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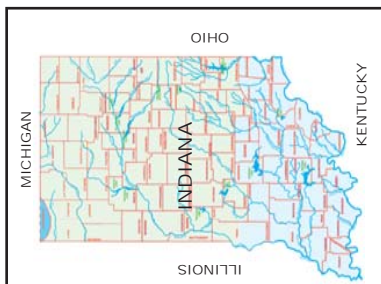


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THE GAD-A-BOUT™



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Created in 1990 & Published Monthly
by Kentucky Colonel Ray Dickerson
or the name given to him by Golden Eagle in 1995
LOKA'DWE ICHUTAKU YUSHEDON'
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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: Indianapolis to Become Crappie Capitol of the World February 22-23, 2014. Ronnie Capps has captured eight National Crappie Tournament Championships along with more than 100 single day competition crappie tournament events in various states. The 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show will be at the Indiana State Fairgrounds February 14-23, 2014. Visit their website also indysportshow.com . See More on Page 16-17. (Renfro Productions Photo)

Top Right: Outdoor Writer who appeared in The Gad-a-bout from 2002 to 2013, Don Bickel, passed away December 27, 2013 at home in his sleep after a long and brave battle with cancer. See More on Pages 26 & 28 (Photo provided by

Bickel Family)

Bottom Left: I met Jerry Savage at the 2013 Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Show at the State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis. He had a wooden military boot sitting on his work table. When I asked him about it, he said he was carving it for a Veteran's Memorial. He is still carving second one. See more on Page 19 (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Bottom Right: Delores Dobbs was presented one of Indiana's most prestigious citizen awards, the Sagamore of the Wabash, by State Representative Jud McMillin on behalf of Governor Mike Pence Dec. 12, 2013 at the Franklin Co. Courthouse in Brookville, IN. See More on Page 8-9. (Photo by Dianna Dobbs Koester)

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Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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PHARMACY OPENS INSIDE WOODRUFF'S SUPERMARKET IN LIBERTY, IN

Tim Woodruff began his grocery career working for his father, Eddie "Ed" Woodruff at 26 E. Union Street in 1976. Tim and Joy were married in 1973, she was a homemaker, staying home to raise the children, Nathan, Eric and Jennifer until 1989 when she joined Tim at the store.

Woodruff's Supermarket thrived at 26 E. Union Street, so well in fact, they built a new store on the southwest corner of South Main (US 27) and West Union Street (SR 44), moving into their new location at 10 South Main Street, March 2003.

In July 2012 I had a write-up about Tim Woodruff who was adding 7,200 sq. ft. of space to his Supermarket in Liberty, Indiana.

In July 2013 I interviewed Tim about his almost filled Supermarket, asking if he was happy with the new addition. He told me he was extremely happy with it, especially with the added room and new products. He had even added a UPS Shipping Center in his office. Further plans included adding a bakery and a deli in the future.

Since that time Tim was approached by Dave and Peggy Rokosz from Centerville asking about putting a pharmacy in his newly enlarged Supermarket. Tim accepted their offer. He said he believed Liberty could support another Pharmacy.

I stopped by Woodruff's Supermarket on Saturday, January 4, 2014 to see if I could get a photo of the new Pharmacy. Tim wasn't in, but I was referred to a man who was working in the pharmacy, it was Dave Rokosz, the new owner. He told me they were opening Monday, January 6th. I told him we were anticipating a huge snowfall and plunging thermometer Sunday and Monday, I doubted too many people would be out on Monday. He agreed and added their planned Grand Opening was January 20-25, 2014. I wrote down some information about the pharmacy and their hours, then left.

On Wednesday, January 8th I called Tim Woodruff to see if I could come by there the next day to get a photo of him and the Pharmacists. He told me they were having a ribbon cutting for the new Pharmacy by UCDC director Melissa Browning at 11 a.m. Thursday. I told him I would be there.

I arrived Thursday on time at Woodruff's Supermarket, me and about every other newspaper represented in the area. (See above photo)

The new Liberty pharmacist owners are David and Peggy Rokosz from Centerville, who formerly owned The



Ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Liberty Medicenter Pharmacy located in Woodruff's Supermarket from left to right, Melissa Browning (Executive Director of UCDC), Howard Curry (Board President of UCDC), Jennifer Woodruff (Tim's daughter), Tim Woodruff (Owner of Woodruff's Supermarket), Dave Rokosz (Pharmacist), Peggy Rokosz (Pharmacist), Jessica Lawson (Pharmacy Technician), Joe Ray (Woodruff employee) and Sherri Lahman (Board Member UCDC & Branch Mgr at Liberty's West End Bank). (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Medicine Shoppe in Richmond.

Since that time they have partnered with Ken Newton from Cambridge City, the three are now Co-Owners of their MEDICENTER PHARMACY at 898 E. County Road in New Castle and at 10 S. Main Street, Suite A (inside Woodruff's Supermarket) in Liberty. Primarily Dave and Peggy will take care of the Liberty pharmacy and Ken will take care of the New Castle pharmacy. However, the three will work at both locations as needed. Dave and Peggy have hired a Liberty native, Jessica Lawson, as their Pharmacy Technician.

When you go into Woodruff's Supermarket the new Medicenter Pharmacy is located to the left of the store office or directly across from the check-out registers. The hours are Mon and Fri 9 a.m. - 7 p.m., Tues, Wed & Thur 9 a.m. - 6 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. - 1 p.m., Closed Sun. Their phone number is 765-223-2121.

Before leaving I asked Tim about the new bakery, had there been any progress on it. He told me it's coming along. It will probably be the next addition to the store.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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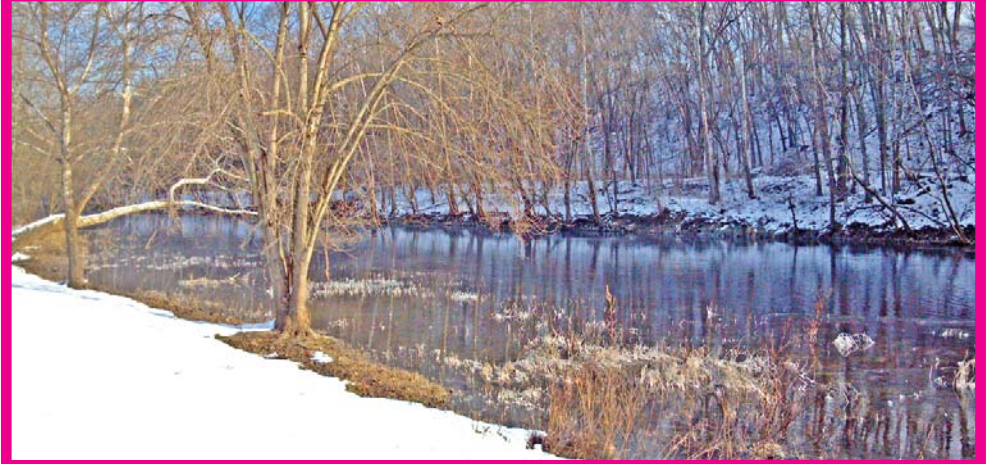
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Brookville Dam stilling basin for fishing spoons and blade baits. (Author Photo)



Top: A Rainbow trout caught in the river below the dam (tailwater). Bottom: A view of the river below the dam where trout was caught. (Author Photos)

So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by Tag Nobbe

Professional Fishing Guide

the single digits and you have plenty of ice. I prefer at least 4 inches on a pond, but I have heard of people pushing a flat bottom john boat out in the middle of the lake and fishing out of them when the ice is thin. I guess where there's a will there's a way.

Another good option is the river below Brookville dam (tailwater), it never freezes, even in the harshest winter it will flow all the way till it meets the West Fork of the Whitewater River. This particular river is unique. It has 6 different species of suckers, it has huge carp, it has rainbow trout, it has brown trout, and every fish that is in the lake is also in this river. I have caught suckers on sucker rods in the middle of winter using red worms. A sucker rod is just a metal rod about 2 to 3 feet long. What you do is tie on 3 small hooks on to the rod evenly spaced out with mono filament fishing line, bait up the hooks, tie on a 30 foot piece of twine at one end toss it out and wait. A lot of times you catch two at a time.

If your a fly fisherman this river is right up your alley. Most all of the river is wade able with just a pair of hip waders. What you have is a stretch of river that starts out at the stilling basin at the bottom the dam. The stilling basin is a 35 foot deep concrete box with a 30 foot concrete wall that calms and stills the river were it comes out from underneath the dam. The water that is coming from the lake is coming off

the bottom giving you a constant 45 degree water temperature even in the winter. This will let you fish the river year round, just remember you can only keep trout from the last Saturday in April to the end of December, but all the other fish are fair game. A four or five weight 8 to 9 foot fly rod is perfect for the size trout in the river. The brown trout have a 18 inch minimum size limit and the rainbow have a 7 inch minimum size limit. A brown trout in the mid 20 inch range is definitely doable.

If your not a fly fisherman a 6 foot medium light graphite spinning rod will work just fine. Small in line spinners, salmon eggs, minnows or night crawlers all catch trout day in and day out.

The stilling basin at the dam is a great place to catch catfish and walleye. The bait of choice in the winter are minnows. In the fall the lake is pulled down 8 feet to winter pool. This starts around October 15th, and if you want to see how a stilling basin works this is the time to check it out. It is so violet its worth seeing but don't bring a fishing pole

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

I gotta' fish somewhere

Brookville lake is not a lake that freezes every winter. Last year we had no ice on the lake at all. In the rural areas of Brookville there are privately owned ponds that vary from 1 to 3 acres. Most of these ponds are stocked with bluegill and crappie. The down side to this is you have to know somebody or own the pond yourself to get on them. These ponds due to their small size freeze thicker and quicker then the lake. For example right now the lake has no ice, but a lot of farm ponds have 2 to 3 inches. This not thick enough for my liking, but its getting close. All you really need is a couple of days in



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News from the Indiana State Police



by **Sergeant John D. Bowling**
Public Information/Recruiting Officer

Grateful Trooper Attends Crash Victim's Wedding

Lebanon, IN – On Saturday, December 7th, Trooper Kyle West, wearing his state police ceremonial dress uniform, watched with grateful appreciation as Kerri Crane wed Jonah Faulkner in Lebanon, IN. Trooper West and the now Mrs. Faulkner will be forever connected because of a series of events that occurred on a cold morning exactly seven years ago on December 7, 2006.

On that fateful morning, Trooper West was responding to assist other troopers at a traffic snarling crash scene that had motorists stopped on I-65 just a couple of miles south of the State Road 334 Zionsville exit. As West approached the rear of the stopped line of traffic, he watched as a semi in front of him failed to slow down for the stopped traffic and smashed into the rear of a stopped passenger car, forcing that vehicle forward into the back of another semi.

The driver of the stopped passenger car was the then 23 year old Kerri Crane. The impact was so great the car was crushed to one-quarter its original size, with Ms. Crane's upper body ending up in the rear floor board and her lower body still seat belted in the mangled driver's seat.

Trooper West knew her injuries were grave; what he didn't know at the time was the extent of Ms. Crane's severe and life threatening neck and spinal injuries. West went through the rear window of the car and was able to stabilize Kerri, until medics arrived.

Because of his actions that day, West was awarded the Indiana State Police Life Saving Award. It was West's actions that day in 2006 that also led Kerri Crane to invite him to her wedding, which was held on the anniversary date of the horrific crash. Now, Kerri & Jonah Faulkner will have a joyful reason to celebrate December 7th in future years.

The crash Kerri Crane was involved in is referred to as a secondary crash, or a crash that happens in a traffic slow down or stoppage after an initial crash. Twenty percent of all crashes in America are secondary, and eighteen percent of secondary crashes result



Kerri Faulkner standing beside State Trooper Kyle West who was invited to her wedding. The two first met at a crash scene on December 7, 2006. See more below. (Photo by Author)

in a fatality.

The Indiana Traffic Incident Management Effort, or INTIME, was started in 2007 when the Indiana State Police partnered with public and private stakeholders to develop and recommend policies and procedures at traffic incident scenes in an effort to reduce secondary traffic incidents like Ms. Crane's.

To help bring attention to the dangers of secondary crashes, Kerri Crane, in conjunction with the Indiana State Police, made a video about her crash and how it changed her life. You may view that video at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5M4WD-2Zh-E>

When you and your family are out traveling this holiday season, watch for officers sitting with their lights on warning you of impending danger ahead, like stopped traffic, and drive accordingly. Always be prepared for slowed or stopped traffic on the interstate. Don't be a victim of a secondary crash in a traffic backup. To learn more about IN-TIME you may visit their web site at <http://www.in.gov/intime/>

Phone Scam Season

The Indiana State Police would like to warn the public about phone scams that have been reported recently in Central Indiana, but happen annually all across the state. Recently some elderly residents have been swindled out of money by out of country con artists that are calling from phone numbers in the U.S. and Canada.

One of the scams targets grandparents with the

subject calling the victim stating he is a grandson and is in trouble, usually in Canada, and needs cash wired right away. The "trouble" calls have ranged from the grandson being arrested to being hurt in a car crash and needing money for treatment.

The caller is quick to ask grandparents NOT to call mom or dad and let them know, so investigators warn would be victims to always call relatives to check up on the situation—even when the caller tells you not to.

Remember, never wire money without verifying the situation with relatives. In addition, never give out personal information like dates of birth, social security numbers or bank account numbers over the phone. Victims have lost funds ranging from the hundreds to thousands of dollars to this scam.

It's also the time of year for folks to get a phone call from subjects that say they work for Publisher's Clearinghouse. They say they've been trying to reach you to give you your giant million dollar check, but, just your luck; you weren't home when the van with the film crew and flowers arrived at your house.

So they tell you that they have been hired to locate you and this is your last chance to claim your prize. All you need is two prepaid Visa cards from Wal-Mart, usually totaling \$500-\$2500, to cover their fee for "finding you." They tell you they will call back in one hour, (and they always do,) to get the card numbers from you.

We've had people fall for the scam that haven't even entered the contest and have lost thousands. If you don't remember entering a contest, then chances are good you haven't won one. You never have to pay money to get money in any contest. These scams prey on people's greedy nature, so if it sounds too good to be true then it probably isn't true.

I worked a complaint on nuisance scam calls three years ago and tracked some of the numbers from the calls to an office building in Orange County, California. A Sheriff's Department Detective there said these scam artists rent an office for a month and set up computerized automatic dialers that call using numbers they've rented from the phone companies, from all over the U.S.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



by I.C.O. Gary Catron
Master Conservation Officer

A secret cache

The following is a shortened version of a true story. The names involved have not been changed; they have been outright and deliberately omitted.

The man and woman looked suspicious as described by the witness. During a visit to a nearby cemetery she noticed the pair get out of their vehicle and skulk around trying to be nonchalant. They were trying to blend in but apparently weren't being too successful, as the witness kept watch out the corner of her eye. After a bit of time passed the two made their way to a nearby tree and pulled a package from an open cavity. Then, according to the witness, the pair removed an item from the package, replaced it back into the cavity and quickly left.

Had the witness just witnessed a drug drop? That's what she thought after the pair had left. Her curiosity got the best of her and after making sure the pair was no longer in the area she approached the tree and quickly located the package wrapped in camouflage. Then a streak of paranoia set in. What would happen if someone were to quickly arrive expecting to pick up the package only to find her



Small camouflaged geocaches container hidden in an old wooden fence post. (Photo by Author)

holding it? She kept the package and immediately made her way back to her vehicle and made a beeline to the county sheriff's department. She related the above information to the dispatcher and left the suspicious unopened package.

A little while later I happened into the dispatch room, noticing the camouflage package sitting on the counter. Upon my inquiry the dispatcher related this story as was told to her by the witness. I looked at the yet opened package. It seemed familiar. I told the dispatcher it seemed strange to me that somebody would go to all that trouble just to turn in a package simply containing a small pencil and an equally small pad of paper with a list of names and dates on it. I was quickly told, in a manner consistent with some dispatchers across the state, I did not know what I was talking about and could not know what was in the package. She had a point as she knew I had not opened the package since my arrival. The package was carefully opened as it could have contained something dangerous or of value as evidence. Well, it didn't. Like I said, it seemed familiar to me. I knew what was inside. As a small pencil and equally small pad of paper with a list of names and dates written upon it emerged, the dispatcher gave me a definite suspicious look and provided verbal commentary consistent with some dispatchers across the state. An explanation was demanded. How did I know? I simply explained "I know about such things. Call it clairvoyance or whatever, I just do", I added. The suspicious look morphed into bewilderment as I explained that I should send an email to the guy who put it there and let him know it had been removed. I was quickly told there was no way that I knew who that was and a demand was made for me

to explain how I knew all of this, in a manner very consistent with some dispatchers across our state, of course.

The explanation was provided. Perhaps with a bit of hesitation because this was all part of a semi-secret hide and seek type of game played by many called geocaching. I was familiar because I was inadvertently introduced to the game by an acquaintance that I miss seeing around. I had even visited the same tree and yes, the little pad of paper did contain my dated moniker as well.

Specifically, the geocaching game is a fun outdoor recreational activity where participants seek out a hidden cache of varying design using a global positioning system (GPS) or other navigational technique. It's a sort of hide and seek where somebody hides and maintains a cache which is often a waterproof container of some sort well camouflaged to be hidden in plain sight. The container may be the size of a finger or as large as a shoe box. Once found the player signs and dates a small log within the cache to document the find. The game can be played as a stand-alone game for a specific time frame with a closed set of participants or open to the masses in which the GPS coordinates to a cache located in an accessible public place are posted to an internet site for any and all to play. The www.geocaching.com website is the go-to

GPS cache hunt site. Registered players can log and keep track of their geocaching activities through this website. There are other characteristics that can be added as well to add enjoyment to the game.

Initially, I knew of the game but didn't realize the scope and overall participation as I used the game to practice using a handheld GPS. As some of the more challenging caches were found, an addiction formed for a time...but I'm much better now. In the process many outdoor nooks and crannies were explored including some on our DNR properties.

While geocaching on some DNR properties is allowed, there are guidelines in place aimed to protect our natural and cultural resources. The follow are a few excerpts from the IDNR website about geocaching on DNR properties.

Some key elements of Indiana DNR's geocaching policy are listed below. **Remember, however, that you are responsible for reading and following the entire policy when you place or seek caches.**

Placing Caches on DNR Properties

- Caches, as defined by Indiana DNR, have containers and logbooks.
- Placement of a cache in an Indiana state park, reservoir, state forest, state fish and wildlife area or off-road riding area requires a license. The license application is available [by obtaining the Official Geocaching Placement Permit](#). The property manager at each site makes the final determination regarding approval of a license and no cache will be published at geocaching.com without property manager approval.
- The number of caches that may be placed on an Indiana state park, reservoir, state forest, or off-road riding area is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23

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Delores and Paul Dobbs at home sitting in front of their living room fireplace. They have lived on their farm in Franklin County since 1956.



At left, State Representative Jud McMillin presented Delores Dobbs, the Sagamore of the Wabash award on behalf of Governor Mike Pence December 12, 2013 in the Franklin County Courthouse in Brookville, IN. At right, is Franklin Circuit Court Judge J. Steven Cox. (Photo by Dianna Dobbs Koester)

Delores Dobbs Awarded Sagamore of the Wabash from Governor Mike Pence

by Ray Dickerson

Delores Dobbs was presented one of Indiana's most prestigious citizen awards, the Sagamore of the Wabash, by State Representative Jud McMillin on behalf of Governor Mike Pence December 12, 2013 at the Franklin County Courthouse in Brookville, IN.

Delores was nominated for the award by Judge J. Steven Cox.

The Sagamore of the Wabash is given to distinguished Hoosiers who have contributed greatly to the state.

Representative Jud McMillin told those in attendance that Delores' perseverance and dedication to those children needing an advocate in Franklin County was very commendable. Saying that she was one of the most selfless Hoosiers he had ever met, and was deeply honored in presenting her with the Sagamore.

Delores earned the honor serving as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for 35 years, beginning in 1978 and ending on December 31, 2013.

I first heard about Delores receiving the award when I was delivering the January Gad-a-bout at Parkside Marine and More, the business she and Paul opened in 1975, then called Parkside Plaza. In 2000 they retired and the business was renamed Parkside Marine and More, owned and operated by Jeff and Dianna Dobbs Koester. Although retired, both Paul and Delores still help out when they are needed.

Here is where it all began:

Delores Davis and Paul Dobbs began dating in high school, both graduated from Brookville High School in 1953.

Delores graduated with a major in business,

which helped her immensely later on.

Paul joined the United States Air Force serving his country from August 1953 to August 1957 mostly overseas. His career field was in Aircraft Engine Maintenance. After he was honorably discharged he returned to Franklin County.

When he got home he asked his girlfriend Delores Davis if she would marry him. She said she would if he wanted to have children. Delores loved children and wanted her own, Paul agreed to her terms, they were married in 1956 and will celebrate their 58th Wedding Anniversary in 2014.

Paul and Delores have a son, Dr. David Dobbs and a daughter, Dianna Dobbs Koester. David's wife's name is Kathy, they have one daughter, Emily and two sons, Michael and Matthew who is a Junior at IU. Jeff and Dianna have two daughters, Caroline who is attending Butler University and Lauren who is a Junior at Franklin County High School.

After Paul and Delores were married they bought a farm and took up farming as a living. They did alright, but began thinking about opening a business with hopes of bringing in some extra money for future college expenses. So in 1975, after acquiring some property adjacent to the entrance to the Mounds S.R.A. on SR 101 they opened Parkside Plaza.

They still live on that farm today.

The Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program in Franklin County began in 1978 when the then Franklin Circuit Court Judge, Gene Stewart asked the Tri Kappa Sorority to become CASA volunteers. Five members of the Tri Kappa Sorority, includ-

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COUNCIL OF THE SAGAMORES OF THE WABASH

MICHAEL R. PENCE
Governor of the State of Indiana

— — — — —
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WHEREAS, it has been the immemorial custom of the State of Indiana to attract to its support those who have exhibited such qualities; and

WHEREAS, there has endeared herself to the Citizens of Indiana, one **Delores Dobbs** distinguished by her Humanity in Living, her Loyalty in Friendship, her Wisdom in Council, and her Inspiration in Leadership:

NOW, THEREFORE, recognizing her greatness and desiring to avail myself of her counsel, I do hereby appoint her a Chieftain upon my Staff with the rank and title of

~ SAGAMORE of the WABASH ~

WITNESS my hand and the Seal of the Council of the Sagamores, at Indianapolis, Indiana, this the Twelfth day of December, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

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ing Delores Dobbs, volunteered living up to their sorority pledge of charity, culture and education. She told me someone from Wayne County came to Brookville giving them six weeks of training. Franklin County gave the sorority \$2,000 a year to help out with their expenses, the money went back into the community.

Through the years since 1978 many of the Franklin County CASA volunteers had dwindled leaving only Delores handling all of the Children Advocate cases for the last ten or twelve years.

Delores took her responsibility to Franklin County children very seriously. As a CASA volunteer she would be notified by the court when a child was in need of services of the court. (An example would be if a child was removed from its parents) Then she would be assigned to be the advocate for the child, she had to investigate all aspects of the case and follow through each procedure alongside the child from the beginning to the end.

By representing the child, the advocate is responsible for that child. You may find that you don't agree with the way things are going, either way and as their advocate you become the voice for that child. You have to keep in contact with the child and investigate anything that may appear questionable. If the child is ordered to appear in court, they cannot appear without you.

At court hearings you may have to give testimony or state your opinion before the judge. On rare occasions you may not agree with those involved including the judge and for the child's sake you must represent them to the best of your ability.

Delores though believes whole-heartedly that Franklin County has a very good child protection and court system that really cares for the safety and well-being of all the children in the county.

I asked her, now that she has retired from CASA, what if they had a dire need for an advocate and one wasn't available. Would she volunteer to help out. That was a foolish question on my part. Of course she answered, yes.

SAGAMORE OF THE WABASH AWARD

The Sagamore of the Wabash award was created during the term of Governor Ralph Gates, who served from 1945 to 1949. Governor Gates was to attend a tri-state meeting in Louisville with officials from the states of Ohio and Kentucky. Aides to the governor discovered that the governor of Kentucky was preparing a Kentucky Colonel certificates for Governor Gates and Senator Robert A. Taft, who to represent the State of Ohio. The Hoosiers decided that Indiana should have an appropriate award to present in return.

The term "sagamore" was used by the Native American Tribes of the northeastern United States to describe a lesser chief or a great man among the tribe to whom the true chief would look for wisdom and advice.

Each governor since Gates has presented the certificates in their own way. It has been said that one governor even resorted to wearing full Indian head-dress as he read the scrolls. The award is highest honor, which the Governor of Indiana bestows. It is a personal tribute usually given to those who have

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

MAKING THE BEST OF WINTER DOLDRUMS

(For anyone who claims to enjoy the winter months, only some things can be true. They're either skiers, residents of a south seas island, or an Eskimo who has just won an all expenses paid two month cruise in the Caribbean.)

With another holiday season past and a couple more months to look forward to with no break in foul weather, it's no wonder that moods can turn sour. Some of us feel low enough to dangle our legs off a cigarette paper. According to the laws of nature, winter is a time for all things to rest and refresh the body and mind. That may work for bears, but humans don't do well spending long weeks curled up asleep in a cave. We have to find other means of refreshing our spirit and avoiding the middle of winter blues. What better way than to sit in front of the t.v. and watch the winter Olympics.

It's a morale booster to watch people throw themselves off mountains and shoot off the end of ski jumps. Cross country skiers collapse in exhaustion and figure skaters toss their partners around like rag dolls. For the average winter trapped viewer, such antics are a balm to frozen souls as we realize that we aren't the only ones who go slightly daffy and suffer from cabin fever. The only difference is, those people have found a way to work off their frustrations while all we can do is watch and occasionally yell, "Wow, that looks like it must have hurt." Then, we sit and wait for the next victim to perform, not realizing that by watching such antics by people trying to commit fancy suicide we're no longer so engrossed in our own problems.

One of the especially loony looking events is ski jumping. A skier launches off the end of what looks like a giant sliding board at up to five hundred miles an hour, soaring off the end to see how

far he or she can fly before crashing to earth. I compare that to standing with an apple on my head while a blind archer tries to line up his shot by the sound of my voice.

"A little more to the right."

"A little more left and up about a foot."

Regardless of how it may seem, I speak from experience. Many years ago I made my first (and last) attempt at skiing. A friend (I used to call him that) strapped the things on me, put his hands on my back and shoved. The slope was small but I made it only a few feet before my brain quit working and my feet stopped cooperating. I fell forward on my nose and skidded for a few more feet with my proboscis plowing a furrow in the snow. Unable to stand because of the skis, I looked like an ostrich burying its head in the sand. My instructor ran up and asked if I was okay.

"Oo I 'ook ok 'oo you?" I slurred through frozen lips. Helping me up he asked if I would like to try it again.

"Not during the span of my life on this planet. If I'm reincarnated as a mountain goat I'll give it another try."

Admittedly, watching the Olympics does inspire a lot of awe and respect for the contestants. For instance, the riders of the bobsleds and luges howling down a narrow chute at speeds just slightly less than the speed of sound. Riding the luge, a shingle on runners, with the riders feet extended to the front, compares to being strapped to the front bumper of a car and driving entirely around Indianapolis on highway 465. And to think that these people deliberately train to perform such antics voluntarily. However, in spite of wasting time watching attempts at frigid mass suicide, there is a pleasant side to a long winter. Imagine lying in a warm bed during a snow storm listening to the howling of a pack of coyotes in the darkness and giving thanks for not being born a coyote. Your neighbor's dog won't be digging in the petunia bed for a few months and the gutters won't be clogged with leaves. There's no need to worry about mosquito's and poison ivy. But the best of all: The local fish are shivering in ice cold water, getting hungrier by the day and dreaming about spring time, fat night crawlers and colorful crappie jigs. On the other hand, maybe now is the time to chop a hole in the ice and get started early. On the other, other hand that seems to me as nutty as flopping on a luge and screaming down a hill at warp speed. And, my idea of removing snow from the sidewalk is, Mother Nature put it there so let her remove it. I didn't ask for it, so that's not my responsibility. I'll stick to a warm bed and dreaming about monster crappie if you don't mind. Better yet, I'll join the Eskimo on a Caribbean island. Aloha! ■

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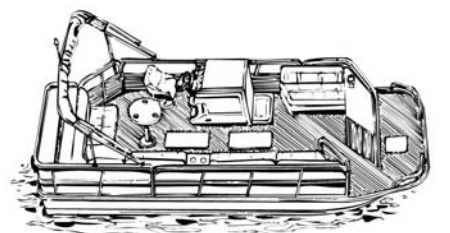


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Winter.....

Well the snow finally started in mid December. It gave us several days of 6" or so, but the ground stayed warm and there were above freezing days in between the storms.

Like the roman god Janus, I try to look back on my adventures in 2013 and than attempt to look forward to the possibilities offered by 2014. Since I am not a seer, I can only attempt to look to the future. Somethings are automatic, such as Holidays, Holy days, Birthdays etc. others I can project because they are projects begun this past year and hopefully completed in the weeks ahead.

Many years ago, at mass on a New Year's Day, the priest made a startling comment. He said that one out of every five of the people sitting there would be dead by next New Year. There were five of us attending mass together that morning. I remember it had a very strong effect on me at the moment. However as the year progressed and none of our group passed over, I lost interest in the concept.

I doubt that concerns about death worried the native people, prior to the coming of the European. Death was part of the natural cycle of life and it would happen when the Great Spirit called the individual home. It was therefore not something to waste time thinking about.

The old ones knew when their time had come, when they heard the owl call their name. They put their affairs in order, said goodbye to their loved ones, and went off alone to sing their "death song." If the camp was in the process of moving they were left behind. Sometimes grandmother and grandfather would choose to go together.

If a child died early in life or a woman died in

childbirth or a short time after delivering the child, the family accepted this as the will of the Creator, although it did not stop them from mourning the departed one. Some believed that when an old person took the spirit trail, a baby was born to replace them in the family.

It is important to our welfare to set aside as much of the past as we can, before we face the future. Keep the good memories, the ones that passed easily through the strands of the Dream Catcher. Put away, forever, the bad things that got caught in the web of the Dream Catcher. Keeping the bad memories will only cause you to start the New Year with unnecessary baggage. We cannot change the past, good, bad, or indifferent.

I accept each day as it comes and try to accept the bad with the good. A part of the life the Great Spirit has laid out for me. I ask only that he help me to know what he would like me to do with this new day. Then, I plunge ahead into the cold unknown, hoping to use my time wisely, offending no one, and finish that day on a high note having had a warm experience. I let my natural instincts rule the day or any part of it. I ask forgiveness for my failures and try to put it right as soon as possible.

Remember, as each door closes another opens so I let each new chapter unfold always ready to answer the final call when it comes.

I wish all of you the very best for the days to ahead, and trust that they will do all they to move us towards the great "Peace Through Brotherhood."

Back in the days when I had the 'SHOWAGON' to program five days a week each summer, I depended on all of my volunteers performers to make every show. Sometimes they didn't make it, so I got my guitar out of the car trunk and performed myself. On of my favorite songs was 'Let There Be Peace On Earth'....'And Let It Begin With Me.....'

That is my wish for myself and all of you. At every opportunity spread a little Peace. Remember to somehow help keep the Spirit of Christmas alive for the next 364 days.

Until we meet again either on this planet or in the place we end up in....

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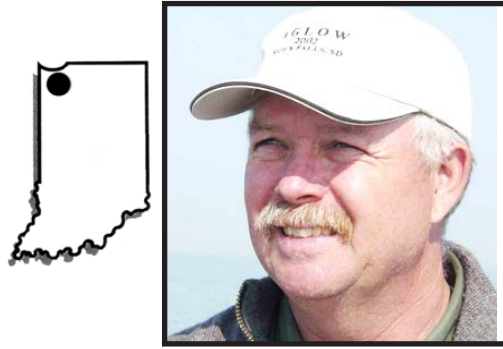
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Fishing Lake Michigan



by **Capt. Mike Schoonveld**

KHV to the RESCUE

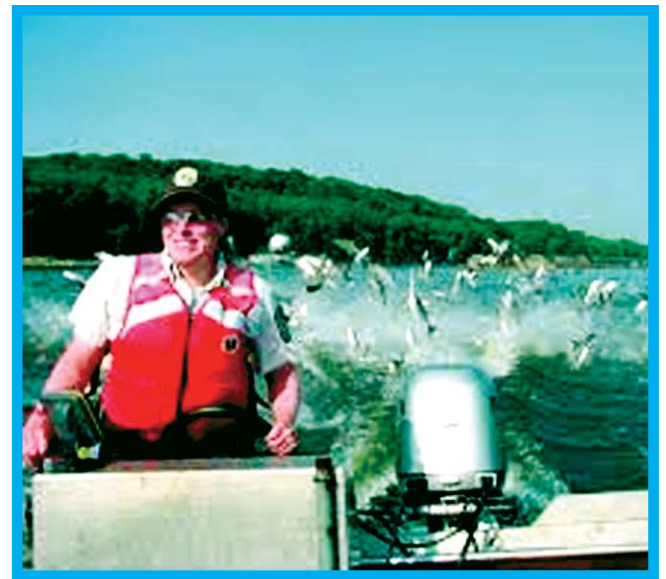
I've known a lot of fisheries biologists over the years and I often joked with them that genetic engineering was going to put them out of business. In many inland lakes and streams across our country, many of the problems with the native fish populations include their interaction with common carp. Carp muddy the water, plow the bottom uprooting wetland vegetation, compete for food at some stages of life and on and on.

To a large degree, a lake can support a specific number of fish expressed in pounds. Say you have a pond which will support 2000 pounds of fish. It makes no difference if there are 2000 1-pounders, a thousand 2-pounders or 8000 quarter-pounders. It makes little difference if the fish are all bass, all catfish or a mix of bass, bluegills and crappies. It will support 1 ton of fish. If there are 1000 pounds of carp in the pond, there is room for only a half ton of "good" fish.

What if the lab-coat and microscope fellows engineer a microbe which will infect and kill all the carp? Inoculate the above one-ton pond and in a week or so there's room for another half ton of bass, bluegills and crappies, not to mention the water quality will improve as rooted vegetation begins to sprout. Drop a vial of the "carp plague" into the headwaters of the Mississippi and with time, carp would vanish from the Great Rivers and their tributaries of middle America. Native fish populations would be improved anywhere carp are eliminated.

Who knew the plague already exists? A massive "carp kill" occurred in the St. Joseph River in the part of the stream which flows through Indiana recently. I could find no reports of the problem in the Michigan part of the stream-either the upper reaches where the river flows through St. Joseph County or the downstream part where it flows out of Indiana and down to Lake Michigan.

The Indiana DNR sent samples to Purdue University and found the carp were suffering from koi herpes virus. This was the first time the disease was found in Indiana and one of the few times the disease has been isolated in wild stocks



A bit of gene tweaking could be the solution to the Asian carp infestation in North America. (Author Photo)

of fish. Apparently, it's mostly a problem in aquariums and small Koi ponds.

Who knew? Apparently some people knew. My research shows KHV is on the "world watch list" because it is known to cause significant losses in wild populations and captive environments where specially bred carp, commonly referred to as Koi, are used in the aquarium industry. (I have no idea who keeps the list-perhaps the United Nations). While most of the research has gone into methods of treating or eliminating the threat of KHV in fish bowls, one would think it possible to tweak the little virus to improve its ability to wipe out entire populations of carp in carp-infested waters.

KHV is completely different than the viral hemorrhagic septicemia disease which was big news a few years ago in and around the Great Lakes. VHS can jump from one species of fish to another and another. KHV only infects carp and poses no threat to other species of fish or to animals or humans eating carp or other fish taken from the waters where the virus is established.

My proposal to introduce a carp plague hinges on the ability of the geneticists to beef up the ordinary virus to make it more virulent. Let's take the premise one more step.

Local, state and federal governments are spending millions of dollars to legislate, litigate, study and plan methods of keeping bighead and silver carp out of the Great Lakes. (Basically, they've written off ridding Midwestern rivers of the invaders.) Common carp, bighead and silver carp are all in the family, Cyprinidae, which makes them all relatives of koi. How about some of the money allocated to the Asian carp task force going to research to turn KHV into a carp weapon of mass destruction?

I'm sure my fisheries biologist friends would worry about their jobs and the few avid carp fishermen in the country would be off-put by the idea. The only thing I'd miss are the YouTube videos of silver carp jumping into boats.

THE END

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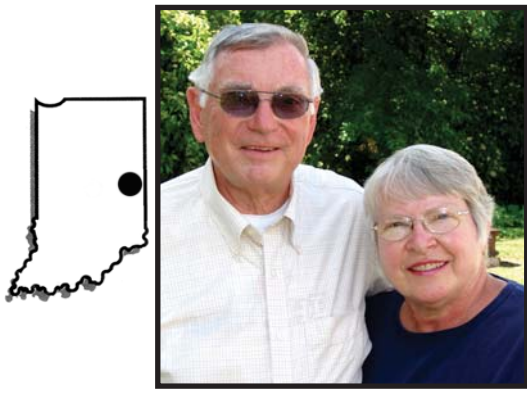
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Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

Winter Has Made Itself Known Again

As we might have expected the weather has played havoc with many activities in various parts of Indiana and actually throughout most of the states. Even some of the more experienced camping families and those to which the camping experience is new, such as snow birding, have reported weather activity to be somewhat strange. Expectations were for warm, dry weather so sunbathing, hours in heated campground pools, or several swims in the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific to be commonplace. Hopefully everyone had planned to use sunscreen. My ankles were so swollen from sun poisoning one spring break I couldn't get shoes on and had to drive barefooted. We've heard, "cold all week, hard rains, and we couldn't get into the water along the Gulf or even the pools." Many of the campground pools are heated but you have to come up out of the water sometime and the 60 and 70 degree breezes might just ruin your swim. A quick dash to get wrapped up in a beach towel usually stops the chill, and you finally get up the nerve to go in to the heated pool again---same results, IT'S WINTER.

But look up north, temperatures are at or below freezing with wind chills several degrees below zero, heavy snows and ice storms causing trees down and electricity off for sometimes days. Hopefully those who have migrated south for the winter months have relatives or neighbors checking on electricity, refrigerators, water heaters, freezers, house temperatures and sump pumps. A serious thing to experience is when freezers defrost and sit for a long time and then refreezes, thus endangering those who might not suspect food spoilage and possibly bacterial food poisoning. Generators have become very handy again in thousands of homes across large affected areas.

We've heard several weather complaints from all around the south and especially in the southwest. We can hardly ever guess when heavy thunderstorms with lightening and heavy winds are going to occur or when the temperature is never going to be above 60 degrees. High and low pressure cells many times change directions overnight and surprise even meteorologists. Everyone wants to go into any large bodies of water and feel safe, and the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific waters are no exception. People should be aware that red flags posted along the coast means conditions are not conducive to safe swimming. Circumstances such as large breakers and especially rip currents (commonly called rip tides) occur very quickly. This undertow along the coast can sweep one out to sea from 200 to 2500 feet within minutes at speeds of 5-8 miles per hour.

This is much faster than a good swimmer can swim against the current so it's best to swim parallel to the coast from 30 to 50 feet to get away from this dangerous natural event.

Having been in the camping business we have noted some interesting information over the last few years. Several Midwest campground owners have purchased or are renting campsites, condos, apartments or homes all along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and others are located inland just short distances from those inviting beaches. It's an altogether different situation than owning a camping ground and incurring the rigors of a six month or more camping season with many eighteen hour days. Many occupations have long days but in a campground situation you cannot always be sure what might come next and how long a situation might last. And, with so many people on the property in such close proximity the owner/manager doesn't want to disturb the solace. We've talked with several others who can't wait for retirement. Some former owners even volunteer as work campers in their winter sojourn in the South. As we've mentioned in earlier articles, some work campers work part time and get some pay while others work just to have a free campsite.

According to the American Automobile Association ninety-four and a half million people were expected to travel fifty or more miles from home between this last December 21 and January 1, 2014. More than ninety million of those would be traveling by car. We helped that number as twenty-nine family members traveled to Fort Wayne for our annual family Christmas. Families came from New Castle, Brown County and Indianapolis to help the kids get ready for the big December 24 event. Our son, daughter-in-law and grandson Adrian (became 9 on Christmas Eve), from Mill Valley just across the Golden Gate Bridge, didn't make it this year because of trying to finish their basement and then visiting Donna's family in Mission Viejo, California. No, none of the families above camped out in Fort Wayne. Just before the family Christmas on the 23rd, the rains came and washed away the twelve inches of snow that had accumulated. Some of you witnessed the result of this snow melt and rain. Flooding did a major number on several towns and roads. We received a face book photo of the town of Portland where our old campground is located. Downtown was almost completely flooded. The Little Salamonie was up to its old tricks.

Ball State economists have forecast income from goods and services for North Central Indiana will raise 4.6% in 2014 because of the RV industry recovery as opposed to 2.2% in the rest of Indiana and 2.1% for the rest of the nation. Personal income will raise 4.9% in these northern counties as opposed to 2.5% state wide. This is projected to lead the whole Midwest in Gross Domestic Products as is the personal income.

On line you can now bring up Parkipedia, a Wikipedia-like travel guide for 59 listed National Parks and also www.overnightRV.com to see a demonstration, or to subscribe. An annual subscription costs less than a one night camp site in most campgrounds. Over 10,000 locations are listed.

We hope the old year was good to you and yours and you fulfilled all your 2013 resolutions. We won't even try to elaborate on ours. If you have any suggestions on what camping topic you'd like us to explore, contact us at **260-637-3524** or email at jmacnut@yahoo.com. John and El McCory ■

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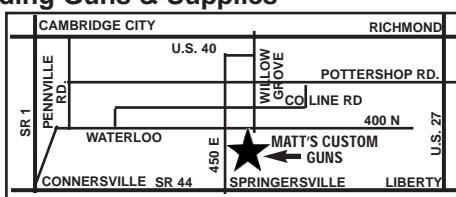
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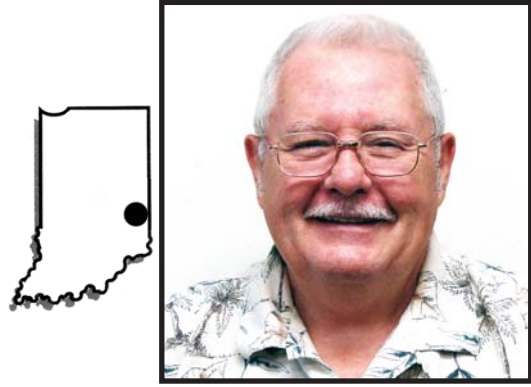
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by **Marshall Smith**
Owner/Gunsmith

Gunsmithing issues

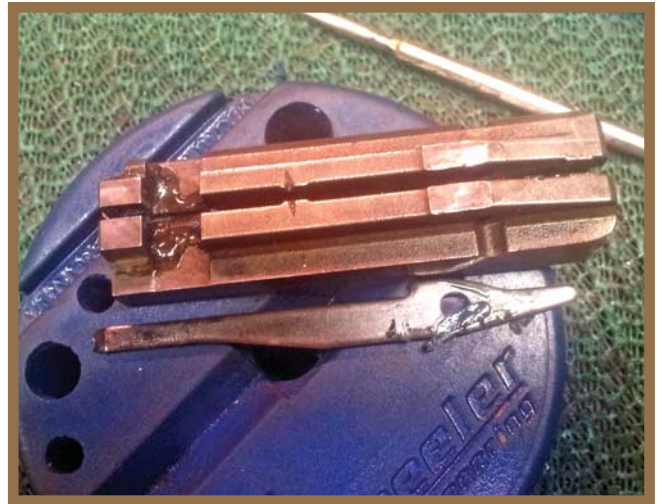
Your shotgun or rifle bolt is frozen. You can't open or close it. What happened?

I've seen this in the shop with rifles and shotguns. Thankfully, none of the guns required major parts replacement. So, what happened? In all but one case the bolts were glued into the position I found them. A complete disassembly revealed that the gun recently had screws in the receiver cemented in place with Loctite®. Blue Loctite® is commonly used to lock the screws in place and avoid backing out during the hunt or at the range. Rifles and shotgun receivers that have been drilled and tap at the factory for a scope mount will have been drilled through the receivers except when drilled and tapped over the chamber. Barrels are never drilled through. These guns had not been disassembled when the Loctite® was applied to the screws and into the tapped holes of the receiver and that blue glue just loves to spread itself over everything it can find. The bolt, firing pins, main springs, locking lugs, and receiver walls being excellent candidates through those open holes. Loctite® is an excellent thread locker for screws and bolts and works well on gluing metal parts together. Even when heavily oiled. The blue Loctite® will harden whenever there is air present and can wedge a bolt body against the receiver walls and make it unmovable. So when using Loctite® on your guns to secure a screw, disassemble the gun first, apply the Loctite® and clean up the excess per the manufacturer's instructions and let it set for 24 hours before reassembling the gun. That may save you a trip to the gunsmith. I've included a few pictures of how well the Loctite® Blue can get into all the cracks and crevices in a bolt.

Cautionary note! Loctite® is sold in Blue, Green, and Red formulations. The Green and Red formulations require heat to soften it for removal or disassembly of the parts. The Loctite® Red 271® is a permanent thread locking adhesive. I use it to permanently bond metal parts, such as when I've made knurled thumb screws on the lathe. Unless



Here is a picture of the blue Loctite® inside the receiver and on the bolt. (Author Photo)



This is the bolt and firing pin. The pin was cemented inside the bolt and wouldn't budge. Heat was needed to loosen the firing pin for removal. (Author Photo)



This picture is looking down into the trigger group. The blue loctite has migrated onto the top of the hammer. Luckily it had not gotten further into the trigger group. (Author Photo)



This is looking into the receiver with the bolt and trigger group removed. It's easy to see the 4 screws and where the blue Loctite® has hardened wedging the bolt and receiver together. (Author Photo)

the parts are subjected to extreme heat, 500 degrees Fahrenheit or more, they won't be coming apart. There are other thread locking adhesives available on the market that work just as well and require just as much sometimes more heat to soften. Be sure to read the directions carefully. Some appear to be removable but are not. Some gun enthusiasts will use fingernail polish to lock a screw or part in place. Another cautionary note here, DO NOT PUT ON THREADS. Like any permanent adhesive, paint, the fingernail polish will harden when dry and will be very difficult to remove without a lot of heat. I know you are thinking "I can just use fingernail polish remover." That will work if the polish is just on the surface. But if it is on the threads it sets up similarly to the permanent thread lockers. Plus, if used on the surface of a screw it fills the screw slot and it very difficult to clean out often times ruining the screw.

Gun Control Issues

The gun control efforts of the current administration is still going forward without congressional oversight nor agreement. The country is divided on the issue but as overwhelming majority of law abiding citizens and members of groups representing the County Sheriff's, Police Chief's, are now disagreeing with the administration's efforts. Please contact your state and federal representatives and let them know where you stand. Just a

quote to think about.

All political power comes from the barrel of a gun. The communist party must command all the guns, that way, no guns can ever be used to command the party.

Mao Tse Tung Problems of War and Strategy, Nov 6 1938

It has been said several times that those who wish to take away our right to own a gun for any reason own guns. They just don't want anyone else to own a gun. Be careful my friends.

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

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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Coon hunting is a part of Americana

Frank bailed out of the truck and meandered out in the picked corn field for a bit before heading into the timber. A short few moments later we heard him. That was our cue to join in. Frank isn't a hunting buddy, well in a way he really is, but more precisely, Frank is a walker coonhound.

Moments later, hunting buddy Troy and his nephew Jake (Little Jake as we usually affectionately refer to him as) and my son Nicholas were hefting the first raccoon of the night. Jake shot this one out and Nicholas was excited for Frank to tree again as his turn was next.

As we sat there admiring Little Jake's first raccoon of the night's hunt, we heard Frank start bellowing again, this time from deep in the tangles of grown-over woodlot. Nicholas' eyes lit up and he started heading that way as only an enthusiastic child about ready to shoot a coon out of a tree can. It took us a little bit to get through the gnarly, thorny prison which housed the tree the coon was in, but nothing

was going to stop us, especially Nicholas, from getting there – no matter how ripped up the thorns left our hands and faces.

Once at the tree, Nicholas steadied the .22 caliber rifle as Frank kept baying and jumping and biting at the tree. A minute or two later and the nearly twenty pound coon toppled out of three and was on the ground. I don't know which was bigger, that raccoon or the smile on my son's face.

After Nicholas' hoisted his prize, we made our way out of the tangle to another coon that was treed just fifty yards away or so. It was Little Jake's turn behind the gun again, and as he gathered the raccoon in the scope of the gun, Nicholas encouraged him with a chuckle, "Knock him out Jake," in reference to one of our favorite comedians, Jerry Clower's, stories.

That short coon hunt a few nights ago was a good one. It was short and sweet, but good. The boys got three raccoons in in a hunt that lasted roughly an hour. They wanted to hunt longer but we had deer hunted most of the day and were going to again the following morning, so we called it a night. I seem to tire out a little easier than the boys do! Besides, we will be doing a lot more coon hunting this year anyway.

For the rest of the night and for the days that followed, Nicholas kept reminding me of how much fun he thought coon hunting is. Seeing the smile on his face and hearing the excitement in his voice never gets old. And seeing those two young boys taking part in such a wholesome activity, strengthening the bonds they have even more, well that's just what makes hunting special. I too am already excited about our next hunt.

That first coon hunt of the year solidified what I have always felt. Hunting raccoons is part of our American culture; a tradition usually passed down for generations. It's also darn fun! There is also a monetary benefit to hunting them. Raccoon hides are worth money when sold to licensed fur buyers. You won't get rich hunting raccoons, but the memories made while doing so are priceless!



Raccoon hunting is huge part of America's deep hunting tradition, and an activity which many hunters still enjoy today. Here, Nicholas Martino poses proudly with the night's bounty. (Author Photo)

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Rebecca Funk having fun practicing balance on her calm, still Quarter Horse. (Author Photo)



Sarah Miller posing for her senior pictures with her Quarter Horse. (Author Photo)

Horses Are Heroes



by **Rebecca L. Funk**
Executive Director of Sunrise, Inc.

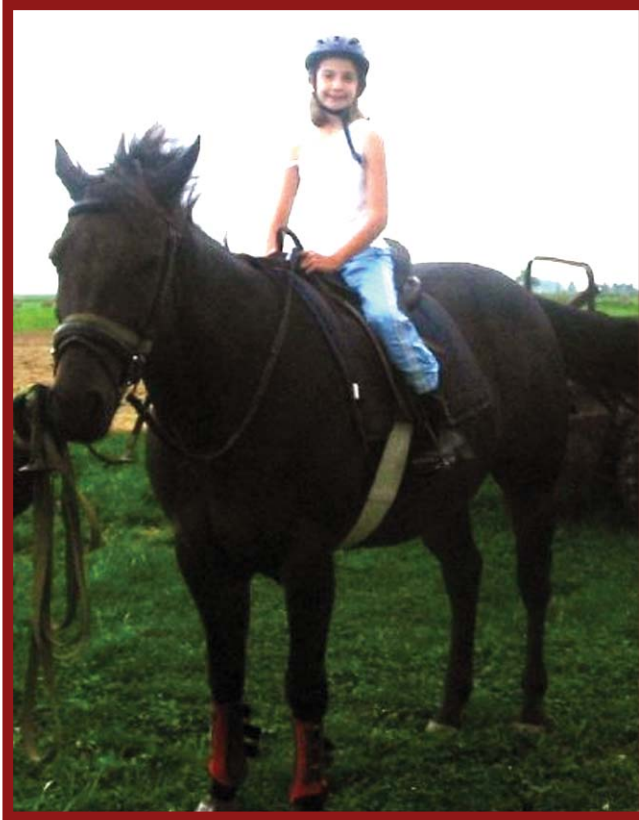
Quarter Horses

Sunrise Inc. Therapeutic Riding Center has two Quarter Horses currently and has had a handful of this versatile breed in the past. In doing research about the breed there is much more to Quarter Horses than their rich solid colors and their specialized gait, the Lope.

The English horses, which were brought to Virginia in 1611, are considered the foundation for the Quarter Horse. Being bred in both Virginia and the Seaboard Settlements in the seventeenth century, Quarter Horses are the first All-American horse coming in as a compact horse with strong, muscled quarters. However, these characteristics are not the reason for this breed's name. The English settlers decided to race these horses on quarter mile courses because of their intense speed over short distances and this is what brought about the "Quarter Horse."

After the Civil War, which lasted from 1861-1865, the Quarter Horse began to take the Mustang's place in cattle ranching and made his name "the finest cattle horse." The reason for this is due to the fact that rancher's began to realize that on top of the Quarter Horse's fast nature it also has impeccable balance, unbelievable agility, and an uncanny ability to work with unpredictable herds. This horse has the ability to work at a jog or comfortable lope while still being able to cut designated steer from the herd. In the fields, Quarter Horses also act as roping horses or even night horses being that they are "steady and able to work in the dark."

To prove the common belief that Quarter Horses are the most popular breed the American



Sunrise Inc. Co-Executive Director, Rebecca Funk, at about age eight on her Quarter Horse, Bailey. (Author Photo)

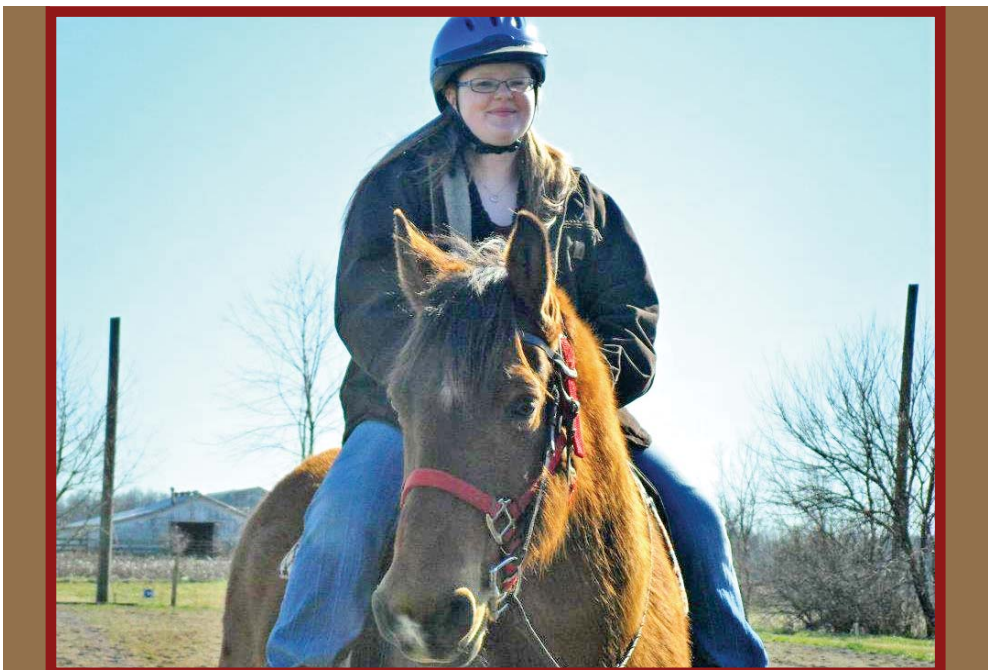
Quarter Horse Association (AQHA) has millions of registered Quarter Horses. There could be many reasons for this fact. Maybe it's that, because of their muscular physique, they have helped man survive. They have been and are sometimes still used today for farm work, cattle ranching, and hauling lumber. They can also be used for pleasure. These horses are clear about their abilities in barrel racing, cutting, halter classes, pole bending, trail riding, and western pleasure.

However, it is becoming more relevant that Quarter Horses can be very good hunters and prominent performers in the show ring, jumping, and dressage. Quarter Horse racing is also a high prize carrying sport. Quarter Horses can be seen as anywhere between 14.3 and 16 hands high varying in solid colors such as Bay, Chestnut, Liver, and sometimes even

Palomino coloring.

Aside from all of these facts that could make anyone interested in this versatile breed Sunrise Inc. has formed our own reasons to love and trust the Quarter Horse. We currently have two Quarter Horses, Mann and Bailey. Bailey is owned by myself and is a Bay colored, twenty-five year old mare (female) Quarter Horse. She is a typical looking build with large hind quarters and a low head carriage. She has been with Sunrise working as a therapy horse for approximately eleven years and has taught many students. She has carried two riders on her back at once so that students who may not be able to sit up on their own can ride and she is also a lover of games on horseback. The flags, cups, poles, and bean bags that are used and songs that are sung never phase her and she lets all students pet, brush, feed and ride her without a fuss. She always seems to understand when students feel uncomfortable or off balance because she can always compensate and put her rider in a more comfortable position. Mann, who is owned by our other Co-Director, Sarah, is a spunky, fun-loving, nineteen year old gelding Quarter Horse who is thought to have thoroughbred in his lineage with Man-O-War as his ancestor. He is also Bay in color with one white sock and star. He has been a therapy horse off and on with Sunrise since 2009. Mann is a great teacher to those students who strive to be independent. He is versatile in both English and Western riding and is a good student himself when he is learning a new thing.

Both of these Sunrise "employees" are great examples of prime Quarter Horses for a program such as this one. The seventeenth century brought to America what is now thought to be one of the best horses of our time and the U.S. will continue to nurture this hard-working, beautiful breed. ■



Co-Executive Director, Sarah Miller, riding her Quarter Horse, Mann. (Author Photo)

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RUSS BAILEY (RENFRO SHOWS PHOTO)

Indianapolis to Become Crappie Capitol of the World February 22-23

Crappie fishing takes center stage during second weekend of Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show

The *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show* – the largest indoor event of its kind in the nation – returns to the Indiana State Fairgrounds February 14-23 for ten days of all things outdoors. Of course, with over 60 million recreational anglers in the United States, fishing accounts for a giant's share of how Americans spend their time outdoors, so the *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show* always includes aisles and aisles of fishing exhibitors, and attractions to satisfy any angling aficionado – including many new and exciting features each year.

America has gone crappie crazy over the past few years due to the species' wide availability, tasty table qualities, and the rapid evolution of tournament crappie fishing. Here in Indiana, Hoosier anglers are blessed with world-class crappie waters from north to south, and the crappie is quickly changing its status from a bass and bluegill fishing by-catch to its own target species.

In recognition of ol' paper mouth's growing popularity, this year, in addition to the ever-popular black bass and other species, crappie fishing will take center stage during the show's second weekend, February 22-23, with a full limit of crappie fishing expertise served up in the form of special crappie exhibitors offering everything from gear to guided trips, along with informative seminars that will help anyone become more adept at tracking down and reeling in these tasty panfish.

Crappie Seminars

The *Ask the Pros Crappie Fishing Seminar Series* sponsored by B'n'M Poles provides a unique seminar format that puts show goers into direct contact with the seminar speakers. It is an interactive forum, providing invaluable opportunities for seminar atten-



KYLE SCHOENHERR (RENFRO SHOWS PHOTO)

dees to ask the questions most important to them. B'n'M Poles will offer dedicated crappie fishing seminars on February 22 and 23. This acclaimed panel of crappie experts will help folks crack the crappie code on waters from Wawasee to Patoka and everywhere in between.

Russ Bailey is from St. Mary's, Ohio and has had huge success in the crappie fishing industry. He is an 11-time national championship qualifier, host of the *Midwest Crappie* television series, host of the *Anytime Crappie* DVD series, and has also been featured in many articles across the country. Russ is known best for his skills in the dock shooting presentation – a technique he will cover in his informative crappie fishing seminars.

Kyle Schoenherr is a full time crappie guide in southern Illinois and tournament pro, spending hundreds of days on Rend Lake, Kinkaid Lake, and Lake of Egypt each year. His tournament highlights include six first-place finishes and 23 top three finishes on the professional crappie circuit, and top ten showings in five out of six National Championships since 2010. Kyle's on-the-water experience is second to none, and provides his interesting seminars with plenty of practical information.

Ronnie Capps resides near the shore of the famous Reelfoot Lake in northwest Tennessee, where he has lived since childhood. He credits his late grandfather for playing a large part in his love of the outdoors. Capps and his grandfather were involved with hunting, fishing or trapping in some way on a daily basis while growing up, and catching crappie was always one of their favorite things to do. Capps is a graduate of Murray State University, where he received degrees in Wildlife Biology & Fisheries Management. He became a Tennessee Wildlife Officer just after graduation, and has over 20 years of experience as an enforcement officer dealing with wildlife, fish, and boating laws, as well as outdoors and conservation education. Capps has captured eight National Crappie Tournament

Championships along with more than 100 single day competition crappie tournament events in various states. Capps was inducted to the *Legends in the Outdoors Hall of Fame* in 2011. Ronnie's extensive crappie fishing accomplishments and expertise will help any aspiring crappie angler to dramatically shorten his or her learning curve.

Phil Rambo is one of Indiana's best and most well known crappie anglers. He received the honor of the *Bass Pro Shops/Crappie Masters Sportsman of the Year Award* in 2008, has appeared on many television shows and been featured in many magazines. He has co-hosted the southern Indiana radio show *Outdoors Today* for 6 years. With his wife Eva, Rambo has fished competitively for 12 years and has qualified for nine Crappie USA Classics, two C.A.S.T. Classics and five consecutive Crappie Master Classics. He finished third in National Points in Bass Pro Shops/Crappie Masters Tournament Trail in '08 and '09. Phil's seminars will help anyone catch more crappie on Indiana lakes like Monroe and Patoka, where Rambo fishes extensively.

Crappie Features and Attractions

Of course, there's more to the *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show's* special crappie weekend than just seminars. A livewell full of other crappie fishing features and attractions add extra appeal for crappie connoisseurs.

The 70,000 square-foot Tackle Town is the place to be for anglers looking for great deals on the latest, hard-to-find fishing tackle and gear – including an incredible selection of specialized crappie rods, jigs and other equipment from exhibitors who know crappie fishing. The 5,000-gallon *Hawg Trough* aquarium is one of the show's leading attractions and fits nicely in the heart of Tackle Town. Measuring an astounding 40' long, 4' wide and 8' deep, the *Hawg Trough* contains a variety of game fish species, including crappies. Visitors will watch in amazement as the show's panel of crappie pros share their secrets and catch fish right before their eyes.

The *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show* always features the best deals on boats, with over four acres of indoor space dedicated to showcasing the latest watercraft – including specialized fishing boats that are ideal for crappie fishing. From fishing kayaks and jon boats to modified vee's and decked out tournament rigs, crappie fishing enthusiasts will find an unbelievable deal on their next crappie fishing boat at the *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show*.

Kids love crappies, and the *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show* loves kids! A special *Kids Day* takes place on Saturday, February 22, when the first 500 kids through the door receive a free rod and reel combo courtesy of Honey Creek Tackle.

If you live, breathe and dream about slab crappies, or simply want to learn more about the species and the best ways to find and catch them, you won't want to miss the *Ford 60th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show's* special crappie weekend, February 22 and 23 – two days when Indianapolis will be the crappie fishing capitol of the world.

For the latest information on seminar speakers and schedules, general show information, or to purchase tickets online, go to indysportshow.com. ■

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Left Photo: The Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society's Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil Show and Sale is held on the Wayne County Fairgrounds located at 861 North Salisbury Road in the Kuhlman Center, shown here. Right Photo: A photo of some of the beautiful rocks you will find here, center front are Bruneau Jasper Idaho rocks.

41st Annual Spring Show Gem, Mineral, Jewelry, Fossil Show & Sale Wayne Co. Fairgrounds March 7-9, 2014

Article and Photos
by Ray Dickerson

The Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society's (EIGGS) 41th Annual Spring Gem, Mineral, Jewelry and Fossil Show will be held at the Kuhlman Center located on the Wayne County Fairgrounds on March 7-9, 2014.

(See note below in case Salisbury Road is closed for construction for directions on best way to get to the show.)

The show opens at 10 a.m. Friday & Saturday and closes at 6 p.m. On Sunday it opens at 11 a.m. and closes at 4 p.m.

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

Sherry and I attend this Gem show every year we can, both of us like pretty and unusual rocks, as we have been avid rockhounds most of our lives. Our finds over the years rest out in our yard or in cans in our garage. However the items we have purchased here at the Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society Show you won't find in our yard.

I've also been an avid hunter of fossils. I don't know how many of you readers might remember

when I first began publishing The Gad-a-bout back in the early 90's, but back then I held several get togethers called "Fossil Flings." We met for the outing at the Mounds S.R.A. office twice and a third time in the shelter at Bonwell Hill Overlook.

Prior to my first issue I saw a group wandering up and down the large road cut on SR 101 on the two sides of Franklin Creek, evidently looking for fossils. I stopped and found they were from Purdue University, lead by Professor Bill Zimsmeister and also Professor Gerald Haddock from Wheatland College. Professor Zimsmeister told me that, "these deposits through here are world famous because they are so incredibly fossiliferous....it's a classic area for this part of the Ordovician because the fossils are so incredibly abundant and well preserved."

The Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society, Inc. has been putting on the rock and gem show since 1973, this is their 41st Annual Show. The purpose of the Gem show is to promote knowledge and interest in the earth sciences and the Lapidary arts. The show is also a fund raiser for club expenses and provides money for a college scholarship awarded each year.

The Gem club was founded as a nonprofit group in April 1966. Prior to acquiring the new clubhouse located on U.S. 40 just east of Centerville the club met at Hayes Regional Arboretum, the Richmond State Hospital and Earlham College.

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm at the clubhouse located at 5199 U.S. 40 East, Centerville, IN. This is about 1/2 mile east of Centerville at the intersection of Rice Road, south west corner. The programs are sometimes scheduled before the business meeting and fellowship is enjoyed after the meetings. Guests are always welcome.

If you are planning on attending the 41st Annual Gem, Mineral, Fossil Show this year please note. North Salisbury Road from just south of College Corner road, north to the railroad crossing at Gaar Jackson Road is under reconstruction and may be closed to

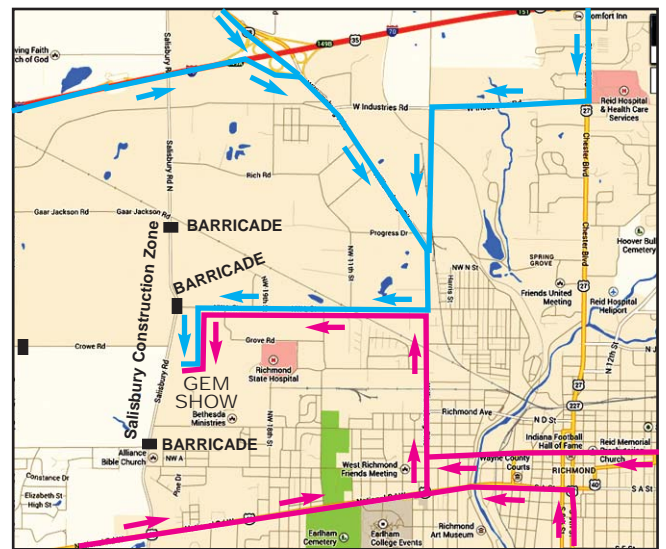
traffic. Then again it may not be.

There will be signs erected to help guide you to the Wayne County Fairgrounds and the Gem Show. To be on the safe side irregardless of the road being closed you can get there by following these directions.

From I-70 exit at US 35 South, turn left onto NW L Street, go west to North Entrance to Fairgrounds.

From U.S. 40 travel East or West (depending on if from Ohio or Indiana) to NW 5th Street turn north, then turn left onto NW L Street follow to entrance.

From US27 North Cyan, South Magenta



Sherry Dickerson enjoys visiting the booths each year looking for something to add to her collection of rocks and other items she has purchased here at the show.

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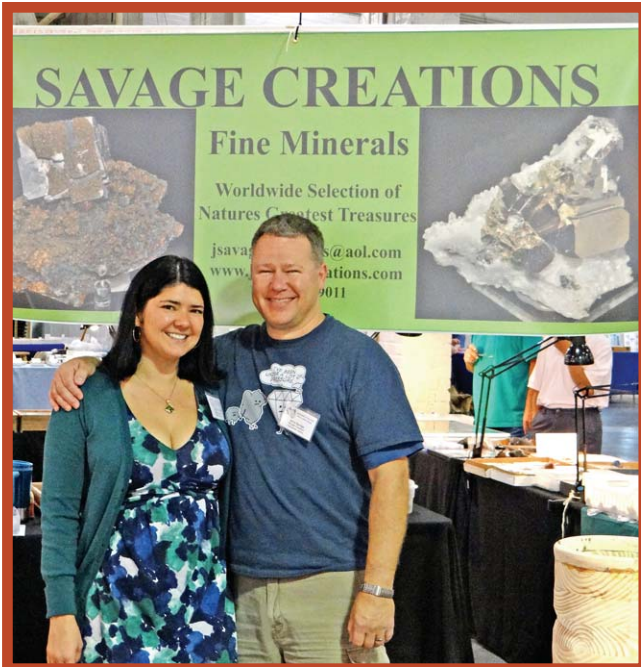
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Alicia and Jerry Savage, owners of Savage Creations from Indianapolis was set up at Van Wimmers 2013 Fall Show.



David R. Freeland Jr handcrafts jewelry designs from the finest high quality gemstones found in his travels.



Nancy LaValley specializing in Unique and Quality Designer Jewelry. Here she is holding one of her beautiful pieces.

16th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show Indiana State Fairgrounds March 21-23, 2014

Article and Photos (At top of page)
by Ray Dickerson

Van and Rose Wimmer fill the Indianapolis Ag/Horticulture building with every kind of gem stone and craft imaginable. I've been attending Van's Indianapolis Spring and Fall show for quite some time now and public attendance is very good.

Their upcoming 16th Annual Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show is March 21-23, 2014 in Indianapolis. See below for more details.

For this article I'm writing about four craft persons that I spent some time interviewing at the Fall Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Show in Indianapolis on October 5, 2013.

Carved Boots For Veteran's Memorial



Jerry Savage carving part of Veteran's Memorial to be placed in Madison, IN. (Photo by Jerry Savage)

Jerry and Alicia Savage Creations

When I stopped at the Savage Creation booth at the Fall Show, October 5, 2013 what looked like a huge wooden boot caught my eye, so I asked about it. Jerry Savage introduced himself and his wife, Alicia. He told me it was for a Veteran's Memorial that will be placed in Madison, IN when completed. I asked him if he could send me some information about it for next February's issue. Here is what Jerry sent me.

The carving is intended to be used as part of a Veteran's Memorial to be emplaced in Madison, IN. A group of County Veteran Service Officers (VSO), those are the guys who help Veterans with applying for Veteran's benefits and other things at the county level, decided that as there were no memorials in each county, they should take the lead. The gentleman who initiated it and approached me was John Piper.

The boots are only part of the memorial. The remainder of the memorial will consist of an M1 Rifle and a helmet. The final product will be the KIA type memorial that you see with the rifle sticking muzzle down with the helmet on top and the boots arranged at the bottom. The helmet and rifle have already been completed by another Veteran from Brown County, Donnie Altop. Although it may not be apparent from the photo, the boots and overall memorial will be a 2x life size depiction of the normal memorial. The boots themselves are each 24 inches long, 20 inches tall and approximately 8 inches wide. When all of the carvings are completed, they will be used as the masters for a bronze casting to be made and that will be the actual memorial that is placed in Madison, IN. The group is still collecting money to pay for the rest of the process and they would gladly accept donations. **More information about donating to the memorial fund is available from John Piper at bcvso@hotmail.com.**

I've been carving since December 2009. I was on active duty in the Army at that time, and the Army sent me on an assignment to be the Installation Commander for our base in Soto Cano, Honduras. The installation had a nice wood shop that was managed by a Honduran gentleman who was also a Master Woodcarver. I spent many of my evenings during my time there watching and then learning to carve from the gentleman. I have continued to carve after returning to the states and retiring. Most of my work is in relief carving, such as wall art, custom signs and carved boxes. My work

can be seen at the Veteran's Antiquities Art Gallery located at 1140 East 46th Street, Indianapolis, IN at the Monon Trail. The gallery displays and sells art and artistic items made by Indiana Veterans. I also have a few pieces with me at my mineral booth at the upcoming events at the *Indiana State Museum the last weekend in Feb*, at the *TOTE show at the fairgrounds in March*, *Bedford mineral show in August* and *Greenfield show in September*. I also maintain a Face Book page of all of my previous and ongoing work at: <https://www.facebook.com/jsavagecreations>.

David R. Freeland Jr Designs

With an artist's eye and a craftsman's touch, David R. Freeland Jr's jewelry designs are handcrafted from the finest high quality gemstones found in his travels. Using lapidary techniques, each stone is carefully cut to bring out its natural beauty and is meticulously inlaid by hand, taking extra time to ensure the finest handmade quality. His use of unconventional shapes, textures and proportions create distinctive one of a kind designs. David's work is bold, traditional, and elegant with a contemporary appeal.

David's passion for jewelry design began in his youth drawing inspiration from the rich cultural heritage of the Southwest and his father who traded with Native American craftsmen. He draws much of his inspiration from nature and is committed to supporting ecological projects

Driven by his passion for environmental stewardship, David has created an exciting line of jewelry featuring beautiful sea life scenes. It is his hope that The Sea Life Collection will serve as a reminder of how important it is to protect and save our precious oceans.

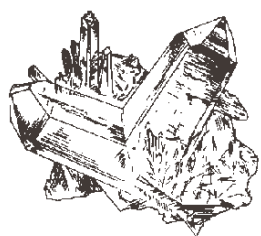
His latest collection is filled with unique pieces that incorporate beautiful gemstones and minerals. Because each piece is designed around individual mineral specimens and gemstones, the Goddess Collection is primarily comprised of one of a kind pieces.

David has spent more than 35 years perfecting his craft and creating unique collections of jewelry and art that include his highly collectable Silver Kachina Dolls, beautifully inlaid collectable beads, southwestern inspired designs, fine jewelry, and a multitude of one of a kind custom designed pieces. His masterful jewelry work includes a selection of the highest quality opal with diamonds, tanzanite, sapphires, tourmalines, and rubies set in 18k gold and platinum.

David is also Vice Chairman of the Board of the Satya Mineral Trading USA, LLC which is currently mining gold in the Philippines.

The Philippines is ranked among the top five countries in the world in mineral wealth. Emerging from years of relative isolation and instability, a more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



**Treasures of the Earth
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March 21-23, 2014

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October 3-5, 2014 = 16th Annual Indianapolis Fall Show



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Attending the youth archery workshop from left to right are Meghan Bradburn, Kolton Tinsman, Hunter Riggins, Peyton Tinsman, Will Anderson, Reese Stephenson, Jordan Hill, Lane Anderson and Landon Bradburn. That's me with my back to camera. (Author Photos)



Sgt. Jeff Riggins is a Detective with 12 years on the Randolph County Sheriff's Department. He lives in Winchester. He has a son, Hunter Riggins age 9 and a daughter, Mckenzie Riggins. He is Co-Owner of Inside Out Custom Bowstrings, Inc. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Archery Is For Everyone

by Jeff Riggins

Co-Owner of Inside Out Custom Bowstrings, Inc.

Inside Out Custom Bowstrings, Inc. is a new archery pro shop located in Winchester, IN. Here you will find friendly people and good times.

Since Inside Out moved to town, we have focused on educating the area youth about the "sport" of archery. For many years, archery has been associated with hunting. While hunting is an amazing life-style and pastime, it's important to pass on the "sport" to our youth. There are many kids that may have never been given the opportunity to try archery, because they were not raised in a hunting atmosphere. Archery is for everyone. It is a sport that teaches important life skills. It develops quality traits such as, commitment, dedication, hard work, focus, and self-worth. Regardless of popularity or athleticism, a child can become a world-class archer if only given the opportunity.

Inside Out recently utilized their 8-lane indoor range and staff of certified archery instructors to host a Youth Archery Workshop. The workshop was designed for kids from six to seventeen. There were about twenty smiling faces registered for the four-week workshop. Equipment

was provided to those that had not yet purchased their own. The workshop consisted of learning the basics of archery, as well as tips for the more advanced archer. It has been a fun atmosphere for the archers as well as the staff. From playing tic-tac-toe archery, shooting balloons, and a friendly mini-tournament, there's been nothing but smiles.

The workshop consisted of four consecutive Saturday's with each day building from the last. Many parents that may have had hesitation about the safety aspect of shooting archery, quickly realized how safe and fun it can be. The kids learned a lot about the sport and left the workshop confident in their abilities. Day-One was the first time shooting a bow for some. By the final day, the kids were given the opportunity to battle it out with their parents in an edge-of-your-seat competition. The playing field was evened out, with each using the Genesis bows.

This will be the first of many workshops from Inside Out. There is an upcoming Youth Archery Tournament at Inside Out on December 28th and 29th. It will give some area youth the opportunity to win a trophy and have a first, second, and third place podium picture taken. For a unique birthday party, Inside Out offers a private range time, professional instruction, archery games, cake, and great times with their birthday party package.

Now, Inside Out isn't restricted to youth only. With a

very knowledgeable staff of hunters and hardcore tournament archers, they're capable of assisting you with all of your archery needs. They are currently authorized dealers for Hoyt, PSE, and Ben Pearson bow lines. With a nice selection of in-stock bows and accessories, you're sure to find what you're looking for. If you're an individual or dealer looking for a top-notch quality set of bowstrings, Inside Out builds strings to order. If you are interested in becoming a dealer of Inside Out Strings, feel free to give them a call at (765) 625-2163. You can also check them out on Facebook.

Inside Out has made quite an impact in the Winchester area. There's much more to come. It's been great to see children take pride in a sport loved by so many in an older generation. With a huge surge in the interest of archery in recent years, it's more important now than ever to take the opportunity to introduce new people to the sport.

During the workshop, the children were asked by a very enthusiastic, but hesitant instructor, "Okay kids. Which is better, archery or video games?" The kids yelled, "Archery!" The same instructor turned to an adorable little six year-old girl and asked, "Is it better than doll babies?" She politely said, "No." I guess I shouldn't have pushed my luck!

Editor's Note: The tall fellow in a couple of photos is Shane Fudge who helped Jeff with the workshop.

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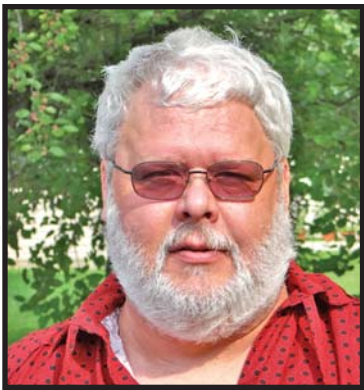


Fur Sale Results
ISTA Jan. 11, 2014

Specie	#sold	Value	Mean	High
Muskrat	947	\$ 9,262.25	\$ 9.78	\$ 19.25
Mink	60	\$ 915.00	\$ 15.25	\$ 23.00
Raccoon	1,068	\$ 14,844.00	\$ 13.90	\$ 27.50
Coyote	112	\$ 2,039.00	\$ 18.21	\$ 24.00
Red Fox	29	\$ 1,275.50	\$ 43.98	\$ 62.50
Grey Fox	1	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Beaver	62	\$ 1,357.50	\$ 21.90	\$ 39.00
Opossum	64	\$ 126.25	\$ 1.97	\$ 3.25
TOTALS	2393	\$ 29,892.00		

Left Photo: Getting set up for the fur sale. Right Photo: Fur Sale Results ISTA January 11, 2014 in Miami County 4-H Fair grounds in Peru, IN. (Photos by Dr. Fred Philips)

Indiana State Trappers Association



by **Dr. Fred Philips, DVM**
ISTA News

Trapping seasons are all open and the weather has been tolerable. If you are trapping, I hope that you are doing well. This year I have had several calls from the IDNR trying to help people with animal damage issues get together with trappers who can help. We call that "Mutual Benefit". One of my own places has had an invasion of Beaver. I have just gotten set up on them so there is nothing to report on that front yet. Muskrat are still a little hard to come by unless you have gotten into one of the marshes or have a secret honey hole that you guard. Ponds seem to be the most likely spot you will find them and there they can really do some damage. Raccoon are still everywhere. It will be very interesting to see what and how many of the species come into the ISTA Fur sale on Jan. 11th, 2014 at the Miami County 4-H Fair grounds, located at 1079 W. 200 N., Peru, IN 46970. The doors will open at 8am EST, with the sale starting at 10 am EST (EASTERN STANDARD TIME). You may bring your fur in, in the round (the whole animal, unfrozen, completely thawed), green skinned (that is skinned but not otherwise scraped or dried, but also completely thawed), or stretched and dried. Obviously, the more work you put into the skin, the more you will get back, in general. However, it is very easy to turn a \$20 pelt into a \$5 pelt with the slip of a knife, so be careful out there. Also, watch out for those nicks and cuts that you may receive while working with your skins. One case of cellulitis (infection), and your Doctor, medical, and hospital bills will negate everything that you have earned, and then some. The year does promise to be a good one for prices, so take care, and



Fur Sale. (Photos by Dr. Fred Philips)



Mixed bag of furs. (Photos by Dr. Fred Philips)

be respectful of other trappers. Oh, I will have a brief "State of the ISTA" after the fur sale for anyone who wishes to stay around for a bit of a Member's meeting. Lastly, anyone who wishes to volunteer to help out at the sale will be welcomed with open arms. Just give me a call at **765.938.1806** and leave me your name and number to get back to you. PLEASE, speak slowly and clearly and repeat your number at least two times.

Send me pictures of your catch at the end of the year, and I will do my best to get them posted. Or even send them to The Gad-a-bout, Ray loves to print those kind of things. If you trap as I do, sporadically and mostly on weekends, you may only have a few rats and a beaver or two. That is fine. I also want to hear about the bottom line for people. It is really cool to say that you caught 500 raccoon last year, but I want to know what you put into catching those 500 raccoon. Too many people think that they are going to get rich trapping, and do not really pay attention to the logistics. It is a great sport. You have to really understand your target to get them to step on that two square inches (sometimes less) of trigger / trap pan. The things that can go wrong in the meantime seem endless. I vividly remember a few winters back finding a red fox foot print

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Nice raccoons skins. (Photos by Dr. Fred Philips)

dead center on my trap pan and the bait from the dirt whole completely gone. Yep, the trap was frozen in. I cannot begin to tell you how hard I tried to keep that from happening, but it still does, occasionally.

As we await word of our Not-For-Profit status, we, the Board of the ISTA, have decided to try a **Spring Fling in April, April 12, 2014** at Mill Pond Park, Union Mills, IN., to be exact. That is a Saturday, and Turkey season isn't open yet. There will be a Board Meeting / Members Meeting from 10 am (CST) to noon, followed by a cookout, and then an afternoon of demonstrations and maybe some games. **NOTE**, Union Mills is on CENTRAL STANDARD TIME. Ron Elliott is heading this up for us, so it should be a good time. Primitive camping is available. Hotels are in LaPorte or Valparaiso. Tailgating will be available and we may even have a vendor or two. Everything is still in the planning stage. More information will be available in the Calendar of our Website.

The week before this, we will be having our first **Trappers Education class for 2014** in Bloomington, IN. at the North Fork Service Area, 5300 N. McGowen Rd., Bloomington, IN. 47401. You will need to be pre-registered on the IDNR website. Go to www.passitonindiana.com and choose the trapping education site. If you forget this, go to the ISTA website, www.indianatrappers.org, and look in the Calendar section. The first item lists how to get signed up. We may have an advanced class there this year, so be sure to check it out.

Well that is it for now, so as you go, watch your top knot, keep your eyes along the skyline.

Fred "DR" Philips, DVM
Pres. ISTA

So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

for this trip wait till the middle of winter. Once they get the lake drawn down to winter pool the current in the stilling basin will go slack. This is when you want to be fishing at the stilling basin area. Vertical fishing over the walls of the stilling basin with a 1/4 to a 1/2 jig tipped with a minnow is a good choice. If your not a live bait fisherman try a 1/2 ounce Hopkins spoon or a blade bait anything that resembles a minnow will work.

I sure hope this helps you die-hard fishaholics get through the winter. See you on the river.

Good Luck, Tag

If you need more info E-mail me at tag@tag-nobbe.com or go to the web site www.brookville-lakeguideservice.com.

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News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

If you pick up, someone off shore, (usually in Jamaica,) will answer and immediately try to solicit funds, whether for a fake charity, some phony contest or investment scheme. Once you've talked with them they will have the computers dial your number repeatedly for days, sometimes for months, hoping you will give in and send them money.

Make sure your phone number is registered on the national do not call list by going to <https://www.donotcall.gov/Register/Reg.aspx>. You can also register your phone number on the Indiana do not call list by going to <http://www.in.gov/attorneygeneral/2445.htm>. While this may not stop all the calls, it does help cut down on them.

If you get a call from a number you don't recognize, let it go to voicemail. If they don't leave a message, it was probably a scam call generated by a computerized

automatic dialer. If you feel you've been a victim, the FBI website for filing a complaint is www.ic3.gov, or you can call your local State Police Post.

Thanks for reading this month's installment. Stay safe, and although winter seems to be dragging, remember to smile because warm weather and turkey season is just a couple months away!

IDNR News

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

determined by acreage. The maximum number of caches for any property 10,000 acres or more is 50.

- Caches may not be placed more than 25 feet from developed roads or trails.
- Caches may not be placed in nature preserves.
- Caches may be placed at Redbird and Interlake State Riding Areas with an approval license.

Other Important Details

- The maximum number of caches allowed on a property is the lesser of 50 or property acreage/200. Properties that are 200 - 1000 acres may have up to five caches if the property manager approves.
- Properties smaller than 200 acres do not qualify for geocaching (no caches or containerless caches.) This includes public access sites operated by the Division of Fish & Wildlife.
- Multi-caches are permitted if the property manager approves, but they may not have more than five stages.
- All licenses now expire on January 1. Cache licenses may now be renewed with property manager approval.
- Licenses approved after October 1 may be approved for up to the end of the NEXT year. (ie a license granted October 15, 2012 would be good through December, 2013.)
- There are now no limits on the number of caches one person may place, although the property manager has the right to refuse approval of caches.

To review the DNR geocaching policy in its entirety visit www.IN.gov/dnr.

Winter is a great time to geocache with the family in our DNR properties. Apart from being a good time to hike, the crowds are often absent and the lack of foliage allows for better satellite signal acquisition if using a handhold GPS or smart phone device. Go on...HIKE!

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Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

2014 SEASON

2014 looks to be a great year for the Indiana Slab Masters. There have been a lot of changes within the club. I would like to welcome the new officers and congratulate them on their new positions. Also, thank you to all previous officers, I wish them the best in their new endeavors; they have done an exceptional job getting the club to where it is now. With new officers comes changes and they are striving to get new ideas in place for the upcoming season. In this article I will include the 2014 schedule, new officers and their positions and some of the new ideas that are already in place for 2014. I will start with upcoming events that promote crappie fishing here in Indiana.

The first event and welcome back is the Indiana Fishing Expo at the Johnson County Fairgrounds in Franklin, Indiana on January 25th and 26th. There will be several fishing seminars given both days including Crappie pro, Charlie Hildreth.

On February 1st the Indiana Slab Masters will put on a Crappie Fishing seminar at Westside Bait and Tackle, 1507 Vermont St, Indianapolis, IN. Speakers and topics for this event include, Tom Hankins on Spider rigging for crappie, Myron Etchison on fish care and keeping tournament fish alive. (As tournament director last year I can attest to Myron being very good at this as I saw every fish he weighed last year), Bobby Garland pro staffer Doug Sikora will discuss Single pole jigging and Ice fishing for crappie. Charlie Hildreth, Southern Pro baits and Delaware Prop pro staffer will also be at this event with Crappie fishing tips and techniques. This is a must attend event if you are into crappie fishing, these guys are some of the best in the state. There is a \$5.00 cover charge to attend; there will be door prizes, membership sign ups and more at the event.

The Ford Indy Boat Sport and Travel Show begins Feb 14th and runs through the 23rd I talked with Renfro productions several months ago about Crappie fishing in Indiana and looks like by the list of speakers they could possibly be doing a round table discussion on Crappie fishing and techniques at this year's show. Speakers could include Eight Time National champion and Legends in the Outdoors Hall of Fame Inductee, Ronnie Capps, Midwest Crappie TV host and eleven time national qualifier, Russ Bailey, and Southern Illinois Crappie guide and Tournament pro, Kyle Schoenherr, will round out the trio.

Officers for the Indiana Slab Masters 2014 season are President Jim Raymer, Vice President Damon Phillips, Tournament director Joe Long, Secretary James Lasswell, Treasurer Doug Sikora and Advisory



Event Photos from 2013

board, Bret Cunningham, Dave Wright, Mike Bledsoe and Myron Etchison.

Some of the new ideas these guys are already working on for this year includes a kid's only tournament on June 21st at Prairie Creek Reservoir and an artificial only tournament at Tanners Creek July 19th. Membership fees for 2014 are \$30.00 adults and \$10.00 for children. Teams will automatically be signed up for the point's race this year.

The **2014 schedule** is in place and has been approved it is as follows.

- March 22ndPatoka Lake
- April 12thGeist Reservoir
- April 26thBrookville Lake
- May 10thCecil M Harden Lake (Raccoon)
- May 17th.....Mississinewa/Salamonie
- May 31st.....Cagles Mill Lake (Cataract)
- June 21stPrairie Creek Reservoir (Kids Only)
- July 19th.....Ohio River/ Tanners Creek (Artificial Only)
- September 13thMorse Reservoir
- September 27thOhio River/ Tanners Creek

Two Day Classic

October 25th and 26th.....Monroe Reservoir
For full tournament details and rules go to:

www.indianaslabmasters.com or
www.indianaslabmasters.org

Seems lately I have been spending a lot of time sitting around the house watching it snow waiting on spring to arrive and water temperatures to rise, I always look forward to the upcoming year and the

tournament season in particular. This winter is no different I am looking forward to fishing the different tournament trails and visiting different lakes in several states. My planned schedule this year will take me to Tennessee, Kentucky, Illinois, Ohio and possibly Alabama, but I always look forward to coming back to Indiana and it's reservoirs with some of the best fishing in the country. As always, I invite everyone to visit the Indiana Slab Masters website and its link page to see the finest crappie fishing products on the market. I would also like to thank our team sponsors for all they do. Please support them by visiting their websites.

Tight Lines Everyone
Ron Bilbrey



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With Rich Creason

Under A Mile Of Ice

It starts simply. The average temperature falls a few degrees. Yearly snowfall increases. First in higher elevations, then lower, more snow falls than melts. Snowfields grow and the permanent snow line starts moving south. This process continues for hundreds, then thousands of years. Snow buildup increases from inches, to feet, to tens and hundreds of feet. It turns to ice. Then, it begins to move. Another ice age has begun!

This has happened to the north central U.S. and Indiana, four times in the last 600,000 years. It will almost certainly happen again. The last ice sheet left Indiana only about 12,000 years ago. The results it left behind are unmistakable to a trained geologist and are readily observable to the untrained layman when supplied with a small amount of information.

Glaciers don't just suddenly appear. They begin as permanent snowfields in far north or south latitudes or in high elevations. The normal climate changes slightly and precipitation is higher than normal. A temperature drop may be caused by excessive cloud cover, or blocking of the sun's rays by volcanic ash, or dust. Snowfall exceeds melt-off. As water becomes tied up as snow and ice, ocean levels drop. The temperature regulating effect of ocean water declines causing further temperature drop.

As snow builds up, it changes form. What started as light, fluffy snow crystallizes into a heavier, granular material called "firn". (If you have seen a large snow pile pushed up by a plow, you will notice it becomes pellet-sized particles which harden and melt much slower than the surrounding snow. This is firn.) Under its own weight it changes to ice.

As the ice accumulates, the weight of the glacier becomes tremendous. As the weight increases, the ice on the bottom of the pack changes again. While not

exactly melting, it does become elastic or fluid. It begins to squeeze out from under the pile and starts to move. As it moves, it carries the rest of the glacier with it. The ice forms two separate zones. The bottom is called the zone of flow. The top part is the zone of fracture. It is very hard and brittle. Shifting causes breaking or fracture of this area forming crevasses or large cracks throughout the surface.

The rate of movement varies. Of course, it speeds up when going down steeper slopes, but other factors also influence flow. Thicker ice moves faster. Higher temperatures form melt water in front of the glacier essentially lubricating the ground somewhat. Greater amounts of unfrozen water inside the glacier cause quicker movement. Speed of a glacier is relative though. Normal speed of a glacier is only a few inches to a few feet per day. Extreme speed might reach 50 feet per day. And all the time, to continue to move forward, the ice pack must continue to grow. A glacier is either advancing or retreating, almost never staying constant.

While this giant ice sheet is moving, it causes many changes to the Earth it covers, the environment it passes through and even the local climate. A major effect of a passing glacier is erosion of the soil layer. Actually, it is more a scouring as if a giant bulldozer pushed all the dirt off the rocks, along with the trees, and plants in its way. Not only is the surface material removed, but also the bedrock layer itself is deeply striated from the scouring effect. As close to us as Lake Erie, north of Sandusky, Ohio, the rock is grooved one to two feet deep, and in places in western Canada, grooves have been found over 50 feet deep and a mile long! Tens of thousands of Canadian and northern U.S. lakes, plus the Finger Lakes of New York and even our Great Lakes were formed by the massive power of moving ice.

Another result of the glaciers was transportation of material from one site to another. Large boulders were dumped far from their origins. The passing ice left huge fields of basketball size rocks. "Drift", a mixture of rock, soil, and debris of all sizes was deposited along the front and sides of the glacier. Much of the soil, rocks, and especially sand and gravel in central Indiana was part of the out wash from melting ice as the last glacier headed back north. One of the interesting remains of the last ice age that was left behind in Indiana streams is gold! Indiana has no known native gold or diamonds, but both are found here in the out wash drift where the ice deposited them.

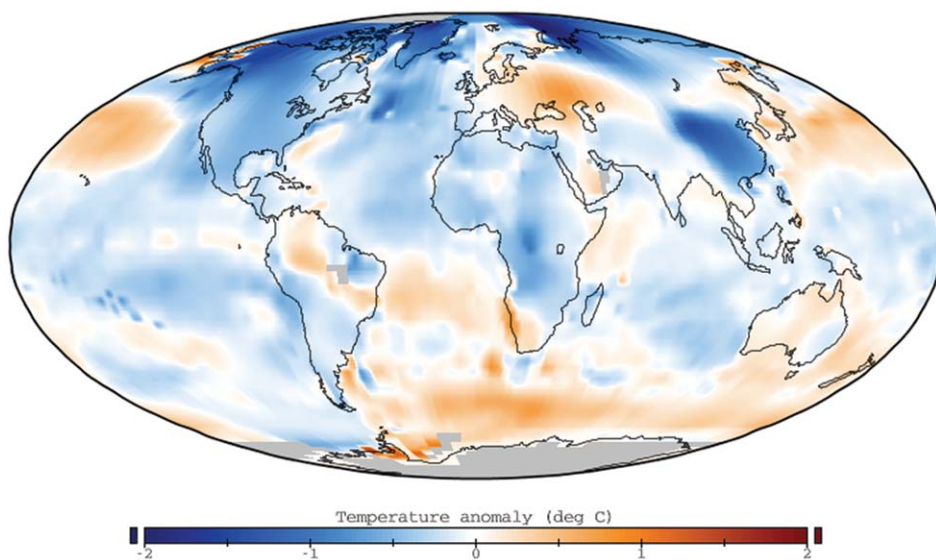
Great glaciers have been with us in the past, as far south as St. Louis. They are with us now. Greenland has ice over 10,000 feet thick, while Antarctica ice is over 14,000 feet deep. There is no doubt that sometime in the future, Indiana will again be under hundreds

of feet of solid ice. The next ice age will occur. Whether it is caused by normal occurrences, a catastrophic natural disaster, or Man's effect on nature remains to be seen.

The author may be reached at eyewrite4u@aol.com.

Editor's Note: The map at left is from Wikipedia. The current scientific opinion on climate change is that the Earth has not durably cooled, but undergone global warming throughout the 20th century. I wonder? ■

1965-1975 Mean Temperatures vs 1937-1946



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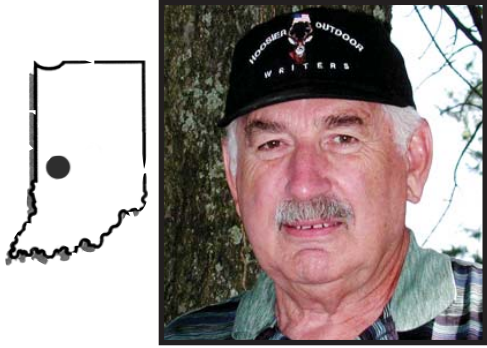
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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

IN MEMORY OF DON BICKEL MY GOOD FRIEND & WRITER IN THE GAD-A-BOUT OCTOBER 2002 THRU DECEMBER 2013

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



by **Don Bickel, Forester**

March 14, 1933 - December 27, 2013

Back in the Fall of 2002 I found that Don Bickel was at Monroe Reservoir at a meeting. I was looking for him to take his photo for the new column he was going to write in The Gad-a-bout. The photo above was taken near the 4 Winds Inn on Monroe Reservoir next to a tree. He debuted in the October 2002 Gad-a-bout, besides writing the column he also distributed the paper in his local area and sold some advertising too. His first article in that issue and his last one in December of 2013 was about the same subject, Hal Bench. A little bit later in this article you will get to hear from Hal Bench about Don.

Friday, December 27, 2013

I went to my office Friday afternoon as usual. When I entered my computer room I noticed a message on the phone. I pushed the button and the voice said it was Jeff Bickel, he called to tell me his father, Don had died. He wanted me to know and wanted to thank me for being Don's friend and letting him write in The Gad-a-bout for all those years. Jeff left two numbers for me to call. The message ended.

I tried to call Jeff, but didn't get an answer, so I tried the other number and got Kris, his sister. I asked her when and where the services would be held. She told me the calling and service would be on December 31st at the Christ Lutheran Church in Crawfordsville. The visitation was at 10 a.m. and a celebration of Don's life would be held at 12:15. I told her I was going to try to attend the service. I asked where I should send the flowers to, she told me to send them to the church.

Knowing Don had a weekly column in Crawfordsville Journal Review I got on line and googled the Journal Review to find Don's obituary. I found it and printed it out.

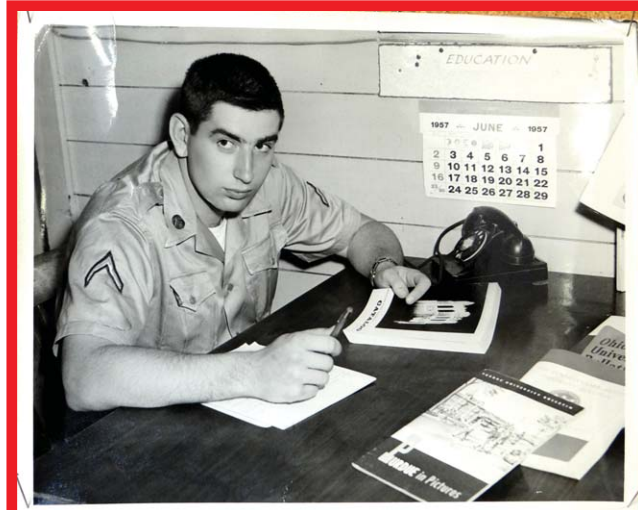
Monday morning I sent flowers from Carla's. I left home early enough on Tuesday to arrive at 10 a.m. in Crawfordsville. I had googled the address of the church before leaving and found it without too much trouble.

The only person I would know in the Church would be Don's wife, Mary Alice, who I only saw when I delivered papers to their house years ago.

I always looked forward to Don's articles. He wrote about every kind of outdoor sport there was and enjoyed all of them. But most of all I think he loved fishing for bluegill, hunting rabbits and mushrooms the best.

I went inside the church and stood in the line waiting my turn to see Mary Alice Bickel and the family. Mary Alice was sitting on a chair between her son Mark Bickel and his wife Missy, to their right was Jeff Bickel, who greeted me with both hands. He handed me a sealed envelope with the

word Gad-a-bout on it, he added that it was written by Nancy Swalley and it was okay for me to use it. Next to Jeff was his wife Barb, next to her was his sister Kris Shireman who I had spoken to on the phone Friday. Next to her was Don's sister Barbara Lander, the grand kids were there too.



Top Photo: Don when he was in the military. Middle Photo: Don and Mary Alice Bickel. Bottom Photo: Photo of the flowers I couldn't find until after the chapel emptied. I was very surprised to find the ones I sent, in the chapel.

I know I spoke to them, but I can't remember in what order their names are George Shireman, Lauren Bickel, Elizabeth Bickel, Dietrich Shireman and Gus Bickel.

After visiting the family I looked around the chapel pews and saw a face I thought I recognized, but wasn't sure. So I walked over his way and stopped next to where he was seated.

He said, "Are you still publishing The Gad-a-bout, Ray?"

Answering him in my usual way, "you look familiar, do I know you?"

He replied, "Herb Krauch."

I thought, Herb Krauch, we had become acquainted through the Hoosier Outdoor Writer Association, his work with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and meetings of one kind and another.

I sat down in front of Herb and we began remi-

niscing about them good old days. I wish I would have had my tape recorder with me that day, but I didn't. It's suffice to say we enjoyed a good conversation about H.O.W., DNR etc. I do remember though that he and Don spent a lot of time together hunting and fishing, they had a lot in common.

Following the visitation, the celebration of Don's life Memorial Service was presided over by Pastors Kelly Nelson and Lowell Anderson, they had a wonderful service. The songs they picked was "How Great Thou Art," "Abide with Me," and "Amazing Grace" followed by Communion. The organist was Janet Campbell.

With the service over I tried to find the flower arrangement I sent. I finally found them after the chapel had emptied. They were sitting on a pedestal behind where Mary Alice had been sitting during the calling. It was a beautiful arrangement, I was pleased with them.

I then took some photos of the photos the family had put out for visitors to enjoy. The cover photo is one of them, the one of Don in the Army and the one of Don and Mary Alice. They are on page 26.

Before leaving I asked Jeff Bickel if he wanted some copies of the December 2013 Gad-a-bout, it was the last issue that Don's Column appeared. He said he would like some of them so I gave him a bundle to give to those who wanted it.

We stood and talked for a while longer. I told him if there was anything else I could do for him or the family, not to hesitate to ask, then said farewell.

Last but not least, in the envelope that Jeff Bickel gave me is a newspaper clipping he said was written by a Nancy Swalley and that it was okay for me to reprint it in The Gad-a-bout. It's entitled, "Goodbye ol' friend, it is a memorial letter from his good friend, Hal Bench....."

Wah Donald, me and the Missus is gonna miss you coming out to the crick. I got to thinking that people ought to know the Donald we knew, not that fellar in the Journal Review.

Don Bickel was born 200 years too late. He would have fit right in with them folks in 1813. He was a woodsman in every way. He could walk through the woods and name every tree, name every weed, flow, bird, you name it. He was right at home.

Like them folks, he ate everything he shot or caught. Deer, rabbits, squirrel, quail and pheasants. He was mighty fond of fried turtle, caught'em on set lines in the summer and pulled them out from under the ice in the winter.

Fishing was his love and bluegill was his specialty. He was the Roland Martin of bluegill fishing. He caught'em 12 months out of the year. He could clean

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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The Song "Let it snow!" "Let it snow!" "Let it snow!" "Centerville is prepared for it!"



L to R, Terry Stover (Town Superintendent) with his snow plow crew, Alex Sherwood (Water Operator In Training) and Rich Shook (Electrical Technician). Photo by Ray Dickerson



Centerville snow plow crew pickup driven by Lee Wright (Wastewater Operator) and with him is Donnie Miller (Wastewater Operator). Photo by Ray Dickerson



This plow was operated by Gary Locke (Electrical Superintendent). I finally caught up with him at the town garage. Photo by Ray Dickerson



Centerville salt and sand spreader truck driven by Gary Locke (Electrical Superintendent) at right and helper Donnie Miller (Wastewater Operator) at left. Photo by Ray Dickerson

Centerville's Snow Plow Crews Ready for Snow

by Ray Dickerson

The Centerville snow plowing crews were up to the task of clearing snow from Centerville streets during all our snow falls this fall and winter. They worked diligently around the clock keeping ahead of the snowfall. I found out something I didn't know about these crews, they aren't only designated as snow plow crews, as you can see by reading the cap-

tions under the photos. They wear many hats they work in the town Electrical Department, Wastewater Department, Water Department, Street Department and probably man other jobs as the seasons change.

As I told the girls in the city building when I first visited them after the first snowfall. I am one of the first ones to complain when I think something is wrong, but on that visit I told them that the snow plow crews were doing an excellent job of not only clearing the snow, but also clearing the intersections

too. (This winter has been one for the record books)

I spent several hours driving around town trying to get photos of the crews plowing. I accomplished all my goals except the plow truck driven by Gary Locke. I followed him a couple of times taking short cuts to get in front of him, but when I got near him he was turning around heading the other way. I finally caught up with him at the garage.

Let me just say this guys, you are to be congratulated for a job well done, we appreciate it.



Driving this snow plow is Alex Sherwood who is also the Centerville Water Operator (in training). With him is Rick Shook who is also the Centerville Electrical Technician. It was snowing pretty good here, the snow plow was further away than it looks. We photographers actually work quite hard to get a good shot, sometimes it works. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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Delores Dobbs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

rendered a distinguished service to the state or to the governor. Among these who have received Sagamores have been astronauts, presidents, ambassadors, artists, musicians, politicians, and ordinary citizens who have contributed greatly to our Hoosier heritage.

It should be noted that the Sagamores have been conferred upon both men and women. There is no record of the total number which have been presented, as each governor has kept his own roll; just as each has reserved the right to personally select the recipients.

Editor's Note: Governor Mitch Daniels created a higher honor than the Sagamore of the Wabash, the Sachem Award (which is given annually to just one Indiana native or resident). It is reported that Governor Mitch Daniels thought too many people had been awarded a Sagamore.

Delores Dobbs is the second Franklin County woman to receive the Sagamore of the Wabash.

In my January 2002 Gad-a-bout I reported, "It is a great pleasure to write about Lois Clark, Executive Director of the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. State Representative Bob Bischoff presented her Indiana's highest award for community service, the Sagamore of the Wabash on her 79th Birthday August 22, 2001."

Both Lois Clark and Delores Dobbs excels in their willingness to give of their selves to improve their Community, County and State. It would be a boon if others would follow in their footsteps creating a better tomorrow, today.

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

gills faster with a fillet knife than most people can clean with one of them electric rigs!

Don had a wide range of interests. He read everything he could get his hands on and owned books about everything. He was a master Gardner, he was fix'in to raise chickens just before he got sick. He carved wood, and could take a pencil and copy a line drawing like his name was Canon. He was real proud of his maple sugar camp, and was known to have traded for bluegill fillets or maple syrup.

Don was a proud parent, super grandfather, faithful husband and the best friend I ever had.

Save me a seat,
Hal

CENTERVILLE BICENTENNIAL 1814-2014



Photo by
Danny Shaver

Danny has worked at the Centerville Library on the 2nd floor in Youth Services and PR Specialist for two and a half years.

My hometown of Centerville, Indiana is celebrating it's 200th year since the town was platted in 1814 on land that once belonged to the Miami Indians and was settled by Quakers from the east.

On January 1, 2014, Boy Scout Troop 16 hoisted an American Flag in front of the Town Library that had flown in Afghanistan and under the American Flag the scouts put a Bicentennial Logo flag, both were raised. After the flags were raised Emily Schroeder sang the National Anthem, then Jim Howell led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Dan Shaver who works on the second floor of the Public Library has taken photos of the historic homes in Centerville. He spoke at the Bicentennial Inauguration about three things he felt that were of National importance to Centerville, 1. the arches; 2. the National Road; 3. its heritage.

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Spring Gem & Jewelry Show

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

positive investment climate has dawned in the Philippines, with tangible benefits for companies like ours that are seeking out the most promising emerging opportunities.

When I talked to David at Van Wimmer's fall show he was looking for investors. If you might be interested in investing in a gold mine, contact David by logging onto their website:

Website: <http://www.satyaminaltrading.com>

E-mail: david@satyaminaltrading.com

Phone: 949-547-1167

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You can talk to Jerry, Alicia, David, Nancy and all the other Craft persons in person at the Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows they attend.

Don't miss the 16th Annual Indianapolis Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral & Jewelry Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds - Ag/Hort. Bldg 1202 E. 38th St., Indianapolis, IN March 21-13, 2014. See you there.

To learn more about Van and Rose Wimmer's Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows by logging onto their website: www.toteshows.com.

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Jimmy Alcorn took this 7 point, 170 pound buck in Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Breyton Berryhill, age 14, took this 8 point, 120 pound (field dressed) buck in Carroll County Indiana with a 44 mag. rifle. (Photo submitted by Randy Berryhill)



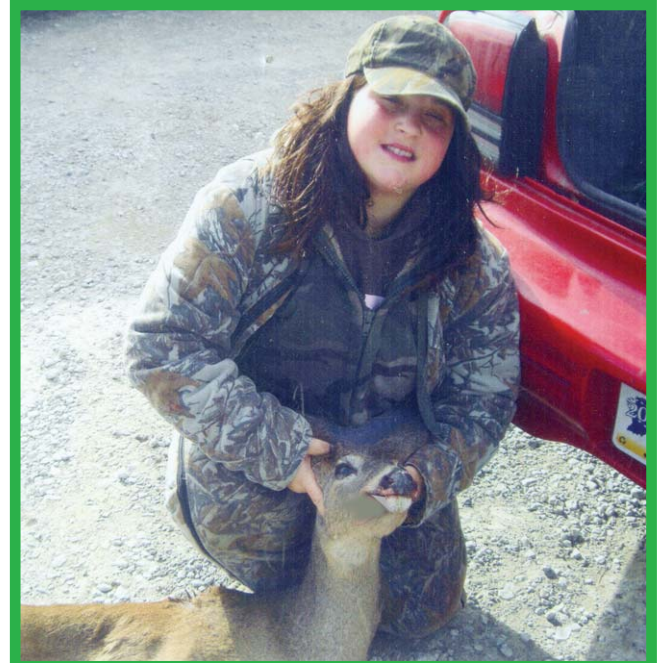
Joshua Knight took this 8 pointer buck in Switzerland County on 11-23-13 during firearm season. (Joshua Knight photo)



Chance Miller took his first buck on 12-17-13 in Scott Co. on private land. The 9 point with a kicker weighed 240 lbs on the hoof. (Photo submitted by his Dad Norman Miller)



Brett Karr and Mom Amber Karr with a button buck a piece taken on 11-30-13. Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



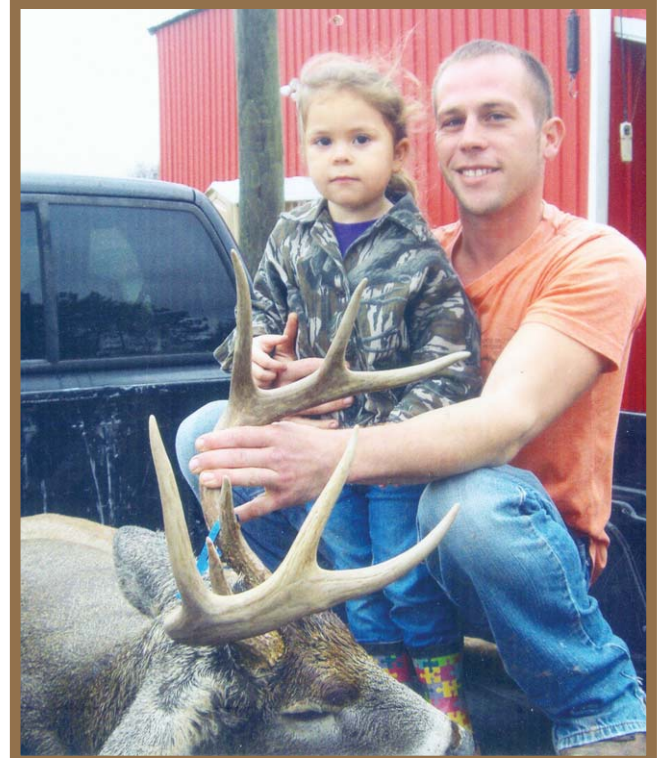
Jillyan Tharp took her first deer on 11-23-13. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Fred Felix took this 13 point buck on 11-19-13. (Summit Lake Bait and Tackle Photo, Summit Lake, IN)



Michael Knight took this 8 pointer buck in Switzerland County on 11-8-13 during Archery Season (Michael Knight Photo)



Caleb Bierly took the 8 point buck on 11-17-13. His daughter is sitting on his lap. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

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Byron Tapley took this 6 point buck in Parke County on 11-9-13. (Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Photos, Summit Lake, IN)



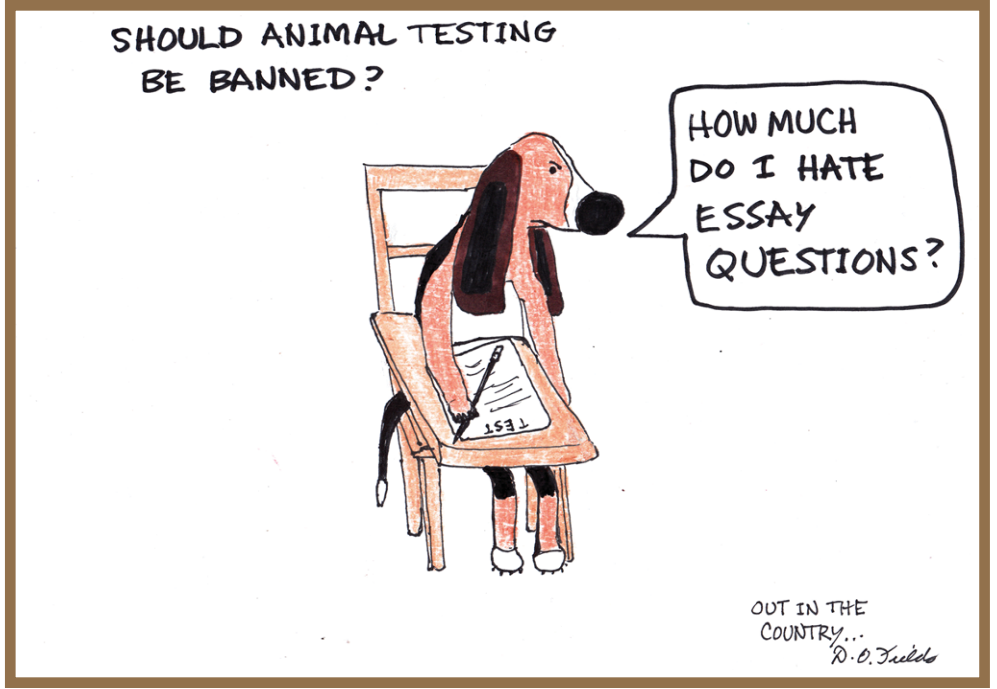
Conner Conwell, age 11, took his first deer a 5 point buck in Henry County. (Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Photos, Summit Lake, IN)



Chris Harding took this 11 pt, 160 lb buck on 12-12-13 in Wayne County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



George Hazel's 2013 trapping results. 112 Raccoon, 55 Muskrat, 10 Mink, 35 Opposum and 2 Beaver. (Photo submitted by Ryan Fields at Fields Outdoor Adventure, Rushville, IN)



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