY 27 Family Fun Day Stayin' Alive, 13th Annual 5-27-2013, Memorial Day, Brookville Town Park. Free Event 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please mark your calendar for this annual event. Host a booth and provide an activity for children. Contact Info: Phone: 765-647-7272, E-mail: stayin_alive24@hotmail.com, Address: P.O. Box 64 Brookville, IN 47012; Bonnie Blades or Melinda Brown.

MAY 4-5 Smokin on the Water BBQ Festival (A Kansas City BBQ Society Sanctioned Event, Liberty Lions Club. Treaty Line Pioneer Village, North end of Brookville Lake in Dunlapville, Indiana. Contact Info: Carl Sharp 1-765-580-0215.

JUL 5-7 Liberty July 4th Festival, Courthouse Square. Flea Market, Food, Crafts, Music & Fun. Grilled Chicken Dinner, Waterball Contest, Freedom Run, Pie Sale, Fireworks, Kids Games, Water Balloon Toss, Pork Chop Dinner, Parade, Bike Parade, Tribute to God, Our Country, Troops & Veterans. Contact: UCDC, 5 W. High St., Liberty, IN 47353 Phone 765-458-5976, e-mail union-code@frontier.com

SEP 2013 (Date Pending) RICHARD T. GASTON MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT 2013 Richard T. Gaston Memorial Tournament. You can register for this tournament by logging onto the website: www.gastontournament.com, then click on Registration at the top of the screen.

For more information contact Jeff and Dianne Koester at Parkside Marine and More located at 7191 Fox Run Road, just across SR 101 from the Mounds State Recreation Area entrance at Brookville Lake or give them a call at 765-647-4619 or e-mail them to: pmarine@wvremc.net.

SALAMONIE INTERPRETIVE CENTER ANNOUNCES NEW WINTER HOURS

Effective immediately, the Salamonie Interpretive Center's new winter hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The center will resume regular hours, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., on April 6.

The center is in Lost Bridge West Recreation Area, off State Road 105, in western Huntington County.

For more information, see dnr.IN.gov/uwis or [Facebook.com/UpperWabash](https://www.facebook.com/UpperWabash).

UPPER WABASH INTERPRETIVE SVCS TO HOST EAGLE WATCH FEB 2-3, 2013

View the largest documented winter eagle roost in Indiana with the staff and volunteers of Upper Wabash Interpretive Services during the sixth annual Eagle Watch, Feb. 2 and 3.

The Eagle Watch will begin at 3 p.m. both days at Salamonie Interpretive Center. The interpretive center is in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area, off State Road 105, in western Huntington County.

The program will start with a short overview of Indiana bald eagles and then caravan to the roost to watch the eagles come in for the night. A bus will be available for those interested in saving gas. The bus ride costs \$4 per person.

For more information or to register, call (260) 468-2127. Visit UWIS online at dnr.IN.gov/uwis or [Facebook.com/UpperWabash](https://www.facebook.com/UpperWabash). ■

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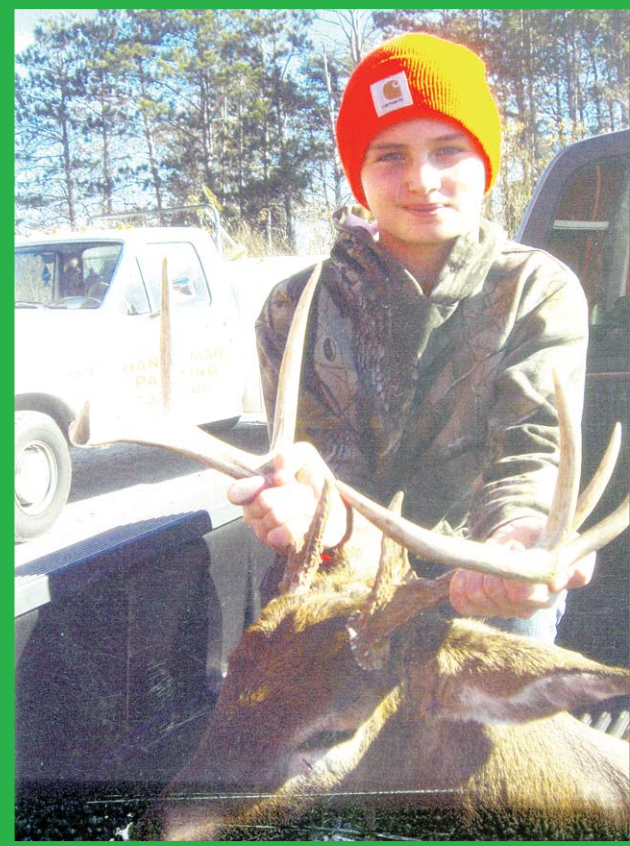
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YOU CAN ALSO SEND YOUR PHOTOS BY E-MAIL OR ON AN INQUIRY FROM MY WEBSITE: WWW.THEGADABOUT.COM TO ray@thegadabout.com.



Ray,
I caught this bass on Monday 12-3-2012 at 5:00 PM. My fishing partner, Dean Hill and I caught 12 bass, 11 keepers. This fish weighed 8 1/2 pounds. I talked to some other boaters who were catching small bass on jerk baits. We were catching ours on plastics & jigs. The DNR told a guy this was the biggest largemouth they know of this year. Overall I would say this was a tough year on Brookville for bass. I know a few guys who are real good that had way less than normal catches this year. No one found fish in July and August where they normally find them. I fish Brookville about two times per week. I would say November might have been the best month this year, maybe better than May. I caught several nice bass in November. Thanks, Ron Allee, Richmond. (Photo was sent to me by Ron Allee. Taxidermist Bert Vanfleet is mounting Ron's Largemouth Bass, Photo by Dean Hill)



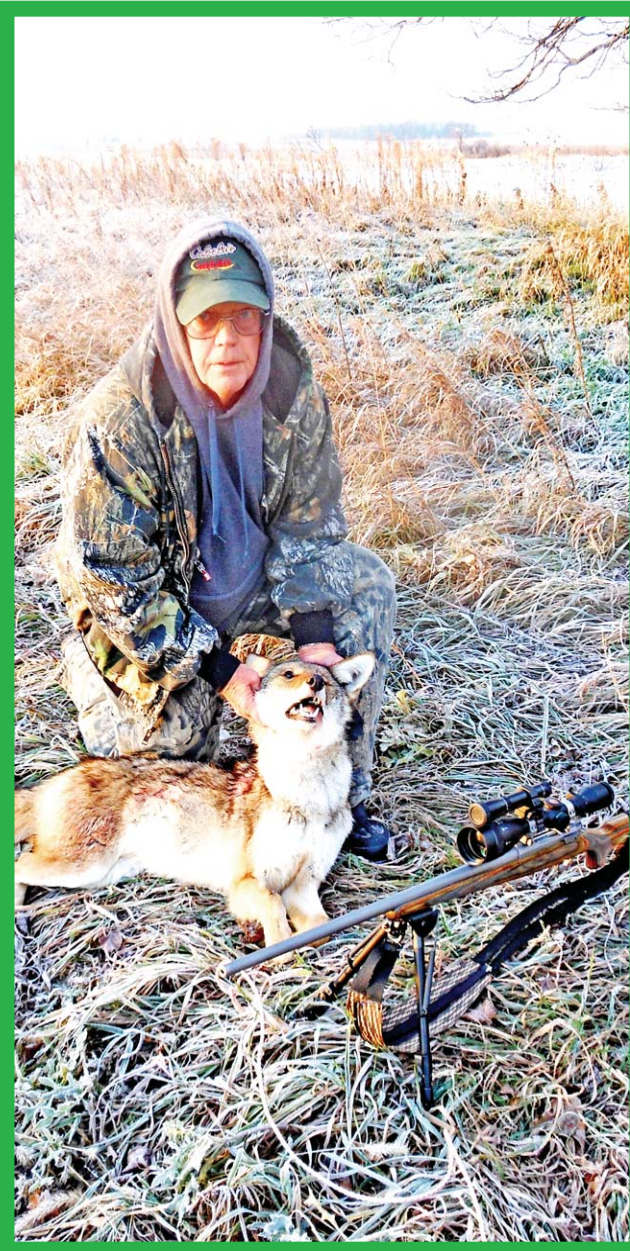
Riley Yoyle took his First Deer, this 9 point, 150 pound buck on 11-18-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Brett Hartman took this 11 point, 180 pound Buck in Union County, Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Ethan Gilbert took this 200 pound Buck on 11-27-2012. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Doug Clay took this coyote while on a hunting trip with his son. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)



Michael Smith took this 11 point, 140 pound Buck on 11-25-2012. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

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Angela Spears took this 8 point Buck on 11-23-2012. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Chad Chapman took this 8 point, 192 pound Buck in Union County on 11-18-2012. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Andrew Losson took this 170 pound Buck on 11-29-2012. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

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Tony Colgan landed these catfish and crappie fishing in Salamonie Reservoir. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)

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Hunter Buttery took this 8 point, 140 pound Buck. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Richard Saxon took this 12 point, 175 pound Buck. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Clayton Barnett took this 10 point, 185 pound Buck on 11-23-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Braden Richardson took this 10 point, 205 pound Buck. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Robert Abner took this 8 point, 210 pound Buck on 11-20-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Sarah Gaylourd took her first deer during the 2012 Deer Season on December 2, 2012. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)



Chase Enyeart took this 10 pt, 171 lb. Buck in Wabash County on 11-17-12. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)



Austin Stegner took this 10 point, 182 pound Buck in Wayne County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)

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On The Cutting Edge

HERE'S MY OPINION

From the desk of Ray Dickerson on Gun Control

In America today we have a standing army of millions of citizens (Estimated at 21.8 million) who own guns and know how to use them to kill a deer, bear, elk, pronghorn, coyote, ground hog, squirrel, rabbit, waterfowl, other game or hit the bullseye of a stationery target. If need be this same group of American citizens stand ready to defend their homeland from enemies of America within or abroad.

Our Second Amendment, As ratified by the States and authenticated by Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State:

A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

This Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States was adopted on December 15, 1791.

I am an American citizen who learned to shoot a .22 rifle at a young age after I dry fired it for several weeks. Dad bought me a single shot .22 rifle so I could go squirrel hunting with him, but I couldn't shoot it until I had rubbed linseed oil into the stock for about a month. Then we went out to Cheesman's woods where I got to lay on the ground prone, sit up and stand for off-hand dry firing it on several trips. I remember his voice saying, Raymond, squeeze the trigger, don't pull it.

When squirrel hunting rolled around on August 15th that year, we headed for Cheesman's woods. This trip I got my other lessons on handling the .22 to and from the woods, crossing fences with the unloaded gun. We never did get around to loading it on that first trip. Dad got five fox squirrels. I learned a lot on that trip. On our second trip to the woods I got to load my .22 rifle and actually shoot it at a paper target. When he felt I was ready to hunt squirrels, we hunted them. I remember when I got my first one, he just smiled and let me clean mine and his when we got home.

We hunted together for many, many years, I wish he was here today so we could go hunting again. I've still got a couple of his guns and I aim to keep

them!

SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN NEWTOWN CONNECTICUT

I feel very sorry for the families of those kindergarten children, principal and teachers killed by the 20 year old in Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, CT. The only thing that is apparent is only the shooter knew why he did it. He had to have a plan to accomplish it, no one can just get up and go do a dastardly act such as that without knowing ahead of time how he could do it. It's a mystery.

There is only one deterrent to this kind of act, having a defense that covers all instances, knowing what to watch for and acting at just the right moment.

In the Middle East people strap bombs onto their bodies and kill innocent children, women and men for "their" cause when they detonate the bomb in crowded buses, offices, churches, schools, etc. No one knows ahead of time who they are or when they will do it.

There is only one deterrent to this kind of act, having a defense that covers all instances, knowing what to watch for and acting at just the right moment.

We in this country are fortunate in the fact that incidents like Columbine, Tuscon, Virginia Tech, movie theaters and Sandy Hook are not as common as the suicide bombers in the Middle East. The worse aspect of Sandy Hook was the killer killed innocent five and six year old students on purpose, methodically, not randomly as a bomb would do.

We can't condone these shootings and as a hunter and gun owner I think that background checks should be made on all purchases of guns. I don't think though that any certain gun should be banned. All guns have their purpose, its education that is needed to regulate their use. An AR-15 Bushmaster is not required to hunt with, but it has a purpose as a target rifle for competition events, as do all guns and multiple round magazines in the right hands, proper training and using them on a gun range. A well trained hunter only needs one shot to bring meat

home to the table. That's what my dad taught me when he gave me a single shot 20 ga. shotgun for rabbit hunting and a single shot .22 rifle for squirrel.

I'M AT ODDS WITH CNN HOST

One other point I would like to make here is my distaste for a British subject, using his CNN show to do his best to take away my Second Amendment rights here in America, when he is a citizen of England, not the United States.

His proper name is Piers Stefan O'Meara born in Guilford, Surrey England in 1965.

To us Yanks we know him as Piers Morgan. I would feel better that he take his opinions back to England where they would be more suited for his views on gun ownership.

He has hinted on his show that someone suggested he should be deported. I'd vote for that!

Let me tell you something here, I lived in England for 2 years 11 months while stationed there in the Air Force at RAF Chelveston and Alconbury, 1960-63. England's Law Enforcement at that time was unarmed Constables, or Bobbies, as they were nicknamed, who rode bicycles.

A popular English pastime in England was fox hunts on horseback, pheasant and deer hunting was possible, but well regulated, as I recall.

A friend of mine, Anthony Trezza, from Long Island, NY and I used to carry our pellet guns in the boot of my Ford Poplar. We used them for random target shooting on unused former WWII Air Bases in the Midlands. We only shot our .22 and .45 caliber pistols at the shooting ranges for practice or during pistol competitions held on bases in England and Germany. We were members of the RAF Chelveston Pistol team, most of our competitions was at RAF Molesworth. We also had competitions at RAF Sculthorp, Lakenheath and a U.S. Army base in Bitberg, Germany.

I enjoyed my time while in England, always wanted to go back for a visit as a civilian. While in uniform all we ever heard was *Yankee go home!* ■

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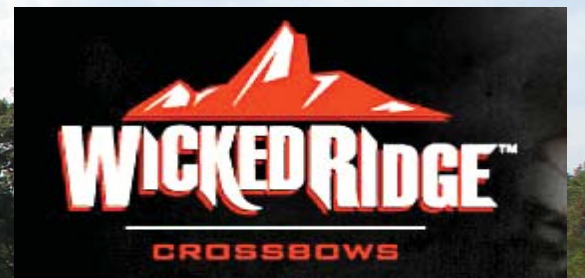


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