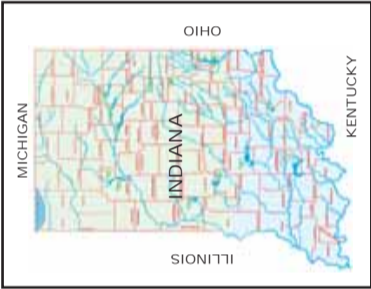


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JANUARY 2013
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VISIT ALL OF THE GREAT LAKES OF THE WABASH RIVER IN 2013 / READ ABOUT THEM ON PG 8 & 9

BOAT SHOW ISSUE
CINCINNATI SHOW JAN 18-20 & 23-27, 2013
INDIANAPOLIS SHOW FEBRUARY 15-24, 2013



GIVE A GIFT LIKE THIS - SEE PAGE 12
INDY SPORT SHOW - SEE PAGE 17



BEGINNING IN 2013 YOU WILL BE ABLE TO LOCATE ALL ADVERTISERS BY USING NEW MAPS AT www.thegadabout.com

SEE PAGE 7

RICH CATCHES A BIG INDIANA MUSKIE WHILE FISHING ON LAKE WEBSTER - SEE PAGE 18-19



11 POINT, 295 LB. INDIANA DEER
SEE MORE GAME ON PAGES 22, 27-31
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

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HOW TO LOCATE ADVERTISER ON MAPS

ADVERTISERS LOCATION CODE

For Example to find 52 Pik-up's Exact Location in Brookville see their listing in the Advertiser Index under **BROOKVILLE** to the right is **(BV)** which is the Location Code Abbreviation for Brookville, Indiana. Below that in alphabetical order are the businesses in Brookville, Page 5 is where their advertisement is located in this paper. To the LEFT of their listing is their **Advertiser Location Code Number (1)**.

Write down 52 Pik-up's Location Code **BV-1**

Log onto my website:

www.thegadabout.com

After the website opens click on the

LOCATION MAP ICON

The front page is a map of Indiana, look for BV and scroll down to Page 4. On page 4 you will see a map of the town of Brookville. Look for BV-1 at bottom of page. The arrow to the left of their code points to their exact location in Brookville plus in their case there is a link to their website on the map also. Click on it to see 52 Pik-up's web page.

Follow this same procedure for all Advertisers.

**** (Please Note Only Brookville Area Maps On Website)**

(Questions contact me at ray@thegadabout.com)

ADVERTISER INDEX

YOU CAN PICK UP A FREE COPY OF THE GAD-A-BOUT AT THESE ADVERTISER LOCATIONS LISTED BELOW

ALEXANDRIA (AX)

- (1) Sport-N-Wood Game Calls Page 30

ANDERSON (AD)

- (1) Crackshot Guns Page 26

AURORA (AR)

- (1) RE/MAX Advantage 1 Land Page 31

AUSTIN (AS)

- (3) Austin Westside Sunoco Page 9
- (1) Burris Electric & Plumbing Page 6
- (2) Colwell Wildlife Studio Page 28

BROOKVILLE (BV)

- (1) 52 Pik-up Convenience Store Page 5
- (2) Dairy Cottage Page 2
- (5) Hunters Choice Deer Process Page 22
- (3) Noble Boys Furniture Page 4
- (4) Save-a-lot Page 5

BROOKVILLE LAKE AREA (BVL)

- (1) Barton Bay Page 2
- (4) Jays Midlake Bait & Tackle Page 19
- (2) Parkside Marine & More Page 3
- (5) Sagamore Resort/Kent's Harbor Pg 12

CAMBRIDGE CITY (CC)

- (3) Steve's Marine Page 12
- (6) Vanfleet Taxidermy Pg 20

CAMBRIDGE CITY (CC)

- (1) Amish Cheese Shop Pg 24

CENTERVILLE (CV)

- (1) Animal Hospital of Centerville Pg 24
- (2) TW's Taxidermy Pg 4

COLUMBUS (CV)

- (1) The Worms Revenge B&T Pg 25

CONNERSVILLE (CN)

- (2) Griffey Farms Pg 28
- (3) Matt's Custom Guns Pg 23
- (1) Rem-Bu Gun & Ammo Pg 27

DEPUTY (DP)

- (1) Marion's Greenhouse Pg 24

DUBLIN (DB)

- (1) Rihm's Meat Processing Pg 10

EVERTON (ET)

- (1) Jerry & Ray Wildlife Creations Pg 26

FORTVILLE (FV)

- (1) 911 Defense, Lethal Lady Pg 11

GAS CITY (GC)

- (1) Gas City Bait & Tackle Pg 9

GREENFIELD (GF)

- (2) Highsmith Guns Pg 25

- (1) Jensen's Pawn & Guns Pg 28

GREENSBURG (GB)

- (3) Country Mart/PremTier Ag Pg 7

- (1) Guns & Tackle, Inc. Pg 26

- (4) Tree City Metal Sales Pg 10

- (2) Wagner's Barber Shop Pg 26

GREENWOOD (GW)

- (1) www.wyatharper.com Pg 23

HAGERSTOWN (HG)

- (1) Big Daddy's Guns & More Pg 14

HANOVER (HN)

- (1) Pate Meat Processing Pg 20

HARDY LAKE (HD)

- (1) Pioneer Village Pg 12

INDIANAPOLIS (IP)

- (1) Indiana State Police Pg 6

- (4) Indianapolis Sport Show Pg 17

- (3) Treasures of the Earth Gem Show Pg 4

- (2) www.IndianaOutfitters.com Pg 16

KNIGHTSTOWN (KT)

- (1) Knightstown Meats & Catering Pg 15

- (2) McDonald's Bait & Tackle Pg 25

KOKOMO (KK)

- (2) Joe's All Natural Beef Jerky Pg 20

- (1) Martino's Italian Villa Pg 20

LAKE MICHIGAN AREA (LM)

- (1) Brother Nature Charters Pg 12

LAPEL (LP)

- (1) Hoosier Reel Pg 18

LAUREL (LR)

- (1) Laurel Hotel & Restaurant Pg 19

LEXINGTON (LX)

- (1) McCleery's Dog Carriers. Pg 21

LIBERTY (LB)

- (1) Carl Sharp State Farm Ins Pg 24

- (2) Country Mark Station Pg 10

- (3) J's Restaurant Pg 28

- (4) J.A. Bertch Hardware Pg 19

- (5) Liberty Restaurant Pg 19

- (6) P.R.S. Insurance Pg 25

- (7) The Country Store Pg 3

LITTLE YORK (LY)

- (1) Little York Store & Restaurant Pg 19

LOGANSPORT (LG)

- (1) Dale Hardy Supplies Pg 14

MADISON (MS)

- (3) Anderson Honda Sales & Svc Pg 1

- (1) Burris Elect & Plumbing Pg 6

- (2) Madison Outdoors Pg 10

- (4) TriState Mobile Home Parts & Svc Pg 27

MARION (MR)

- (1) Riverside Sporting Gds Pg 9

MCCORDSVILLE (MV)

- (1) Cap'n Hooks Bait & Tackle Pg 26

METAMORA (MM)

- (1) Hearthstone Restaurant Pg 8

MIDDLETOWN (MD)

- (1) Norfleet Enterprises LLC Pg 22

MILROY (ML)

- (1) Milroy Shoes Pg 28

- (3) Superior Foam Insulation Pg 25
- (2) Troyers Country Store & Bakery Pg 11

MONROE LAKE AREA (MRL)

- (1) Cabin Restaurant & Gift Shoppe Pg 19
- (2) Learn2BassFish with Capt Bill Embry Pg 13

MUNCIE (MC)

- (1) McGalliard Guns & More Pg 20

NOBLESVILLE (NB)

- (1) Log Home Center Pg 23
- (2) NURPU River & Mtn Supply Pg 21

NORTH VERNON (NV)

- (2) Diekhoff Mower Sales Pg 24

- (3) Ebbing Auto Parts Pg 10

- (1) John's Gun & Tackle Pg 30

NORTH WEBSTER (NW)

- (1) Gary's Indiana Muskie Experience Pg 18

PATOKA LAKE AREA (PKL)

- (1) Fisherman's Village Pg 21

- (2) J&R Guide Service (& Monroe) Pg13

PENDLETON (PD)

- (1) Tricked Out Car & Access. Pg 11

PORTLAND (PT)

- (1) 1 Shot Sports Pg 22

RICHMOND (RM)

- (7) Army Navy Store Pg 22

- (6) Best Stop Auto Care Pg 14

- (8) 40th Eastern IN Gem Show Pg 4

- (4) Mendenhall Hardware Pg 13

- (5) Middleton Tool Sharpening Pg 27

- (10) Prairie Wolf Gun Repair Pg 11

- (3) Riggle-Waltermann Mortuary Pg 10

- (9) Rogan Equipment Inc Pg 7

- (1) Tri County Awards Pg 3

RUSHVILLE (RV)

- (2) Fields' Outdoor Adventures Pg 32

- (1) Jerry Adams Taxidermy Pg 31

SALEM (SL)

- (1) Red Barn Bait Shop Pg 12

SALAMONIES LAKE AREA (SNL)

- (1) Bozarth Country Store Pg 8

- (2) Junction 9 Express Pg 9

- (3) Peacepipe Bait & Tackle Pg 9

SCOTTSBURG (ST)

- (1) C & T Cycles Pg 5

- (2) Rick & Jeff's Floor Coverings Pg 10

- (3) Scotts Ace Hardware Pg 26

SELMA (SM)

- (1) Dry Dock Marina Pg 18

SEYMOUR (SY)

- (1) Burris Elect & Plumbing Pg 6

SHELBYVILLE (SV)

- (1) The Gun Den Pg 24

- (2) Gittin Jiggy With It B&T Pg 21

- (1) Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Pg 29

VALLONIA (VL)

- (1) Tollivers Hunting & Fishing Supls Pg 5

VERSAILLES (VS)

- (1) SEastern IN Hunting Properties Pg 29

WEBSTER (WB)

- (1) C & C Webster Store Pg 4

WILLIAMSBURG (WL)

- (1) Glick's Butcher Shop Pg 6

KENTUCKY

LOUISVILLE

- SMI Marine Pg 13

OHIO

CINCINNATI

- Stories by Golden Eagle Pg 10

DAIRY COTTAGE RESTAURANT
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Home Of Flavor Rich Fried Chicken

Complete Line of Sandwiches, JoJos, Fries, Mozarella Sticks, Onion Rings, Etc. LARGE SELECTION OF ICE CREAM, SHAKES, SUNDAES, CYCLONES

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Est. Oct. 02, 1958



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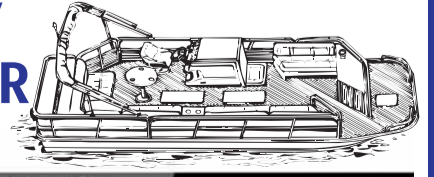
10055 SR 101, Brookville, IN 47012 Phone/Fax 765-647-5647
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THE GAD-A-BOUT™



IN THIS ISSUE

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Created & Published by Ray Dickerson

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REGULAR FEATURED OUTDOOR WRITERS

Roaming The Outdoors by Ray Dickerson (*Lake Webster, Noble Boys, Webster Store, Location maps, INDOT*) Page 4
 So You Wanna' Catch More Fish by Tag Nobbe (*Where to fish in 2013*) Page 5
 News from the Indiana State Police by Sgt. John D. Bowling (*The Great Outdoors, Meth Labs Increase*) Page 6
 Great Lakes of the Wabash River - Fishing News by Ryan Pershing (*Visit the Great Lakes of the Wabash*) Page 8-9
 Talking Leaves by Golden Eagle (*Follow the ways of the Creator*) Page 10
 Notes from Prairie Wolf Gun Repair by Marshall Smith (*Gun Issues: Pistol Sights & Corrosion*) Page 11
 Fishing Lake Michigan by Capt. Mike Schoonveld (*A FISHING GIFT*) Page 12
 Bass Fishing Techniques by Bill Embry (*Bass Fishing into December in Indiana now is a common thing*) Page 13
 News from West Central Indiana by Don Bickel (*HHH "Hunters Helping Hunters"*) Page 14-15
 Outdoors with Rich Creason (*Writer Conquers Musky Again*) Page 18-19
 Indiana Outdoors by Joe Martino (*A Father's Pride*) Page 20
 Misfires & Snags by Dan Graves (*The Final Hurrah*) Page 21
 Outdoor Tales by Phil Junker (*Ice Anglers Want Colder Weather*) Page 22
 Looking Downstream by Paul McCloud (*Indiana Deer Hunting*) Page 23
 Indiana State Trappers Association by Dr. Fred Philips (*News from Indiana State Trappers Association*) Page 24

GAD-A-BOUT DEPARTMENTS

Advertiser Index including Map Location Codes Page 2
 Advertising Sales Representatives Contact Information Page 3
 Rate Sheet, Contract Form (Revised June 2012/Corrected July 2012) Page 26
 Gad's Corner (Readers and Other Fish & Game Photos, Send in your Photo or other) Page 22, 26 thru 31

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

ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: It can be very difficult to purchase great gifts for outdoor oriented people. If the favorite activities for the "giftee" are shared by the "gifter," it becomes a bit easier. When the gifter is not a regular participant, it becomes almost impossible. The same thing goes for anglers. So here's an idea for you "gifters" out there looking for the perfect gift for your fisher-person giftee. Give them a fishing trip! See Page 12 (**Photo by Capt. Mike Schoonveld**)

Top Right: Looking for a fun, relaxing family getaway that is a short drive away? Then maybe you should consider spending your next trip here at the Great Lakes of the Wabash River. Here you will find many opportunities that exist to help make this a place to remember. So, maybe you're thinking to yourself, "What exactly would I be able to do to make this a fun and enjoyable stay for my

family"? That is a question Ryan Pershing hopes to answer for you as he will provide you with many different ways to spend your time at the Great Lakes of the Wabash, Mississinewa, Salamones and Huntington Reservoirs. See Page 8-9. (**Bozarth Country Store Photo**)

Bottom Left: John Kesler from Laurel, Indiana took this 11 point, 295 pound Buck, field dressed, on 11-18-12, Sunday at 11 a.m with a 12 gauge shotgun. (John Kesler Photo) See more deer and other game photos on Page 22, 26 thru 31 (**John Kester Photo**)

Bottom Right: How far would you travel to catch a fish? Rich and Susie Creason have driven literally hundreds of thousands of miles on outdoor trips in their 41 years of marriage. They don't have to go to Canada to catch a big musky. They met Gary Enos who guides Muskie fishing trips on Lake Webster in northern Indiana and he is just a couple hours away. See more on Page 18-19 (**Photo by Susie Creason**)

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



A-1 LOCK & SAFE SHOP
765-966-2597

Tri-County Awards
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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

LAKE WEBSTER HOLDS MANY MEMORIES FOR THIS WRITER/PUBLISHER

Rich Creason wrote about a Muskie fishing trip on Lake Webster, see article on pages 18-19.

I found the following information about Lake Webster in Wikipedia which also has a link to a video about the "Dixie" on the lake.

Lake Webster is a fresh water lake located in Kosciusko County, Indiana, United States. Formerly it was known as Boydston Lake. It borders the town of North Webster to the west of the lake.

The Dixie

North Webster is home to the DIXIE, Indiana's oldest sternwheel paddleboat. The Dixie has cruised Webster Lake since 1929, providing tours of the lake to generations of residents and visitors. A number of private owners cared for and operated the boat from 1929 until 2007 when title was transferred to a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation called Dixie Sternwheeler Inc. (DSI). DSI continues to operate the boat for regular summer cruises from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day and to allow chartered events such as weddings, retirement home outings, and company and community gatherings. Regular cruises last about 75 minutes and are each evening Monday through Saturday and during the afternoon and evening on Sunday. Many of the regular cruises feature period music and a narration with some history of the area, the lake and the Dixie.

Of a more personal nature, I traveled to North Webster to attend the Methodist Church Camp at Epworth Forest for several summers in the mid 50's. One special evening I had a date with a fellow camper, Judy Quick, on the Dixie. I have wondered where she is now and if she too remembers that evening on the Dixie. I can't remember the year, but it was probably between 1954-58.

I visited Epworth Forest in the summer of 2003 to see if the camp was still there. I wrote an article about it. I still have a few black and white photos from the 50's and lots of memories. Rev. Lyle Rasmussen was our minister back then. Now there was a character. Thinking about him I just now called him on the telephone and he still lives with his wife in Washington, IN. Lyle is 86, doesn't preach actively, but they attend a local Methodist Church.

His three sons Tim, Steve and Dan, all three Methodist Ministers, have churches in Indianapolis. Reverend Lyle Rasmussen preached at the Centerville, IN Methodist Church from 1954-58. I honestly have to say he had a great impact on my life and I can truly say I am a better man for having known and listened to his teachings. In 1979, Sherry and I traveled to Corydon, IN, taking our new adopted daughter, Amy, to his church to have her baptised by Lyle.

WEBSTER INDIANA, THE BOOK BY JIM COX ON SALE AT ONLY STORE IN WEBSTER

Carolyn Hall, owner of C&C Webster Store tells me that she only has 9 of the Webster Indiana books, written by Jim Cox, left in her store. I don't know where on the list of smallest towns in the United States, Webster is listed, but I'm sure it is pretty close to the bottom. However, it would amaze you to know how popular the town is, which is verified by the number of people who shop at the only store in Webster, C&C Webster Store.

While you are there you just might find a nice Christmas gift too.

You can pick up a free Gad-a-bout while you are there too, if they haven't run out when you get there. Carter and Caroline Hall hope to see you before Christmas or anytime other time. Happy New Year!



Noble Boys Variety Shop located at 135 Harrison Ave. in Brookville, IN at top and at bottom, Ethel Noble holding one of the many shirts in their store. She says they sell Odds & Ends mainly, see list below. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

NOBLE BOYS FURNITURE HAS NEW SHOP "NOBLE BOYS VARIETY STORE"

When I was delivering to Noble Boys Furniture in November, Norma Johnson told me they had opened a new store at 135 Harrison Avenue in Brookville, Indiana, called "Noble Boys Variety Store." I wrote down the information to add to their advertisement.

Last week I stopped to visit the store. Ethel Noble, Luther's wife, manages the new store, they are open six days,

the hours are Tuesday thru Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday & Sunday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed Mondays.

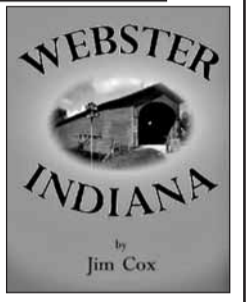
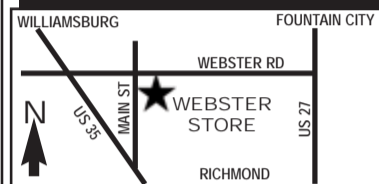
For those familiar with Brookville, you might remember the Flea Market that operated at the corner of South Harrison Avenue and US 52, adjacent to the Country Mark Service Station on US 52 and the former Rodefeld's Automotive Store on Harrison Ave for many years. The building Noble Boys Variety

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

C&C Webster Store

Webster, Indiana
Only Store In Town
Little Bit Of Everything
*You May Even Find
Christmas Gifts!!*

We Still Have
The Webster
Book



Noble Boys Furniture

Featuring Solid Oak and Solid Wood Bedrooms, Dining Rooms, Living Rooms, A Lazy Boy Owned Co. & Lane Recliners, Bedding and Other Household Items Dutch Craft Bedding Made by Amish

6032 Holland Rd., Brookville, IN
(White's Farm - U.S. 52)

Mon-Fri 9-5 / Sat 9-4 • 765-647-4875

**STOP & CHECK OUR NEW
Noble Boys Variety Store**
135 Harrison Ave. Brookville, IN
"Quality Furniture At Fair Prices"



Centerville, Indiana
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twstaxidermyservice@yahoo.com

40TH ANNUAL SPRING SHOW GEM, MINERAL, JEWELRY, FOSSIL SHOW & SALE

March 1, 2, 3, 2013

Friday 10-6 / Saturday 10-6 / Sunday 11-4
(SCHOOL CHILDREN FROM 10-3 ON FRIDAY)

Donation: Adults \$5.00 / Senior Citizens (60+) \$3.00
Students (7-18) \$1.00 / Under 7 Free

KUHLMAN CENTER

Wayne County 4-H Fairgrounds - North Salisbury Road
RICHMOND, INDIANA

Jewelry, Gem, Mineral, Crystals & Fossil Dealers. Exhibits, Displays, Door Prizes -- Silent Auctions, Children's Activities. Demonstrations of Fluorescent Minerals, Micro Mounts, Gold Panning & Wire Wrapping, Fossil Cleaning, Glass Bead Making, Flint Knapping & Faceting.

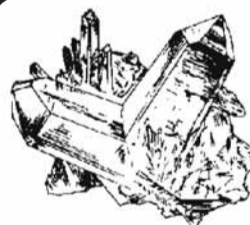
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(Note: If Salisbury Rd is closed due to construction, take NW 5th to NWL, go west to show)

INFO: Dave Straw 765-966-4249 or John Lamont 765-647-4894



Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows

www.toteshows.com

15th Annual Indianapolis Spring

Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show

Indiana State Fairgrounds - Ag/Hort. Building
1202 East 38th Street - Indianapolis, Indiana

March 22-24, 2013

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

Admission \$5 Ticket good all 3 days

Children under age 16 Free - Hourly Door Prizes

Custom work & repairs while you wait - Food Available

Beads - Pearls - Minerals - Fossils - Silver & Goldsmiths

Displays by 500 Earth Science Club & Indiana Bead Society

October 4-6, 2013 = 15th Annual Indianapolis Fall Show

So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by **Tag Nobbe**
Professional Fishing Guide

Where to Fish in 2013

To start this article I thought to myself how many reservoirs are there in the state of Indiana, so I googled it. What I found out is, its a bit confusing because there are reservoirs, lakes ponds rivers etc. I don't think anyone place can give a definitive answer. Wikipedia says a reservoir is (etymology: from French *réservoir* a "storehouse" [1]), artificial lake or impoundment from a dam[2] is used to store water. So for the sake of argument I will just talk about the ones that I know. Which ones to fish is going to be purely up to you. The locations of these reservoirs or lakes are spread out over the entire state so one should be fairly close to you. Some of the things you should look for is the size of the reservoir. Do you have a boat that is big enough to navigate the waters safely. Is there a horse power limit on the reservoir, plus what are all the rules of the reservoir. Most of this stuff can be found out on the Internet, but there is a lot of stuff you can not. That will have to be part of the adventure of the fishing trip.

A list of some of the reservoirs in alphabetical order is Brookville lake, Cecil Harden lake, Hardy

lake, Monroe lake and Patoka lake. These five reservoirs are being heavily stocked by the state of Indiana's fish stocking programs. Brookville, Monroe and Patoka Lakes are all being stocked with walleye. Brookville, Cecil Harden, and Patoka are being stocked with pure strain striped bass. Hardy lake is being stocked with pure strain striped bass and hybrid striped bass. While Monroe lake is being stocked with a hybrid striped bass only, also known as a wiper. The wiper is a cross between a white bass and a pure strain striped bass. The purpose of this hybrid striped bass is to develop a fish that can live and thrive in Indiana's shallower reservoirs.

I believe that the entire stocking programs are put in place to help us all enjoy our time on the water just a little better. To successfully catch fish in these bodies of water you have to spend a lot of time fishing on them or hire a guide. What hiring a guide does for you is it tells you how and where to catch the fish. I tell my customers you can learn more in one day fishing with me then you can learn in an entire year fishing by yourself. Its not that I am that good at it, its just that I am on the water day after day after day after day, year after year after year and they are not. When asked by my customers if I guarantee that they will catch fish. I tell them I will guarantee I will show them where and how to catch fish and with a little luck we will be cleaning fish at the end of the day, its a team event.

I have fished Monroe lake a few times over the years and I successfully caught walleye in that lake fishing the same way I would fish in Brookville lake. The only thing that's different is Monroe is full of yellow bass and those little guys will eat a night crawler off a jig just as quick as it hits the water. The only way around them is to use a bigger jig. Try to use an 1/8 or 1/4 ounce jig instead of a 1/16 jig. If you can get the jig to the bottom pretty quick their not so apt to see it. Another option is a jigging spoon. I have caught walleye and wipers both using Hopkins spoons on drop off ledges and under water structure. But for the wipers the shad is the best bait by far.

Another lake I have fished for striped bass is Cecil Harden lake. This lake is known for big striped bass. The new Indiana state record striped bass was caught in this lake in 2010, it weighed 39.08 lbs. Live bait fishing is a great way to catch striper's in this lake. The bait of choice is shad or blue gill. The best method is to long line shad behind the boat or behind plainer boards to spread multiple line in a wide foot print behind the boat. To fish blue gill look for fish held up in certain spots and drop the bait

right over the side of the boat holding it close to the bottom with a 4 ounce in line sinker. Once there, bump yourself around over your spot with the electric trolling motor keeping the bluegill just off the bottom. I would say from the first of May through June is going to be a hot time to be at Cecil Harden lake.

Probably the most dependable lake in Indiana to catch striped bass in at the present time is Hardy lake. Hardy lake is located in the southern part of Indiana in Scott county. What makes this lake such a good lake is that it is stocked not only with pure strain striped bass but the hybrid striped bass as well.

This lake is 742 acres with an average depth of 25 feet, there is not to many places for them to hide. The pure strain striped bass run between 19 and 37 inches while the hybrid run between 23 and 26 inches. Try long line trolling deep diving crank baits in front of the dam.

Patoka lake is a 8,800 acre lake way down south in the state of Indiana in Crawford county. This lake is stocked with pure strain striped bass and walleye. The state stocks 44,000 striped bass fingerling's a year and 6 million walleye fry a year. This is the 5th year for the walleye stocking program at Patoka. The biggest walleye caught to date is 24 inches with an average size around 16 inches. The average depth of Patoka lake is 25 feet with the maximum depth of 60 feet. The main lake has humps, islands, drop offs and a weed line all the way around the lake. All the coves have a good bit of standing timber in them with a good population of crappie. The striped bass fishery is a little off though. It took off good for the first 8 years, but with the long hot summers we have been having here in Indiana the lake has experienced some striper die offs due to very warm water and high thermoclines. We will have to give it some time and see what happens. If I was going to fish Patoka I would target the walleye fishery. Try pulling bottom bouncers and spinner rigs tipped with night crawlers over main lake humps or on the edge of the massive weed line.

Last but not least Brookville Lake, this lake is located near the Indiana Ohio line in Franklin county.

Brookville lake is a 5,260 acre lake with a maximum depth of 125 feet. This lake is full of large mouth bass, small mouth bass, White Bass. Crappie, blue gill and catfish. It is stocked with 52,000 pure strain striped bass annually. The lake is used as a big brood pond for the walleye stocking program. In the early spring the DNR puts out gill nets and captures

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

The Great Outdoors- Great Stress Relief

When Ray said he would like some hunting stories this month, I thought this would be a good opportunity to give you some insight into what a lot of us troopers do with our time off, and include a couple pictures. People often tell me they wouldn't want my job. It's true we have to deal with a lot of tragedy and crazy situations that can cause stress.

But I truly believe this is the greatest job in the world. I couldn't imagine a better way to have spent the last 22 years. With this job you know when you go home at the end of the day you've made a difference. It may have been someone you helped at a car crash, or maybe simply changing a tire for a mom and teenage son on their way to visit a college. Either way you have influenced someone's life. It is a great honor for us to serve you and it's something I look forward to everyday.



Sergeant Barr on the left and Sergeant Todd Wallace on the right with a deer Wallace shot on 10-26-12 in Henry County. (Author Photo)



Captain Mike Eslinger with a deer he killed 10/29 in Sullivan County. (Author Photo)

That being said this job can also be stressful. We see a lot of tragedy, senseless violence and death. We have to be counselors settling disputes amongst arguing neighbors and spouses. We are usually dealing with people who don't want us there. There is always the danger that goes with every traffic stop we do, whether it's someone trying to hurt us or the possibility of getting run over or hit as we sit on the side of the road.

All the men and women that do this job will tell you that's why it's important to have hobbies that get you away from it all. I think that is why most of the troops I know hunt and fish. I can think of no better way than to get out in the deer woods, put the phone on silent and get away from it all.

I've included a picture of a beautiful buck that was harvested by State Police Captain Mike Eslinger. He harvested the buck, (that weighed over 230 pounds,) at 25 yards with his Mathews Bow, in Sullivan County, on October 29th as it chased a group of does.

Also included is a picture of Sergeant Todd Wallace (on the right) and Sergeant Chris Barr (on the left) with a Henry County deer Wallace harvested on October 26th this year with his Mathews bow. I was able to harvest a nice eight point with a bow on November 3rd as it chased does in Wayne County.

I personally love being in the woods. Like my job, every time I go out I see something different. Along with hunting in our beautiful state, I've also been blessed to hunt in northeast Missouri with my childhood friend Pastor Dan Hite for the last twelve years.

Without a doubt there are more bucks, and more big bucks in Missouri than any other state I've ever hunted in. That's why hunters like me come from all over the country pouring money into their economy just to hunt whitetails.

I've met hunters (a lot of them policemen) from

Texas, Tennessee, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and even Alaska who go to Missouri to hunt whitetails. The small farming communities out there depend on the hunters for a large part of their economy each year.

We were blessed with a cold if windy morning my first day out. The temperature was at 23 degrees with high winds, but I was able to harvest a ten point that weighed well over 200 pounds. My buddy Dan took a doe and nice ten point buck the next day. It was another year I left Missouri with some great memories and knowing I got my money's worth out of their \$250 out of state tag.

Meth Labs in Indiana- Numbers Continue to Rise

Meth Labs in Indiana-Numbers Continue to Rise
Recently on the news I saw a video of a mobile meth lab exploding in a huge fireball in a van in Michigan. It serves as a reminder of how explosive and dangerous meth labs can be. As we get our monthly Meth lab reports, Madison County continues to lead the state with Delaware County quickly rising in the rankings in the number of labs found and dismantled.

Meth Suppression Units have found and have assisted other agencies with a soaring number of trash labs, or labs left in coolers, back packs or out in the open along the side of the road, or in woods and
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Store occupies is the only building left standing on that lot. There is plenty of convenient parking on the south side of the store.

Here is a list of odds and ends Ethel said they are selling: Work Clothes - Pants and Shirts \$5 a piece, furniture, Christmas items, toys, lamps, socks, yarn, shoes, welcome mats, boots, paintings, dolls, reproduction automotive metal signs and more. Everything is for sale at great prices, prices you won't believe unless you see them for yourself. It is truly a very neat store to visit.

For more information give Ethel a call at 765-647-1400 you can also call Luther or Norma at Noble Boys Furniture at 765-647-4875. They will all be glad to hear from you. See their ad on page 4.

ADVERTISER LOCATION MAPS ON GAD-A-BOUT WEBSITE 2013

Beginning in February 2013 you will be able to go on my website: www.thegadabout.com and find where advertisers are located by using maps online. There is no charge to advertisers for this added service as long as they are current advertisers in The Gad-a-bout Newspaper.

In this issue "January 2013" the only maps that will appear on the website will be the Brookville Lake area. Lack of available time has been a stumbling block to get everyone done.

For the "February" issue I will have some extra time to work exclusively on the maps and should have all advertisers located on them, hopefully.

The location process will work from the

Advertiser's index, on Page 2 of this publication, by a Location Code which is shown here in Cyan Blue color. The town of Brookville, Indiana's code is (BV). For example 52 Pik-up Convenience Store's code is (1). Therefore their Map Location Code is BV-1.

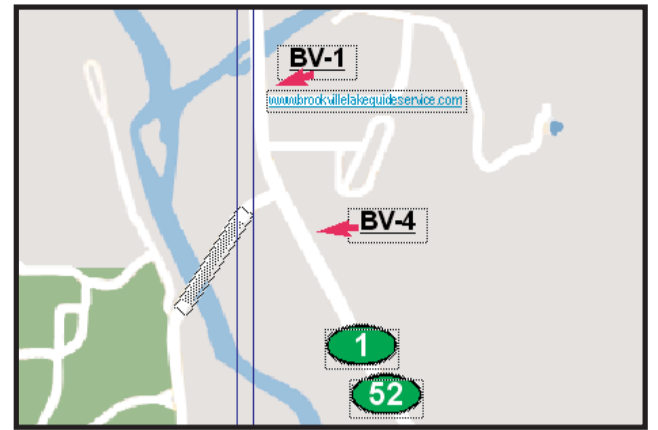
If you were wanting to locate where 52 Pik-up Convenience store is in Brookville you would do the following.

Write their code down and log onto or if you are online you can click on www.thegadabout.com here. On the Home page look for the icon "Advertiser Location Maps" and click on it. If you are familiar with opening The Gad-a-bout online the Maps are set up the same as it. You will scroll down thru the maps using the following instructions.

The first page of the maps will be a 10.37" x 15.75" map of the state of Indiana showing all the counties, major lakes, rivers and some state facilities. In the upper left hand corner is an index of the maps and the pages they appear on. Scroll down to Page 4 and you will see the Town of Brookville Map. Look for the Code BV-1. Near the bottom of the town of Brookville map you will see the code and a Magenta colored arrow pointing to the exact location of 52 Pik-up Convenience Store. Just below their code is their website that you can click on and it will link you to their website online from the map page.

The Code System works on a two-letter code for towns i.e. BV (Brookville), three-letter code for major lakes, i.e. BVL (Brookville Lake), one to two numerical code 1-99 or for as many advertisers that appear in the newspaper for that location (the 99 is just wishful thinking).

Above is a portion of the Brookville Town map illustrating Advertisers BV-1 and BV-4. Advertisers



EXAMPLE OF ADVERTISER MAP LOCATION CODE

on the Brookville Town Map are BV-1 52 Pik-up, BV-2 Dairy Cottage and BV-4 Sav-a-lot. Other Brookville Advertisers appear on the Brookville Lake Area Map on Page 2, Liberty Advertisers appear on Page 3. I'm hoping that before the February 2013 issue I will have all the Advertiser Maps completed and have them all on my website.

Several times I have tried to put location codes on the advertiser ads and have maps in The Gad-a-bout, but that always took up too much room. By putting the maps on my website I don't have to worry about taking up too much room in the paper. I've always felt, especially since I have many advertisers whose business locations are out in the boon docks, that it would be good to have a way for the reader to find them.

SR 1 BETWEEN MODOC AND FARMLAND

Earlier this year I called Nathan Riggs, PIO for INDOT inquiring about when SR 1 might be getting some attention between Modoc and Farmland,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24



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News From The Indiana State Police Cont'd from Page 6

vacant lots. After blowing up a house or vehicle, cooks have resorted to outside labs in some instances.

The Indiana State Police Meth Suppression Section wants to remind citizens that these labs and trash may contain chemicals that are toxic, flammable, corrosive, and acidic. Signs to look for Meth manufacturing are a strong ammonia smell, or a solvent smell like an auto body shop. The fumes are toxic and can cause internal damage to organs. Below are more items to watch for that are used in the manufacturing of Methamphetamine:

Look for air line type rubber tubing, ether or camp fuel cans, plastic or glass bottles, Pseudoephedrine packages and lithium battery casings. The chemicals when mixed together are highly explosive and fumes are toxic to breath.

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

Be aware of any type of small tank (like a propane tank), found in an odd place (middle of a field, ditch line, wooded area) that has a modified valve. The valve will typically be modified in some way and will have a bright blue or green color to it. These cylinders are used to store or transport anhydrous ammonia, which is an extremely dangerous gas when direct contact or inhalation has occurred.

Often times Meth Labs are found as a result of an anonymous tip from a neighbor or friend. If you think you've found a meth lab or have information about illegal drug use call the Pendleton Post at 1-800-527-4752, or the Indiana State Police Drug Tip Line at 1-800-453-4756. Tips can be made and kept anonymous. The Indiana Meth Investigation System or IMIS, can also take tips on meth labs. Just go to www.meth.in.gov and click on the "Report Suspected Meth Activity" Link.

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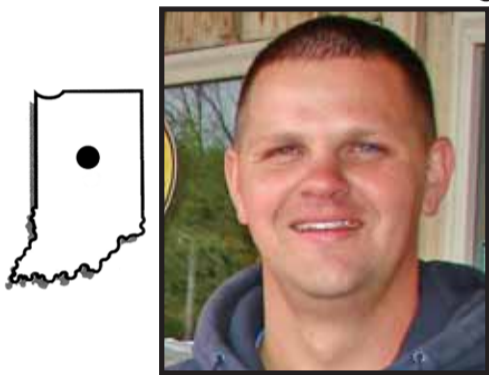


Bozarth Country Store located next to the Salamonie Reservoir. (Author Photo)



The Salamonie Reservoir dam on a beautiful sunny day. (Author Photo)

Great Lakes of the Wabash River - Fishing News



by Ryan Pershing
Mgr of Bozarth Country Store

Visit the Great Lakes of the Wabash

Looking for a fun, relaxing family getaway that is a short drive away? Then maybe you should consider spending your next trip here at the Great Lakes of the Wabash River. Here you will find

many opportunities that exist to help make this a place to remember. So, maybe you're thinking to yourself, "What exactly would I be able to do to make this a fun and enjoyable stay for my family"? That is a question I hope to answer for you as I will provide you with many different ways to spend your time here.

The "Great Lakes of the Wabash River" are referred to as the three reservoirs that were all designed and man made by the Army Corps of Engineers to help control the flooding that was doing major damage to the towns and cities downstream. With the construction of the Salamonie, Mississinewa, and Roush Lakes (Huntington), it created an opportunity for recreational use of these areas and made it an attraction for families to bring their little ones and experience the beauty of nature. These three lakes are all within a half hours drive of each other and each property is unique in its own self.

Whether it be camping, boating, fishing, or horseback riding these properties have many different ways to enjoy your experience be it a day or a week long adventure. What a great chance to involve family or friends and sit around the campfire to tell stories, roast marshmallows, and simply enjoy the great outdoors! While camping here

you will be able to take advantage of the vast amount of property these destinations hold. We have all heard the saying, "Take a kid fishing", and I believe this to be an excellent slogan as it allows a special bonding opportunity between parents and their children. These lakes are loaded with fish as you can expect to catch crappie, bluegill, catfish, bass, and even walleye. As for hunting, one can expect to hunt deer, rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, coyote, and pheasant. While out enjoying the area maybe you are lucky enough to catch a glimpse of the bald eagles and river otters which have recently made a comeback to the area.

Horseback riding, snowmobile, and hiking trails are all available and they provide great views overlooking the lake. Also included on these properties are beach areas for swimming along with full service marinas on hand for boat and equipment rentals. You will want to be sure to visit the Interpretive Center at the Salamonie Reservoir where you will receive a great history lesson on the area as well as important information of events and things to do while visiting.

While in the area it would be remiss if I didn't tell you to venture to Bozarth's Recreational Resort and witness one of the best kept secrets in the area! Thinking you are driving into the middle of no man's land, you won't believe your own eyes when you see this massive facility located on the corner of two dead end roads next to the Salamonie Reservoir (see photo on next page).



The Salamonie Interpretive Center. (Author Photo)

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Aerial photo overlooking Bozarth's Recreational Resort, Pirate's Cove Marina and the Salamonie Reservoir in the background. (Bozarth Photo)

What you are going to see is a more than 10,000 square foot rustic cedar building that houses all your needs as well as some family fun entertainment. Bozarth's Country Store simply has it all!

Within our facility you will find a Country Store, the BRR Grill, Game Room, Banquet Room, and Laundry Room. We have a large selection of groceries, snacks, and even soft serve ice cream. Our Sporting Goods Department has a great variety of fishing, hunting, boating, and camping supplies and we also sell Bass Pro branded products. There is a showroom which includes a huge assortment of camping supplies and cast iron products. We stock a massive inventory of

cast iron from the likes of Lodge, Bayou Classic, Camp Chef, and Stansport. You will also want to take advantage of our BRR Grill; which serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. The food is great and you will not be disappointed. Before exiting make sure to take time to visit the arcade room which includes many arcade games and a pool and shuffleboard table.

Our campground has been family owned since its inception in 1968 and has grown leaps and bounds through the years. We currently have approximately 225 seasonal campsites along with a special designated area for camping clubs. If interested in looking for a seasonal campsite or

inquiring more information about us then feel free to contact us @ (765) 981-4522.

You can also check us out on our website www.bozarthcampground.com.

Being a lifetime resident to this area I feel like this is a great place to bring your family and enjoy many of the aforementioned opportunities that are presented by these three properties. You can also find more information about these areas by visiting www.in.gov and type in the corresponding lake you are seeking more information about. Hope to see you soon!

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by Golden Eagle

Follow the ways of the Creator

The birds are after the red berries on the bush. They scamper around on the ground seeking the seeds scattered there by the wind. The Creator provides for his winged and four legged children just as he will provide for his two legged children, who believe in Him. No matter how deep the snow or how thick the ice on the stream, there is always food and drink for those who know how to seek it.

It was cold the night the Creator chose to come to be with us. He chose to be born of a woman and to live among us as a human. He chose to live our lives, share our pain and let two leggeds' hunt him down and nail him to a tree. Than he walked away from his grave alive again.

He did this so that we would know that whatever happens us, we too will live again. If we believe in Him and try to follow in is foot steps.

The tests that he puts before us, are there to help us, to strengthen us in our weakness. He asks only that we have faith and believe in him.

The beast waits for us in the darkness. He waits for us to fail the tests so he can drag us down into the darkness and feed on us. The beast survives and is strengthened by our weakness. If we all stood the test and followed the teachings of the Creator, the beast will grow weak and eventually die. But it will take the united strength of all two leggeds' to defeat the beast.

Greet each dawn with a prayer asking for strength. Stand up against the winds of evil, move forward against all challenges, strengthened by your belief in the Creator. Remember once He chose to become like us to be an example for us.

There is evil all around us, disguised like good. He tempts us with our magic gadgets, our TV, sharp

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Golden Eagle with friends in June 2004 Frontier Reunion at Treaty Line Pioneer Village. From left to right, Travis Baker, Louise Jennings, Jason Paul, Golden Eagle and Eugene Fannin. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

phones, games where evil wins. The road to the beast is bright and shining. We are constantly tempted to follow it's easy path. The Creator has made the path to His lodge a steep and difficult one. Do not let it's difficulties discourage you.

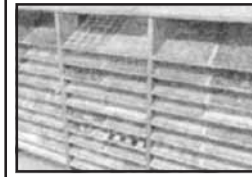
He will be there to welcome you into his lodge at the end of your earthly journey. As we cross the Four Hills let us not look backward but forward to the eternal light ahead.

May the Creator always look with kindness on you and your kin Particularly at this time when all in nature seems to sleep. So that like the awakening of the spring you will be awakened to His goodness and blessings.

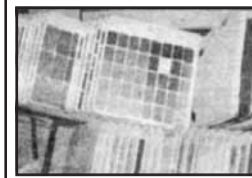
OLD CHIEF SAYS: Do not always follow the clearly marked trail; go instead where there is no path and make a new trail.

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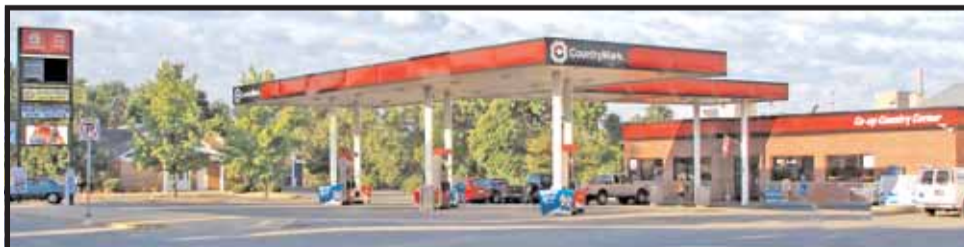


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Notes from:

Prairie Wolf Gun Repair



by Marshall Smith

Gun Issues: Pistol Sights & Corrosion

Pistol Sights

Whether shooting a rifle, shotgun, or handgun the sights must be on target at a specified distance. Most rifles come from the factory sighted in for 100 or 200 yards whether using iron sights or scope. Handguns with fixed sights are usually sighted in for no more than 20 yards, some a little as 7 yards. We love to customize our guns with new toys such as night sights, quick reaction sights, adjustable target sights, fiber optic sights, and laser sights. There are a lot of different styles of sights available for just about every gun ever made. Custom made sights for your gun are expensive as are many adjustable sights for handguns and rifles. There are sights for shotguns which utilize the same technology as for rifles and handguns. With our high tech online buying the chance of purchasing a set of sights for our guns may result in getting a set of sights that don't exactly fit the gun on which you plan to install them.

Recently I was asked to install night sights on a Beretta 92 FS. The sight purchased by the customer was advertised to fit the Beretta 92 series of pistols. The Beretta and Taurus 92 family of handguns have an open top slide on which Beretta milled the front

sight into the slide frame as an integral part of the slide. Installation of the rear sight is not a problem. However, installing a front sight on the Beretta 92 series of guns requires the front sight to be milled off and a new sight welded or otherwise fitted to the frame. The depth of the slide frame in the front sight location is only about 3/32" or 2.4 mm. My personal opinion is there is not enough metal to support fitting a dovetail sight into the frame. Night sights can be installed by the factory's specialty gunsmith shop by drilling the front sight and installing the glass tube night sight in the drilled hole. Since the glass tube and associated parts are proprietary parts only the factory's gunsmith can drill and install the night sight. It's not an installation you can do at home. There are a few other guns on the market which the advertised sights may require some or extensive fitting by a gunsmith. Be sure to investigate all aspects of the sight and it's installation before deciding on a new sight for your handgun.

Considering the cost of many of the adjustable iron sights and night sights available the option to install a laser sight may be a better option on many handguns intended for personal protection. The laser allows the shooter the ability to keep both eyes open and on the target. Several of the new guns now come with the option to purchase the option of a factory installed laser sight. The untrained gun owner using the gun for self protection at home can plan on needing it in the middle of the night when the laser is ideal. Without having to concentrate on "front sight" the gun owner only need look to see the dot on the target. That works for hand guns, carbines, and shotguns used for home defense. It is an investment one should consider when thinking of buying a gun for home or personal protection. I personally don't feel that the laser sights are of much use for any type of long range or target shooting.

I'll get into rifle and shotgun sights in the next issue of THE GAD-A-BOUT. That's an interesting topic.

Rust

Now to address a subject close to your wallet. What is the worst enemy of guns? Not the Brady anti-gun advocates, nor the Obama administration, nor the U.N. small arms treaty. It is rust and/or corrosion. Yep, you've got it. I've mentioned this before. Rust on iron parts makes them stick, bend, break or just lose the ability to function. {Pictures}

Stainless steel corrodes over time as does aluminum casing the same issues as with iron. Many of the guns we love are made with a mixture of steel, stainless steel, and aluminum. Maintaining the stainless steel and aluminum guns is still important. Something I see often are guns that have only been used during the hunting season and then put away for the next year, not to be looked at until opening day of the deer season, or squirrel season, or rabbit season. Oops! You forgot that last year you put it away and didn't clean it and now it's all rusty and the trigger doesn't work right, and gee, better take it to the gunsmith and find out why it won't work or the action doesn't work smoothly any more. That's bad for your wallet, not so bad for mine. 😊

Black powder guns may present a special problem in that it is strongly recommended that the gun barrel be washed in soap and water. The barrel is left to dry and water displacing oil is applied to prevent rust. The action of the gun is often not easily accessible to clean and a squirt of oil is about all it gets. That's where I see most of the corrosion. I'm not sure if the gun owner is cleaning the barrel while it is still attached to the action or it's just an accumulation of moisture which is missed by the squirt of oil. If you



Top Photo: Here you see the breech face with the firing pin extended. The pin is not jammed by the corrosion but is on its way. This isn't rust but powder residue that will eventually pit and damage the breech face and firing pin. Middle Photo: This shows the inside of the receiver and the rust left by the moisture at the bottom of the receiver. Bottom Photo: Rust on the welded barrel lug will eventually cause it to fail. Note the rust on the barrel spring in the forearm below the barrel.. (Author Photos)

have an air compressor, a good shot of pressurized air in the space around the hammer, the trigger, and any other opening in the receiver helps to displace any water and spread any oil you've sprayed in the action. Any it's a good idea to blow out any excess oil that may drip or weep into a wood stock.

Something to consider when after you have meticulously cleaned and oiled your prize gun and now you want to make sure it is safe from getting scratched or dinged and you place it in the new gun sock, or padded gun case, DON'T. The cloth or padding draws moisture and will absorb any protective oil on the finish and now your prize has a blemish. Stainless steel just takes longer to rust or corrode and unprotected aluminum will turn a light gray as it corrodes. Place the gun in a relatively dry closet or gun cabinet or safe. If placing the gun in a safe make sure you have placed some moisture absorbing packs in the safe. Just plain white rice in a thin bag will work, or you can buy commercially made dri packs. Good for keeping your powder dry too. 😊

If you have a question or comment on guns, gun smithing, gun rights, or, would like to just make a comment send me an email at PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com. I'll try and answer your questions as best I can and some answers may be included in this column.

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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

A FISHING GIFT

It can be very difficult to purchase great gifts for outdoor oriented people. If the favorite activities for the "giftee" are shared by the "gifter," it becomes a bit easier. When the gifter is not a regular participant, it becomes almost impossible.

For instance, I enjoy pheasant hunting. My wife enjoys Pheasant's Forever banquets. That's about as close to pheasant hunting she has gotten since she was a farm girl growing up in South Dakota and her and her sisters were the "dogs" while her dad and the other hunters did the shooting. Her giving me something I could use on a pheasant hunt would be a tough prospect. Chances are, what her idea of something "useful" for me and my idea of useful would be miles apart. Chances are, if it were truly useful, I probably own one or more of them already.

The same thing goes for anglers. So here's an idea for you "gifters" out there looking for the perfect gift for your fisher-person giftee. Give them a fishing trip!

Sure, they may have their own boat, tackle and gear. But that doesn't mean they won't enjoy a trip to a new lake or catching kinds of fish they don't normally catch.

Of course, I hope you decide to give them a fishing trip with me, on board the Brother Nature on Lake Michigan. That's just one idea. You can choose a different charter, a different lake should you wish or even send them with a guide for a day of fishing for musky, walleye, bass or other species. You pick!

I "do" several gift-trips each season on the Brother Nature and have it down to a good routine. Here's how it usually goes....

The gift-giver goes on-line and finds my website www.brother-nature.com. They look over the site, where I fish, best times to fish, prices and all the rest, then either call or send an email. Since I base my prices on the number of people and the length of the trip, the gifter can decide the amount they want to spend and see what that will buy. For example: at my current prices, a three-person trip for 8 hours is about



A fishing trip makes a great gift for any member of the family. (Author Photo)

the same price as a four-person trip for 5 hours.

Hopefully, the person doing the shopping is allows a few days or more until the day the gift will actually be bestowed. Last minute gifts are okay, but if there's time, here's what happens. I send a personal letter from me to the person giving the gift but the salutation on the letter addresses the gift recipient. The gifter then puts the letter in a card and hands it to the giftee on Christmas, birthday or whatever occasion.

The letter I send starts out something like:

Dear Pete (or Sherry or whatever name is appropriate):

Congratulations! You have been given a 6-hour fishing trip on the Brother Nature for you and two friends.....

Then I go on to explain my services, the fishing available and other details about the trip along with contact information, phone numbers and other information.

Most of the time, the person receiving the gift gets to pick the specific date and who else will go along on the trip. Sometimes, however, we schedule the trip for a specific date and many times the person giving the gift chooses all the participants. The details can be customized to fit the situation.

If you have a hard-core fisherman on your gift giving list and are feeling stymied about what sort of present to bestow, give me a call. We'll work it out and make it a gift he or she will long remember!

THE END

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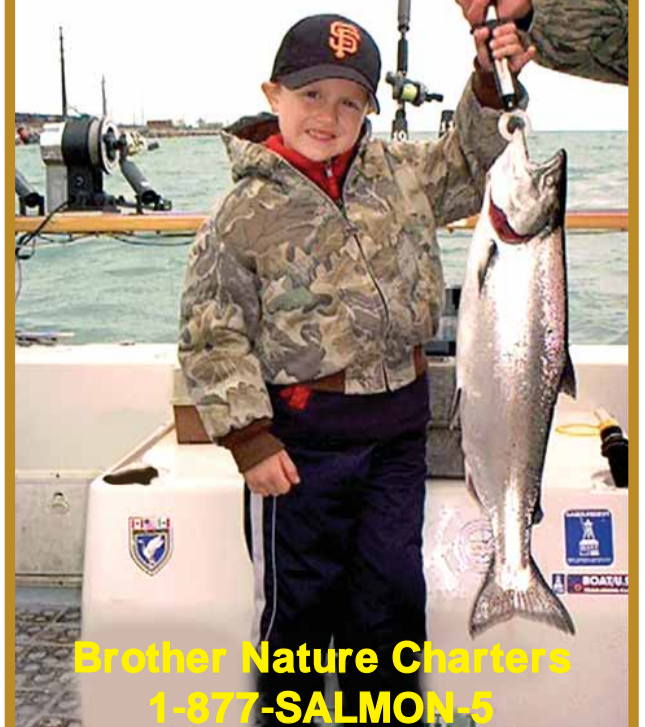
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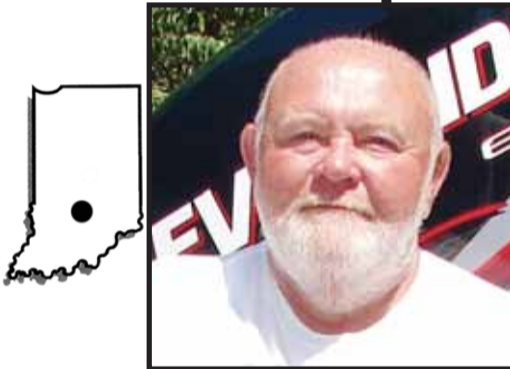
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William Anderson fished with me on Monroe Lake and caught this really nice largemouth bass. (Author Photo)

**Bass Fishing
 Techniques**



by Bill Embry

**Bass Fishing into
 December in Indiana
 now is a common thing**

If this is global warming, ~ I like it! Although, I wouldn't want to own any beach front property! December 3rd and it is 71 degrees outside here in Bloomington, Indiana. I'm still seeing honeybees, flies, moths and mosquito's, flying around everywhere. I have been bass fishing a lot & catching big fish and lots of them. Water temps are in the high 40's & the big ones are still eating in shallow water. I have been out several times catching 5 or 6 fish over the five pound mark in the last month, here on Lake Monroe. You would think that one of the tournament trails might catch on to this and run the trails

a little longer in the season instead of ending them when the fish just start biting again. I believe the weigh-ins would be record breaking. Besides you don't have to worry about big ski boats running you over either!

What a great time of the year to fish with your kids, or anyone else for that matter. The only real danger this time of year is the water temp. Make sure you wear a good P.F.D. device (Life Jacket) a person could freeze to death very quickly if you fall in! So like always PLEASE BE CAREFUL!!!!

After over 30 years of bass fishing, bass tournament fishing, and running bass tournaments, in March of 2013 I'm going to start teaching folks the art of bass fishing. I will start with a class on bass fishing basics. From using a bait casting rod & reel, to what bait to use for each fishing situation. We will start in a classroom environment. Then after a short period of time, the student will graduate from the classroom to the bass boat, with some hands on instruction. From there we can go where you want to go with it. All the way to tournament bass fishing if you're interested. Bass fishing isn't a hard sport to learn, it is a very expensive one, which most folks don't even get to try, because of the cost. My goal is to teach you the techniques of bass fishing so you too can catch bass. My hope is that you will enjoy the sport of bass fishing as much as I have over my life time!

Please see the ad on this page for details & get signed up for one of my first classes. I'm sure you will enjoy it. I encourage you to bring your kids, and or wives. This is a great family sport & fun for all! See some of my former student's photos and remarks on the website that will be up & running soon, www.learn2bassfish.com. These are folks that are my former students that I've taken on guide trips.

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They hired me as a guide, but spent most of their day learning the basics on how to use a rod & reel. I feel that, why not learn the basics, before you pay someone to guide you. It's much less money and when you learn a little about bass fishing your success rate will become much greater, should you decide to hire a guide anywhere you might want to fish! What a great Christmas gift? In closing I want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year! See you next year.
 "Good Fishin"
 Bill Embry
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and that's the news from West Central Indiana



by Don Bickel, Forester

HHH "Hunters Helping Hunters"

"Hunters Helping Hunters", (HHH) is an organization of hunters, giving up a portion of their time in the field to allow those less fortunate to fulfill a dream. The HHH mission statement "Improving the quality of life for physically challenged and or seriously ill hunters", states the organization's goal.

HHH began in 2002 through the thoughts and efforts of foresters employed by Pike Lumber Co, Akron, IN. Today, 2 groups (chapters), located at Auburn (DeKalb Co.) IN and Rockville (Parke Co.), IN continue the mission's purpose. While deer and turkey hunts comprise the majority of hunts, hunts for pheasant, ducks and other game animals and birds have been arranged.

To qualify as a hunter or even a fishing trip would be considered, an application form is available at www.huntershelpinghunters.org. There is no cost to the hunter or helper or guardian if needed. These covered expenses include: lodging, meals, licenses (if needed), guides, transportation to and from the hunting site. The hunter and guardian must provide transportation to the site of the hunts organization.



The Sunday morning hunt is over. A few volunteers and two hunters went home Saturday evening. (Author Photo)

My opportunity to be a "helped hunter" came through the urging of two friends in the Crawfordsville area, Mark Hampton and Scott Stockwell, both active participants in HHH hunts. They suggested or told me to apply for the deer hunt at the Rockville site. Their reasoning - I am doing a third round of chemo therapy for a return of Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma.

While I intend to deer hunt during this 2012 deer season, if the after effects of chemo doesn't kick my butt too hard, I decided to be a HHH hunter. The hunt would be on opening weekend of the 2012 deer firearm season on a property south of Rockville - Kendall Forest - 300 acres managed for timber production by Pike Lumber Co. foresters.

The venture began with a 5:30 PM check-in at Billie Creek Inn on Friday, the 16th, a bit east of Rockville on U.S. 36. The Inn would be home for Friday and Saturday nights and also for several

meals. This opening weekend would see 4 individuals as hunters and guests of HHH.

John E., a hunter, used a motorized wheelchair which was transported to his designated stand. On the 300 acre property there are 4 stands, blinds or shooting houses. Three of these locations are wheelchair accessible with the necessary ramp. The blind is an 8X8 building on 6' utility poles, weather-tight with a carpeted floor. The floor carpet allows movement by wheelchair or foot with little noise. On the 4 walls, there are windows of about 1' by 4' which when open allow weapon firing in all directions.

On Saturday morning - opening day - the 4 hunters and their guides, HHH members, leave Billie Creek Inn at 5:30 AM and drive to Kendall Forest. The assigned guide stays with the hunter during the hunting time. The intent would put hunter and guide in their assigned stand, blind, shooting house by 6:30 AM. Transportation to the blinds from the parking



Don at right and on left Mark Hampton, Guide for the hunt and a good friend. (Photo taken by Molly Stockwell)

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area - aptly called Camp Choas - by pickup truck or ATV. Actually at Camp Choas everything clicks with a well-written schedule.

Hunter and guide - mine was Mark H. - would stay in the blind until pick-up time of 10:15 AM. This blind was 6'X 6' and not elevated with trees on 3 sides and an abandoned crop field to the front with planted hardwood saplings and weed growth. Within the blind were 2 camp chairs and a portable propane heater. If a shot opportunity came and the shot was taken, the hunter did not check for signs of a hit or attempt to blood trail the animal. A recovery team of 2 or 3 HHH members would be contacted via phone or radio and they would attempt to recover the deer.

To explain this recovery system, keep in mind the hunters may be in a wheelchair, may be severely disabled or this may be the first time to hunt deer. This is the safest method for all concerned.

My shot opportunity came about 9 AM on Saturday morning. A doe and 2 yearlings came through the woods from the rear of the blind and passed about 60 yards to the right. Saplings and brush prevented a clear shot and when the deer came to the open field in front, they walked north and away from us. However, shortly they again appeared in the weed and sapling field about 75 yards out. With crosshairs on the doe's shoulder, I pressed the trigger of my 12 gauge Remington 870.

The blind to our south reported seeing two deer running very fast followed by a doe limping badly. However, they noticed no blood on the deer's shoulder - a bad sign. The recovery team took up the trail about 1/2 hour after the sighting. Little blood or no blood makes trailing tough, although it was determined the doe as headed in the general direction of a very deep, steep-sided ravine. Due to lack of evidence, the deer was not recovered.

Saturday evening's hunt began at 3:30 PM and ended at 1/2 hour after sunset or on this day, 6 PM. Our blind saw no deer activity on this evening hunt, although the blinds to the north, about 400 yards and the south, about 350 yards saw a number of deer both during the morning and evening hunt. Two deer were taken.

Our Saturday morning hunt saw the presence of 4 turkey gobblers - long beards. They appeared at about

sunrise and stayed in the vicinity and within sight for an hour. Their slow feeding progress led two of the longbeards within 10 yards of the blind. Nature always provides a show, but you don't get to pick the actors.

Sunday morning's hunt was from an elevated blind. Several deer were seen, but either at a distance or moving too quickly through brush for a shot.

The volunteers with "Hunters Helping Hunters" provide a first class deer hunting experience. It should be remembered, these volunteers are also deer hunters who were giving up the chance to hunt opening weekend. For the hunt on Saturday morning 14 to 16 volunteers filled the positions of guides, transporters, recovery team and Base Camp or Camp Chaos personnel.

"Hunters Helping Hunters" have organized and offered deer hunts, turkey hunts, big game hunts and fishing adventures. The organization depends solely on monetary donations and volunteer help to continue it's mission of "Improving the quality of life for physically challenged and seriously ill hunters." HHH provides hunts and other outdoor activities at no cost to the hunters. This includes lodging, meals, licenses, guides and transportation to and from the hunting site. And perhaps more important is the fellowship, new friends and camaraderie shared before, during and after the hunt.

Go to www.huntershelpinghunters.org for more information concerning this worthy organization. Information regarding applications to be a hunter or to request a special activity is available at this site. The applicant need not be an Indiana resident. Monetary donations should be sent to "Hunters Helping Hunters", 1695 North Main St., Auburn, IN 46706 or phone 260-927-3860.

During this Parke County deer hunt, 2 night's lodging at Billie Creek Inn, breakfast at the Inn, Friday evening dinner at Emmanuel Southern Baptist Church, Rockville, lunch on Saturday by Allen's Country Kitchen Catering, Crawfordsville, Saturday evening dinner by Pizza Hut, Crawfordsville and Sunday lunch was a deli assortment from County Market, Crawfordsville.

To make the hunt complete was monetary donation and property use by Pike Lumber Co, Akron, IN, one buck taken will become a head mount by Bechtel's

Taxidermy, Crawfordsville and the 3 deer taken were processed by Spendal's Processing, Clinton, IN. Big R Store in Crawfordsville provided each hunter with an assortment of deer hunting paraphernalia.

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

So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the spawning walleye to stock all the other lakes in the state of Indiana. All these fish are then returned to the lake no worse for wear. Then Brookville lake is restocked with 2000 walleye fry per acre. Also this lake is on a surplus Musky stocking program. The lake has a lot of main lake structure but no weeds. Look for the walleye on one of the many shallow flats or a number of humps, rock piles or stump fields. One of the best methods to catch walleye at Brookville is a simple jig and night crawler combination or troll crank baits over the shallow flats. Brookville lakes' striper population has the same problem patoka's does, very hot low oxygenated water in the summer time is to much for them to bare. The lake was stocked this year with a full stocking of 52,000 striped bass. We are keeping are fingers crossed. Look for the musky at the north end of the lake or in the coves around the standing timber. Try to fish early spring or late fall. Cast, cast, cast.

Good Luck, Tag

If you need more info E-mail me at tag@tagnobbe.com or go to the website www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com or call my cell phone 765-265-3238. I guide fish for walleye, striped bass, and crappie starting mid April till mid December, 7 days a week on Brookville Lake. We fish out of a 2007 Lund Pro V 2025 with a 225 Honda motor. I supply everything all the way down to cleaning the fish. I can take 1 - 4 people. The price is according to how many people go \$400.00 for 4 people, \$325.00 for 3 people, \$275.00 for 2 people and \$225.00 for 1 person. We start at 7:00 a.m. and fish till 1.00 p.m. To schedule a trip call my cell phone 765-265-3238.

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Summer Sausage w/Cheese	\$6.50/Roll (Approx 2# Roll)	Cheddar Cheese or Jalapeno Cheese	
Cheddar Cheese or		HOT Snack Sticks	\$7.00/lb. (10 sticks/#)
Jalapeno Cheese or		Deer Bacon	\$3.00/lb.
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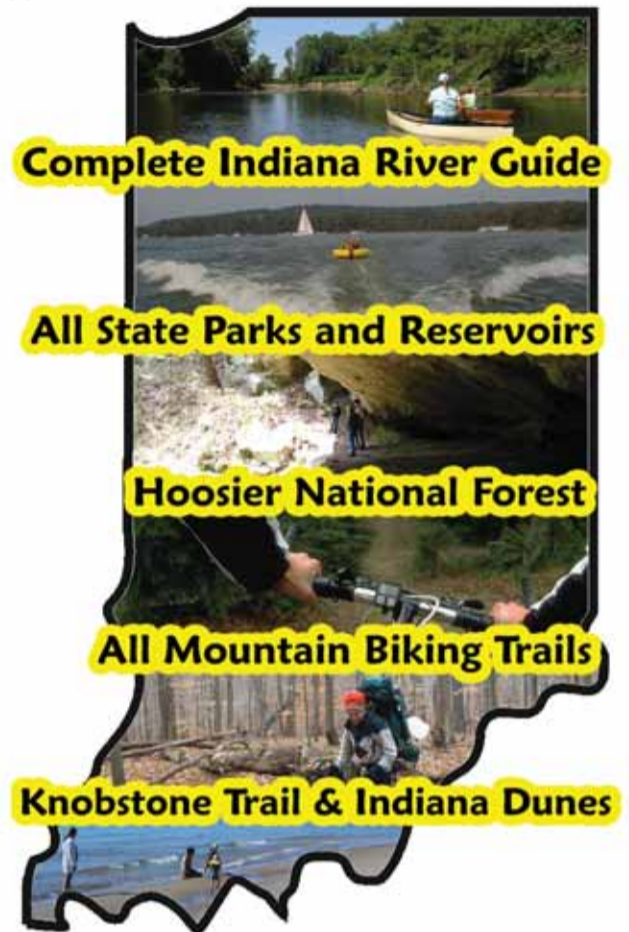
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Left Photo: Late afternoon, cloudy skies. This musky came to the net shortly before quitting time. Keeper size, but returned to the water of Lake Webster for next time. Right Photo: Gary and I casting toward the shoreline, boat docks, and weed beds and hopefully toward a waiting musky. (Photos by Susie Creason)

Outdoors



With Rich Creason Writer Conquers Musky Again

How far would you travel to catch a fish? Susie and I have driven literally hundreds of thousands of miles on outdoor trips in our 41 years of marriage. Eleven hundred miles one way to northwest Ontario probably 40 times (our favorite spot.) We drove twenty five hundred miles round trip to Florida probably 30 times, in theory, to see relatives. We added thousands more miles in trips to Texas, Louisiana, South Dakota, Virginia, New York, Manitoba, and Quebec, plus numerous closer spots. Almost all of these included some kind of fishing.

During the last six decades, I have caught many kinds of fish. Like most kids, I started with bluegill and sunfish, largemouth bass, crappie, and catfish. As I got older and tried my luck in areas other than Indiana, I caught salmon and trout from the Great Lakes, and a wide variety of fish I couldn't even name from saltwater around the coast of Florida, Virginia and Maryland, and in the Gulf of Mexico below Louisiana. Canadian waters added walleye (best eating!), smallmouth bass, and large perch to my quota.

But Canada also added the northern pike to the top of my list. These great fighting, bite on anything, prehistoric looking critters are what I drove a thousand miles to fish for. Until I finally caught its close cousin, the musky! The fish was hooked and so was I.

The musky, proper name muskellunge, looks like a pike on steroids. Its body is heavier and wider than a northern of the same length. Its mouthful of

razor sharp teeth looks like something out of the late show. A musky often hits a lure as soon as it touches the water and I have actually seen this monster fish come up out of the water and grab a bait while it's still on its way down! It will also follow a lure to the boat and will grab it just as you are lifting the bait from the water. Or, it will show itself six inches deep next to the boat, then slowly slide down into deeper water. This is where a trick known to all good musky anglers is used, usually with no luck, but occasionally ending with the fight of their lives.

This is called the figure 8 pattern. After retrieving your lure to within a couple feet of your rod tip, drive the tip into the water and work it in a figure 8 causing the lure to look like a bait fish trying to make a frantic getaway. Do this every time! Sometimes, this will turn a "follow" into a hookup. The musky will hit right at the surface and explode into action. If your drag isn't set right, you may either break your line or break your pole. If you're not ready for this close in strike, you may jump backwards (hopefully not far in a small boat) or even drop your rod in the water. Musky fishing is not for the faint of heart.

The musky is called the "fish of the 10,000 casts". Sometimes this is true. Especially if you are fishing in the wrong area, using the wrong bait, the weather is wrong, or any of a hundred other reasons a musky just isn't interested in your offering. To have a decent chance to catch a big musky, you must go where they live, and know what they are interested in eating. This means you must spend probably hundreds of hours learning their habits. If you don't have the years to put in figuring all of this out, you can take a shortcut and find someone else who already knows.

Years ago, in northwest Ontario, west of Vermillion Bay, I was one of those people who knew the waters well and knew what the muskies wanted. In Indiana, I was way on the other end of the scale. But I wanted to catch a musky again. It had been many years since I landed one of these toothy creatures. So I talked to guides at all the sports shows I went to. I talked to other writers and fishermen in the area for their advice. Then I talked to Gary Enos of Gary's Indiana Muskie Experience. He had a booth at the Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show in Ft. Wayne last March. I asked him numerous questions about musky fishing (It was a trick. I already knew most of the answers.), and he answered all of them right. I booked a trip with him right then to

take Susie and me fishing on one of the lakes around the North Webster area of northern Indiana.

We cast heavy lures for several hours which is common when fishing for musky. We trolled large suckers which are one of their favorite foods, had many follows and finally a strike. I boated a 36" fish which is a large fish, but not a big musky. We took some pictures, and carefully returned her to the water. Gary told me if we came back in the fall, the fish would be bigger, so we did.

To prepare for this trip, I purchased two Carbon X, 7', heavy power, fast action, made in the USA, rods. I had used Carbon X rods this spring in Lake Erie for smallmouth. These rods are so sensitive, I could feel every rock my jig bounced over 20 feet under the boat. Even on the heavy musky rod, using 30 pound monofilament, I could feel the thrum of the spinner on my Mepp's bait as it touched weeds while speeding through the water. The handle on this rod was just the right length, long enough for two handed casts, but not so long it was unwieldy. Check it (and others) out at www.carbonxrods.com.

I dug deep into my old tackle boxes and came out with my Abu Ambassador 6000 and 7000 bait casting reels. Since I hadn't used these in probably 15 years, I took them to Kevin Davis of Hoosier Reel for cleaning, lubrication, and new line. Kevin works on all my reels as needed, for a very reasonable price. When finished, he gives me an invoice with a photo of my completely dismantled reel and details of what was done. Contact Kevin at 765-425-6794 or at hoosierreel@gmail.com.

Once again, we met up with Gary at Ye Olde



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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Left Photo: Big Fish, Huge Net, Suick Muskie Bait. Super combination for Indiana muskies in Lake Webster. The Right Photo: Gary Enos stands next to his boat. Plenty of room for 3 fishermen to cast heavy lures. (Photos by Susie Creason)

Tackle Box Bait & Tackle in North Webster. We brought our drinks, raingear, snacks, sunglasses (didn't need them), and of course, our camera. We did need that! Once again, I landed a nice musky, 37" and about 17 pounds. Two trips, two muskies. It helps to have a guide who knows what he's doing.

To book a trip which may get you hooked on musky fishing for life, contact Gary at 574-275-1885 or e-mail him at garymuskienut@aol.com. You can check out his website at www.yeoldetacklebox.com. He has 30 years of musky fishing experience, is fully licensed, insured, and DNR inspected. I don't even have to go to Canada to catch a big musky. Gary is just a couple hours away.

The author may be reached at creasons@aol.com.



Left, Newly repaved U.S. 52 between Rushville and Andersonville, IN on Dec. 4, 2012. Right, Milestone Contractors do some finishing work on U.S. 52. The road was re-opened to traffic on Nov. 30 (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

U.S. 52 RESURFACING COMPLETED IN RUSH AND FRANKLIN COUNTIES

INDOT NEWS RELEASE, RUSHVILLE, Ind: U.S. Highway 52 was reopened to traffic the afternoon of November 30, 2012 in Rush and Franklin Counties after the Indiana Department of Transportation expedited an ambitious resurfacing project for completion in less than a month. The 11-mile section of U.S. 52 between State Road 3 at Rushville and S.R. 244 at Andersonville has been milled and repaved with a new asphalt surface. Several pavement-exception locations along the route remain to be paved next year when replacement culverts are installed at those sites. Milestone-the state's contractor for this \$1,289,726

district resurfacing project-worked seven days a week during daylight hours to satisfy the aggressive construction schedule.

Barricades were removed later that afternoon. Meanwhile, some "finish" work may continue into next week-with flaggers directing motorists around crews.

Editor's Note: I drove on the newly paved U.S. 52 from Rushville to Andersonville on Tuesday, December 4th and was very pleased with the new road. Milestone Contractors and INDOT's PIO Harry Maginity done an exceptional job. I know the public thanks them for giving them a safer road.

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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

A Father's Pride

Anticipation was high as daylight approached Saturday morning. My eleven-year-old son Nicholas and I were settled into our stand as we anxiously awaited legal shooting light.

Saturday marked the opening day of the Indiana deer firearms season – a time of year which thousands of Hoosiers anticipate with unbridled excitement and hopes of tagging a huge buck.

As darkness gave way to light, we immediately began seeing deer. As the morning wore on, we saw a lot of deer – even more than I had anticipated. By the time we climbed down for lunch, Nicholas had passed up shots at six different bucks and a few does. One of the bucks he passed up made somebody's day, however, as a few minutes after he passed our position, someone on the adjoining property harvested him. There was also a big buck that came running by our position chasing a doe that just wouldn't stop and offer Nicholas a shot.

Nicholas killed a trophy buck last year and I was afraid that he might be getting a little spoiled; possibly thinking that hunting is easier than it actually is. The bruiser he killed last year just happened to be the first buck he saw after nearly an entire day without seeing hardly a deer. But now this was year was off to a much different start.

Shortly after returning to the stand for the afternoon hunt, Nicholas was presented with yet another shot at a buck, and again decided to decline. As my frustration mounted somewhat, I explained to him that he had already been extremely fortunate to have had opportunities at multiple deer, and that he should never count on it. "Dad, I know." Came his short reply, followed by, "I am totally okay if I don't kill a buck this year. I know there are bigger bucks here, and I have a goal." "Okay," I said, "As long as you accept the fact that just because they may be here doesn't mean that you will ever see them, and that after today the hunting gets a lot tougher and you might not even see another buck." "Dad, I told you I was fine with it, I just enjoy hunting and spending time with you," he whispered back. I was content with this – no, I was thrilled with this!

A short while later, after a series of shots from a neighboring property, I heard deer running in our direction. As they entered the thicket near our stand, we could hear them meandering around but couldn't see them for several minutes. Finally, Nicholas softly informed me, "I see a



Nicholas taught me a few things this past Saturday. One of which is to be content and enjoy the moment. Do this and the rest usually takes care of itself. (Author Photo)

buck, and he's a big one!" As I slowly turned my gaze towards the area I last heard the deer, I too noticed the deer as he began in our direction. By this time, Nicholas was shaking quite badly and breathing heavily as the adrenalin and excitement nearly overcame him. I reminded him to breathe and to try to relax, although I'm not sure whether it really helped or not.

Nicholas settled down the best he could as he gently squeezed the trigger of his .20 gauge. Judging from the buck's reaction at the shot, I knew he was mortally hit. A short tracking job later and Nicholas had collected yet another fine animal.

"See Dad, I told you that being patient would pay off," he quipped. This time it did, and I couldn't have been happier for him. He deserved this deer for sure.

Looking back, seeing how excited he was upon seeing that buck, I now understand why - and am glad - that Nicholas passed on those other bucks. Not because they were smaller, but because I figured it out. I figured out that Nicholas isn't spoiled – he's grateful – and seasoned – already, at his young age. You see, it doesn't matter how big the buck is, or if it's even a buck, it's all about the reward and the excitement. Regardless if it's a doe or a spike, or a large antlered behemoth, if it gets your nerves rattled and knees knocking and leaves you breathless, that's what it's all about. Besides protein, that feeling is

exactly what we are out there for.

It goes without saying that a father swells with pride as he sees his youngster embrace and learn the spirited tradition of hunting. It's an obligation and an honor to be able to pass down this culture to others, but I have to say, that this past Saturday, I learned a thing or two from Nicholas.

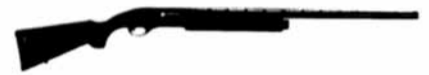


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by Dan Graves

THE FINAL HURRAH

As I've said before, I'm strictly a warm weather fisherman. "If I ain't sweatin' I ain't fishin'". Nothing curdles my enthusiasm more than to think about going out in freezing weather to bore a hole in ice and hope a fish will stray by and take the bait. I know there are dedicated ice fishermen who will brave all kinds of adverse weather and I don't fault them if they enjoy drowning worms in arctic like conditions. In fact, if I had access to a space walking suit with built in heater I might reconsider. I'm sure that if die hard fishermen in upper Wisconsin or Minnesota read this, I could probably expect to get a visit from a big guy named Angelo. However, over the past few weeks there have been a few unseasonably warm days that offered the opportunity to get in a last chance at snagging a few fish.

If the thermometer rose to fifty degrees I could expect to get a call from Rollin.

"I'll be at the lake in an hour. Get your gear and meet me at the marina."

To me fifty degrees doesn't come close to comfortable fishing, but it's tolerable if you dress warm enough. That means showing up at the marina looking like an explosives expert preparing to defuse a bomb. If it reaches sixty degrees at this time of year I'll show up wearing nothing but a speedo and a smile. So, a couple of weeks ago my son called and

asked if we could try the tail water of Brookville lake for trout, with the temperature approaching the magic mark of sixty. Plans were made until I remembered that it was the time of the year for lowering the lake level to winter pool. A call to the lake authorities confirmed that indeed the gates were open and that four feet of water was rushing downstream at four hundred miles per hour. I suggested to my son that we station ourselves at the confluence with the Whitewater river and use long handled landing nets to scoop the

colorful little rascals out as they were swept into the river without getting wet or possibly drowning. When he explained that the DNR might take a dim view of that, we chose a different location, not for trout, but for any other species that might be dumb enough to take a dry fly at this time of year. We settled on the Flat Rock river, starting at the covered bridge at Moscow, Indiana and working our way downstream. A friend had related his experience with fishing the river this last summer and the action he had had with smallmouth bass. According to him we should take along baseball bats to beat the small ones away from the lures in order to give the big ones a chance. So, with spittle drooling from our mouths we donned waders and plunged into the river, expecting a strike on every cast. A half hour later even the small ones were ignoring us and I was in dire need of a bilge pump to empty the frigid water seeping into my waders. I expect some cold to come through the waders but it felt like my boots were full of ice cream. Later examination showed that either the waders had shrunk or my feet had gotten bigger. There were small tears in the foot seams that weren't there the last time I wore them. In the meantime, we struggled around and over bowling ball sized slick rocks and occasionally stumbled into waist deep holes filled with smelly silt and dead leaves. And then it happened. Tony got a strike and reeled in a seven inch fish of questionable lineage. I pulled out the book I always carry with me, "How To Identify Various North American Fish Species For Dummies", and found that it was a shiner. Even though it was a fairly large shiner it was still a minnow as far as I was concerned. But it was a fish.


We continued to struggle downstream, persistently casting until between us we caught a total of six shiners (minnows) with Tony finally snaring an eight inch smallmouth. We normally practice catch and release, but with an apparent burgeoning supply of big minnows in the stream we discussed the possibility of seeing what baked minnow sauteed with wine sauce might taste like. We decided we would try it only after the world had been ravaged by a nuclear holocaust and food was in short supply.

An hour later and one more minnow I needed a rest. A large tree had fallen across a narrow, fast chute, offering a good place to rest for a while. At least eighteen inches in diameter, it offered a good place to contemplate how to get back to the car without having to wade with frozen feet. The tree looked to have been quite healthy as I gazed down the trunk to where it had fallen. The base of the tree and its stump looked like both had just come out of a pencil sharpener with huge tooth marks and shavings laying around the stump. I yelled upstream.


"Tony, get out the book titled "Large Occasionally Unidentified Aquatic Mammals Common To The Midwest For Dummies" and tell me how big beavers are supposed to be in this area." He yelled back, "Normally they reach between twenty and thirty pounds and sometimes exceed that weight." I yelled back. "Stand aside, I'm coming through. There's one down here somewhere about the size of a black bear. You could put a saddle on the thing."

We struggled back upstream, emptied our waders and counted our blessings. Six minnows, one smallmouth bass and a successful escape from a beaver that could no doubt chew down a giant sequoia. Like I said, if I ain't sweatin', I ain't fishin'.

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Outdoors Tales



by Phil Junker

Ice Anglers Want Colder weather

Last winter was much too warm for any ice fishing in this area, and it is a rare opportunity when there is enough good ice for safely trying your luck in this part of the country. Last year, there was very little good ice even in the far northern U.S.

But when we do get a few winter days with safe ice, it is fun to catch fish through the ice, and it seems like the cold water makes whatever fish you catch mighty tasty.

About two weeks ago, the weather demonstrated signs of developing ice. There was a skiff of ice in some back bays and on small ponds, but then warm weather hit again in early December and some folks were out in their tee shirts.

Most long range forecasts are calling for a much colder winter this year, and I saw one television weatherman predicting 10 snows of one inch depth or more. My wife, Phyllis also predicts a cold winter based on the length of the coats on horses she has observed. So, maybe there will be a chance of a handful of good ice fishing days.

Safety always is a concern in Indiana because the ice is rarely thick and safe for an extended period of time. However during a normal year, it varies greatly from one end of the state to the other. While southern Indiana usually only has a few days of good ice, the northern third of the state may have good ice angling for much of the winter.

When there is good ice in the central portion of the state, the strip mine pits in the western part of the state are good fishing destinations. A good number of the pits are now part of fish and wildlife areas.

Ice anglers should be alert to the dangers of different types of ice. Ice may be safe on one pond, and not on another. A slush type of ice is very dangerous and may be only half as strong as clear, blue ice. Slush ice indicates a weakening of the ice. Clear and blue river ice may be 15 percent weaker than pond or lake ice.

New ice is almost always stronger than old ice because the connection between ice crystals decays with age, according to the Indiana DNR. Dark or honeycombed ice indicates deterioration and should be avoided. Even when a cold snap stops the deteri-



Willie Geis took this 11 point Buck with a bow during bow season. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Pro ice angler Dave Genz holds a nice bluegill taken through the ice on a northern fishing trip. (Author Photo)

oration process, dark or honeycombed ice will never refreeze to its original strength.

Wind chill affects the "cold" anglers feel. A light wind can accelerate the formation of ice, but strong winds can force water from beneath the ice and accelerate the decay of ice around the edges.

Snow is a good insulator for ice and helps keep it strong, but it can also keep it from further freezing or even hide cracks or weak ice. Lakes with moving water should be approached with caution. Water movement can slow the freezing process and leave hard-to-detect thin spots.

Ice conditions can and do vary greatly. Because there are so many variables in ice formation, ice forms at different rates. One spot can be an inch thick while another area close by can be almost a foot thick.

Anglers should be aware of how much weight each ice type and thickness can support.

The Indiana DNR Division of Fish and Wildlife recommends using the following ice thickness guidelines:

- One inch of ice - do not walk on ice this thin!
- Two to three inches of clear, blue ice will support one adult walking.
- Four inches of ice is needed for safe ice fishing.
- Five inches of ice is needed for snowmobiling across ice.
- Eight inches of ice is needed to support the weight of a car or light truck.
- Ten inches of ice is needed to support a medium weight truck.

These are guidelines and will vary with different



Kevin Eltzroth took this 10 point Buck in Wabash County. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)

types of ice. Anglers and other outdoor recreationists should use good common sense and not take chances. Frankly, I like four inches of ice to feel safe.

When you have good ice, it can be great for fishing. And, panfish never tastes better than when taken from clear, cold water.

###

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

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

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Looking Downstream



by Paul McCloud

Indiana Deer Hunting

Growing up in the Union County area through the fifties and sixties whitetail deer was non-existent to me. The story goes, that the enormous amount of settlers moving into the Indiana/Ohio territory in the 1800s and early 1900s hunted the whitetail to near extinction. Minor restoration projects by Indiana begun in 1930s got the deer herd numbers starting back up. Natural deer migration from Wisconsin and Kentucky also boosted the numbers. The first deer I ever saw outside a zoo was on a rabbit hunt behind our home in 1968. My dad and I were crossing a small stream when we saw a big ten-point buck trotting across a nearby ridge. We were awestruck, and actually agreed that it must have escaped from a pen somewhere.

Since the late sixties the deer herd of the Midwest has grown into the millions. In the last three years, in Indiana alone, firearms, archery and black powder have taken record numbers of deer. The one-year record being set in 2010 with a 134,004 total deer harvested by all legal means. Over all, over 100,000 deer have been harvested in Indiana every year since 2001 with a total of over 3 million since the late 1980s. Collisions with motor vehicles and crop damage have caused officials to extend seasons and increase harvest totals in order to slow the ever-growing herd size. Healthier corn fed deer produce higher numbers of young making it important to adjust harvest numbers accordingly. Indiana as well

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Dave Shallenberger took this 11 point, 195 pound Buck with a bow on 11-13-12 in Miami County Indiana. The rack was unofficially green-scored at about 171 (gross) 165 (after deductions). Dave still needs to wait for the 60-day drying period to finish before he can get it officially scored by a licensed Boone & Crocket scoring representative. (Photo submitted by Ron Rosenow) (Author Photo)

as Ohio has opened areas that previously did not allow hunting to aide in controlling the numbers.

Over the period I hunted deer (early 80's to the late 90's), I hunted with shotgun, bow and muzzle loading rifle. I'd love to report I was successful with all three, but the few deer I harvested were all taken with a 12-gauge slug gun. I also took a button buck with my GMC, but that just shows how much the deer population has grown. I have a sweet shooting .50 caliber Pennsylvania rifle with which, I wanted badly to bag a big buck. I never got a shot with that gun and may give it another go in an upcoming season.

The most popular choice for deer hunting in the rural areas of Indiana and neighboring states is the shotgun and rifled-slug cartridge. As I understand it any gauge from .410 through 10 firing a single slug is legal. Large pellet shot cartridges are illegal to use for deer in Indiana and many other states. Most manufacturers of shotguns offer barrel options, so for instance if you have a favorite Remington 870 with a modified vent rib barrel for upland game or trap shooting, you can purchase a barrel designed specifically for slugs that is pre machined for scope mounting adding extra utility for the hunter.

Archery, with the new high tech compound bows and scope mounted cross bows is gaining popularity at a rapid pace. I guess I've finally fallen into the "old-timer" category, because the new bows and cross-bows even with their superior ballistics bother me. I have sight pins on my 1970's Bear recurve bows and I feel like I'm cheating. These futuristic looking contraptions with pulleys, crisscrossing cables, aircraft aluminum frames and carbon fiber/Kevlar limbs just don't fit my obviously outdated image of archery. As far as their hunting capabilities are concerned they blow my old recurve bows out of the water. They offer much flatter arrow trajectories, increased range and overall better stopping power.

Although having never taken a deer with black powder, these guns remain a favorite with me and many other hunters and shooters. Whether it's a sporting short barreled Hawken or a long tom 50 inch barreled Kentucky or Pennsylvania, these old

guns (mostly modern reproductions) are a hoot to shoot. If you're a hands on kinda guy like me, you can build your own muzzleloader by obtaining kits or individual parts from several reputable companies and finishing and assembling them yourself. It feels terrific when you can shoot a nice grouping from a gun you built yourself. Most black powder long guns I've ever shot were quite accurate out to 80 plus yards. I prefer cap-lock guns over the flint versions. I've never had a misfire with a cap lock, and I've seen several instances of misfires with the flintlocks. Most of the older authentic guns were smooth bores with poor accuracy. The newer reproductions whether flint or cap have rifled barrels of much better steel than was available to our predecessors and much better accuracy. The modern muzzle-loading hunter is not stuck with the old patch and round ball. There are several types and shapes of projectiles available. Modern muzzle loading propellants are more stable and much safer than the original formula black powder. A good 50 caliber long gun can bring down a big buck as well as anything.

After you've settled on the type weapon you want to hunt with you have to consider the proper accessories. Stalking deer is hard, you have to be super stealthy and completely focused on every foot of the area your hunting. Pre-knowledge of the local deers routines, feeding routes, trails and bedding spots is critical in my book. Deer are spooky animals to begin with so rambling around his territory won't gain you an advantage. Learn the area and the deer's habits well in advance and determine your strategy before hand. I have always went with an ambush strategy, find the most active trail between feeding areas and bedding spots and ambush the deer as they return to bed down for the day. The first couple years I hunted I went with a homemade tree stand. I failed to see a deer my first season but did get one the next year. In following seasons I would just make sure to have done my pre-season scouting, and to be where I needed to be early enough to avoid detection, it worked pretty good.

The modern fisherman has nothing on the modern
CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM News for ISTA 12-5-12

We are well into trapping season as you read this. Hopefully the weather has cooperated and you are collecting lots of prime fur. The ISTA Fur Sale is set for January 14, 2013 at the Miami County Fairgrounds, Peru, IN, beginning at 10 am. You do not have to be a member to sell, but the commission is less and we sure could use you as a member. The doors will be opened @ 8 am with a whole new crew at the ready. This is the same place as last year, same time. An ISTA Board meeting will follow the completion of the sale. Last year we sold over \$13,000 worth of fur to ten (10) Fur Buyers. Many of the sales were on par or higher than NAFA gave a few months later. So why wait, come sell your fur with us and help support the ISTA.

Our 51st Convention and Rendezvous in September was a great success. All incumbent Officers and Directors were re-elected and voting was overwhelmingly for giving Tipton another year. Vendors are already calling "dibs" on table locations for next year. Pictures for this year's Convention are already in the Photo Gallery at www.indianatrappers.org. If you have any questions that did not get answered, please feel free to contact me at 765.938.1806 or via fpp@juno.com. Our newly elected Treasurer is experiencing some health issues and is looking to be replaced. The Board is exploring the possibility of having an Executive-Secretary (?) / Treasurer whose duties would include the membership and the Newsletters. If you would be interested in taking on the Treasurer's position, I would sure like to talk to you. We need some members to step up and help us out with some of these positions.

Next year's 52nd ISTA Convention and Rendezvous has just been set for September 13 & 14, 2013, at the Tipton County Fairgrounds, 1200 S. Main St. (SR 19), Tipton, IN 46072. The following weekend is the 4th Hoosier Outdoor Experience in Indianapolis where we get the opportunity to introduce trapping to @24,000 non-trapping members of the public. We have got to keep this manned, so if you have time to volunteer, or give me a call and I will get you into the lineup.

Recently, I have had people calling me about animal damage issues and I have been forwarding these to members that live close to where the damage is occurring. Hopefully these leads help you open up new trapping ground and leave the callers with a positive experience with trappers. Beware of what you put out there in the public view. Watch your YouTube posts and even your own Facebook and any other online presence. Like words taken out of context, pictures taken and edited can be made to look like something that you never intended them to be and even if they are discovered and removed, the damage is done. So just think before you publish.

I have also had a call from Soarin' Hawk Raptor Rehab, located in Fort Wayne, IN. They currently are rehabbing 35+ birds and are in dire need of food for the birds. They asked me to get the word out to trappers in the north-east part of Indiana, southern Michigan, and north-west Ohio that they would sure be happy to establish some relationships with trappers who have carcasses of raccoon, muskrat and beaver in particular, that they would like to donate to their cause. They are also interested in talking to anyone who has fish to donate too. Whole animals, sans skin, and whole fish are much preferred, but old fillets, or discarded meat will be considered. See the ISTA website for their information or call them at 260.747.5451. I was involved with some raptor rehabbing while I was in Veterinary School out in Iowa. I ran a couple of minnow traps for our Eagles and we used minnows to get pills into the Eagles without losing our fingers. Anyway, if you can help them, please give them a call.

To keep up with what is going on at the ISTA, please be sure to visit the Website: www.indianatrappers.org. I am doing my best to keep it current and pertinent. As I learn of dates, I am getting them into the Calendar section. If you are planning a trapping related event, let me know about it and I will get it into the Calendar. We could use some fresh recipes and stories. Send me a note about what you get, a picture of the "End of the Line", and I will get back to you on the easiest way to get it to me.

Finally a few words of humor: You know you're a trapper if the smokers leave the restaurant / bar, when you come in, complaining about the smell, and you do not know what they are talking about. Can you think of another "You know you are a trapper if..."

Till then, watch your top knot. Keep your eyes along the skyline, and good luck with your trappin'. See you in January in Peru, IN.

Fred Philips, DVM
Pres. ISTA

Looking Downstream

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

hunter as far as helpful gadgets. GPS devices as well as wifi trail watching cameras top a long list of sophisticated equipment which also includes camo clothing, scent masking potions, specialized optics (binoculars, range finders, low light vision goggles, etc.), not to mention a wide assortment of tree stands. Hunters, through equipment and license fees annually add billions of dollars to the nations economy.

As always your suggestions and comments are welcome. Good Hunting and Happy New Year. pasports@ydial.net

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Indiana. Nathan told me that project was scheduled for later in 2012. I thanked him and mostly forgot about it. Then towards the end of November Sherry and I traveled that section of road twice in one day going to Muncie and back. And the thought came to mind that it was toward the end of 2012 and I didn't see any signs of road work being prepared for, so I sent Nathan an E-mail on November 29th, "I talked to you earlier this year, can't remember when it was, about SR 1 North between Modoc and Farmland deteriorating with only repair being the edges for as far back as I can remember since I began delivering up that way back in the mid 90's. I thought that you told me the repair of that section was going to begin in the Fall of 2012."

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Nathan responded on November 30, "Ray, The SR 1 contract between SR 32 and US 36 is scheduled for a February 2013 letting, so work should begin in 2013....."

As always, let us know if you have any questions, and have a safe and happy holiday season."

Nathan Riggs
Media Relations Director
INDOT Greenfield District

**INDOT NEWS RELEASE
PROVIDED BY PIO HARRY MAGINITY
INDOT AWARDS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS
TO MILESTONE CONTRACTORS**

GREENFIELD, Ind.-The Indiana Department of Transportation awarded two construction contracts for 2013 work in the Greenfield District to Milestone Contractors LP of Columbus in bidding results announced today.

Milestone's \$1,340,300 submission was the lowest of nine bids for construction in **Rush County** of a new bridge on U.S. Highway 52 located 5.87 miles east of State Road 3.

A low bid of \$165,508 secured a multi-faceted project in **Wayne County** to patch and rehabilitate pavement at the intersection of U.S. Highway 40 and S.R. 1, at U.S. 40 and Roundbarn Road and on S.R. 38 and U.S. 35.

Construction schedules will be announced after pre-construction meetings for the projects. Dates for those meetings have yet to be set.

(US 52 Open See Release on Page 19)

COMING EVENTS FOR JAN-MAR 2013

JAN 12 ISTA Fur Sale will be at the **Miami County Fairgrounds**, 1079 W. 200 N., Peru, IN 46970 beginning at 10 am EST. Questions, call Fred Philips at **765-938-1806** or reach him at

fpp@juno.com

JAN 25 The Delaney Creek Longbeards Chapter of Washington County are doing a Superfund Member-ship Banquet, (N.W.T.F.) at 5 p.m. at the Cornerstone Hall. Mark your calendars, plan for a family fun night with us. Contact Byron Fagg **812-620-2245** or bwfagg@blueriver.net

JAN 18-20 & 23-27 Cincinnati Sport, Boat & Travel Show, Hart Productions, Duke Energy Convention Center in downtown Cincinnati, OH.

We have Runabouts, bowriders, pontoons, deck boats, wakeboard & ski boats, high performance bass boats, luxury and aluminum fishing boats, canoes, & kayaks. What's a Show without campers, hunting & high performance ATV's, motorcycles & trail bikes? You won't want to miss our fishing Seminars. Planning an adventure hunt? Attend Tim Herold's Seminar. Monster Whitetails, Muskie Fishing & Great Lakes Trolling. Country artist Ryan Broshear acoustically performs all his hits!

Show Hours:

Friday, January 18 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Saturday, January 19 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM
Sunday, January 20 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Monday, January 21 Closed
Tuesday, January 22 Closed
Wednesday, January 23 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Thursday, January 24 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Friday, January 25 4:00 PM to 9:30 PM
Saturday, January 26 10:00 AM to 9:30 PM
Sunday, January 27 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Find more information at website:

www.cincinnatiboatshow.com

JAN 25-27 Outdoor Sports, Lake & Cabin Show at Memorial Coliseum – Ft. Wayne, IN. It's a total-lifestyle expo for active outdoor enthusiasts and for people who own – or would like to own – a log or timber-frame home. You'll find exhibitors, attractions, seminars and clinics that speak to the things you love to do, the places you love to go and the way you want to live... PLUS a ton of fun for the whole family! Fishing, hunting, vacations, accessories, gear, tackle, boats, RV's, Motor homes, motorcycles, Jeeps, fishing trips, Canadian outfitters, hiking, biking, fitness, kayaks, canoes, camping...on and on. Needless to say – bring the family Jan 25-27 to the Memorial Coliseum for hours of fun, entertainment, hands on learning and GREAT DEALS!

For more information website:

www.outdoorsportslakecabinshow.com

FEB 15-24 Renfro Productions and Management will host the **Ford 58th Annual Indianapolis Boat Sport and Travel Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.** Once again, the Indiana Deer, Turkey and waterfowl Expo will anchor the opening week-end of the show, February 15-17, while the Indiana Motorcycle Expo will take place during the closing weekend of the show, February 22-24.

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 193:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Wednesday, February 203:00 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

More information on website:

www.renfroproductions.com

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. Note: If Salisbury Road is closed due to construction, take NW5th to NW L Street, go west to entrance off NW L. Times: Fri 10-6, Sat 10-6 & Sun 11-4. Donation: Adults \$5, Senior Citizens (60+) \$3, Students (7-18) \$1 and under 7 FREE. Food Available. Sponsored by Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society, Inc. 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. Custom work & repairs while you wait, food available, beads, pearls, minerals, fossils, silver & goldsmiths. Displays by 500 Earth Science Club & Indiana Bead Society. For more information website: www.toteshows.com

DNR WELCOMES 8 NEWICO'S

INDIANAPOLIS - Eight new Indiana Conservation Officers officially joined the DNR Division of Law Enforcement during graduation ceremonies today at the Indiana Government Center South.

ICO Cpl. Erick Bolt, recipient of the Pitzer Award earlier this year as Conservation Officer of the Year, administered the oath of office to the recruits.

The new officers represent the 32nd recruit class of Indiana Conservation Officers, the oldest law enforcement agency in the state. The officers, their hometowns, and assignment locations (by county in parentheses) are:

- Kyle L. Buchanan, Greencastle (LaGrange)
- Travis L. Campbell, Rockwell, N.C. (Monroe)
- Kendrick E. Fuhrman, Shoals (Blackford)
- Andrew Harmon, Craigville (Wells)
- Timothy R. Kaiser, Elnora (Delaware)
- Bradley S. Reinholt, Seymour (Fayette)
- Bradley J. Robins, Kokomo, (Tipton)
- Nicholas R. Vander Molen, Goshen (Kosciusko)

The new officers underwent five weeks of basic training followed by 12 weeks of on-the-job field training with a veteran Conservation Officer. Their training continues with a 15-week course at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy, after which they will report to their assignments to complete a one-year probationary period.

The DNR employs 214 Conservation Officers who in addition to enforcing state laws are often called upon to help during emergencies and natural disasters. They also engage in non-law enforcement activities such as outdoor instructional programs, including boater, hunter, snowmobile, and trapper education. River rescue, cave rescue, underwater search and recovery, and K-9 teams are specialty response units available statewide whenever needed.

BECOME A NATURALIST AT HEART AT FALLS OF THE OHIO STATE PARK

Falls of the Ohio State Park is offering a slate of educational programs this winter and spring aimed at training community members to volunteer as park naturalists.

The classes are part of the park's Naturalist at Heart program, now in its 10th year.

New participants may attend orientation either Jan. 9, from 1 to 2 p.m., or Jan. 12, from 9:30 to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

10:30 a.m. Those unable to attend on either date can schedule an individual orientation.

Participants will be offered free, introductory classes on the natural and cultural history of Falls of the Ohio State Park. Lessons cover geology, biology, archaeology, history, interpretation and more. Certification as a Naturalist at Heart is reached after 40 hours of lessons and 50 hours of volunteering at the park.

Most classes last two to three hours. Speakers include park staff and invited experts. Introductory classes (Level I) are offered twice: Wednesdays at 1 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. The Level I class schedule is:

- About the Falls, Jan. 16 and 19, current volunteers only
- Introduction to Interpretation, Jan. 23 and 26, current volunteers only
- Geology of the Falls, Jan. 30 and February 2
- Life in the Ohio River, Feb. 6 and 9
- Recognizing Fossils, Feb. 20 and 23
- Prehistory at the Falls, March 6 and 9
- Birds at the Falls, March 20 and 23
- History at the Falls, April 3 and 6
- About Charlestown State Park, March 27 and 30, current volunteers only
- Spring Wildflowers, April 10 and 14
- Tree Identification, May 29 and June 1

Advancement in the Naturalist at Heart program leads to Level II certification.

Level II classes offer more in-depth topics. Details about this program, including additional information on Level II classes, may be found on volunteer page of the Falls of the Ohio website at fallsoftheohio.org.

For more information, call (812) 280-9970.

Falls of the Ohio State Park is at 201 W. Riverside Dr. Clarksville, 47129



Rick Hedrick holding a 36 pound raccoon he harvested the evening of 12-3-12. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

ANDERSONVILLE MAN HARVESTS 36 POUND RACCOON

I stopped at the D & N Diner, located on SR 244, just south of U.S. 52, Dec. 4th in Andersonville to get a sandwich. I'd stopped there on Nov. 6th when I had an hour to wait for Milestone to begin paving U.S. 52. They have really good home cooked meals.

As I was leaving the diner I met Rick Hedrick who was leaving also. His friend mentioned that I should look at the 36 pound raccoon he had in the back of his truck. I asked him if I could take a photo of it. He agreed. Rick had harvested it the night before when his Walker, 12 year old Ernest T treed the raccoon. Rick, who lives in Andersonville, told me he had been raccoon hunting for 48 years and had harvested a thousand raccoons in that time.

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James Pugh, 13 yrs old, Cambridge City, IN took this 12 point 225 lb. Buck in Fayette County Opening Day of Shotgun season. (Submitted by Dan & Loretta)



Gary Stephens took this 8 point, 185 pound Buck opening morning of shotgun season. (Jays Midlake Bait & Tackle Photo, Liberty, IN)



Cody Case took this 8 point Buck in Decatur County with a .357. (Country Mart Store Photo, Greensburg, IN - Alex Case)



Scott Lain of Camden, OH took this 10 point Buck. (Vanfleet Taxidermy Photo, Liberty, IN)



Wyatt Case took this 8 point Buck opening morning in Firearms Season in Decatur, County. (Country Mart Store Photo, Greensburg, IN - Alex Case)



Damon Hardy took this 6 point Buck on 11-18-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Dustin Freeman took this 7 point, 151 pound Buck in Union County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



John Kesler from Laurel, IN took this 11 point, 295 pound Buck, field dressed, on 11-18-12, Sunday at 11 a.m with a 12 gauge shotgun. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)

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My daughter Nichole Hubbard (19) took her first buck this year. She had taken antlerless deer in the youth seasons 2 times, but this was her first set of horns. She did everything right. She was in her late grandfather's (retired ICO Eugene Hubbard) favorite spot and used his gun. She wouldn't be happier if the buck was a B&C trophy and I couldn't be more proud. (Submitted by Kenneth S. Hubbard, Hagerstown, IN)



Brian Taylor took this 10 point, 185 pound Buck on 10-31-12 (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Zach Gribben from Brookille, Indiana took this 10 point Buck. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Tim Siegal of Centerville, Indiana took this 8 point Buck. (Vanfleet Taxidermy Photo, Liberty, IN)



Oscar Abner took this 9 point, 180 pound Buck in Union County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Grant Pflum (12) took his first deer a 12 point Buck in Franklin Co. on 11-24-12. Grants Parents are Troy & Vera Pflum, Grandparents are Raymond & Karen Clark and Grandparents Dave & Debbie Stang. (Submitted by Debbie Stang)

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Waylen Case took this 10 point Buck with a crossbow in Franklin County. (Country Mart Store Photo, Greensburg, IN - Alex Case)



Jenny Carson took this 8 point, 188 pound Buck. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Kyle Denton took this 14 point, 185 pound Buck on 11-11-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Skylar Hall took this 8 point Buck on 11-17-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Landon Snelling took this 3 point, 115 pound Buck on 11-18-12. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Justin Poehler took these Pheasants along with other fellow hunters in Huntington County. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)

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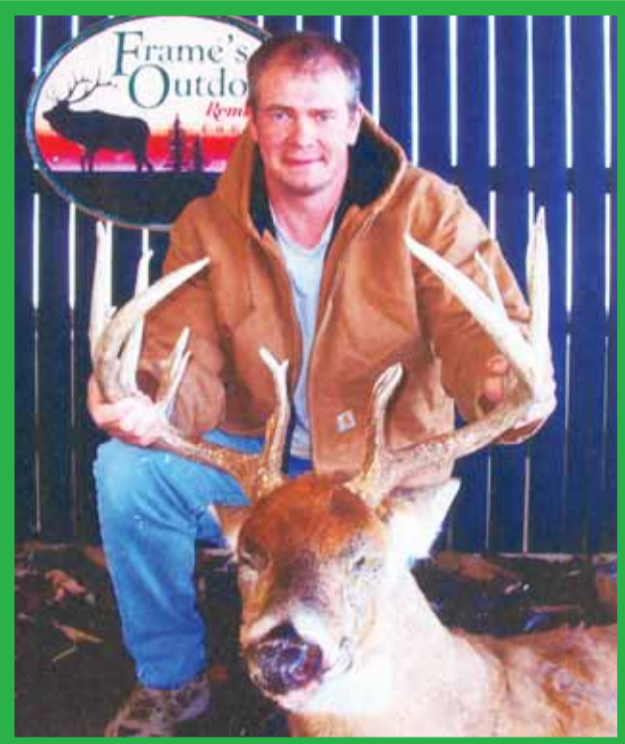
James Kirk took this 8 point, 205 lb Buck in Wabash County. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)



Fred Seiter from Chicago IL. took this 12 point buck. Taken on family farm in Franklin Co. during gun season. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Gary Edwards took this 8 point Buck with a crossbow in Franklin County. (Hunters Choice Deer Processing Photo, Brookville, IN - Tony Runtz)



Matt McGraw took this 14 point, 213 pound Buck. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Tameka Burns took this 8 point, 170 pound Buck in Wayne County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Barry Hattabaugh took this 10 point, 165 pound Buck on 11-16-12. His first deer with a crossbow. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Eric Sacksteder, Cedar Grove IN. took this 8 point Buck with a crossbow. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Brayden Shady took this, his first buck. An 8 pointer that weighed 205 pounds. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)

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Gabi Porter and Shelbie Hall Get Their Deer

Shown at Bottom Right and above on the left, is Gabi Porter, 9 years old from Cleves, Ohio along with her proud Grandpa, Rick Sturgis from Connersville, IN whom she hunted with. This was Gabi's first year to hunt. She seen only squirrels and chipmunks on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012. On Sunday, Sept. 20, 2012 she got up to give it one more try. They went to the same spot as the day before and slipped into their hunting blind. There they sat patiently waiting for a deer to slip in. At 8:44 a.m., Grandpa got a text stating that her cousin, Shelbie had just gotten a deer. She was excited for Shelbie, but disappointed that she hadn't seen anything yet. And just a few minutes later, here came a small doe slipping in. She took aim at about 40 yards, with her .45 caliber Muzzleloader with open sites and dropped her doe. Way to go Gabi, congratulations on a job well done!

Gabi is the daughter of Brandy and Jason Struckman of Cleves, OH & Scott and Alisa Porter of North Bend, OH. She is the Granddaughter of Rick and Kathy Sturgis of Connersville, Indiana.

On the Top Right Photo and above at right, is Shelbie Hall, 12 years old and her proud Dad, Jack Hall whom she hunted with, both from Connersville, Indiana. Shelbie and her Dad slipped into a blind at Grandma & Grandpa's pond on Sunday morning, Sept. 30, 2012. When they got there at dark, there were deer close by, blowing at them. They thought they had messed up and ran them off for good. But a little later here came a button buck moving right back in. She took aim with her Pink Camo 870 Remington with a scope. The sun was shining right at her and she couldn't see a thing through her scope. Thank goodness, her Dad had used a mount for her scope where she could look under the scope and use her open sites. She hadn't practiced this way, but she took an aim with her open sites and made a perfect shot, dropping him right where he stood. Way to go Shelbie, congratulations on a job well done! This was Shelbie's second year to hunt and her third deer.

Shelbie is the daughter of Jack and Jenni Hall, the Granddaughter of Rick and Kathy Sturgis and Jack and Edna Hall, all of Connersville, Indiana. (Photos and story submitted by Grandma Kathy Sturgis) Editor's Note: *The two photos at right of Shelbie and Gabi should have been in the Nov or Dec issue, but was erroneously left out by mistake.*



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