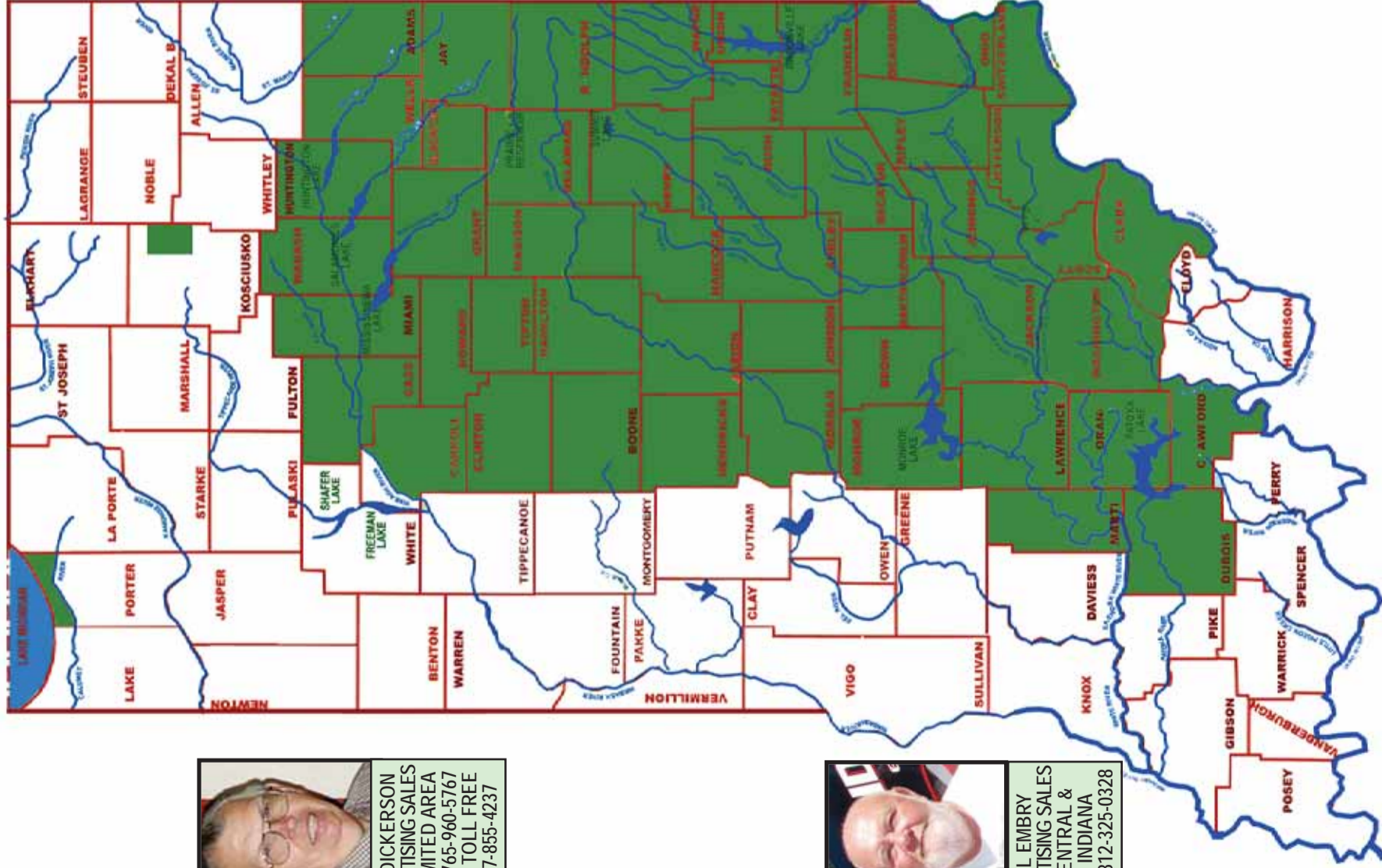


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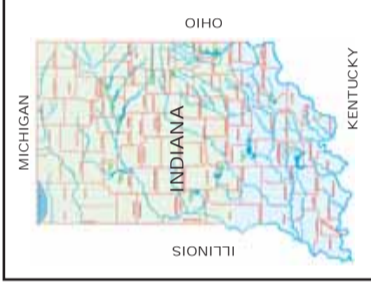
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MAY 2013



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DEAN FISHING FOR SMALLMOUTH BASS
IN INDIANA STREAMS - SEE PAGES 16-17



FIRST WHITEWATER RIVER RENDEZVOUS
"7 FLIES ON A QUARTER?" - SEE PAGES 14-15



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IN THIS ISSUE

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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: The fishing team of Thomas Hankins and Ron Bilbrey took First Place in the Crappie U.S.A. Lake Cumberland Super Event winning for them \$10,000.00. See more on Pages 8,9 and 27. (Photo by Crappie U.S.A. Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)

Top Right: Dean Shadley holding nice smallmouth, he will be appearing in the May and June issues, see his fly fishing instruction advertisement on page 16. He says, Indiana can claim bragging rights to some of the most beautiful smallmouth streams in the country. Most non-residents would be shocked at the number of fly fishermen that live in Indiana and enjoy our abundant warm water fisheries. Sadly

Hoosiers are no different than fly fishermen around the globe; we do our best to make fly fishing difficult. See more on page 16 & 17. (Photo by Dean Shadley)

Bottom Left: Fly fisherman Rex Phillips was set up at the 1st Annual Whitewater River Rendezvous, he was explaining to me how he uses tiny flies when fishing in the Brookville Tailwater. He told me the one he had in his fly tying tool was a size 18 whereas the ones on this quarter was size 22. To baffle me further he said last year he caught a 20" brown trout on a smaller fly than the size 22, in the tailwater. See more on page 14-15 (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Bottom Right: This has been an extraordinary winter and spring for cold temperatures. I took this photo on on March 25, 2013 after what we hoped would be our last snowfall for this year. Rich Creason writes about Nature's Garden flowers. See Page 20-21 (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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FULL ISSUE OF INFORMATION

This issue is crammed full of useful information. Again I didn't have enough room to put several pet projects and a few opinions I wanted to put in, but what is in here is important too.

UPDATE ON 2013 79TH SEABEE REUNION

I haven't said too much about the Seabee activities this year mostly due to my catching up on all the things I left out last year when my wife and I hosted the 67th 79th NCB and CBMU 624 Reunion in 2012. It was a challenging year to say the least.

This year's reunion will be held in Ephrata, PA, the hosts are Fred and Lenore Hummel and co-hosts are Chuck and Erma Sarahan. The 68th Reunion will be held August 26-29, 2013. I will be attending and I hope everyone else does too.

Reservations need to be made by July 25th to the Hampton Inn, 717-733-0661 or 1-800-HAMPTON www.ephratamountainspringssuites.hamptoninn.com

For more information contact Fred and Lenore Hummel by calling 717-733-1865 or Chuck and Erma by calling 301-982-0101.

1953 CENTERVILLE BASKETBALL REUNION HELD IN RICHMOND 4-3-13

Bill Harrison invited me to attend the 19th Reunion of the 1953 Centerville Basketball Team again. It was held at the MCL Cafeteria. I didn't get there in time for the meal, but spent a memorable time reminiscing with them.

Those attending this time was team members Pete Widau, Dale Temple, Bill Burris, Ron Harris and Bill Harrison. Varsity Coach Les Slinker and Cheer Leader Mary Lou "Loudy" Wickersham.

See page 26 for more on this memorable event.

C & C WEBSTER STORE STILL HAS A FEW COPIES OF THE WEBSTER BOOK LEFT

Carter and Carolyn Hall who own the C & C Webster Store tell me they have just a few copies of the Webster Book written by Jim Cox.

I bought one and it is very interesting, especially to those who live or have relatives in Webster. Sherry and I was married at the Methodist Church, just up the street from the Webster Store back in 1967. Sherry got a real treat when she found a photo of herself in grade school. There are some very interesting facts and other things to read in it.

There is a map on C & C Webster Store ad to the right that shows you where they are located in Webster. Stop by and say "Hi" and look around a bit, it's amazing just how many different things they stock. You can always pick up a copy of the current Gad-a-bout there too.



Meet the team at A-T & I Service, from left to right, Wayne Hicks from Milton, Jacob Risch from Connersville, Jarrod Hokey from Cambridge City, Owner Wayne Hokey from Cambridge City, Tom Munchel from Cambridge City, Heath Hokey from Cambridge City, Bill Rauthe from Milton and their dog Sandy. A picture of their multi-purpose building is below.



A - T & I SERVICE OFFERS A WIDE CHOICE OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICE

I had the pleasure of meeting with Wayne Hokey, owner of A - T & I Service on March 27, 2013, his staff and Sandy (dog).

Sandy's picture is on Wayne's ad, it says under her picture, "Sandy says come on down and get your free cup of coffee." See their advertisement at the bottom of this page.

A - T & I Service will take care of all your Agricultural, Lawn and Garden, Automotive, Aluminum and Steel Trailer and service part needs.

Their initials stand for Automotive, Truck and Implement.

They sell and service Country Clipper, Honda, Team Stihl, Featherlite Trailers, Diamond C Trailers and Custom Made Hydraulic Lines.

They have been in business since 1980. If it is a piece of equipment you want, need to fix or find these are the guys who will take care of you.

They are real easy to find, Wise Road is located about half way between Pennville and East German Town (Pershing) on US 40, when you see the storage units turn south onto Wise Road, you will see their building (s) on the right.

If you are coming this way from I-70 East, turn south at Centerville Exit to US 40 turn West to Wise road. From I-70 West, turn south at Cambridge City on SR 1, travel south to US 40 and turn East to Wise Road.

Check out their website www.atiservice.com you can shop on line for products and parts.

You can contact them at:
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Phone: (765) 478-5917
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SALAMONIE INTERPRETIVE CENTER RESUME REGULAR HOURS

With winter having ended, the Salamonie Interpretive at Salamonie Lake has resumed normal business hours, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.

The center is in Lost Bridge West State Recreation Area in Huntington County. It offers a wildlife viewing area, live native animal displays and a model of the Salamonie Lake. The center also offers programs about the area's natural and cultural heritage for the public, community groups, schools, scouts and more. For more information, call (260) 468-2127 or visit dnr.IN.gov/uwis or Facebook.com/UpperWabash.

Salamonie Lake is at 9214 West-Lost Bridge West, Andrews, 46702.

GADABOUT TERRITORY COMING EVENTS FARMLAND CONSERVATION CLUB

Information: farmlandconservationclub.org
May 24-26 Traditional Shoot
June 21-23 IBO Midwest Traditional Championship
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So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe
Professional Fishing Guide

May fishing on Brookville Lake

May is the best month to be fishing on Brookville Lake. The fish are coming out of a long cold winter, and so are we. There is no young of the year bait fish, the water is still cool and the fish are hungry.

If you like to cast your going to love the month. From the time you put your boat on the water the potential to catch a fish casting to the shore is very good. At this time of the year fish are spawning on the shore and feeding on the shore.

To catch large mouth bass you can fish with just about anything you have in your tackle box. Jigs, tubes, worms, crawls, cranks, spinner baits,



Gage Brewer fishing with his dad in the river above the lake. Gage is 10 His dad sent me the picture. He is holding 2 limits of white bass Thanks Tag



Left Photo: Shawn Pfeil from Cincinnati caught these 2 nice walleye while fishing with me. Right Photo: Jeff Rosefeld of Brookville caught this nice large mouth bass while fishing on Brookville lake. (Author Photos)



top water it does not mater these fish are aggressive and hungry. What your looking for is some type of structure on the shore, it could be a fallen tree, a rock pile or an under water stump. Large mouth bass are typically ambush feeders so any of this structure has the potential to hold a large mouth bass. All you have to do is get your bait close to the structure and they will hit it.

The blue gill will be spawning on the shore in the month of May , if you find one you have found a hundred. One of the best ways to catch blue gill is under a bobber. Just use a very small hook a small piece of worm or a wax worm. When you locate them on the shore dial in the right depth below a slip bobber and you will not be going home empty handed.

The walleye is one of those fish that spawns when the water is still cold. Their spawning cycle starts when the water temperature reaches about 46 to 47 degrees, so in the month of May all their doing is eating. What are they eating you ask, eggs. Blue gill eggs, crappie eggs, bass eggs, any egg that is unattended will become food. The wall-eye is not the only one. The bass, catfish, blue gill, white bass all of them feed on each others eggs. Its just the way of life under the surface until crawdads worms bugs and other little critters start showing up in the water column. When your walleye fishing you typically fish on the bottom or at least close to the

bottom. What your looking for is spawning fish. If you find where the fish are spawning the walleye will be close. They can be caught casting a crank bait or a jig tipped with live bait.

The Striped bass are one of those fish that will be also spawning in the month of May. The best way to catch them is on the surface. If you like to troll, troll shallow diving crank baits or jigs. If you like to cast use surface baits with sturdy hooks. They will hit top water baits just like a large mouth bass will. The only difference is that there bigger and stronger then a large mouth bass. A striped bass is a temperate bass or a true bass. The fight is like hooking on to the back of a pick up truck. If you don't have the right equipment you will just lose the fish.

White bass also belong to the temperate bass family. The white bass is a schooling fish that spawns in the month of May. To catch 50 white bass a day is not uncommon. They are usually caught around rip rap just below the surface on the lake. If you don't have a boat another good place to fish for white bass is in the river above the lake. These fish will make a spawning run up the river starting in April that runs through May throw anything white at them and they will eat it.

A couple of things to remember in the spring is that thunder and lightning storms are common. Not only is it dangerous it scares the fish. Some times after a thunder storm fish will be tough to catch from 1 to 3 days depending on the severity of the storm. Also remember when the lake rises it will put fish on the shore, but when the lake is being drawn down it tends to pull fish of the shore. some times to the first drop off, other times they will swim out and suspend over deep water. If your not catching fish your just not fishing in the right area.

Good luck
Send me the pictures
Tag

CONTINUED ON PAGE 18



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News from the Indiana State Police



by Sergeant John D. Bowling
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

BEWARE! Meth Trash Is a Real Danger

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

The Meth Suppression Squad here at the Pendleton Post has had numerous reports this spring of meth labs and chemicals found in gym bags, cans and bottles along the side of city streets, county roads, in vacant lots and even alleys behind businesses. The Pendleton Meth Squad has been extremely busy dismantling a record number of labs already this year.

Rather than the Meth cook blowing up or contaminating their house, they are leaving behind the deadly explosive chemicals in public places to return later to get the finished product. We have already had an incident of exposure this spring by a subject who opened up a smoldering gym bag only to inhale the acidic fumes. We've had reports of people driving down the road throwing out smoldering or flaming bags from their car; a meth lab gone bad no doubt.

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

- Meth cooks are using a variety of containers to manufacture their product. Popular containers are plastic drink bottles 24 ounce and 2 liter size, one and a half gallon gas cans, and Coleman Camp Fuel Cans. The bottles used in a "one pot" meth lab often contain toxic and explosive chemicals. The cans appear to be new and are often found along the roadside by unknowing people who believe that they have found a new can of gas or fuel. Unfortunately they end up with a working meth

lab. The bottles will have a white residue in the bottom or have clear to murky liquid with gold colored lumps floating in it.

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

- Be aware of any type of any 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.

If you encounter any of these items, please contact your local Indiana State Police Post or call the Drug Tip Line at **1-800-453-4756**. **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.**

Just like with marijuana eradication, a lot of these labs are discovered as a result of tips from the public. These tips can be made and kept anonymous.

Looking For a Career Visit Our Website

The current selection process is under way and the application deadline has expired. If you missed out on applying and would like to be included in the next selection process, then go to our web site at <https://myweb.in.gov/ISP/Recruitment/> and fill out a pre-application. Basic requirements are being a United States citizen; must be at least 21 years of age and less than 40 years old when graduating from the academy; must possess a valid driver's license and possess a high school diploma or an equivalency.

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Being a Trooper is much more than just a career; it's a way of life. If you'd like to be notified when the next selection process begins, then make sure to visit our web site at www.in.gov/isp and fill out the pre-Application.

Spring Time Brings Increase in Rural Burglaries

Spring time is a busy time for farmers; burglars and meth cooks know this. A farmer and good friend of mine recently confronted a thief backed into his barn loading up his property. In this instance the barn

door was closed; but many times in the spring I've driven by farms with barn doors wide open showing off all the tools and equipment inside. Protect yourself and take the extra time to shut and lock your barns, not to mention your homes.

Remember these thieves are driving through the country side looking for things to steal. Not only are they out for your tools, equipment and belongings, but they are also looking to steal anhydrous. So protect yourself and help us out by making it as hard as possible. Install alarms, security systems and cameras where possible. But more importantly, take the extra time to lock everything up.

This ends another month's installment. Thanks for reading and allowing all of us to serve all of you. Be careful, and remember while you're out turkey hunting, mushroom hunting and romping in the woods that meth cooks are out leaving behind their trash and labs. If it doesn't look right, don't touch it-call your local State Police Post and get it checked out.

Editor's Note: At the bottom of this page is a cut-out that shows you what Meth Trash looks like and the Indiana State Police Meth Tip Line **1-800-453-4756**. Cut it out, fold it and carry it with you when you go afield.



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ITEMS FOUND AT METH LAB



Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



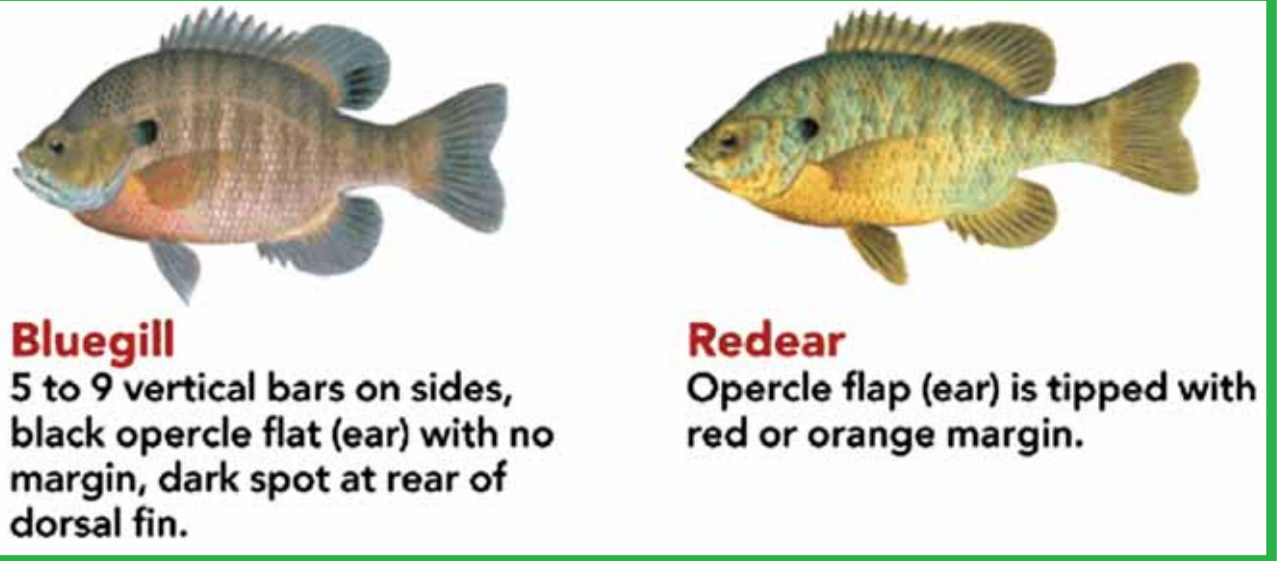
by I.C.O. Gary Catron
LE Division Spokesperson

Free Fishing Opportunities Added

In past years Indiana residents enjoyed one week-end of free fishing and family-friendly fishing events. This year, 2 days have been added! There will now be 4 days of free fishing! I've double-checked my fingers...my math is correct.

What about free fishing days you ask? Well, normally youth (age 17 and younger) and a few other special anglers are exempt from purchasing a fishing license; however, during 2013 Free Fishing Days (April 20, May 18, and June 1-2), all Indiana residents do not need a fishing license or a trout/salmon stamp to fish Indiana's public waters. It needs to be pointed out that the licensing requirement is the only 'free' aspect during these days. All bag and size limits still apply.

The timing of these two added days may provide a fishing bonanza of sorts. Anglers may find themselves in the middle of bluegill and redear sunfish (referred to most often as just 'redear') spawning activities that can offer nonstop action leading to enough fish for a number of meals. Those well seasoned anglers chas-



Bluegill
5 to 9 vertical bars on sides, black opercle flat (ear) with no margin, dark spot at rear of dorsal fin.

Redear
Opercle flap (ear) is tipped with red or orange margin.

Bluegill and Redear comparison taken from Indiana regulation webpage. Author included this comparison simply to demonstrate how similar two species of fish can be and the things to look for to determine proper species identification.

ing panfish during this time know one very important thing to keep in mind, and that is to pay attention and properly identify their catch. Bluegill and redear, both being panfish of the same approximate size and similar colors, are different species. There is no catch limit for bluegill on most Indiana waters, but there is a catch limit for redear (25). Therein lies a potential problem if an inexperienced angler finds themselves in a fast and productive fishing situation and unable to differentiate the difference between these two species. Since there are no size restrictions on either, it becomes very easy in these instances to simply unhook the fish and put it in the cooler and not inspect them for species identification.

White bass can also offer spectacular spring of the year action in some Indiana streams and rivers. There is another fish that can cause confusion, the hybrid striped bass (wiper). While the differences between these species can be detected without harm to the fish, they are not always extremely evident. No need to fear, anglers only need to be able to count and measure their fish. By regulation anglers may catch and keep 12 daily (singly or in aggregate) but only 2 of these can measure over 17 inches. In a way, this negates the need to positively identify the particular species as long as an angler knows it is one of these species or the other.

Proper species identification can also be a chore for the neophyte angler when determining whether a fish

caught is a northern pike, muskellunge (musky) and the hybrid tiger musky. Identification is imperative because if it's 20 inch northern pike it's a minimum legal length keeper but if it happens to be misidentified and is a 32 inch musky instead, well it is 4 inches short of the minimum legal length to keep. Those familiar with fish biology understand why the different length limit is important. The newer angler may not be able to rationalize why they have to release a fish nearly 3 feet long because it is too small!

I call attention to this topic to encourage those participating in the free fishing days (and all time spent fishing for that matter) to challenge themselves to do their homework on Indiana fish identification. The Indiana fishing regulation guide has a section on fish identification and there are excellent guidebooks available that one can take with them. Some of you techno-wizards have the internet at your fingertips and fish identification guides available to view while fishing. No, I don't have one of those. But I have heard that worm dirt does clean off rather nicely from the screen of these gadgets.

Mark your 2013 calendar: free fishing days April 20, May 18, June 1-2. If you've not already saved the link on your computer, here you'll have one click to view where to fish, fishing regulations and brush up on your fish identification skills: www.eregulations.com/indiana.

See you on the water!

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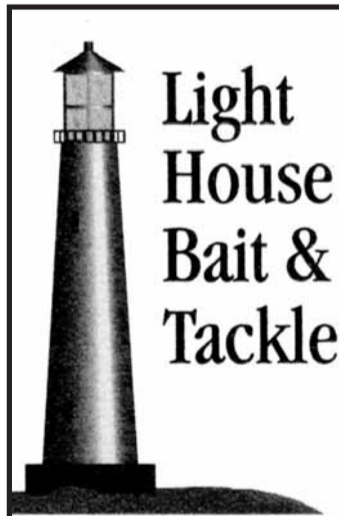
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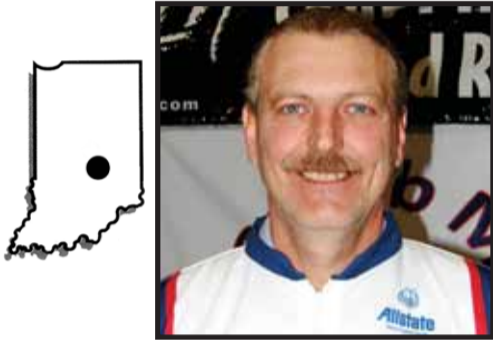


First Place winners in the Semi-Pro Division was the team of Thomas Hankins (left) and Ron Bilbrey(right). (Photo by Crappie USA Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)



First Place winners in the Amateur Division was the team of Travis Neal (left) and Randy Neal (right). (Photo by Crappie USA Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)

Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

Crappie U.S.A. Lake Cumberland Super Event

My intention for this month's article was to write about the Indiana Slab Masters Monroe Tournament, but Monday Ray sent me an email with congratulations and asked me to write about our Super Event win on Cumberland. In my last article I mentioned I would be fishing this event with Tom Hankins.

Tom and I left Indianapolis on Tuesday evening

after work and talked about the tournament most of the 4 hour ride to Burnside, KY. We arrived just in time to get to bed at a timely hour with an early wakeup slated for the following morning. After an hour drive we launched in Wolf Creek and almost immediately caught fish just not tournament quality, they did help us start a pattern. The water clarity was muddy which prompted us to move towards the mouth of the large creek and eventually into Caney Creek.

Caney Creek is just west of Wolf Creek and water clarity is better than most other creeks although the water temperature was cooler than some of the other creeks we fished. We found the bigger fish were shallow and relating to small drops and flats near the cuts where water drained off the mountains. Our first pass spider rigging thru the area we caught two-black crappie over twelve inches and weighing over a pound each. We fished a few other areas in Caney but called it a day around 7 pm and headed back to town for a quick dinner and back to the motel. Pre fishing on day two didn't go as well, we launched in Beaver Creek and fished four hours without a bite. Water temp was 5 degrees warmer on the southern creek arms, but we never found fish. After a two hour drive back to the North side of the lake we again found fish in the back of Wolf Creek relating to small cuts and drops.

shad and mine baited with Crazy Anglers Slab Bandits, both in chartreuse. Finally 45 minutes after the tournament start time it was light enough to see the rod tips. We quickly landed three- respectable crappie then the bite slowed and we struggled finally putting three more black crappie in the live well. At day's end we found ourselves in third place with 7.75 lbs, five pounds out of first and almost four pounds behind second.

On the second day of the tournament we returned to Caney Creek, with air temps ten degrees warmer than the night before. We were confident things would pick up and fish would move into our area from the deeper water earlier than the day before. We had lines in the water at tournament start even though it was still too dark to see the rod tips without



Noel Thompson and some of his second place Monroe fish. (Author Photo)



Tony Williams and Tim Dunigan with their winning fish from the Monroe tournament (Author Photo)

Day one of the tournament found Tom and I setting between the two small cuts in Caney Creek waiting on daylight, all eight BnM rods were set with double jig rigs. Tom using Lake Fork baby

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Second Place winners in the Semi-Pro Division was the team of Wayne E. Darnell (left) and Ricky J. Kenner (right). (Photo by Crappie USA Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)



Second Place winners in the Amateur Division was the team of Doyle Milby (left) and Sonny Milby (right). (Photo by Crappie USA Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)



Third Place winners in the Semi-Pro Division was the team of Perry Hood (left) and Gary Anger (right). (Photo by Crappie USA Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)



Third Place winners in the Amateur Division was the team of Robert Shears III (left) and Robert Shears, Jr. (right). (Photo by Crappie USA Media Specialist Larry Crecelius)

a flash light, we were wrong the crappie didn't move in till daylight but then it was on. Tom caught the first fish and the second in what couldn't have been more then minutes after daylight. By 8:30 am we had over eleven pounds in the boat and started culling fish. The first to go was a .78 lb male that was replaced with a 2.2 lb female, we followed that with two more females over 2 lbs and at day's end we had at least three crappie over 2 lbs each. Feeling pretty good we headed back to the ramp and drove the hour back to the weigh in site arriving to weigh in at 3:40 pm. With a second day weight of 13.20 lbs and a two day total of 20.95 lbs we knew that we could still be beat and were really wishing we had caught that seventh fish on day one. The first place team of Roy Cape Jr. and Robert Harris finally weighed in and had not caught their seven fish on day two leaving them in 5th place, with ten minutes left the second place team of Darnell and Keener made their way to the scales and when it was announced they had only five fish we knew we had a shot. They weighed in a little over 8 lbs with a total two day weight of 20.58 lbs not quite enough to take the lead from us and giving us the win in the semi pro division.

Tom and I would like to thank all our sponsors for their support. Also congratulations to James Laswell and Kyle Kress for their top ten finish at Lake Cumberland.

Congratulations to Tony Williams and Tim Dunigan for winning the Indiana Slab Master season opener at Monroe reservoir March 16th with a winning weight of 9.38 lbs. Finishing second from northern Indiana and a dedicated Slab Master angler fishing by himself with a winning weight of 8.20 lbs was Noel Thompson. Tom Hankins and Glen Gill finished in third with 8.13 lbs. congratulations to all the teams that weighed fish under such tough conditions.

I would like to thank my sponsors for their support. Driftmaster Rod Holders, B n M Rods, Crazy

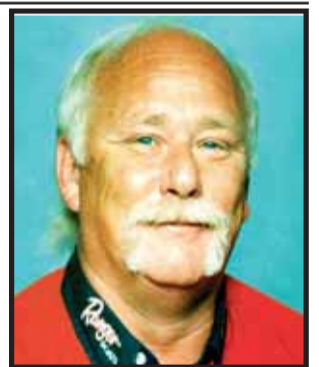
Angler Slab Bandits, Jiffy Jigs and the Sportsman's shack. Also I would like to thank Ray for allowing me to write about and promote Crappie fishing and Tournaments here in Indiana and abroad.

Please visit our sponsor websites and check out their products.

Tight Lines Everyone
Ron Bilbrey



**Crappie USA
Tournament Results
2-Day \$10,000
Lake Cumberland
Super Event
by Larry Crecelius
Crappie USA
Media Specialist**



Indiana's Hankins and Bilbrey take win by Ounces in Crappie USA Lake Cumberland \$10,000 Super Event.

This past Friday and Saturday March 29th & 30th Crappie USA held their Lake Cumberland \$10,000.00 Super Event at Somerset, Kentucky. These 98 anglers from 14 states were competing for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

Sometimes, Fish Do The Craziest Things

(Find someone who claims to be an expert fisherman and ask him what he thinks is the smartest fish. If he points to the big trout mounted on his wall, ask him why it's up there.)

For over 30 years I've fished almost exclusively with fly rods. When I learned that fly fishing is considered to be a gentleman's sport that combines skill with dignity and grace, I sold all my shares in Bubba's Night Crawler Farms Inc. and began investing in such things as weight forward floating line, tippet material and flies with names that would have a stand-up comedian roaring with laughter. Now, rather than tell someone I caught a six inch rainbow on a Wooley Bugger, I explain that I accidentally stepped on it. There is no dignity in using bait with a name like that.

My son Tony has also taken up the sport and now handles a fly rod with skills far surpassing mine. That is, he is more successful in untangling a fly from a limb ten feet above his head, and he can lay a fly on the surface with no more commotion than dropping a small brick. Whereas, I may be more accurate in presentation (there's a graceful word), it usually arrives at warp speed and hits the water like a canoe paddle. This technique works well during the cicada season since these miniature B-29's look like they've been shot down when they blunder onto the surface. I'll be out of luck however, for the next 17 years.

Recently, Tony and I decided to try our luck on our favorite trout stream, in spite of the competition from the aforementioned cicada herd. I'll be glad when those noisy critters return to the earth and leave some of the fish a little hungrier. As we stumbled over slick rocks and boulders to mid-stream, we noticed schools of large carp moving aside to let us pass. I explained to Tony that compared to trout, these "bottom grubbing scum suckers" were like break dancers compared to ballet dancers. "In other words, they ain't got no class," I said.

As we worked upstream, we noticed the carp were working the surface - something I had never noticed before. I always thought of them as hogs with their noses buried in a feed trough. Tony tied on a Humpy Hairwing (how's that for a sophisticated name) and cast it to one of the surface ripples. Unfortunately, a huge carp did an un-carp like thing and rose to the surface and sucked it in like a belly-button sucking up lint. With line sizzling off the reel on his lightweight 7'-6" rod, he yelled, "What am I supposed to do now?"

"I dun'no. You caught it, so it's your responsibility. Just think of it as adopting an ugly kid."

Since a five or six pound carp can pull like a tank, Tony made little headway for a few minutes. Finally, he simply lowered his rod tip parallel to the surface, grabbed the line and yanked. "Darn," he said. "That fly cost me \$1.75." I couldn't resist the temptation. "Just look at it this way. Now, there's a carp in this stream that's worth \$1.75 more than it was a while ago.

This incident shattered my belief that carp are the garbage eaters I had always believed. I've never seen one even remotely interested in a dry fly, but if we fish that section of the stream again, I'm going to tie on a cherry bomb with a two minute fuse.

The next afternoon we decided to fish calmer waters in Ray's pond, a friend who demands proof of any fish pulled from the water. In other words, keep what you catch to avoid over-population. Since Tony and I practice catch and release, he seldom believes what we tell him we pull from the pond. On this day he accused us of being common, ordinary hillbillies who would lie to their mother about where the still was hidden.

With calm winds and mild temperatures in late afternoon, we were soon pulling a number of good sized bluegills and an occasional small bass from the water. While I worked along the cattails on one side of the pond, Tony moved to a cove on the opposite side. At his "Oh Yeah's", I would watch as his seven foot Diamondback rod bent to another slab sided 'gill. Then, his tone changed to, "Holy (expletive)!"

Having snagged another bluegill, he was playing it in when it suddenly seemed to get a whole lot bigger and far more aggressive. From the far bank I watched as he dragged something out of the water that looked like it had been bypassed on the evolutionary order of things. It seems a lunker bass had taken a liking to the 'gill and had proceeded to swallow half of it down. Drug half out of the water, I'm sure the bass must have been re-thinking it's opinion of wimpy bluegills as a food source. As Tony tried to figure a way to get around the 'gil and grab a lip on the bass and pull it ashore, the lunker barfed up the 'gill and flopped back into the water where it swam casually away. To add insult to injury, the bluegill spit out the fly and followed the bass. I don't know where Tony learned all those prime expletives, but he's too big to wash his mouth out with soap. When Ray showed up from all the commotion, Tony told him about the fish and warned him against letting his smaller calves water at the pond. Ray left, muttering something about letting retards run free on his property without proper supervision. Tony however, said he won't go back without at least a .357 as back-up.

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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

PLAN YOUR "DOOR-CATION"

There are some people who vacation at the same place, at the same time every year. Once there, they do the same things every time as a sort of family tradition. Their vacation planning is easy. Make a couple of phone calls or emails and wait for vacation time.

Others are more adventuresome. They go to a different place and do different things each year.

I'm somewhere in-between. I like to go to new places and I've been to many, many new places. I've had a few disasters. I'll never go back. I've had many more successes, coming home with memories and photos to last a lifetime. And then there are those places that make my "A" list. These are the locales to which I don't go every year to do the same things; but still, places I enjoyed so

much, I've made repeat visits and I still eagerly plan for additional future visits.

Regardless of in which group you fall, it's time to be making your vacation plans for this summer or even into the fall. Especially if you want to consider Door County, Wisconsin which is one of my "A" list spots.

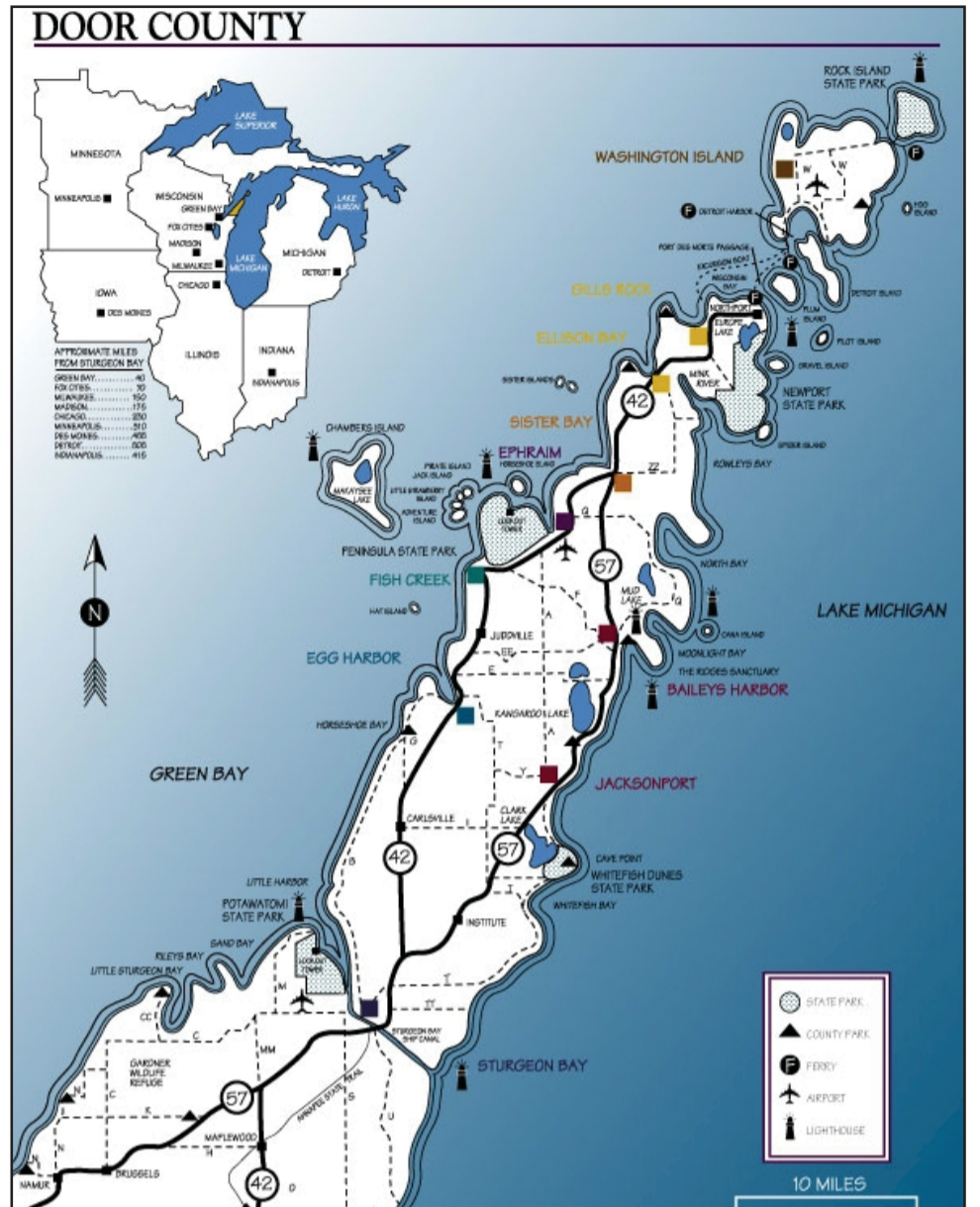
If you've not heard of it, picture Lake Michigan in your head. Let your mind wander up the Wisconsin side of the lake, then note the peninsula that separates Green Bay (the bay, not the town at the end of the bay) from Lake Michigan proper. That peninsula is Door County.

For me, as a fishing-person, the attraction is obvious. It's surrounded by water and those waters serve up most every species of fish available in the upper Midwest. Bass, salmon, musky, panfish, walleye and the list goes on. Better yet, the fishing is world class. Even "more" better, the fish are available to those who can bring their own boat and tackle or to those who opt to hire any of the numerous local charter boat operators or fishing guides.

My wife, a non-fishing person, is equally happy when given the chance to go to Door County. There are hundreds of other activities available. Perhaps that's why it's become one of our "repeat" destinations.

Perhaps that's why Fodor's, a worldwide provider of travel guides and information, has named Door County, Wisconsin one of the Best 10 Small Towns in America. In selecting Door County as one of top 10, Fodor's noted that while Door County isn't technically one town, the county "...is made up of notable small towns, each more charming than the last."

Some of the towns are on the Lake Michigan side, others are nestled in what started as fishing villages along the Green Bay side of the peninsula. The lake-side towns and bay shore villages seem to have distinctly different personalities. Still, they all share the "Door County" pride and I have no difficulty in picturing the county as a whole, as simply a very



Door County, WI, a "Top-10 Destination, is an easy to moderate drive for most Hoosiers.

spread-apart small town.

With 300 miles of shoreline, eleven lighthouses, five state parks, an eclectic arts and cultural scene along with boutique shopping, award winning dining options and a wonderful mix of lodging options, this accolade is another beautiful feather in Door County's destination-award cap.

My good friend, Jon Jarosh, the Door County Visitor Bureau's director of communications & public relations man told me, "We're honored to have been included on this 10 best list from Fodor's." Anyone who lives here or has visited Door County knows what a special place it is, and this sort of national recognition gives us a great opportunity to introduce our destination to travelers who have yet to experience the magic that is Door County."

Jon will be glad to send you information. Call him at 920-227-2156 for a free vacation planner's guide or view it on-line at www.doorcounty.com. THE END

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by Joe Martino

Scoping out your next turkey

Recent discussions among friends and family about the upcoming turkey season over the weekend lead to the idea for this week's column. We were discussing the use of open sights and red dot type scopes on turkey guns. First of all, either way you go is perfectly acceptable and it is strictly a matter of preference, and they each have their advantages and drawbacks.

Open sights are probably the most common, and for good reason. Open sights allow you to quickly get a bead on a wary gobbler's head without having to fuss with trying to find it in a scope. Plus, there is typically less that can go wrong with open sights. The only real drawback to open sights, if there is one really, is that at greater distances, it can be somewhat tough to pinpoint a tom's head in your sights, but in most real-life situations, this won't come into play.

The red dot type turkey scopes are, for the most part, are scopes without any magnification power to them but that have a red dot or other type of aiming point that is placed on your target. There are some red dot scopes that do have low magnifications available as well. The advantage to these types of scopes is that in enables you to be a little more precise at longer yardages as the tiny red dot doesn't cover up all of the turkeys head and neck like open sights will. The downfall of such scopes, however, is that in close situations, it can be a little trickier trying to get a bead on a wary gobbler. This almost cost me a bird

one spring season a few years back. He picked me off as I moved a bit trying to find him in the scope.

Another disadvantage, although rare, is entirely possible. Red dot scopes run on batteries, and although they typically last multiple seasons on one battery if you're careful, have one go dead on you in the middle of a hunt and you have problems! Been there, done that! Now, I always change the batteries in them at the beginning of each season – no matter what! The problem is that if you turn the reticle to your scope on and leave it on for the entire hunt, it drains the batteries. However, you sure don't want a gobbler showing up and surprising you before you had a chance to turn it on either! Like I said, the batteries last a long time so it isn't a likely scenario, just a possible one unless you take some precautions.

The last thing to keep in mind when using red dots is that there are settings on most of these types of scopes for reticle brightness. While a low setting may be perfect for an overcast day or while hunting in the timber, leaving it on that setting when in brighter lighting situations could result in you not being able to see the dot when you pull up on a big gobbler.

Another, but way less thought of option for your turkey gun, is to keep your shotgun scope on it. This is a very viable option if you use the same gun for both deer and turkey hunting by simply switching barrels and/or chokes. This way you don't have to switch scopes. You will have to make adjustments in order to accurately shoot turkey loads, however. Don't think that a load of buckshot is going to hit anywhere close to where you deer slugs do.

It is rarely thought of to use a shotgun scope meant for deer hunting while chasing gobblers in the spring, which is the part of the conversation that lead me to pen this column. I began doing this with my son, Nicholas' gun last season. I didn't want to mess with taking it off, then either putting a red dot scope or open sights on, then reversing the situation come fall. Not that it's a big deal really; I just didn't want to mess with it if I didn't have to. So, we left his 4X shotgun scope on and sighted it in with turkey loads. It worked like a charm!

Now, keep in mind that shotgun scopes have magnification, although many of them are relatively low or variable. In our case, it is a fixed 4X, but a 2X-5X or something similar would be ideal. Remember how I said that it can sometimes be tough to get a gobbler in the scope without magnification? Well, now add some magnification into the mix and you get my point.

It's not that bad though, and not something to make you shy away from per say, but just something to bear in mind and consider in determining if this is a viable option for you. Nicholas killed a gobbler at less than 10 yards with this set last year just fine. Although he said at that

range he kind of wished there wasn't any magnification. At longer distances though, it can be good.

So, as you can see, there are several options available to you when setting up your turkey gun this spring. Each one of them is effective and they all have their pros and cons. I have killed turkeys with each type of set-up and still don't have a favorite! And, as for this spring – I'm still deciding.



Nicholas took this gobbler last spring using a 4X shotgun scope on his twenty gauge. Although not the norm, low power shotgun scopes can certainly work on turkey guns. As with anything, however, there can be drawbacks. It can be done, but is sometimes difficult to get on a gobbler if he is real close. . (Photo by Author)

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Notes from:
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair



by Marshall Smith

Gunsmithing Issues

Since my article in the March 2013 issue of the Gad-A-Bout, I have received several requests to blue and refinish many older guns that were guns given to them when they were children, or guns that were broken and missing parts and just lying around the house. As a gun enthusiast, it pleases me to see many of the older guns get returned to service by people who truly care about the gun and its memories.

Occasionally, there will be someone who has a gun that was given to them by a friend or relative and is missing a few parts but otherwise in good condition. Many of the older gun parts are becoming scarce in the antique parts market. If you have an old timer that you think you may want to fix up then you best get to it. Many of the manufacturers are out of business and those still around are making new guns don't keep a stock of parts for the older models. The manufacturer has usually sold their older parts inventory for the guns they no longer produce or support. Colt stopped production of the popular single action army revolver in 1941 as the

start of World War II required them to increase the military arms production and cut back on civilian gun sales. Colt had produced the Single Action Army in various calibers since 1873. The loss of production of those guns jump started an industry making the SAA clone.



Great Western Arms Single Action Revolver. (Author Photo)

One of those producers was Great Western Arms, Inc., located in Los Angeles, California. In 1953 GWA began making copies of the Single Action Army gun for the movie industry. The company was making the SSA clone for the movie industry along with a derringier both of which found great popularity with the general public. Great Western Arms produced most of the guns seen in the western movies and TV shows of the 50's and 60's. Guns carried by James Arness in the TV series "Gunsmoke" and the brace of blued Single Action Army revolvers which John Wayne used in the movie "The Shootist" are among the more famous of the Great Western guns. Great Western Arms closed in 1969.



Great Western 22 Revolver disassembled, missing hammer, trigger and fire control parts. (Author Photo)

As you can see from the picture the Great Western Arms .22 caliber revolver is missing several internal parts. Some of the parts are available but may have to be fitted to the individual gun. Just recently I had to return to its owner a Stevens "Visible Loader" .22 cal. Pump rifle as unrepairable because parts were not available. So, if you have an old handgun or rifle lying about and you are thinking of getting it repaired and back in service you may want to get with your local gunsmith and do it now while parts are still available. Of course if you are concerned with exceeding the value of the gun then you may want to think about selling it or just hanging it on the wall.

Quality versus Price

There are many guns on the market now and many foreign and domestic makes and models are selling at prices some may consider to good to pass up. Saturday night specials were the cheap inexpensive guns of the '60s and '70s. The guns

were poorly designed and made using cheap manufacturing processes and materials. Some of the first aluminum framed guns were from this period. Increased awareness and many lawsuits against manufacturers for producing those poor quality guns which had resulted in unintended shootings finally slowed the manufacture of those guns ,but many are still being sold today at gun shops.

When looking at that gun in the showcase for \$150, beware. Do your homework before going out to look for a gun. Whether its a handgun, a rifle, or a shotgun, look up the history of the type of gun you are considering and know what you're buying. Just like buying a used car, you get what you pay for. You need to ask yourself, are you willing to trust your life, or the lives of your loved ones to an inexpensive and possibly defective gun. Check the reviews on line for that gun before committing your hard earned cash. You'll find that sticking with the well know marques of guns like Beretta, Colt, Glock, Remington, Rock River, Savage, Smith & Wesson, Springfield Armory, Winchester, and many other quality firearm manufacturers will save you a lot of money and worry. Take the time to check out the type of gun you want before you buy. If you are not familiar with guns and don't know what you should be looking for, I suggest that you contact your local gun club and see if the club has a program which trains members in the use of a gun and let's the member shoot several different models of handguns or rifles. That will be a significant help in determining what type of gun you want. Many gunsmiths and shooting facilities provide that type of training also. Make a intelligent and responsible decision based on facts, not on salesman recommendations. Beware of the salesman who first asks "How much do you want to spend?"

„How many carry a gun in your vehicle? Where do you carry it? In the glove box or under the seat. In the trunk? Is it in a holster, box, or some other container? How accessible is it? Is it loaded with a round in the chamber, or is it even loaded? Do you have your LTCH?

I raise these questions as another thought on being responsible. That is being responsible for your safety and the safety of others in your immediate area and control. If the gun is lying in a glove box or armrest and loaded with one in the chamber, It's ready to use but how quickly can you get to it? And could it create a dangerous situation should you or someone in the vehicle need the weapon in a high stress incident and may discharge the gun unintentionally while trying to grab it out of its hiding space. I believe that if you are going to carry a handgun, then carry it on your person. If you are in a motor vehicle much of the time then you may want to consider carrying it in an appendix carry or cross draw. Hip carry could be hampered with the seat belt and the back of the seat. Plus if it is in the glove box or arm rest then if the vehicle should be stolen you've just armed the thief with your gun.

If you're going to carry a gun in the vehicle then think carefully about where you carry it, how accessible is it to you and others in the vehicle. Are the other people in the vehicle aware of the location of the gun, how to use it, can use it, etc. There's a lot to think about and to consider. Lastly, have you trained in using the gun from a seated position in the vehicle? Remember, practice not only makes perfect, but responsible.

**Gun Control update
Universal Background Checks
CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**

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Fly fishing enthusiasts gather for the 1st Annual Whitewater River Rendezvous in Brookville, IN, hosted by Jud McMillan, Allen Beneker, Jenny Wiltz and others.



Derrick Filkins, owner of Flymasters of Indianapolis, talking with Chris Foxx about fly tying and fly fishing. Derrick helped organize and promote the Whitewater River Rendezvous.

1st Annual Whitewater River Rendezvous

Article & Photos by Ray Dickerson

The first annual Whitewater River Rendezvous was a huge success as Fly Fishing businesses, clubs and individuals from around Indiana and nearby Ohio set out their literature and fly tying equipment for all to see.

As you can see in the photo above at left, visitors are talking to the exhibitors, this was an early morning photo. I was there for three hours and in all that time, there was a never ending stream of people coming and going.

I couldn't stay too long as I was on deadline to get my May Gad-a-bout to the printer. I promised Derrick Filkins though I would attend and I'm glad I did. I talked to just about every one who was set up there and learned quite a bit about fly fishing.

In this and coming issues you will be reading more about fly fishing from writers who know how to fly fish and can give you tips on how to increase your catch and where to fish. In this issue Dean Shadley is writing about fly fishing in Indiana, his article is on page 16 & 17. For a little humor about fly fishing, Dan Graves who is still recuperating from an operation, writes in his typical fashion about fishing. My question to him though is, what do cicada's and B-29's have to do with fly fishing? His article a reprint from 2004, is on page 10.

(At the end of this article is a list of all the folks I talked to giving their contact information.)

As I first entered the room I stopped to talk to Corey Norrod and Travis Wooley, Indiana Conservation Officers who was in the process of setting up their information table. We had a nice talk and then I moved onto the next table.

I next met Luke Sedacca and Chip Pauly from Cincinnati, Ohio who were busy tying flies. They had a lot of information lying on their table. (See above photo)

Luke got up and told me about their business, a lot about fly fishing, that I didn't know. I really enjoyed talking to him and Chip.

Next I stopped at the table of Rex Phillips from Indianapolis. I asked what he was doing. He replied he was tying a Zebra Midget.

I said, "A what?"

He showed me several of the tiny flies, then showed me even smaller ones.

He asked, "has anyone got a quarter?"



Fly fisherman Luke Sedacca (left) and Chip Pauly (right) representing Delamere & Hopkins, Outfitters for the Field and Stream, from Cincinnati OH.

I gave him one and he proceeded to place the small flies on top of the quarter. See photos above. He told me the one he had on the fly tying tool was a size 18 whereas the ones on the quarter was size 22. To baffle me further he said last year he caught a 20" brown trout on a smaller fly than the 22 in the tailwater here.

Next I stopped and talked to Lynn W. Burry who is president of the Northeastern Indiana Trout Association. He is from Geneva, IN. He told me he has been fly fishing since he was six years old. I asked him what fly he was working on. He told me it was a "Lynn's Super Moto Minnow."

The next table I visited was with Joe Thurston a member of Central Indiana Trout Unlimited. Joe is from Carmel, IN. He told me he liked to fly fish for bonefish. He gave me one of his cards which showed him holding a bonefish. The photo was taken where he caught it, on Christmas Island in the South Pacific. I told him my father was on Christmas Island when he was in the Seabees in WWII. Joe said, "after the war they used the island for atomic bomb tests."

I started to leave Joe's table when I saw someone who I thought might be Jud McMillin, I had heard someone say his name earlier.

"Are you Jud," I asked

He replied, "Yes sir."

I said, "I'm Ray Dickerson The Gad-a-bout, I've heard about you, but I thought you were older. I just took your photo with Joe Thurston."

Jud replied, "We appreciate you using anything you want."



Rex Phillips (right) and his son Braxton (left) are from Indianapolis. Rex has been fly fishing for 24 years, he uses very small flies, very small. See next photo for example.

I asked Jud, "Can I use that photo?"

Jud replied, "Absolutely, use whatever you would like. We appreciate The Gad-a-bout being involved in this."

I added, "Well it started out a little bit rocky."

Jud said, "That's okay."

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Indiana Conservation Officers, Corey Norrod (left) and Travis Wooley (right) answer questions at the 1st Annual Whitewater River Rendezvous.



Before heading for home I stopped along the Brookville Tailwater to see if anyone was fishing. Here two of three fly fishermen trying their luck on a beautiful spring day in Indiana.



This quarter has seven Zebra Midget flies laying on top, I think Rex said they are size 22. Last year he caught a 20" brown trout with a smaller fly than these, in the tailwater.

I continued, "What got John Estridge and my back up was 2009 and we didn't know what was going on, I tried to find out as much as I could about it, but there wasn't much information available to me and we quite naturally kind of went to arms on it."

Jud said, "That's why we wanted to be clear this

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Sheri Harris an experienced fly tyer also makes feather jewelry. She learned fly tying at Fort Benjamin Harrison State park at a Hoosier Outdoor Experience event.

time, there are no new rules coming in, there are no new rocks coming in..... This is just about trying to welcome people into our community, to use it just like it is. I think it is a great asset to our community and we need to take advantage of it."

I thanked Jud for talking to me. I could tell by his enthusiasm he was very sincere in doing whatever he can to bring people to Franklin County as well as the entire Whitewater Valley.

Next I stopped at the Indiana Conservation Officer's table. I talked to Travis and Correy again. Then Brian Pawlecki from Indianapolis, a 22 year member of IMPD stopped by their table. He had brought his son, Jonathan, to the Rendezvous, they both fly fish.

I then stopped at Derrick Filkins table. Derrick is the owner of Flymasters of Indianapolis. Derrick met with Jud McMillin, Allen Beneker and other members of the community back in January, he helped organize and promote the 1st Annual Whitewater River Rendezvous. I found out about the Rendezvous from him, you might recall!

Derrick was talking to Chris Foxx, a visitor from Ross, OH. I thanked Derrick for all his help and continued on toward another table.

Than I saw a familiar face across the room, it was Wally Dudek from Richmond, IN.

We greeted one another and Wally told me he was a avid fly fisherman, especially for Michigan's brook trout. We talked about all kinds of things. One of his ambitions is to fly fish in Scotland. I told him I was in Scotland and remember the trout jumping at the falls of the Lynn of Dee near Balmoral Castle. We



Indiana State Representative Jud McMillin (left) talking to Joe Thurston (right) from Carmel, IN. Joe is a member of Central Indiana Trout Unlimited.

weren't fishing, just camping in the area, we were on leave from RAF Alconbury. You will be reading more about Wally in the July Gad-a-bout.

Before Wally and I parted ways he told me the rods laying on a nearby table was **THE** fly fishing rods to use! So I meandered over to that table and looked at them. The rods are crafted by Randall Fridlund who explained to me in detail the passion he has for building his hand-crafted split bamboo fly fishing rods. I was amazed when he showed me (showing photos on his phone) how he takes six pieces of bamboo gluing them from the larger end to the minuscule tip, so small, yet barely seen with the naked eye, you can see the six pieces that make up the octagon shape. His rods are Amabilis Fly Rods and he is from Indianapolis, IN.

My next and final stop was to visit with Sheri Harris who does fly tying and feather jewelry. Sheri has been fly tying for four years, she is from Anderson, IN. She was introduced to fly fishing at the Hoosier Outdoor Experience held at Fort Benjamin Harrison State Park. She said they taught them how to tie the Wooly Bugger, took them fishing and than had a meal. She said she enjoyed all of it so much that she's been doing it ever since.

She was there representing herself and Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Inc (PHWFF), Healing Those Who Serve. PHWFF is dedicated to the physical and emotional rehabilitation of disabled active military service personnel and veterans through fly fishing and fly tying education and outings.

Time was flying and I had already stayed longer
CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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Fly Fisherman and Author Dean Shadley



I caught this nice smallmouth in an Indiana stream. (Author Photo)

Fly Fishing for Smallmouth Bass 101

by Dean Shadley

As Hoosiers we are not blessed with the famous trout streams that our brothers and sisters to the east and west of us enjoy however we certainly don't feel sorry for ourselves. Indiana can claim bragging rights to some of the most beautiful smallmouth streams in the country. Most non-residents would be shocked at the number of fly fishermen that live in Indiana and enjoy our abundant warm water fisheries. Sadly Hoosiers are no different than fly fishermen around the globe; we do our best to make fly fishing difficult.

Since its inception fly fishing has had the reputation of being a sport reserved for the blue bloods of the sport fishing world. It seems that on one hand fly fishermen reach out to those poor souls that were not born with the fly fishing gene while on the other hand they continue to complicate the sport so that many are deterred by the complexity of all things connected to fly fishing. If you the desire to leap into the world of fly fishing read on. The following suggestions will put you well on your way to becoming a successful fly fisherman.

Over the years I've been fortunate to have had the opportunity to fish many of the great rivers of the east and west as well as saltwater to the south. In all instances I found that fly fishing could be reduced to a few popular flies and a couple of well known fishing techniques. Years ago I discovered how to sift through the BS and catch fish on a poor man's budget. Maybe one day I'll write a book about those adventures and how to apply fly fishing 101 but for the purpose of this article I'll stick to smallmouth fishing in Indiana. Even though most of my smallmouth fishing has been restricted to my home waters I suspect that my techniques will work throughout the Midwest.

As mentioned earlier Indiana has many fine smallmouth streams. A few Indiana anglers claim to catch several twenty inch fish on every outing. Other anglers that I'm associated with find fishing for Indiana smallmouth a difficult task. The truth lies somewhere in the middle. The accomplished fisherman will occasionally catch a twenty incher however the average size fish in a typical stream will be about 12 inches. By following a few simple rules anyone can take the difficulty out of fly fishing for smallmouth and enjoy many fine days afield on Indiana's uncrowded streams and rivers.

Buying a better fly rod is not the best solution for improving your fish catching ability. I have yet to find a moderately priced graphite fly rod, if properly lined, that wouldn't cast a fly reasonably well. A five hundred dollar fly rod might cast ten percent better than a rod costing one hundred dollars. There are many good fly casting videos on the market that can help correct bad casting habits. If you know someone that is an accomplished caster ask them for some help. Most will be flattered and eager to help you. A better idea might be to hire a professional instructor. The bottom line is, "if you can't cast you can't fish." It's easy to become obsessed with casting a long line. Rather than worrying about casting ninety feet work on learning to cast fifty feet accurately.

The best advice that I can offer anyone that wants to pursue smallmouth bass with a fly rod is to purchase a sink tip line. I can't stress this

enough. If you can only afford one line make it a sink tip. Buy the variety that has a fifteen to twenty foot sink tip section. Ninety-five percent of my smallmouth are caught while fishing with a sink tip line. A sink tip will put your fly on or near the bottom where the fish spend the majority of their time. A floating line with a couple of split shot attached to the leader is not a good substitute. I don't have enough fingers and toes to count the times that my fishing partners showed up for a day of fishing with only a floating line and were ridiculously out fished. There is no substitute for a high quality, fast sinking, sink tip line.

One of the biggest mistakes that both beginners and seasoned anglers make is fishing in one spot too long. When you find a likely spot where you think there should be fish give it one or two good cast then move on. Most fish are caught on the first cast to a



Smallmouth bass weighing 3 1/2 pounds taken from a small stream in Shelby County. (Author Photo)

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Bud Denneman of New Palestine caught 6 smallmouth bass of this size from one hole south of Brookville. (Author Photo)



Fly fisherman Denny Ramsey of Shelbyville with a typical fly-caught smallmouth bass. (Author Photo)

likely looking spot. After that your odds go down drastically. Many of my fishing partners will stay in one location and fish a likely looking spot to death. A better strategy is to cover more water and get in as many "first casts" as you can.

Travel light while smallmouth fishing. You don't need a ton of gear to catch smallmouth. Most fishermen would be surprised at how little gear is necessary. Remember the philosophy is to move fast and cover a lot of water so you don't burden yourself

with a lot of excess weight. The bare minimum needed is a few flies, rod and reel, a pair of hemostats and a spool of tippet material. You might also consider carrying an extra reel spool with a floating line, a tape measure and a camera.

Keep your selection of flies simple. Indiana rivers can be effectively fished by using only five flies. I never leave home without a black wooly bugger, white wooly bugger, chartreuse clouser, a crayfish pattern and a small popper. You should carry the wooly buggers in size six and eight and carry poppers in black, white, yellow and green. Your poppers should be about two inches long, some should have a little flash and others should not. I prefer to use simple, easy to tie flies. I consider flies to be tools not pieces of art. I don't consider myself a particularly good *tier. There have been times when I actually thought that the sloppy appearance of my flies made them more appealing to the fish. All of my flies (except poppers) are tied heavily weighted. I want my flies to get deep and get deep fast. Some days smallmouth will hit almost anything other days fly selection is critical. Change flies until you find out what they want to eat. If I go twenty minutes without a strike I change flies. The manner in which you fish the fly is just as important as fly selection.

Trout fishing techniques don't necessarily work well on smallmouth bass. Accomplished trout fisherman often struggle on the smallmouth stream. The dead drift method of fishing nymphs and dry flies is sometimes effective on smallmouth, however more often than not smallmouth like a darting movement to the fly. Start off with a short, rapid, stop-start

motion. If that doesn't work vary the speed and length of your retrieve.

It sounds ridiculous but fish where the fish are likely to be. Many times I've seen my friends standing where they should be fishing and fishing where they should be standing. Like most fish smallmouth bass don't like light. In most situations it is prudent to fish where you can't see the bottom of the river. The exception would be in the very low, clear water of late summer when at times the entire river bottom is exposed. During this time of year fish the deepest water you can find that has some current movement. A good habit to develop is to look before you make your first cast. If you observe minnows scattering as you enter the stream fish a streamer pattern, the clouser, or a wooly bugger. If you step into the stream and see crawfish darting under rocks it might be a good idea to start with your crawfish pattern. I fish poppers because there is nothing more exciting than seeing a big smallmouth bass explode on a popper. At some time during most of my fishing excursions I'll try a popper just to see if I can talk them up to the surface. Use common sense in your fly selection.

There are many successful fishermen that have developed their own and radically different techniques that work equally as well for them as mine do for me. In time you will discover what works best for you. My point is if you have a desire to catch smallmouth bass on a fly rod and have no idea where to start this article will provide the information necessary for you to enjoy immediate success. If you

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Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

A RENEWAL OF LIFE.....

Spring is a renewal of life. All of nature that went into a deep sleep last winter, now comes back to life in the greening of the land and the birth of a new generation of creatures. To see the Spring Beauties popping up amongst the rotting leaves, the robin pulling up a worm to feed her nest of young. It is always very easy to believe in a hereafter while witnessing the return of life to forest and glen.

Mother bear cuffing her rascally twin cubs when they try to go off and explore their new world. The new born fawn struggling to its legs as the mother licks it clean.

I love summer, and the colors of fall, but spring has a certain magic that sets it apart from the other seasons of the year. The morning air is still crisp when I start my walk in the woods. However, once the sun is out it warms up quickly drying the morning dew. Even though my mother always said that this is pneumonia weather, since you don't know how to dress, I still shed my jacket and let the sun warm my face.

Spring is a great time to share with young ones. I enjoy pointing out the flowers and plants picking out those that some particular importance to the native people. This one has roots used for dye, that one is

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medicinal or makes a fine tea. Even when a black snake drops from a branch overhead its startling effect makes the heart pump a little faster and the blood run a little quicker.

There is still some ice in the creek but the water runs clear and cold like a young child gamboling from rock to rock. If the water is deep enough you might even catch sight of the flashing color of a fish dodging here and there as it moves down stream to reach deeper water.

Spring has it's own smell. It is a combination of all the things happening at this time of year. It is a strong smell but yet a gentle smell. It is a sweet smell and yet pungent smell.

Surely the Great Spirit has blessed this season when Mother Earth is preparing the land and the creatures that live upon it for the wonderful seasons ahead. Take the time from your busy lives in the month ahead and take a little stroll in the woods, a park, or your back yard and take in the beauty of Spring.

Old Chief Says: There's no use to grumble and complain; it's just as easy to rejoice; when the Great Spirit sorts out the weather and sends rain; why rain's my choice.

HANK STOCK/GOLDEN EAGLE

So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

The U.S. Senate Majority leader, Harry Reid, withdrew the assault weapons ban from the gun background checks bill presented by Sen. Charles Schumer. It was feared that the assault weapons ban would sabotage the entire bill. A commercial video supported and presented with money from Mayors Against Illegal Guns, that is Michael Bloomberg Mayor of New York, on his 3rd term, which was only supposed to be two terms but he found a way to get around the law with all his money. The commercial video professes to support gun rights while at the

same time pushing for "Universal Background Checks". Universal is another way of saying, "GUN OWNER REGISTRATION" As the video doesn't say, call your Senator and tell him "Do Not Support or Vote for Any Bill which Requires any type of Universal Background Checks or maintains any type of data base or written records of who owns a gun.

Beware of individuals with the money and the misguided belief that they can save the world from the world's fast food industry, and the NRA. The NRA is accused of being a fanatical gun lobbyist group only interested in Guns. Wrong, Wrong Wrong. The NRA isn't fanatical enough. The NRA is interested in saving our Constitution and our Constitutional rights from power hungry fanatics like Bloomberg, Pelosi, Reid, Feinstein and others. Why is it when the gun ban enthusiasts are caught in their lies by the NRA or the News Media (which is rare with our liberal media) they immediately accuse everyone else of twisting their words, of being against humanity, don't care about children, are mean to animals, or are all white religious corn belt gun extremists. No, we're just Patriots who love our country, respect our elders, and believe in the God given rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States of America.

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

Remember, B SAR (Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible)

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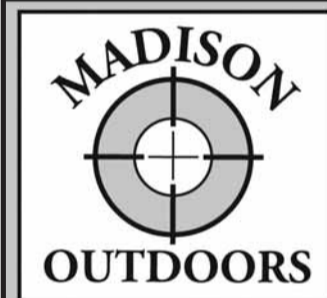
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Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

GETTING A GOOD START CAMPING THIS SPRING

You have probably noticed if you've been around camping for any appreciable time, that there is a lot for a camp owner or manager to do each spring (as many of our Midwest campgrounds close during the winter) to get ready for the spring surge of campers. Sometimes camp-grounds are understaffed because workers have left for one reason or another just before the camping season opens. Last year's workers may have received a longer or better paying job just before the season starts and may leave the owner/manager several jobs to perform from cleaning painting electricity, plumbing, office work, store managers, activity directors, ground work, etc.

As campers arrive for the spring, summer and fall seasons they may notice these small or larger glitches in the campground or program. Especially is this true if a camper is just coming through for a night or two. They may even ask why something is not done or what has happened if something is out of kilter. You wouldn't want your campers to tell the first time visitor, "Oh, that's been like that for a long time." Most travelers (maybe full time), single or couples, leave their site cleaner than when they pulled in for an overnight or for several days. But-we've also witnessed that some just do not care--"It's not our property so we'll just leave it." The work campers or owner's family will detail it before the next camper fills the site. Even if the manager has no reservation for the site, there is always a chance for someone to stop in to take that last available site that hadn't been cleaned.

Now we realize why check out time is 11:00 a.m. or noon and check in time is 3:00 p.m. or three or four hours later, there may be a lot of preparation on that site and others, to assign a clean site to the next campers. Owners/managers/workers cannot always be sure that the regular job planned for that day or time goes as scheduled because of inclement weather or a stopped up sewer, or a break in a water line. That throws site cleanup off minutes to hours.

As seasoned campers or novices, it's always gratifying to the owner/manager for one of the now regular campers to come up and borrow a rake or shovel to level out a site or to get a garbage bag from the office to clean out a fire pit into which have been tossed empty food cans, piles of wet charcoal, chicken bones

or other garbage. The camper coming in most commonly doesn't want to set up camping at a dirty site, and who blames them. I've even been caught cleaning sites as new overnight campers backed or pulled their rigs in to the site. So now one can understand why there may be two or three hours between check in and check out. I've even heard, "We don't even get 24 hours of camping for that price."

Most of the time we had good campers in our campground, but when talking with owners/managers as we travel the country, they agree most are great, but there's also the proverbially "rotten apple". Those are the ones we hope not to encounter, but we are eternally grateful to those regular campers who see the problem and clean it up before we have a chance. They usually do it incognito and don't want the other campers to tell the owner or the manager "who done it".

Another thought would be that if the new camper setting up a site would not have been told about the fact that there is a centrally located trash container or a covered trash can left at every 3rd, 4th, or 6th campsite, they would just leave their bagged trash by the fire pit or on the picnic table. A few fishermen sometimes have a habit of leaving trash on the bank of lakes where they were fishing. Their lantern or flashlight doesn't seem to be directed to the trash barrels, sometimes within a few feet of where they fished. Sometimes there are a dozen barrels around the lake but the lights can't find them without help. On the other hand we know of several good souls who took it upon themselves to walk around the lakes and pick up others' trash. One man in particular asked if he could get the cans out of our barrels to re-cycle so why not? He was unemployed with a family to feed. He was neat about it and put other rubbish he found loose around the lakes and left a good, clean lake front, much easier to mow around.

If you are a well-established, knowledgeable camper, you might consider asking your local campground owner or manager of a county or state park camping area if they would be amenable to help promote a Great American Camp out at their facility. Old timers could get the local papers and radio stations and signs in local stores to invite novices to camping, those who have never camped, to learn some of the skills in the family friendly confines of (wherever) in your area. Many families are leery about the initial experience. Or, they just want to make sure they are with a group of people that have children. The participating families must have at least one child 12 years or younger.

Instructions would include how to set up a tent, outdoor cooking, building a campfire, and perform other outdoor skills. Campers could participate in other park activities, including crafts and outdoor games. Recommended camping items would be a tent (or blanket and tarp), a sleeping bag (or blankets and sheets), sleeping pad or air mattresses, (or a plastic sheet over old newspapers).

Also recommended is bottled water, a flashlight and extra batteries, insect repellent, ponchos or other warm clothes, and to maximize the fun the participants could bring binoculars, board games, playing cards, cameras, camp chairs, footballs, GPS devices for geo-caching, musical instruments, camp song books, and reading materials. The organizers could plan for late June when school is over, and plan on an overnight at the park from about 2 p.m. one day until 9 or 10 a.m. the

next. Families could be told about what types of food would be needed for outdoor cooking and what utensils to bring. A very small charge could be made for each member of the family for crafts. The park must provide restroom facilities as these are novices and won't have their own camping unit. There really shouldn't be any charge for the event and it could be an every year instruction time for new campers.

I was just made aware of a different form of activities in Northern

CONTINUED ON
 PAGE 24

Family Fun Day

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While found across the United States, this columbine was photographed in Northwest Ontario. (Author Photo)



Not all flowers in the woods and fields grow on the ground. This showy blossom is from the dogwood tree. (Author Photo)

Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Walking in Nature's Garden

Touch-me-not, Bloodroot, Lady's Slipper, Dutchman's-breeches, Indian Pipe, Shooting Star, Snow Trillium, Rattlesnake Master, Royal Catchfly, and Jack-in-the-Pulpit—just the name of many wildflowers invites further exploration. Now is the right time of year to begin your search.

While a few such as Skunk Cabbage and Snow Trillium may push up through snow and bloom as early as late February, early April to late May is prime time for many of Indiana's native wildflowers to start showing their colors. A family walk through a nearby woodlot will reveal many common beauties while a day or weekend trip to one of our many state parks could reveal dozens of different species to the careful observer. While many think wildflowers only bloom in spring, summer and even fall has its share of showy flowers. Spring flowers do tend to be short in their blooming time, sometimes only showing their colors for a few days or a week. Those flowers appearing later in the year often retain their blooms for long periods.

To enjoy this outdoor pastime, you need several items. The first is some type of guidebook. There are many different field guides on wildflowers available. You can check one out of the local library (if you beat everyone else to it) and return it in two weeks, or you can go to any good bookstore and have several selections from which to choose a purchase and keep it forever. Study this book at home enough to at least know how it's laid out. This will save you time when trying to identify a specimen in the wild. Some guides arrange the selections according to related species.

Others group them with the blue, red, yellow, and other colored blooms together. This latter type guide is the one I prefer as it makes field identification a little easier. You will also need some type of notebook to jot down characteristics of flowers you can't immediately identify. The color, number of petals, shape of leaves, size of bloom, type of area (damp woods, field, creek-side, etc.), and date found can all help identify a plant. If you are an artist, a sketchpad would be ideal.

Another item I think necessary on any field trip is a camera with lots of film, or a digital camera. Many wildflowers are rare. Unless you are an expert, I recommend just observing, sketching or photographing them. They usually do not transplant well to a home garden because conditions are so much different than where they normally grow. You may find a large area covered with a particular species but it might be the only place in the entire county where it can thrive. Do not disturb it. Walk carefully and take home only pictures. Keep dates and places listed in your notebook and every year you can return about the same time and see how your wildflowers are doing. Some may be thriving while others may be almost gone. A GPS location could make a special find a lot easier to relocate. (Good for documenting mushroom finds also.)

Of course, most people now are carrying a cell phone of some type which will take pictures. Just make sure the batteries are fully charged before going out. While I don't yet have one, (and wouldn't know how to use it anyway), so called smart phones" are extremely common. Perhaps they are smart enough you can just take a picture of a wildflower with it and it will identify it for you. Surely someone has invented a "Wildflower Identification App" to download (or whatever) to your phone.

At home, you should have one book for further study. This book is "Wildflowers of Indiana" by Maryrose and Fred Wampler. This is an outstanding selection. The pictures were hand painted on site, in Indiana, with associated plants, which makes identifying much easier. At the page bottom, the date the flower was found by the Wampers is noted in chronological order, the only book I have seen like this. The Indiana University Press puts it out. (Even as a Purdue Alumni, I still have a copy!) This is a large hardcover book, fairly expensive, (about \$50) and I would not recommend taking it into the woods. You could carry it in your vehicle for reference, but make sure your hands are clean before using it. The book can be purchased or ordered at almost any bookstore and it is well

worth the price.

Before trying to identify plants in the wild, you could learn some common words associated with them. Most glossaries in field guides explain these. These terms explain various parts of the flower and help to differentiate one from another. A few of the often used words are opposite and alternate, glabrous and pubescent, petal, petiole, calyx, sepal, and others. These terms relate to leaf placement, whether the stem is smooth or rough, parts of the flower head, etc. It's not necessary to learn these words, just have a glossary with you when you encounter a problem in the plant description.

If you are interesting in observing prairie wildflowers, there are still a few places in Indiana to do so. Indiana used to be on the eastern edge of the tall grass prairie. Now, a few areas in the northwestern part of the state contain native plants still thriving from several hundred years ago, plus a select few Interstate rest parks have been replanted with small plots. One of the most knowledgeable persons I know on the subject of prairie wildflowers is Don Bickel of Crawfordsville. Don was one of those responsible for the rest parks plantings and he can tell you where they are located. Now retired, he raises prairie forbs and grasses native to west central Indiana on his property. These plants may be purchased at "Edge of the Prairie Wildflowers". If you are interested in starting your own prairie plot, contact Don at edgeoftheprairie@webtv.net or call 765-362-0915.

During our travels to the western and southern states, I often find many different and unusual wildflowers. Because the climate is totally different, plants won't always be the same as they are in Indiana. I have taken pictures of many gorgeous flowers in Ontario and Quebec which are common there but rare here. Range maps in the field guides can help you decide which plants are common in the area you are visiting.

One advantage to searching for wildflowers in spring is it's a great time to be in the woods. The bugs aren't numerous yet, an occasional shed deer antler can still be found, mushrooms may be hiding near the flowers, and turkeys are the only animals being hunted in the spring in Indiana.

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The bloodroot pictured here, while not overly showy, is one of my favorite wildflowers. It is not common and grows in small patches. I first found these in the woods on the farm where I grew up. (Author Photo)



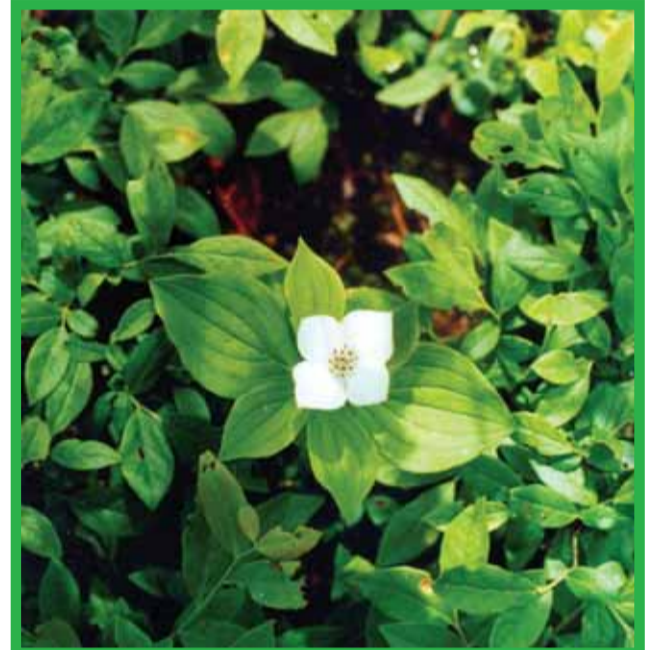
Huge patches of these Mayapples can be found in moist woods. The large white flower grows from the stem underneath the large green leaves. (Author Photo)



This white trillium is one of the early blooming wildflowers. Not extremely common and usually grows in patches of just a few specimens. (Author Photo)



Northeast Ontario was the home of this orange hawkweed. Truly orange wildflowers are relatively few. (Author Photo)



This very attractive bunchberry is not common in Indiana. It prefers cool, northern woods with rich soil. This one was growing on the Ontario/Quebec border. (Author Photo)



Left Photo: While the plant itself is very undesirable, the large flower head on this thistle is very attractive. Middle Photo: This green ragwort is a fairly common wildflower. As seen by the leaves in the background, this plant was found in the woods, but also is common in open fields. Right Photo: This colorful black-eyed Susan is in the group of coneflowers. This tall plant is common across the country. (Author Photos)



Remember to take a pair of binoculars with you. While not useful for wildflower study, they do come in handy for watching all the birds and other wildlife you

encounter on your hike. The author may be reached at eyewrite4u@aol.com.



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Looking Downstream



by Paul McCloud

May, Prime Month For Fishing

April is the first full month of spring, and you can have some good fishing trips, but around my part of the woods May is the first full month when serious fishing and maybe not so serious fishing can yield serious results. Water temperatures are reaching prime activity levels (62 to 75) triggering the spawning cycle in most fresh water fish. Anglers, out in full force are working hard and in most cases rewarded with good catches of their favorite fish. In my area (S/E Indiana and S/W Ohio) other than the earlier Walleye run above and below Brookville Lake, it's open season on every creek, pond and lake.

I like to switch back and forth from casting for Bass to live bait fishing for Crappie, Bluegills and Redears. With the high numbers of Channel Cats in my favorite waters I seem to catch my share of these hard fighting rascals on my panfish rigs. In the spring of 2011 with all the continuous heavy rains and the resulting major flood, Brookville Lake had been backed up to over twenty feet above summer pool and local fishermen were catching big stringers of catfish from flooded parking lots. As it turns out, according to the latest DNR sponsored fish survey Channel Cats are the most abundant species of both Brookville and Whitewater Lakes, and from what I've read are at or near the top in almost every body of water in Indiana and Ohio. I've caught several five pound plus Channel Cats on small #6 tru-turn light wire hooks baited with waxworms or some with bits of redworms. I pulled all of them out from under downed trees, this was at Whitewater Lake just South of Liberty, Indiana and also Ohio's Hueston Woods State Park's Acton Lake. I wasn't fishing for cats I was after Bluegill and Redear, fishing just off bottom in about 3 foot of water near stumps, fallen trees and boat docks. I've also had my hooks straightened a few times by I'm sure were much bigger cats. Old time catfishermen employ many different techniques and baits, both natural baits as well as smelly homemade concoctions. Basically, if your want to fish for Channel Cats, start with two inch long pieces of nightcrawlers, on a solid # 4 hook, fished around six inches off bottom close to structure (stumps, downed trees, big rocks etc.). You'll probably have to put up with small bait stealing sunfish, but you have that problem any time you use live bait near shore. Fish in the shade, cats especially don't like sunshine and seek out shaded spots to spend daylight hours. Catfish are more active looking for food at night and early morning. So, if you have a preference for catfish there's tons of them, they're terrific fighters, and personally I love deep fried or Cajun catfish.

Lakes in my area routinely produce many Largemouth Bass over five pounds, I think thanks to the state enforced size restrictions. If you love fishing but don't have an appetite for fish (oh my!) Bass fishing is a hoot! Catch and release has become the norm for Bass



Brookville Lake fishermen launching from Fairfield Ramp to test the Bass fishing. (Author Photo)



Stringer of large Acton Lake Crappie caught by author and his son last May (Author Photo)

these days so the fish get a chance to get bigger and have additional years of reproduction supporting greater numbers as well. Bass are aggressive predators consuming large numbers of young rough fish; bait fish and smaller sunfish even unfortunately smaller bass. I'm a crankbait fan; shallow running lures 2 to 3 inches long resembling small sunfish or crayfish. Best time is as early as there's just enough light to see by to when the sun rises above the shoreline trees. Bass relate to structure but actively patrol the shoreline early looking for prey. I hold my boat about 30 to 40 feet out from shore, cast close to shore near stumps, visible rocks and other structure. I retrieve the lure slower in cool water a little faster in warm water. Before I move away from a spot I'll make several casts parallel to the bank. Personally I've had better luck at Acton Lake than Whitewater, the aquatic milfoil weeds that have overgrown Whitewater have seriously reduced my trips there. I understand some guys are enjoying working the weeds with weedless plastic worm rigs. They still hold a few Bass tournaments there (early before the weeds reach maturity) and have good results. I'm fishing Whitewater early myself, the weeds aren't much of a problem till they reach halfway to maturity, depends on how quickly the water warms up. Last years very mild winter and dry hot spring allowed the weeds a head start and so they were a big problem by mid May. With a more normal winter and spring this year the weeds may not be too bad till mid to late June.

If you like the fun of catching large numbers of fish, the Bluegill and Crappie action should be exceptional this month. We had a fantastic season last year with high-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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West Central Indiana



by Don Bickel, Forester

Being Prepared Is Just Good Common Sense

Spring is here and has been for a short time. While the sunshine and warm air feels good on our skin, birds, fish and animals react a bit slower. We of the two-legged wildlife type take each day, reveling in the warm sunshine, seemingly caring little that a frost or two is yet to come. Wildlife, on the other hand seems a bit more cautious, as if to say, "We know it's spring, but don't get over anxious."

That is most of the wildlife tribe. Not to be counted among those who are willing to wait out the possibility of a late frost, are the mourning doves. It would seem with the first warm day, these birds say, "Pick your partner and let's get with it." Getting with it, among other things means building a nest of sticks and so forth with little or no insulating value. And so, it often happens, the first two eggs or maybe even the hatchlings are lost to winter's grip - which hadn't left the country yet.

Perhaps this loss of a family, doesn't enter the mourning doves brain. Another pair of eggs are laid - if at first you don't succeed, try try again. With the doves, the re-nesting - successful or not - will happen five to six times throughout the spring, summer and into fall. It often happens the last fall nesting attempt falls victim to early cold weather.

We early anglers tend to be a bit like the doves. Hot dog, it's 70 degrees today - never mind it was only 50 yesterday. Uncover the boat or open the shed door and see if it is still there or just get some of the leaves out that blew in during the winter. Try out the motor, wait, there isn't time for that - besides there was still a quarter tank of gas when it was last used back in October, or was it last September?

What about the battery? Well, what about it? There was a good charge in it back in October or was that September? It should have held up since that was only six months ago. And besides, the battery is only 4 or maybe 5 years old. Times a-wasting, put your tackle box and a couple of rods in the boat and let's go. My stuff is still in there since October or was it September. Throw out that bunch of leaves under the back seat. Well, I'll be danged, it's a mouse nest.

Nothing wrong with the trailer hitch. "I'll back up and you hook the trailer on. It's 70 degrees and we gotta get moving." Don't be concerned that the right trailer tire is a bit low. Well, maybe a little more than that, but it's not far to the lake.

When the boat ramp is reached, and there are only one or two pickups and boat trailers or even none, that should be a clue. When the boat is in the water and with what little juice remains in the battery, the water temperature indicator says 45 degrees, that

should be a clue. And when the motor won't start because another mouse built a nest in the area of the carburetor, the other clues now have little significance.

We try not to be the angler who forgets to do a few winterizing items in the fall, but sometimes deer hunting gets in the way. We try not to repeat last year's performance and let the first 70 degree day be in control. But if those 70 degree days are used to properly prepare the boat, motor and tackle, then the 75 and 80 degree days will come without a hitch.

And I hope when the 70's have been around for several days, maybe a week or so, I'll be ready and more to the point, the boat will be ready. In the fall, a stabilizing agent was placed in the gas tank and the motor run until the treated fuel was in the motor. Then the gas line detached and the motor allowed to run out of fuel.

Both batteries were removed from the boat and placed in the garage in an area which would freeze only if the winter was extremely long and wickedly cold. The fluid in the battery was checked and additional was added where it was needed. Two times during those months of storage, the batteries were given a boost via a charger to keep the charge up.

All tackle boxes, rods, fish towels, depth finders, boxes of miscellaneous tackle - in fact anything loose or easily removed were taken from the boat and stored warm and dry. All storage areas, including the livewell and the open floor area next to the transom received a small mesh bag of 10 to 12 moth balls. Deal with mice one time and you don't forget this step. Also remove the boat's drain plug, especially if it is stored outside - covered or not.

With the boat covered with a sheet of 6 mil plastic and serviceable tarp tied down securely, it was placed in it's winter location behind the garage. A 2 X 8 board 3-foot long was placed in front of each tire and the trailer pulled forward enough to allow the tires to rest on the boards. Now the tires will not imbed into the mud which will form before winter is past.

Wooden chocks were placed on each side of the tires in order that the boat remain stationery when the trailer jack is lifted to its highest point. Now with the boat tilted and the drain plug removed, any water that may get into the boat will immediately drain out.

A lot of effort just to store a boat and motor for six months? I don't think so. My past experience has been, when the batteries are put back in place, the hose mounted motor flusher (ear muffs) attached to the motor's water intake openings, the motor starts and runs like it did prior to winterizing.

Just about every spring, there will be more than one boat at the ramp which refuses to start. Maybe the problem is serious, but more than likely some part of the winterizing detail was overlooked.

Now when the 70 degree days have stayed for a short while, you may find me on Lake Waveland, prospecting for bluegill in the deeper water. But as the water loses its chill and mid-May approaches, the flyrod will begin to prospect the shoreline shallows.

There is also Rockville Lake with its electric motor only restriction. Again look for bluegills to begin to move to shallow water in the first half of May or if the sun has provided enough heat, the flyrod may begin to find them in April.

So, the good Lord willing and creeks don't rise, look for me on the lake. Swing over and say, "Hey". And tell me a good fish story if you've got one. I'll be in the 16-foot Sylvan with the 50 horse Evinrude. Son, fishin' time is here.

This writer welcomes readers comment's at edgeofthepairie@sbcglobal.net.

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Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM

So you want to trap

Wow. The trapping season is over. The final preparation and sale of the furs has begun. So far, fur prices have been better than they have been for years. This is a mixed blessing for the serious trapper. Better prices for fur make it easier to pay for the gas and justify the time that one spends trapping. However, better prices also bring out every Tom, Dick, and Harry (and maybe Mary), who are just out for a fast buck. These are the trappers that have no qualms about taking someone else's catch, and their trap to boot. They do not support any trappers association and they will never support them. They do not care if the right to trap remains available or not. They are only out for the quick dollar, right now. That is not what this sport is about, and if that is all you are interested in, you are missing a lot of the fun.

Let's assume that you are not one of these less than ethical trappers. Just how do you get started in this sport called trapping? First, you need properties to set your traps on and permission to be there. Now is the time to start making those contacts. If you trapped some last year, be sending your Thank You notes out with a brief letter of what all you caught. Land owners love to hear how you did, and it is great relations to build on for next year. If you are completely new to the game, start close. Find out who is willing to let you set a trap or two, and if they have any serious reservations. Maybe you will need raccoon specific traps that their animals cannot get caught in. Knowing that, lets you make decisions on what traps you need to have.

What equipment to get is your next decision to make. You may be able to make a sifter from wood scraps, 1/4" screen and a few nails and staples. Sometimes there is a hammer or hatchet around the place that would be okay to use to drive some stakes. But there are more efficient tools on the market. If you are after canines, you need heavier traps, stakes, drivers, sifter, dry dirt, lure and bait, and a trowel or some other way to dig a slanted hole. (I personally like old wood drills with the big wooden handles.) A fox can get caught in a coyote trap, but most coyotes will power out of a fox trap. Be sure to take that into consideration when buying traps. Raccoons will get into almost anything, but do not underestimate their strength. The newer raccoon specific, foot enclosing traps are very useful. You just add bait.

If you are starting with muskrats, as so many do, the equipment is much less sophisticated. A few conibear 110s and a few #1 long springs, or maybe #1.5 coil springs are a good place to start. Wire to make slide wires or just

to tie off to a stake in deeper water get you set to go. Don't forget waders of some sort and maybe some arm gauntlets to keep you from freezing your hands. Those will be your most expensive items to set up to trap the water edge. Along that water edge, you may also catch mink and raccoon.

If you truly are new to this, I would not worry about trying to skin and prepare your own fur right off. When I was at the Fur Takers of America Fur College, one of the instructors made a point of how easy it was to ruin a fur with inappropriate skinning, fleshing, stretching and drying. Learn how to do this right before you take a \$12.00 muskrat and turn it into a \$1.00 muskrat. Raccoon and mink are harder to do right, and coyote are even harder. Opossum are good to practice on as they still are not worth a lot.

The Indiana State trappers Association, in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) is putting on several Trapper Education classes this year. To my knowledge, you are suppose to register via the IDNR website at <http://www.register-ed.com/programs/indiana/>. However, it does not yet appear to be fully functional, so you may want to visit our website at www.indianatrappers.org and look into the calendar section. There you will find a listing of the trapper education classes that are coming and who you are to call to get registered. Call now, get registered later, some of these classes are limited in how many students they can handle at a time.

The next ISTA Membership meeting will be April 20, 2013 at the Walker Township Conservatin Club, 5105 W. SR 44, Rushville, IN 46173. That is 10.5 miles east of I-74 & SR 44 intersection, and 5 miles west of SR 3 & SR 44 intersection.

So as you go, watch your top knot, keep your eyes along the skyline.

Fred "DR" Philips, DVM


Camping Here and Beyond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19


Indiana. Within 14 miles of Indian Lakes Campground is Shipshewana Flea Market, and 5 minutes from the camp is Cook's Bison Ranch. The ranch offers hayrides out into the middle of the herd. You can hand feed the bison from the safety of the wagon. An Amish zoo is within 5 minutes of the camp-ground. Here you can have camel rides and hand feed many of the animals. Contact Paul or Margie at 260-463-5156, or dial up the website at www.campindianlakescamp-ground.com. This campground is on a chain of 5 lakes so you can rent a pontoon or fishing boat or bring your own. There is also a heated indoor pool.

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Happenings in Metamora, Indiana



by Janice Hunsche
Owner of Kaleidosaurus Books

Metamora, Indiana May Activities

MAY 2013

Metamora is finally coming back to life. After our winter hiatus, it's always fun to get back in the swing of things. While the grist mill opened in April, the canal boats wait until May. Canal boat rides occur on the hour 12-4pm Wednesday-Sunday, May-October. Be sure to buy your ticket early at the ticket booth in downtown Metamora as these rides can be very popular on warm days.

Of course, The Whitewater Valley Railroad has its usual schedule of events.

The Train to Dinner on Friday, May 3 and May 17th departs the Connersville Station at 6pm and travels to the Laurel Hotel. The cost is \$29 per adult, \$15 for children (special child's menu) and includes the round trip train ride, meal, tax and tip. Reservations are required so be sure to call (765) 825-2054 (Prices may change without notice).

The Valley flyer starts its regular weekend run, (May - October) leaving Connersville at 12pm with a 2 1/2 hour layover in Metamora and returning by 5pm. The round trip fares are \$22 for adult and \$14 for child, one way fares are \$16 for adult and \$9 for child, and caboose is \$25 for adult and \$16 for child.

If you are looking for a short train ride, these are once again available. This is a 2 mile excursion along the canal, past the Canal Boat dock, aqueduct and restored lock. Tickets can be purchased at the Train Ticket Station on Main Street in Metamora.

Just for the month of May, the Valley Flyer Excursion adds Thursday and Friday to its regular run. The train leaves Connersville at 10am, has a 2 hour layover in Metamora and returns by 3pm.

Of course the Whitewater Valley Railroad has its usual themed trains running.

May 11th is National Train Day and the Whitewater Valley Railroad is celebrating with The Statesman and President Abraham Lincoln. President Lincoln will be riding with you on the train from Connersville. This is your chance to ask the former president questions and have your photos

taken with him. Listen to President Lincoln as he delivers a memorable speech before the train departs Metamora for the return to Connersville.

In honor of Mother's Day, May 12th, Old Truck Revival will be providing live music entertainment for Mom to enjoy.

May 18th is the Overland Limited Wild West Train. Join the Circle D Rangers as they protect the Metamora bound train. Caboose seating is not available for this train. After the train comes into town, there is usually a shoot-out in the Duck Creek area of Metamora. This is usually around 3pm so be sure to listen for the warning shots.

On Memorial Day Weekend, the train will be running on Monday May 27th, following the usual schedule.

If you are a Thomas the Tank Engine fan, the GoGo Thomas Tour is coming to Connersville and NOW is the time to get your tickets. Thomas will be running June 14-16 and June 21-23. This is a fun event but it fills up fast. For more information call TicketWeb at 866-468-7630 or visit <http://www.ticketweb.com> and search for Thomas the Tank Engine in Connersville, Indiana.

The State Historic site has several different events this month. On May 4, Great Gardening at the Whitewater Canal State Historic Site will be from 11:30am-1:30 pm. Tour the Whitewater Canal State Historic Site's garden. Gardening guru Carol Mundy will discuss growing heritage food and herbs. Cost is \$15 per adult, \$12.50 per child and includes a box lunch. For more information call (765) 647-6512.

May 5 is Jammin on the Mill Porch i.e. Gristmill. This is a free concert held on the first Sunday of every month, April - September from 1-4pm. Sponsored by Historic Metamora, Inc.

If you love to run or walk, the Towpath 10K Dash and Fun Run is May 18. The Towpath 10K is a flat, sanctioned, 10k running race and a shorter 1, 2, or 3 mile fun run or walk. All ages are invited to pre-register or sign up the day of the event starting at 8am. Those who pre-register by May 1 for the Towpath 10K will receive a free t-shirt! This is sponsored in conjunction with the Whitewater Canal Trail, Inc. Cost is \$25 per person. More information is available at the Gristmill, calling (765) 647-6512 or http://indianamuseum.org/pdfs/10k_fun_run_2013.pdf

One of the most moving ceremonies held in Metamora is the Memorial Day Service. This year the Memorial Day Service will be on Sunday, May 26th from 2-3pm. The service has been held for more than 100 years, making one of the oldest Memorial Day Services in Indiana. It is held on the bridge in the center of town (Columbia Street). There will be music, memorial speeches, and finally the floating of flowers down the canal.

Of course it wouldn't be Metamora without Acoustical Final Friday. Stop by Lover's Lane Stage on May 31st to sign up and perform at 6pm or just enjoy the music from 7pm - 11pm.

So if you're looking for a fun day trip stop by and see us in Metamora.

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1953 Centerville Bulldog Basketball Team members (names underlined) and friends. Front Row: Barbara Widau, Mary Lou "Loudy" Wickersham ('53 Cheer Leader), Dale Temple #55, Don Cook, Sally Cook, Reed and Coach Les Slinker. Back Row: Pete Widau #22, Don Jobe, Bill Harrison #44, Jon Higbie Sr, Ron Harris #32, Bob Blue (Class of 1952) and Clyde Reed (Class of 1953). Bill Burris #51 and Myron Higgins (Class of 1953) left before I took the picture. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

19th Reunion of Centerville 1953 Basketball Team

by Ray Dickerson

I almost didn't make it to the 19th Reunion of the 1953 Centerville Basketball reunion that Bill Harrison invited me to attend Wednesday, April 3rd at the MCL Cafeteria in Richmond, IN. Just too many irons in the fire anymore. I missed the meal, but made it in time to meet most of those attending, except for Bill Burris and Myron Higgins who left early.

I hoped I would be able to give everyone a copy of the December 2012 Gad-a-bout who attended back in October. I had written a article about that reunion and they were in some of the photos in it.

The 1953 Basketball Team members attending this year included Dale Temple, Ron Harris, Bill Burris, Bill Harrison, Pete Widau, Coach Les Slinker and Cheer Leader Mary Lou "Loudy" Wickersham.

I sat down at the table across from Pete Widau and next to Barbara. The talk was mostly about life back in the fifties, basketball, school and what has transpired since then.

Besides the original 1953 five basketball players, also attending was Don and Sally Cook (Class of 1955), Pete's wife Barbara Widau, Bob Blue (Class



of 1952), Clyde Reed (Class of 1953) and his wife Paula, Don Jobe from Brookville, IN, Jon Higbie Sr from Milton, IN and of course myself (Class of 1959).

Bob Blue was looking at a book titled "Words of War", he asked me to see who was in it that was attending the reunion that day. He opened it to a page and there was Coach Les Slinkers photo. He was 19 years old, in the military during World War II. I hope to get to see that book again. I knew Les was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



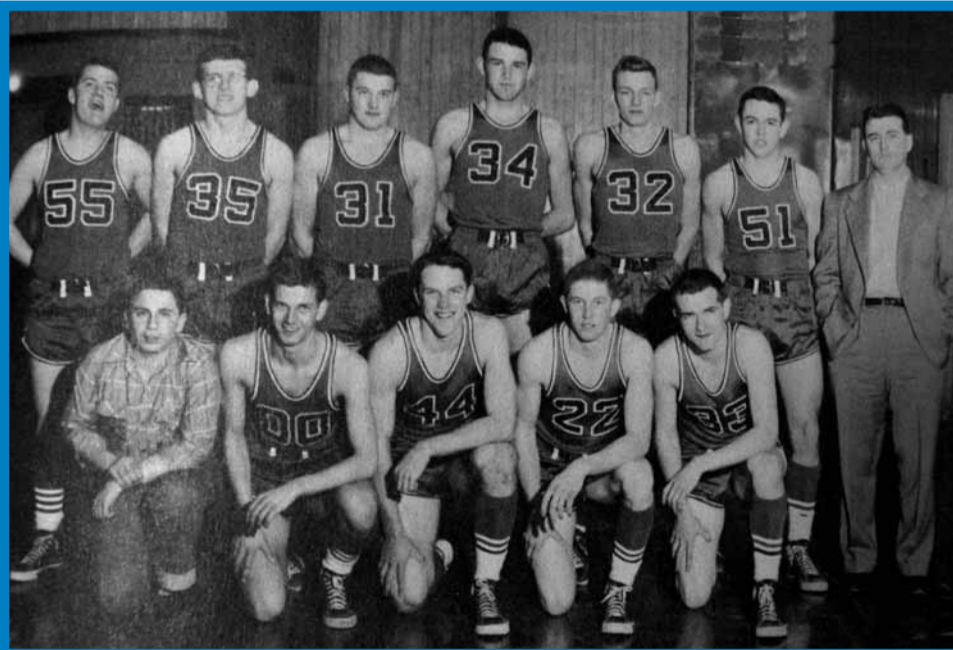
Top Left Photo: Clyde Reed (left) talks with Les Slinker (right) who coached the 1953 Basketball Team. Clyde and his wife Paula live near Denver, CO. Les lives near New Palestine, IN.

Top Right Photo: Barbara Widau (left) and Pete Widau (center) talk to Don Jobe from Brookville, IN. Paul and Barbara live in Centerville, Paul is on the Town Board.

Middle Right Photo: Bob Blue (left) and Don Cook (right) look at a picture in a notebook. Bob Blue lives in Centerville. Don and Sally live in Richmond, IN.

Bottom Right Photo: Bill Harrison (left) and Dale "Jocko" Temple (right) reminisce. Bill and Dale both live in Centerville.

Photos by Ray Dickerson



The original 1952-53 Centerville Bulldogs "A", originally known as "The most Winning Team in Centerville's History." Front Row left to right: Johnny Wambo, Jim Cihlar, Bill Harrison, Pete Widau and Jerry Wickersham. Back Row: Dale Temple, Dave Nuss, Don Chance, Loren Hamilton, Ron Harris, Bill Burris and Coach Les Slinker. The White Dot refers to team members who attended 18th Reunion. (1953 Mortonian Photo)

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Looking Downstream

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

er numbers and average sizes increased over the previous year. Catch total and size restrictions are paying off with overall better livewell checks. My son Steven and I both set new personal bests on not only numbers of Bluegill and Crappie but size as well last year and are dead set on improving on those numbers this year.

Larger Bluegill and Redear are not school fish, they're loners. They'll take up residence under an overhanging bush or tree and chase off their smaller brothers. When going after these bigger fish make your first cast really count. If you place your bait close and tight to the structure the first bite you get will usually be from the biggest fish on that spot, sometimes especially with Bluegill there can be more than one big fish there. If you're on a spot and you've caught two or three good-sized fish then start catching much smaller fish it's time to move on. Remember this spot for later, usually you can return in a few hours and find that another nice fish or two has moved in. For me nothing beats the fun of the Crappie pre-spawn run where it seems as if every Crappie in the lake go into a ten day feeding frenzy. During this time the Crappie go very shallow in search of food, providing good fishing for those on shore as well as the boat fishermen. All you need are a bucket of minnows (sized two to no more than three inches) light wire hooks #6 to # 2, light line 2 to 6 lbs. and pencil bobbers with proper sinker. Cane poles to graphite rods will do. You'll do better around structure but you can still catch fish pretty much anywhere close to shore. No matter the type of fish, May is the month for fishing. Good luck and remember the old saying, "a bad day fishing beats a good day doing anything else" You comments and suggestions are always appreciated. pasports@ydial.net

Crappie USA Super Event

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

not only cash and prizes, but a chance to advance to the prestigious Cabela's Crappie USA Classic. This year's classic will be held October 23-26, 2013 on Kentucky Lake at Paris, Tennessee.

Special thanks to **Carolyn and Van** from the **Somerset- Pulaski County CVB** for hosting the event and being on hand at the weigh in Saturday. "Lake Cumberland truly has a fantastic crappie population and our anglers will have fantastic fishing to look forward to during the \$100,000.00 Cabela's Crappie USA Classic scheduled for October of 2014", said Crappie USA CEO Darrell VanVactor. "The repairs have been made at Wolf Creek Dam and the lake is now on the rise and should be back to normal pool by Classic time", added VanVactor.

Also a special thanks to Stacey with Stubby Steve's for attending and giving out samples to all the anglers. Many who tried the Stubby Steve's for the first time are already "hooked".

Also thanks to Terry Barker of Cumberland Crappie for attending and giving a double seat rig for the highest weight out of the money.

Semi-Pro Division Results

Taking first place was the team of Thomas Hankins of Indianapolis, Indiana and Ron Bilbrey of Anderson, Indiana with a 2-day total weight of 20.95 pounds and earning \$2,500.00. The team also earned an additional \$120.00 for second biggest crappie of the event which weighed in at 2.21 pounds. Thomas and Ron were spider rigging 3-5 feet of water in Caney Creek using glow/chartreuse jigs. The team

noted that the bite got much better as the sun came up. The team caught over 20 fish throughout the event.

Second place went to Wayne E. Darnell of Kingsport, Tennessee and Ricky J Kenner of Kodak, Tennessee weighing in 20.58 and earning \$1,500.00. Wayne and Ricky were trolling very slow at a speed of .8 MPH using planner boards to keep from spooking fish in 8 feet of water. The team caught 15 fish on blue/chartreuse 1/32 ounce jigs.

In third place was the Somerset, Kentucky team of Gary Anger and Perry Hood with a weight of 16.68 pounds and earned \$1,000.00. Gary and Perry were fishing North Fork where they had trolling motor failure and had to tie up to a bush where they tight lined live bait in 3 feet of water to catch over 40 fish in the 2-days of the event.

Roy T Capes Jr of Cordele, Georgia and Robert Harris of Warner Robbins, Georgia took fourth place with a weight of 14.93 pounds and earning \$700.00. Roy T and Robert were long line trolling at .9 mph in Caney Creek over 20 feet of water where they found fish suspended at 8-10 feet deep targeting the depths showing fish on their Humminbird locator. The team was using Tom's chartreuse colored jigs tipped with Stubby Steve's. The team caught 9 fish over the 2-days including big fish of the event at 2.49 pounds which netted the team an additional \$420.00. The team also earned \$250.00 for taking the Ranger Cup award in the Semi-Pro Division.

Fifth place went to the team of Steve Ferguson and Teresa Collins of Puryear, Tennessee weighing in 13.64 pounds and received a double seat rig from Cumberland Crappie for being the first team out of the money. Steve and Teresa were spider rigging in 12-15 feet of water in Wolfe Creek on Friday and Fisher Creek on Saturday using black/chartreuse Southern Pro on Teezer heads using their 14 foot B'n'M Poles to catch 30 fish for the 2-days.

Amateur Division Results

First place in the amateur division was the Monticello, Kentucky team of Travis and Randy Neal weighing in 14.9 pounds and earning \$1,500.00. Travis and Randy were vertical jigging in 3-5 feet of water using chartreuse and Ice Shad jigs in Otter Creek where the water temperature was 48 degrees both days, but the water colored changed shutting down the bite. The team caught 17 fish for the 2-days.

Second place went to the Murray, Kentucky team of Doyle and Sonny Milby with a weight of 14.28 and earning \$900.00. Doyle and Sonny were spider rigging in the bay next to the weigh in site using Southern Pro lime and chartreuse and orange/chartreuse jigs tipped with Stubby Steve's. The team credited Humminbird for finding their 80 fish in 2-days. "I Love Lake Cumberland", said Doyle.

Taking third place was the London, Kentucky team of Robert Shears III and Robert Shears Jr weighing in 14.07 and earning \$600.00. The Shears team was fishing Fisher Creek in 16-18 feet of water spider rigging chartreuse combos to catch 80 suspended fish in 2-days.

In fourth was the team of Roger Milby of Auburn, Alabama and Brandon Rogers of Murray, Kentucky with a weight of 13.99 pounds and earning \$400.00. Roger and Brandon were spider rigging Pitman Creek over 30 feet of water marking fish on their Humminbird dropping pink/black Southern Pro jigs tipped with Stubby Steve's down to their fish at 12 feet deep on Friday. On Saturday the team switched to live bait and still targeting suspended fish to catch 45 fish in the 2-days of the event.

Fifth place went to the team of Masson Milby and Ashley Adams of Murray, Kentucky weighing in 11.57 pounds and earning \$200.00. Mason and Ashley were spiper rigging Burnside Creek and Pittman Creek in 40 feet of water with fish suspended 14 feet deep. The team was using Southern Pro jigs in a variety of colors to catch 50 fish over the 2-days. "They just can't hide from a Humminbird", said Ashley Adams.

Congratulations to all the teams fishing this event. For a complete list of tournament standings and downloadable photos for this event visit www.crap-pieusa.com then go to Tournament Results.

Fly Fishing for Smallmouth Bass

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

don't take this fly fishing thing too seriously and practice your casting you will be well on your way to many pleasant days on Indiana's beautiful rivers and streams.

Editor's Note: Dean Shadley has had 35 years of Fly Fishing experience and is FFF certified. He is the Chief instructor for the Indiana Becoming an Outdoor Woman program and the Royal River fly shop casting instructor.

He has launched a new Fly Fishing Instruction for groups and individuals in warm, cold and salt water. He will be instructing basic to advanced casting; on water casting/fishing; equipment review/selection and knot tying and fly selection.

For more information on Dean's new career contact him at shadleyds@gmail.com.

Dean will be appearing in my May and June issues. If you like his writing on the subject of Fly Fishing send me an e-mail and maybe I can get him to appear again.

Many outdoor enthusiasts and I know Dean as the Indiana Conservation Officer who became the Turn In A Poacher (TIP) Coordinator and turned the struggling program into a world class productive arm of the Indiana Law Enforcement Division of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. I know this to be a fact mostly because I became involved with TIP in 1984 when it first was organized. The Indiana Conservation Officers who preceded Dean Shadley did a great job, but were working with little funding and a statewide court system that didn't recognize the importance of punishing game poachers. That is with the exception of Bartholomew County who from the beginning took the matter very seriously.


Today poachers are very much aware of TIP and what will happen to them if they appear in a courthouse statewide. They will be punished for their poaching severely.

*Tier: "I don't consider myself a particularly good tier."

I checked on line to find out if Dean had spelled tier correctly, after I checked the dictionary which said, "one of two or more rows arranged one above the other." On line I typed a line using it and then asked if it was spelled correctly.

The reply came from a fly fishing website www.flytyingforum.com it said, "Depends what english your using. I suspect tyer is British originally and tier is American. Here in canada our english is much closer to British English versus American English."

So *tier is correct here in America.



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Whitewater River Rendezvous

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

than I planned. I stopped for a brief moment to talk to Allen Beneker, who co-helped make this event possible. I wanted to thank him for his help getting information to me about this event and also for getting me in contact with Tom Cooney who is involved with the Whitewater Canal Association.

I then headed for the Brookville Tailwater to see if anyone was utilizing this beautiful day to fly fish there. See photo on page 15 of two fly fishermen trying their luck in the tailwater.

It had been a very good day.

Here is a list of contact information for the businesses who I talked to earlier.

FlyMasters of Indianapolis, 8232 Allisonville Road, Indianapolis, IN 46250; 317-570-9811; www.flymasters.com or info@flymasters.com

Warmwater Chronicles, www.warmwaterchronicles.com or info@warmwaterchronicles.com

Delamere & Hopkins, Outfitters for the Field & Stream, Luke Sedacca & Chip Pauly, Hyde Park Square, 2708 Erie Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208, 513-871-FISH, www.BestGear.com or shop@bestgear.com

Little Elkhart Chapter of Trout Unlimited, Michael Beachy, President, 574-596-4929, www.Lectu.org

Lynn W. Burry, President, Northeastern Indiana Trout Association, P.O. Box 10665, Ft. Wayne, IN 46853, www.indianatrout.com

Joe Thurston, Central Indiana Trout Unlimited, www.CentrallIndianaTU.org

Sheri Harris, Fly Tying and Feather Jewelry, 765-620-3006, FireFlyFishPink@aol.com

Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, Healing Those Who Serve, P.O. Box 695, La Plata, MD 20646; Local Contact: Jerry Koons 317-372-9891; www.projecthealingwaters.org

1953 Basketball Team Reunion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

in WWII, he had talked about it at the last reunion. I know where he lives now so I am going to visit him as soon as I can.

I hadn't seen Clyde Reed since school so I sat down next to him and began asking questions about his brothers and everything else. His brother Jim, lives in North Carolina and his brother Duane lives in Richmond, IN. He retired from the U.S. Air Force after 20 years of service to his country with the rank of Captain. He flew F-86's for five years. On his F-86 he had the name "C-ville." I asked if he had a photo of it. He said he did. I asked if he could send me a copy and a narrative of his and Paula's life since the military.

I only got to talk to Jon Higbie Sr for a short time. He told me he remembered seeing my brother Bob at Lumpy's Restaurant quite often before he passed. I told him Bob ate there almost every day. He also knew my brother-in-law Rev. Woody Woodford when he lived in Milton. Woody is my sister Wilma's husband, they live in Falmouth, KY now.

Some of the attendee's began preparing to leave, I asked if I could get a photo of everyone before they left and told them I had copies of the December 2012 and April 2013 Gad-a-bouts in the truck, I wanted to give those that wanted a copy of each. I took the group photo, I had been taking candid shots since arriving.

Afterwards I thanked them for inviting me and headed back home to work on the May Gad-a-bout. It's fun sitting and talking with friends you attended school with, reliving memories long since past. Fortunately we can remember more of the past than

the present, at least that is getting to be more of a problem the older I get.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Contact Ginger Martin 765-914-8050 for more information.



Rick Shook (left) and Lee Wright (right) preparing to trim tree at scene of raccoon power outage. Good job guys!

FIRST, RACCOON PUTS US IN THE DARK THAN PICKUP PUTS EVERYONE IN THE DARK

It was a bad day in Centerville April 4, 2013. I left the house, than came back. Sherry asked me if I heard the loud boom. I looked at her puzzlingly, no, what boom? She said our power was out. I looked outside and noticed a town truck stopping in front of our neighbors to the east. So I walked up there. A town electrician, Rick Shook, told me the transformer blew. About that same time we noticed a staggering raccoon leaving the scene, it could barely walk. Rick said the raccoon must have got up there and caused the outage.

I had work to do over on South St. so I left. When I entered the house I hit the light switch, but it didn't come on. That raccoon couldn't have effected down here, could it? I got back in my truck and headed for the city building again. Once there I found that a small pickup truck had run off McMinn Rd and hit a power pole, darkening the entire town. When I returned home I saw Rick Shook was behind the neighbor's house with another town employee, Lee Wright. Rick had a very long yellow pole attempting to fix the blown fuse from the ground. They couldn't get a truck back there. After a few minutes he accomplished the task. A short time later our power came back on, Duke Energy had transferred power at the truck accident area, when the town got their power we did too, thanks to Rick Shook and Lee Wright. I want to commend them both for a fine job, especially after watching Rick holding that very long pole, keeping it steady enough to fix the fuse from the ground. That had to be tedious to say the least.

They came back later to trim a tree where a drop line was embedded in a tree near that pole.

I asked the guys if I could take their photo and put it in this paper. They said it was alright with them.

NEW ALSACE CONSERVATION CLUB 25TH ANNUAL FISHING DERBY 5-4-13

New Alsace Conservation Club's 25th Annual Fishing Derby is being held on Saturday, May 4th from 7 A.M. to 5 P.M. at Lake In The Pines just west of New Alsace. At our 25th Annual Fishing Derby we will be giving away derby prizes and door prizes valued at \$1500 or more to those who are registered. The derby is open to the public with an entry fee for adults and children 12 years and older of \$18.00. Children under 12 are free. The derby will run from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

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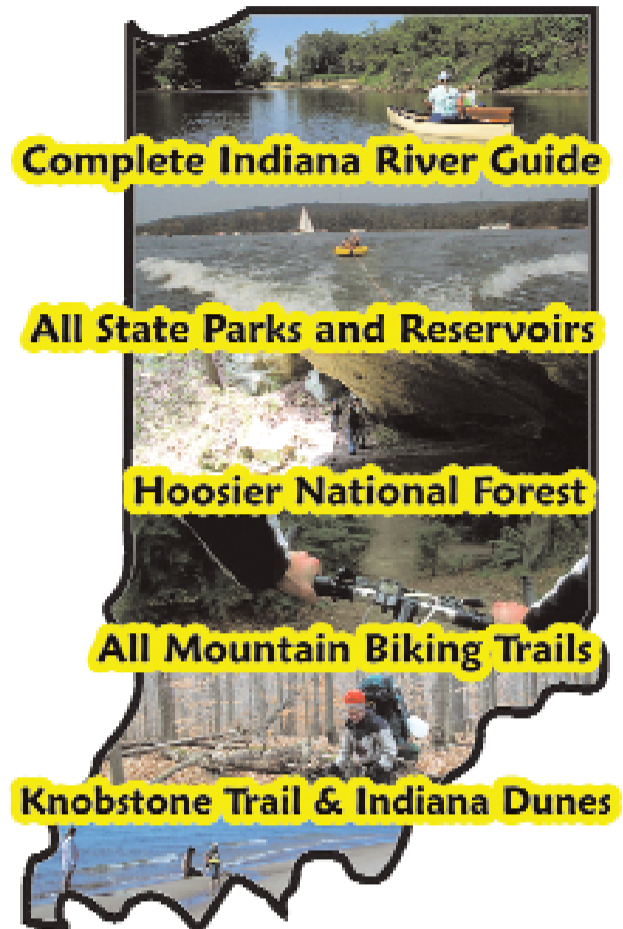
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Gad's Corner

SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO: THE GAD-A-BOUT, P.O. BOX 85, CENTERVILLE, IN 47330 (INCLUDE A SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE IF YOU WANT THE PHOTO RETURNED) YOU CAN ALSO SEND YOUR PHOTOS BY E-MAIL OR ON AN INQUIRY FROM MY WEBSITE: WWW.THEGADABOUT.COM TO ray@thegadabout.com.



This is my son, Jarrod Rea. This was his first kill. A 10 point buck, 165 lbs. field dressed. We drug it out of a hollar with rope and this wagon because we couldn't get a quad in there. Talk about a heck of a time... Lol. I couldn't be any prouder of him! (Photo submitted by Lora Hunter)



Nine year old Alanah Westfall took this 8 point buck in Henry County. This was Alanah's first deer. (Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Photo, Summit Lake, IN)

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

7am until 5pm. Rain or shine. Registration will begin at 6am on derby day and continue throughout. Lake In The Pines is located west of New Alsace on N. Dearborn Rd. Directions: From the east take I-74 St. Leon Exit, 3 mi. S. on St. Rd. 1, right on N. Dearborn Rd. 3.5mi. Or, from the West take I-74 Sunman Exit, 3 mi. S. on St. Rd. 101 to Sunman, left on Eastern Ave. (N. Dearborn Rd.) 4 mi.

For more information call Lake In The Pines at 812-623-2136 or Dale Back at 812-623-2431 or E-mail: backdale@gmail.com. www.newalsaceconservationclub.com

LIBERTY LIONS CLUB SMOKIN' ON THE WATER FESTIVAL, CIRCUS & BBQ

The Liberty Lions Club will be hosting Smokin' on the Water - BBQ Festival By The Lake Saturday & Sunday, May 4-5, 2013 at 3801 W Old Dunlapville Road at the Treaty Line Pioneer Village located at the north end of Brookville Lake.

This is a Hoosier BBQ Cup Event, it is the first stop on the points trail for the 2013 Hoosier BBQ Cup. It is a KCBS Sanctioned event with \$5,000 in prize money!

For all the information go to their website www.libertyindianalions.com and click on Smoke On The Water or whatever you are interested in attending.

See contact information below.

Directions to Event: From Liberty take SR 101 south to Roseburg, turn right onto Dunlapville Causeway Road, cross the lake, at next right turn right, follow Dunlapville Road to the entrance. There is ample parking in field across from entrance.

The Liberty Lions Club has been bringing the Kelly-Miller Circus to Liberty on every other year since 2003, they will be here **Saturday May 18, 2013**. Advance tickets are \$10 for adults and \$6 for children. Performances will be at 2 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

A Kelly-Miller Clown will be in Union County on May 2 and will be visiting the Schools other facilities to tell everyone about the Circus coming to town.

Tickets at the gate will be \$15 for adults and \$7 for children. For more info call Carl Sharp at 765-458-5574 (Office) or 765-580-0215 (Cell).



Billy Chandler took this 8 point buck on 11-18-2012 (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

ADVERTISING RATE INCREASE JUNE 2013

The rate increase I wrote about in the last issue, April, will go in effect beginning with the June Gad-a-bout. The Rate Sheet on page 31 has the new rates on it.

Any Advertiser who signed up for a year contract prior to June will keep the former rate until their renewal date, at which time they will begin paying the increase with the new contract period. If you have any questions see page 3 for contact info.

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4 Hours	6 Hours
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 PONTOON BOATS - Weekend & Holidays

4 Hours	8 Hours
24' (10 person) \$140.00	\$210.00

 • Visa or Mastercard deposit required on pontoon rentals
 • 24 hr. Cancellation policy
 • Plus fuel usage / Over 8 hours - \$40.00 per hour
 • Rentals are subject to 7% sales tax.
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Roger Wohler caught these catfish in the Salamonie Reservoir. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)



Terry Buzzard caught this 5.3 lb walleye below Salamonie Dam. (Bozarth Country Store Photo, Lagro, IN)



Pete Brown took this 200 lb. buck on 11-26-2012. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

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THE GAD-A-BOUT ADVERTISING RATES

PLEASE NOTE: EACH DOLLAR AMOUNT BELOW IS PER INSERTION

FULL PAGE	1/2 PAGE	1/3 PAGE	1/4 PAGE	1/8 PAGE	1/10 PAGE	4 COL INCH	1/15 PAGE
ALT. SIZES 8" X 10.37" 12" X 6.88" 15.75" X 5.13"	ALT. SIZES 5.25" X 10.37" 8" X 6.88" 15.75" X 3.37"	ALT. SIZES 4" X 10.37" 6" X 6.88" 8" X 5.13"	ALT. SIZES 3" X 6.88 4" X 5.13 6" X 3.37	ALT. SIZES 3" X 5.13 4.5" X 3.37	ONE SIZE 4" X 3.37"	MONOPOLY CARD SIZE ONE SIZE 3" X 3.37"	
94.5 COL. IN.	48 COL. IN.	32 COL. IN.	24 COL. IN.	12 COL. IN.	9 COL. IN.	8 COL. IN.	6 COL. IN.
1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME	1 TIME
\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI	\$7.50 PCI
\$708.75	\$360.00	\$240.00	\$180.00	\$90.00	\$67.50	\$60.00	\$45.00
2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES	2-11 TIMES
\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI	\$6.50 PCI
\$614.25	\$312.00	\$208.00	\$156.00	\$78.00	\$58.50	\$52.00	\$39.00
12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES	12 TIMES
\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI	\$5.50 PCI
\$519.75	\$264.00	\$176.00	\$132.00	\$66.00	\$49.50	\$44.00	\$33.00

Abbreviations: ALT - ALTERNATE / COL. IN. - COLUMN INCH / PCI - PER COLUMN INCH

ADVERTISERS INFORMATION

(PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY OR TYPE)

SALESPERSON: _____ DATE: _____

BUSINESS NAME: _____

OWNER NAME (S) _____ MGR. OR OTHER _____

STREET OR P.O. BOX: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ OTHER: _____

E-MAIL: _____ WEBSITE: _____

Ad Size _____ Rate: \$ _____ Monthly Cost: \$ _____

CIRCLE METHOD OF PAYMENT - CHECK #: _____ CASH: \$ _____

PLACE AD IN JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC

(CIRCLE APPROPRIATE MONTH (S) THE ADVERTISEMENT WILL APPEAR)

Customer Authorization Signature: _____ DATE: _____

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