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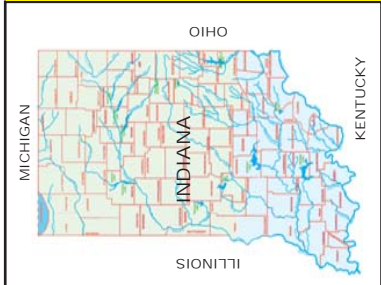


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WORLD CHAMPION BOB PENCE



HAS WON 55 MEDALS SINCE 1978 WITH A FLINTLOCK SHOTGUN HE BUILT - SEE PG 8-9



IN MEMORY OF EVERYONE'S FRIEND IN CENTERVILLE, IN



POLICE OFFICER LLOYD G. RITCHIE MAY 1963 - JAN 2014 SEE PAGES 16-17



STEP ASIDE MEN, "BOW" OUT TO EDUCATE AND PUT WOMEN IN THE FIELD - SEE PG 21

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THE GAD-A-BOUT™



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by Kentucky Colonel Ray Dickerson
or the name given to him by Golden Eagle in 1995
LOKA'DWE ICHUTAKU YUSHEDON'
Translated "Man who gets things done!"
at 105 East South Street, Centerville, IN 47330

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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

Top Left: "...Attention all units"... "attention all units and listening stations"... "on January 25, 2014 Corporal Lloyd G. Ritchie of the Centerville Police Department answered his final call"... "While off duty due to natural causes"... "there is no greater love than a man who has laid down his life for another"... "Centerville Police Department Corporal Lloyd G. Ritchie took his final call to come home"... silence. See More on Page 16-17. (Centerville Police Dept. Photo)

Top Right: A real nice Brown Trout caught on Lake Michigan. See More on Page 11. (Photo provided by Charter Capt. Mike Schoonveld)

Bottom Left: Do you remember the old country song "Don't Take the Girl"? For many years, that was the attitude with which many girls had to contend. Fathers always shared hunting, fishing, and other outdoor pursuits with their male offspring, but usually, not with their wives or daughters. The girl was left at home. That is finally changing. See more on Page 21 (Photo courtesy of Danielle Floyd, IDNR)

Bottom Right: World Champion Robert "Bob" Pence with his famous Flintlock Shotgun and 55 medals. A couple years ago, 2012 to be exact, the question was raised to me, "Ray when you going to do a story about Bob Pence, all the other papers have?" That was asked of me by a couple of fellas who can be found, along with Robert "Bob" Pence, at the I guess you would call it the "liar's table" or maybe the "old timers table" in the Liberty Restaurant in Liberty, Indiana. See More on Page 8-9. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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On The Cutting Edge



by Ray Dickerson

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"TOM RAPER WAY" TO BE ADDED TO WILLIAMSBURG PIKE IN HONOR OF TOM RAPER'S 50 YEARS IN BUSINESS

"Councilman sponsors Williamsburg Pike resolution that goes before officials Monday 2-3-14.....sponsored by Councilman Phil Quinn, who said his goal is to celebrate the 50 years of Tom Raper opening his business in Richmond and the 10 years of Dave Bane's ownership of Tom Raper RVs"

I attended the Council meeting on Monday night at the Richmond Common Council in the Richmond City Building 2-3-14. Councilman Phil Quinn explained to the rest of the council why he wanted to change part of Williamsburg Pike to Tom Raper Way. He said this was the second time this was being tried, the idea was defeated early in the 90's due mostly to objections of businesses residing on Williamsburg Pike and the cost of the change to them. If I heard him correctly, Councilman Quinn told us that he had discussed this with the Richmond Post Office recently and they told him the business along Williamsburg Pike wouldn't have to change their addresses, that only a portion of Williamsburg Pike would be Tom Raper Way. From Progress Drive to Interstate 70. The businesses would still get their mail addressed to Williamsburg Pike. Another objection last time was the cost of signage and this time someone is donating all the signage so there won't be any cost to the taxpayers. The council took a vote, the count was 8-1, the resolution passed. Next the change has to go before the Richmond Board of Public Works and Safety for final approval. Mayor Sally Hutton spoke in favor of the name change also.

I went to the meeting to give my reasons why they shouldn't change the name, but no one in the audience got the chance to say anything. As soon as the vote was taken I left.

I'm not in favor of their adding the name "Tom Raper Way" to Williamsburg Pike and here is the reasons why.

WE HAVE TO GO BACK TO JUNE 1998

A little known contract was signed by Tom Raper and the Wayne County Commissioners who agreed to a 20-year contract that he (Tom Raper) was the only camper dealer that could use the Wayne County Fairgrounds to promote and sell his products.

Tom Raper's part of the bargain was that he would build a building similar to the Kuhlman Center. He did

so, it is called the Tom Raper center. He also installed numerous camper hookups all over the fairgrounds for his annual camper rally he began hosting on the Wayne County Fairgrounds in 1995. It was a big affair.

I BECAME AWARE OF THE CONTRACT IN FEB 1999 WHEN I INQUIRED ABOUT HOSTING CAMPOUT AT FAIRGROUNDS

After learning about that contract, on the front page of my April 1999 Gad-a-bout, at the top of the page it read, "Who Can Use The Wayne County Fairgrounds and Who Can't."

The following is reprinted in part from the April Gad-a-bout in 1999. There are some changes to clarify that what you are reading is about things that happened as far back as the 1970's and up to the current time.

This what I had to say in the April 1999 Gad-a-bout.

Back in the mid-70's while I was publishing "The Outdoor Gad-a-bout" magazine (1973 thru 1978), I was a member of the NCHA which stands for National Campers and Hikers Association and done some camping with them. In 1996 after taking the job as Executive Director of the Union County Development Corporation (UCDC), I decided to see about putting on an invitational campout to include the NCHA and camping clubs in Indiana. One of my duties as Executive Director of UCDC was promoting Union County by various means, which includes the Liberty Festival and Founders Day. I would need a rather large area to host some 200 to 300 camper units. I checked all around Union County at Whitewater State Park and at Brookville, but couldn't find a suitable place. I decided to let it go for the time being.

Last Fall (1998) I was passing the Wayne County Fairgrounds, there were workers on the grounds installing numerous camper hookups everywhere. That's when the idea for my invitational campout idea reappeared from my memory. I was planning on getting some of my camper advertisers in my magazine to co-sponsor it with me. The Wayne County Fairgrounds would be perfect for it. I talked my advertisers back then, Whitewater RV's, Libertytree RV's, Lee's RV's and Best Buy RV's about it and they said they would be interested if I could pull it off.

Back in 1983 I had rented the entire Wayne County Fairgrounds for a Sport, Boat, Travel & Rendezvous Show and the Kuhlman Center in 1995 for a Pre-1840 Christmas Trade Fair. The latter being the most successful. I decided to check into it after the 1999 Cincinnati Sport Show was over in January. I had a booth there.

The first week of February 1999 I stopped at the Kuhlman Center and talked to the Wayne County Fairgrounds manager, Don Wampler. Don was the manager when I did the Christmas Trade Fair. I told him that I was thinking about putting on an invitational campout in the millennium (year 2000) which would be co-sponsored by camping businesses that have advertised in The Gad-a-bout, i.e. Whitewater Valley RV's, Libertytree RV's, Lee's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by **Tag Nobbe**

Professional Fishing Guide

Fishing Brookville Lake in March

Ah March, finally this winter is behind us. It's been so cold for so long, I bet the fish are even thinking ah March finally. What the fish have been doing through out the long cold winter is laying close to the bottom in very deep water. As the water starts to get cold in November the fish will move deeper to escape the colder water from above. As they do this their metabolism slows way down. At some point they end up so cold they can hardly move. They will stay close to the bottom all winter in one spot in a lethargic state until March.

In Brookville lake one of the first fish to spawn is the walleye. Most all fish do their spawning in May when the water temperature reaches the 70's, but walleye spawn when the water temperature reaches 46 degrees. This means as soon as the surface ice melts they need to be looking for a place to spawn. The time period between ice out and 46 degree surface temperature is about 2 weeks. This is a window of opportunity to catch a big walleye in Brookville lake, this is called pre spawn. What your looking for are big females loaded with eggs. If you want to catch a 15 pound walleye this is when you need to be fishing. Oh and by the way do you know what time of year this is? The down side to fishing at this time of year is the numbers. You could fish all day and only catch one walleye.



Tag holding a big walleye. (Author Photo)

What your looking for are sun drenched shore lines, as these spot will warm up the soonest.

The best way to hook one of these monsters is to cast, cast, cast, and cast to the shore from a boat. The bait of choice should be some type of shallow diving crank bait, a swim bait, or live bait that can be fished slow and close to the surface.

Your rod should be a 6 1/2 foot trigger stick with a good quality bait caster spooled with 12 pound test mono filament.

If you don't have a boat another good option is the river systems above and below Brookville Lake. With walleye being drawn to swim up rivers looking for a good place to spawn in current. Treaty line boat ramp at the north end of the lake in the river is a great place to target. It has a huge

parking area that is a public access point, grab a pole and walk to river and your ready to fish. Another option is the river below the Brookville lake dam. Below the dam is an area called the stilling basin. The stilling basin is a huge concrete box right below the dam that slows the water down as it is discharged from the lake. It also has a huge parking area with public access. With the walleye spawning cycle heating up there will be a lot of walleye piled up in this area. Your bait of choice should be a 1/16 - 1/8 ounce lead head jig tipped with live bait for fishing the bottom, or some type of shallow diving stick bait for fishing the surface. Oh and by the way do you know what time of year this is?

If you said March you are absolutely correct.

The Indiana state fishing biologist use Brookville lake as a walleye brood pond to stock all the lakes across the state of Indiana with walleye. The way walleye spawn its just not possible to sustain a good fishery with out the restocking program. The way it is done is with gill nets. This is a way that they can catch the walleye take the eggs off the females fertilize them with the males and then turn everyone of them back into the lake unharmed, to live and spawn another day. Remember though if you want to catch a big walleye on a rod and reel you have to be fishing as soon as the surface ice goes away. In April when that surface temperature reaches about 46 to 47 degrees the walleyes priorities switch from feeding to spawning.

Good luck
Tag Nobbe

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

I guide fish for walleye, striped bass, and crappie starting mid April till mid December, 7 days a week on Brookville Lake. We fish out of a 2007 Lund Pro V 2025 with a 225 Honda motor. I supply everything all the way down to cleaning the fish. I can take 1 - 4 people. The price is according to how many people go \$400.00 for 4 people \$325.00 for 3 people \$275.00 for 2 people and \$225.00 for 1 person. We start at 7:00 am and fish till 1:00 pm. To schedule trips call me on my cell phone **765-265-3238**

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News from the Indiana State Police



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

Winter Storm 2014 Revisited

Every winter, my friend Ray Dickerson is always amazed at how many crashes we work during winter storms. The storms we suffered through this January were no different. I've come to have a genuine dislike for winter weather because of the danger it can cause for the public and law enforcement. A few years ago I was sitting off the side of the road, behind a crash I was working, when my car was side swiped by a semi that traveled over the white line and hit my car. Believe me, I know all about the danger aspect.

There are people who really need to get from point "A" to point "B", then there all those that will tell you they got out just to "see how bad it really is." Either way it can make for a lot of unnecessary traffic. Regardless what anyone says, the icy road DOES NOT cause the collision; it's your driving behavior on that road that causes a collision.

Folks can never seem to grasp the fact that the road can go from dry to wet to ice covered and treacherous within a mile or less. That was the case with I-70 from January 5th-8th, especially from just west of the New Lisbon exit, around the 129 mile marker on into Indy. People would be going 70 M.P.H. and suddenly drive out onto a solid sheet of ice.

I-69 was just plain snow and ice covered for most of the week of 1/5 through 1/8. From 12:01 a.m. Sunday, 1/5/14, up to 8 a.m. Wednesday 1/8/14, Pendleton Troopers worked 36 property damage crashes, four personal injury crashes (including one fatality,) and 143 slide offs. They assisted 112 motorists, and had a total of 363 calls to service during the time period.

Now keep in mind that these are just the totals for the eight county Pendleton District, and just for that one snow event. The bad weather brings out the best and worst in people, and sometimes you can't help but shake your head, or sometimes just plain laugh.

That week between Sunday 1/5 and Wednesday 1/8 there were well over 100 trucks (some estimated 400-500 trucks,) parked at the Flying "J" Truck Stop at the New Castle exit, and it was also about the only place open to get a cup of coffee during the storm. Going in there each morning I got to meet some

interesting characters. One guy from Missouri came over with his coffee cup in hand and talked with us each morning, starting Sunday morning.

By Monday morning when he came over to talk, his hair was standing straight up and his eyes were wild. Living life at the truck stop was starting to wear on him. He walked around with his coffee cup, working the room like a Vegas comedian. What made him so funny though, was that he wasn't trying to be funny. I think he had just been cooped up a little too long.

On that Tuesday morning we had two crashes less than a half mile of each other on I-70. A trooper and I were blocking the left lane while the two troopers ahead worked the crashes and had wreckers pull the cars out of the median.

There was a car that moved out into the left lane after it passed me, slid up on and stopped behind the trooper ahead. After sitting there 4-5 minutes, she went back into the right lane and passed him, then switched back into the left lane and ran up on the next trooper and stopped just short of hitting him.

Now keep in mind this is a long straight stretch of road, it was just after daylight, and you could see our lights for a mile, literally. The trooper got out and asked the lady what she was doing; she seemed agitated we were in her way. She told him that she didn't really know what she was doing. The trooper agreed with her and got back in his car.

I guess she just couldn't see the two cars there crashed into the median. She got back in the right lane, passed the trooper, got back out into the left lane again and promptly slid up on the last trooper sitting in the passing lane at the second crash. She sat behind him awhile before eventually driving off. Yep, sometimes, you just have to shake your head and wonder.

My friend Ray, it's folks like her that keep us busy during winter storms. I watched a California car ahead of me hit the median at 60-70 M.P.H. as I entered onto I-70. The road was shiny ice through this particular stretch. When he hit, it looked like a snow explosion for a few seconds. Luckily, the young serviceman from California wasn't hurt.

In severe weather like we experienced, if you don't have to be out, then don't go out. But if you absolutely do have to be out, the best advice I can give is to decrease your speed and increase your following distance. Always be prepared for stopped traffic, even on the interstate, and know that road conditions can change rapidly during inclement weather.

Make sure everyone in your car is properly restrained, don't be distracted by electronic devices and ALWAYS slow down and move over for emergency vehicles and service vehicles. This includes wreckers and snow plows. One common theme I've experienced this winter is folks not slowing down or moving over for us when we're at crash scenes. We've had several police cars struck this winter because of this reckless driving behavior.

I've personally been at crash scenes this winter and had car after car go flying by neither slowing down nor getting over. As has been brought to my attention by several motorists, I know there is a lack of signs on our interstates reminding folks of the move over law. To my knowledge, there are no signs on our state roads, at least through our district, reminding folks of the law.

But it's not just the law; it's also common courtesy and common sense to move over and slow down. Please slow down and get over when you see a police car or wrecker ahead and give us room to work. You might just be saving our lives and your own.

High Water Conditions

With all the snow we have on the ground, if it ever does get warm enough for it to melt, you can bet we're going to experience some high water conditions. Just as a reminder, I've listed some hints below if you have to be out during high water conditions.

- Always carry a cell phone and charger.
- Pay attention to local media reports and heed warnings issued by the National Weather Service.
- Never drive around barricades at water crossings.
- Be especially careful at night or early morning as it can be difficult to see water and it's depth across the roadway.
- Reduce your speed in rain and NEVER enter flowing water. Driving through water creates less tire contact with the road surface (hydroplaning) and increases your chance of crashing.
- Driving through water affects your brakes reducing their effectiveness until they dry out.
- If you end up in water, immediately abandon your vehicle, exit through a window and climb on top of your car. Call 9-1-1 from there and wait for help to arrive. Ride the top like a boat, as vehicles will often float for several minutes.
- Be aware that road erosion can occur anytime there is running or standing water on a roadway.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



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

Recent DNR News Releases

There are a lot of things going on in the DNR world! The following recent news releases originated from around the DNR. To surf what is happening in the various divisions and activities planned on our properties around the state visit: <http://www.in.gov/dnr>.

Snowmobile and ORV registration switches from DNR to BMV

Mandatory registration for owners of snowmobiles and other outdoor recreational vehicles switched on Jan. 1 from being handled by the Department of Natural Resources to being handled by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Registration is valid for three years and must be renewed every three years thereafter, also for \$30. Registration may be done online at mybm.com or in person at a BMV branch.

Questions about the process should be directed to the BMV at 1-888-692-6841.

Applications for reserved turkey hunts start January 31, 2014

Hunters can begin submitting online applications for reserved turkey hunts to be held on certain state and federally owned properties beginning Jan. 31.

The application period runs through March 24 at dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/5834.htm.

New for 2014, DNR will offer a reserved hunt at Sugar Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area in southwestern Indiana.

Hunters must possess a valid 2014 spring turkey license, or lifetime license or youth hunt/trap license to apply for any of the reserved hunts. Applicants are allowed to apply for one property, and choose from the available dates for that property.

Whether a drawn hunter can bring a hunting buddy varies by property. On DNR properties, drawn hunters are not allowed to bring a buddy. At Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge, drawn hunters may bring a buddy, but only the drawn hunter can hunt. At Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge, a buddy is required.

Hunt dates and properties are as follows:

— Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge: April 23-24, 25-26, 27-28, and 29-30.

— Deer Creek, Glendale, J.E. Roush, Jasper-Pulaski, Kingsbury, LaSalle, Pigeon River, Tri-County, Willow Slough and Winamac fish & wildlife areas; Mississinewa and Salamonie lakes; and Aukiki Wetland Conservation Area: April 23-25, 26-27, 28-30, and May 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-11.

— Atterbury, Chinook, Crosley, Fairbanks Landing, Hillenbrand, Hovey Lake and Minnehaha fish & wildlife areas, and Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge: April 23-25, 26-28.

— Sugar Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area: April 23-25, 26-27

DNR seeks input on fish, hunt, trap regulations

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife wants to hear your ideas on fishing, hunting, trapping and other fish and wildlife related regulations in Indiana, including special permits.

From Jan. 2 to Feb. 28, the public can use a convenient online form to contribute ideas and provide input on issues the DNR has identified for consideration.

The form is at wildlife.IN.gov, at the "Got Input?" box near the middle of the page.

"Got Input?" allows the public to comment on ideas put forward by the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife as well as requests for rule changes from citizen petitions.

The program also allows members of the public to propose their own ideas on any fishing, hunting or trapping topic.

"This is an opportunity for people to let us know what changes they would like us to consider," said Gregg McCollam, assistant director of the Division of Fish & Wildlife. "This process also allows us to get much-needed feedback on issues that the division is interested in moving forward."

Got Input users must register with a username and a password.

Input and ideas can also be mailed to:

DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife
Attn: Got Input,
402 W. Washington St., Room W273,
Indianapolis, IN 46204

After Feb. 28, the Division of Fish & Wildlife staff will evaluate all comments and determine which proposals to forward to the Natural Resources Commission for consideration.

Bicentennial Nature Trust expands two DNR properties

Funding assistance from the Bicentennial Nature Trust has helped the Department of Natural Resources expand Splinter Ridge Fish & Wildlife Area in Jefferson County and a Game Bird Habitat Area in Benton County.

The 77-acre addition to Splinter Ridge features upland forest covering several steep hills and is about 2 miles from the Ohio River near Brooksbury.

The 40-acre Game Bird Habitat addition is ideal upland bird habitat and features warm season grass plantings and 5 acres of wetland. The property is about 3 miles south of Fowler.

"Both properties are favorite destinations for

hunters," said DNR Director Cameron Clark. "We're excited about this expansion and thankful for the partners who helped make it a reality."

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund, the National Wild Turkey Federation and Quail Forever contributed to the purchase of the Splinter Ridge expansion. The Jefferson County Commissioners and the Community Foundation of Madison & Jefferson County endorsed the project.

The Game Bird Habitat Restoration Fund and the National Wild Turkey Federation also contributed to the purchase of the Game Bird Habitat Area expansion, as did Pheasants Forever. The Benton County Community Foundation endorsed the purchase.

The Splinter Ridge addition is the third Bicentennial Nature Trust (BNT) project in Jefferson County. BNT previously assisted with the purchase of a 10-acre addition to Clifty Falls State Park, and a 5-acre expansion of the Heritage Trail Conservancy Park on Madison's riverfront.

The BNT is a project of the Bicentennial Commission, co-chaired by former Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman and former U.S. Representative Lee Hamilton. The statewide program is aimed at expanding trails, conservation areas and recreation sites to help celebrate Indiana's 200 years of statehood in 2016. The state park system was created during Indiana's centennial celebration in 1916, and BNT projects will provide a similar legacy for generations of Hoosiers.

"The 2016 Bicentennial Commission is committed to expanding access to natural areas and recreation opportunities in Indiana," Skillman and Hamilton said. "These acquisitions are a great example of that commitment, and we look forward to celebrating many more success stories for the Bicentennial Nature Trust in the months and years to come."

An initial \$20 million in state funding was obligated for BNT projects, and the Lilly Endowment donated another \$10 million to the effort. Money from the fund is matched no less than \$1:1 with the local community or group sponsor. To date, the Bicentennial Commission has approved 71 projects, and 28 have been completed for a total of 4,123 acres.

The BNT is seeking additional private donations of land and money as well as input from communities on viable projects. Applications for the Nature Trust can be found at IN.gov/NatureTrust. For more information on the Bicentennial Commission, visit Indiana2016.org.

News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

• Remember it only takes six inches of water to reach the bottoms of most car doors and one foot of water to float most vehicles.

If you find yourself stranded in water, act fast. Get yourself and everyone in your vehicle out of their seatbelt and out a window onto the roof of the car. Remember; call **9-1-1** AFTER you reach the top of your vehicle. Indiana State Police divers advise to only swim for it if you absolutely have to, and don't swim against the current. Make sure you're a survivor, NOT a victim.

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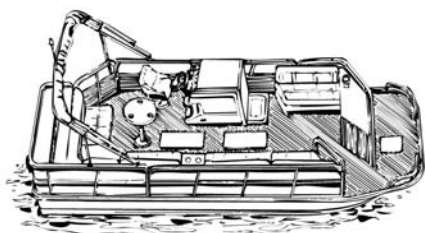
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Bob wearing the Gold Medal he won for setting a new World Record with a score of 48 out of 50 in the Manton Replica event held in Pforzheim, Germany - August 2012. (Bob Pence Photo)



Robert "Bob" Pence shown here with the 55 medals he has won since 1978 when he competed in his first Muzzle Loaders Association International Committee (M.L.A.I.C.) which is the World governing body for muzzle loading shooting. In this photo Bob is holding the 11 gauge Flintlock rifle he made himself for competition shooting. This is the Flint Lock Muzzle Loading shotgun he won all these medals with. Listed here are the different countries he won them in:
 1st Row: Madrid Spain, Quentico Virginia USA, Bisley England, USA, Versailles France, USA, Madrid Spain, Canada and Camp Perry Ohio. 2nd Row: Friendship Indiana, Quentico Virginia, Bisley England, USA, Versailles France, USA, Friendship Indiana USA, Canada and Camp Perry Ohio USA. 3rd Row: Wedgnoock England, Friendship Indiana USA, Bisley England, USA, USA, USA and Camp Perry Ohio USA. 4th Row: Wedgnoock England, Leusden Netherlands, USA, USA, Camp Perry Ohio USA, Chur Switzerland, Wedgnoock England and USA. 5th Row: Pforzheim Germany, Leusden Netherlands, Adelaide Australia, USA, Camp Perry Ohio USA and Wedgnoock England. 6th Row: Camp Perry Ohio USA, Camp Perry Ohio USA, Camp Perry Ohio USA, Wedgnoock England, Wedgnoock England, Batesville Indiana USA, Canada, Bordeaux France, Batesville Indiana USA and Barrie Ontario. 7th Row: Winchester Virginia USA, Pforzheim Germany, Barrie Ontario and Canada. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

BOB PENCE WORLD CHAMPION FLINTLOCK SHOOTER RACKS UP THE MEDALS

by Ray Dickerson

A couple years ago, 2012 to be exact, the question was raised to me, "Ray when you going to do a story about Bob Pence, all the other papers have?" That was asked of me by a couple of fellas who can be found, along with Robert "Bob" Pence at the, I guess you would call it the "liar's table" or maybe the "old timers table" in the Liberty Restaurant in Liberty, Indiana.

That was a good question and I meant too, but sometimes it takes me a bit longer to get things done, than some folks.

I would like to regress a little bit, if I'm going to tell a story about Bob Pence, lay some ground work first.

I first met Bob Pence in 1972 when I was still an inexperienced outdoor writer who had a semi-regular column in The Graphic Press, in Richmond.

Bob bought the Whitewater Valley Gun Club in May of 1972, prior to that he had been shooting trap at the club ever since it had opened for business. He was born and bread with a gun in his hand so to speak learning to hunt and fish like the rest of us from a young age to grown' up.

In my 1974 March/April issue of the Whitewater Valley Gad-a-bout on page 3 I had an article about The Whitewater Valley Trap Club finishing their winter season for team competition on January 31, 1974. At the top of the page was a photo of the first place team, the Nimrods displaying their trophies.

Members included G. Jones, H. Retherford, T. Brady, H. Jones, N. White, and K. Showalter with a grand aggregate totaling 2394. Also in the photo was a very young looking Bob Pence. Second place was taken by Baily Gun Supply with members T. Bailey, M. Bailey, D. Bailey, J. Walters, H. Watkins and F. Hine with a grand aggregate total of 2356. One name that got my attention from this walk down memory lane was Red Retherford. Boy do I remember Red, as probably many of you do who might have frequented the trap shooting clubs back then.

Since I had never shot trap nor witnessed it prior to attending the shoots at the Whitewater Valley Trap Club and a few others in that area later on, I was simply amazed and wrote, "I must say, these trap shooters area hardy bunch. Not only do they shoot in temperatures below freezing, travel in any kind of weather, shoot out in all the inclimate weather, but they also shoot after dark. I believe that a nicer bunch of people would be very hard to fine. Men and women both participate in this sport."

Today, some forty years later you can still find some of these same hardy trap shooters at the Whitewater Valley Trap Club. Bob has trap and

skeet shooting every Thursday, every Friday is turkey (still board) shooting, the first and third Sunday after church is skeet shooting after 1 p.m.

Bob qualified for his first U.S. International World Muzzle Loading Team competition in 1978 using someone else's flintlock muzzle loading shotgun at the 7th World shoot in Madrid, Spain. He won his first gold medal there.

In 1979 he hand crafted his own 11 gauge flintlock muzzle loading shotgun (the one he is holding in the above photo). It is a good one. He has used that very same flintlock in approximately 33 MLAIC World and Zone Championships shoots.

And now we move ahead to 2012 to the 25th World Shoot held at Pforzheim, Germany by the Muzzle Loaders Associations International Committee which is the World governing body for muzzle loading shooting. It was at Pforzheim, Germany where Bob achieved a New World Record breaking 48 out of 50 clay targets in the Manton Replica event.

Go to their website www.mlaic.org/history.htm to view the world muzzle loading shoots since 1971 and their calendar of future shoots.

Bob, who is 77 years young, was born in

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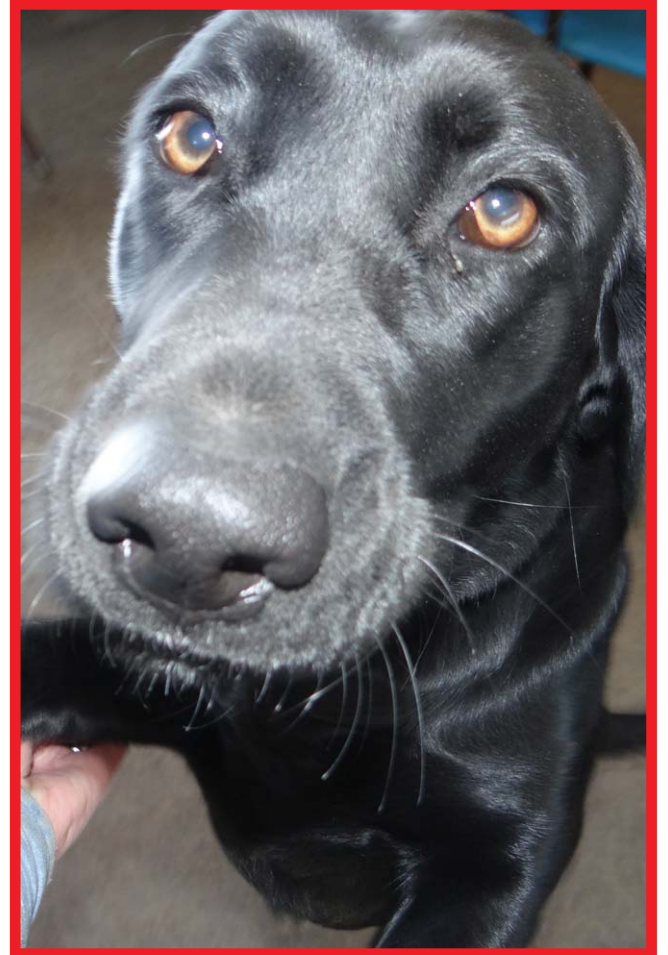
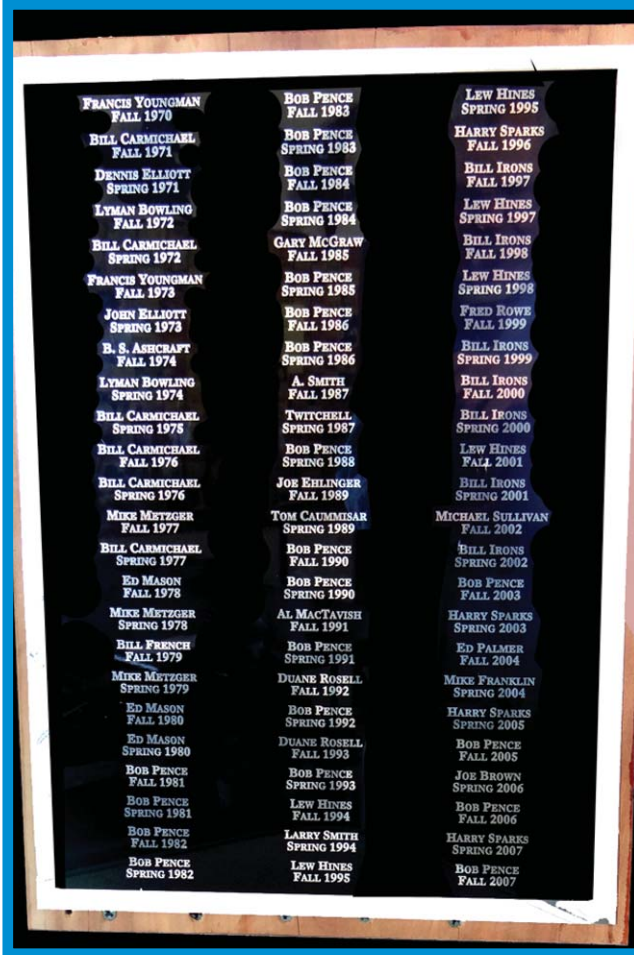
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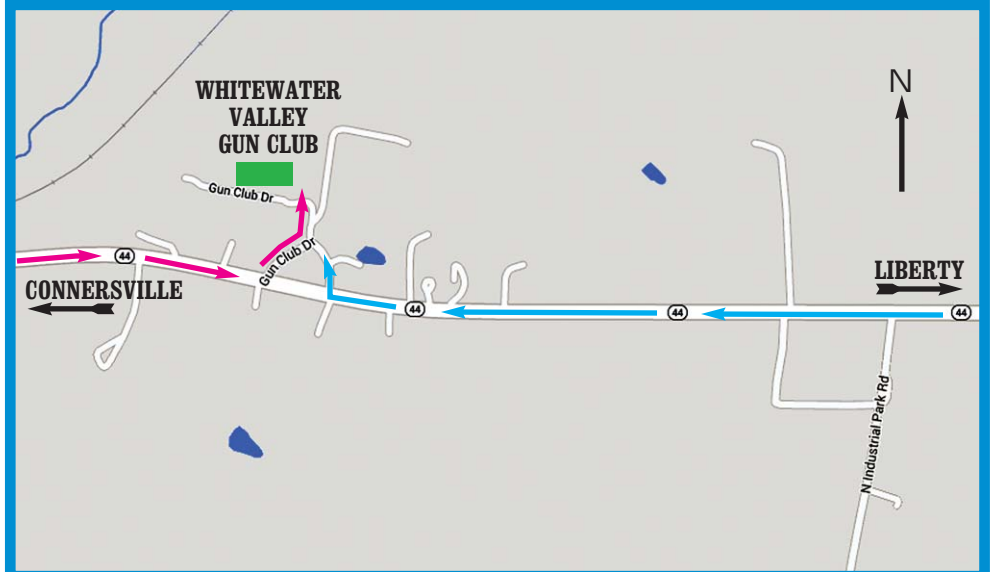
Bob Pence holding the Skeet Flintlock Champion Traveling Trophy he has won 23 times at Friendship, Indiana. The Trophy is sponsored by the Whitewater Valley Trap Club which is owned by Bob. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)



Xena, Bob's 2 year old black Labrador wanted a closer look at my camera. Bob said she was a good hunting dog.



Bob Pence has owned the Whitewater Valley Trap Club since May of 1972. He has trap and skeet shooting every Thursday, every Friday is turkey (still board) shooting, the first and third Sunday after church is skeet shooting after 1 p.m. See map below and directions to get to his club. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Directions to Whitewater Valley Gun Club located at 2814 W State Road 44, Liberty, Indiana 47353. From I-70 go south on US 27 to Liberty, IN, turn right (west) onto SR 44, when you pass the Industrial Park on your left, the Gun Club will be on your right, watch for large white barn, the entrance is right there, turn right onto lane park on east side of Gun Club. From I-74 exit onto SR 1 north to US 52, turn left onto US 52 and go thru Brookville to SR 101, turn right onto SR101 north to Liberty, IN, turn left onto SR 44 (west) (See same route from US 27. From Indianapolis Take I-70 east to Cambridge City Exit SR 1, south to Connersville, follow SR 1 route to SR 44, turn left (east), when you cross the bridge over the East Fork of the Whitewater River, watch for the entrance to Gun Club on your left at top of hill, turn left, park on east side of Gun Club. For Info Call 765-580-1431. (Google Map)

Connersville, IN he worked for Mac Tools in Connersville as a tool and die maker, retiring in 1999 after working there forty-two and a half years.

Today Bob spends a lot of time in the woods cutting wood to supplement his income. You can purchase a rick for \$55 if you haul it or \$60 if he hauls it. When he's not cutting wood, off at a competition shooting somewhere, he might be found in the shop. He still is making flintlock shotguns and selling them. If its hunting season he may be hunting with

his favorite hunting dog, Xena. Xena is a two year old black Labrador who loves to hunt and Bob says she is a very good hunting dog. Xena loves attention and she is very curious as I found out when I began petting her. I bent down to try to take her picture at the same time she decided to jump up. (See above photo.) On my second visit with Bob to check over some details for this article, Xena leaned her body up to me wanting some attention so I gave her some. I love other peoples dogs, they're like grandkids, you

can enjoy them all you want, but you don't have to take them home with you.

This year in 2014 the 26th World Championship shoot will be in Granada Spain. Last years event was also held in Spain, but it was in Madrid.

The Whitewater Valley Trap Club is located on SR 44 between Liberty and Connersville on the north side of the road. The address is 2814 W. State Road 44, Liberty, Indiana 47353. See above map for directions. You can reach Bob by calling 765-580-1431.

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Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

Spring is the Season of Renewal, flora & fauna

Spring is always the season of renewal, flora and fauna; two leggeds, four leggeds; creatures of earth, sky, and water all renewing themselves or producing off spring.

It must have been a time for thanking the Great Spirit for giving all living things a second chance at doing it right.

On one hand you would think we have enough experience at living as the Great Spirit wants us to live. On the other hand the evil in the world always seems to spoil things one way or another. We "the superior beings" should be leading the way. It's simple really....."Peace through Brotherhood". All children of the same Great Spirit. If only we could all get together and worship the One Great Spirit in our way and let others worship Him in their own way, without insisting they do it our way.

In the long ago times our ancestors worshiped the Great Spirit, where we found Him in the sky, on the earth (in plants and rocks). Understanding that all things in nature....on the earth, above the earth and even under the earth, in the sky or in the water were made by Him, for our use. To be shared and protected by all for all.

As the great native leader, Seattle, taught us in his words to the Europeans and Americans at a Peace Council, so long ago.. As another good teacher, Black Elk of the Lakota people, taught us. If we want to live together in peace (brotherhood) we must put aside all our differences. Let each nation and culture live in their own way. We must work to obtain our goals, the goals of our people

and culture, to make this earth a better place for all of us to live. Work to preserve the earth (our Mother Earth) so that she can provide us with food and medicine as she has in the past.

I am an old man, 88 winters at the Spring Solstice. The years have taught me many things, which I have endeavored to pass on to each generation. I have lost track of their numbers, who have come to sit in my council rings since 1937...They watched the dances, heard the words and went away with them in their hearts and minds and in their time and with their way passed my knowledge on to other generations.

The Great Spirit has blessed me many times and I'm sure has blessed you many times. May he continue to look with favor on you and yours.

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Always your brother friend...

Hank Stock/Golden Eagle

Editor's Note: I didn't get Golden Eagle's article for the longest time so I e-mailed him to see if he was going to send one. He replied after a bit saying he didn't think he would be sending one, but a short time later I got the one above along with his News Letter. He explained he had been in the hospital for some tests. He is in his mid 80's and lives in an assisted living community. If you would like to receive his news letter tell him so. In his News Letter Volume 10, No. 2 he explained what had been happening to him.

HI GANG

"I don't know if or when I'll be sending this out, but my memory is getting so bad, I thought I had better make some notes as the time passes....."

.....I ended up in the hospital for a week. They thought it was a heart attack, but it turned out to be my stomach. Thank the Good Lord. One nice thing was daily Communion.

They have started me on a five day a week exercise program to strengthen my stomach muscles and back. They have started exercises and soaking for my left wrist to strengthen it."

If any of you who enjoy Golden Eagle's column could send him a card or an e-mail to cheer him up I know he would really appreciate it.

Send card to: Hank Stock/Golden Eagle, 11230 Pippin Road, Cincinnati, OH 45231

Send E-mail to: hmsenterprises1876@gmail.com

On The Cutting Edge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

RV's and Best Buy RV's. Don told me I could have an invitational campout on the fairgrounds, but I couldn't have those co-sponsors in the camping business on the Wayne County Fairgrounds. He told me that the Wayne County Commissioners and Tom Raper had a 20-year agreement and he (Tom Raper) was the only camper dealer who could use the Wayne County Fairgrounds to promote and sell his products.

I got a copy of the agreement from the commissioners office on March 22nd, the document is a public record.

Note: Excerpt from legal document "Rental Agreement Wayne County Fairgrounds Complex" between the Board of Commissioners of Wayne County, Indiana and Tom Raper, Inc. and Tom Raper Homes, Inc.

5. "County shall not, so long as Raper is in compliance with this Agreement, rent or permit the use of all or any part of the Fairground Complex for an event which involves the promotion or sale of:

- A. Recreational vehicles including a rally
- B. Travel trailers/Fifth
- C. Motor Homes D. Homes such as
 1. Mobile homes
 2. Sectional homes
 3. Modular or site built homes
- E. Boats
- F. Parts or service agreements as to any of the above."

Don went on to say that maybe I could talk to Tom Raper and see if he would want to co-sponsor the event. I didn't tell him at the time, but I have never asked Tom Raper to advertise in The Outdoor Gad-a-bout.

I asked him why the Wayne County Commissioners were determining what went on at the fairgrounds, wasn't

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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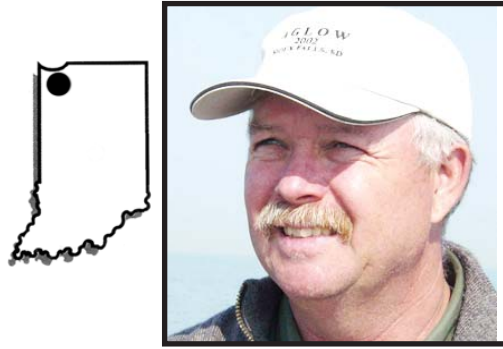
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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

Want to Catch a Record?

Ever since humans learned to dangle a line and fish hook from a long stick, people have been obsessed with catching the biggest fish possible. Chances are these early "danglers" were fishing for food, more than sport. Still, as those bass, trout or walleyes were cooking on the fire I bet the fishermen were bragging up their catches and engaging in friendly banter about which of them had pulled out the biggest fish.

Once scales were invented - the kinds used to weigh things - not the scales on the fish, records could be kept. Fishermen still engaged in friendly arguments, but scales settled them. Eventually, "official" records were kept. There are personal records - my biggest "weighed" fish ever scaled in at 246 pounds. I'm equally proud of my biggest ever lake trout at 25 1/2 pounds.

There are lake records, state records even world records and every angler that goes out dangling secretly hopes one day they'll see their own name in the record book next to the recorded weight of their own trophy catch. Wouldn't you?

Most fishermen don't go out with a quest to catch a record fish. They go out fishing and hope the finger of fate reaches out to tickle them. It's like playing the lottery. No reasonable person purchases a ticket thinking they are going to win, they are purchasing the "hope" they will win. Someone will. Why not them?

The lottery player is right. Someone will win the lottery. Somewhere out there is a ticket with the right numbers. A fisherman needs to be more of a realist.

The first thing a fisherman needs to do is realize his quest to catch a record-sized fish may be impossible. If a fisherman catches the biggest bass in the pond and establishes a new pond record, the next pond-record can't be caught until the second-largest bass in the pond puts on more weight. If you show up to fish the pond before the now-biggest bass in the pond grows larger than the record, it's impossible for you to set a new record.



There are lot's of brown trout in Lake Michigan, at least one of them is likely a new state record. (Author Photo)

The same thing goes for state record fish, even world record fish. The world record muskellunge weighed over 69 pounds. There may not be a 70 pound muskie alive anywhere in the world. The record is safe.

No one knows if there is a state-record-sized largemouth alive anywhere in Indiana - or a record-sized channel cat or bluegill. If not, those records are safe.

Is there a fish alive in any of Indiana's lakes that is known to be larger than the largest specimen ever caught? No one knows, with one exception!

Brown trout in Lake Michigan.

There are four states that border Lake Michigan. Anglers in each state catch brown trout every year. Lot's of them. Not many end up setting state records, but many are close.

In Illinois, the state record brown trout weighed almost 37 pounds. A few years ago in Michigan an angler weighed in a new state and world record, 41.7 pound brown trout. His world record lasted all of two weeks, when a fisherman on the Wisconsin side of the lake angled-up slightly larger trout.

Nice fish! There aren't many places capable of growing 40-plus-pound brown trout and there may not even be a 40-pounder alive, anywhere, at this time. The records are safe.

Still, every year there are 30-plus pound brown trout caught in Lake Michigan - quite a few, actually. Maybe a couple dozen lake wide.

Except in Indiana. The state record brown trout in Indiana weighed a smidge over 29 pounds.

There's no such thing as a sure-thing lottery ticket and it's not a sure thing that you will catch a new Indiana record brown trout if you go fishing on Lake Michigan. But you could. There's a winning ticket somewhere; and eventually, one of those 30-pound browns is going to slip across the border and be caught in Indiana.

THE END

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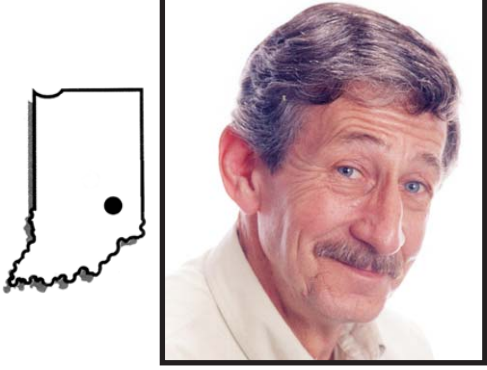
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Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

WEIRD FLORA, FAUNA, AND FISH

Heavy snow was falling horizontally being pushed by strong winds that piled the stuff in huge drifts. Visibility was almost zero as motorists struggled to stay on roads that, due to the white sheets of snow, appeared almost non-existent. Temperatures plunged to record lows, freezing water lines and turning lakes and ponds into slabs of ice. The announcer warned listeners of the dangers of venturing outside for more than a few minutes. "Frost bite can occur in less than ten minutes if you aren't adequately clothed. Most towns and cities are now in a red alert and only necessary travel should be attempted." We sat transfixed as scenes of the result of a jet stream vortex curling down from the north turned the Midwest into a scene from the movie, Day After Tomorrow, where a super storm turned the top half of the planet into a frozen wasteland.

The scene shifted to a local weatherman. "The system causing havoc in the north is curling down to our location. As a result, we can expect temperatures as low as 42 at midnight and a high of mid-fifties tomorrow at noon. However, by Wednesday, the temp's will climb into the mid-seventies with lots of sunshine." My wife and I looked at each other, wondering how we were going to dress for such temperatures. We had been wearing Speedo's until now, but with temps climbing as high as 75 it might be necessary to go buck naked on the beach just to be comfortable in such scorching temperatures.

Fortunately, for the first time, she and I had decided to join the ranks of old people who migrate south to avoid the nasty stuff of midwestern winters. Little did we know that even Eskimos would steer clear of our home because of the foul weather roaring out of the Arctic and turning the state into a huge deep freeze. From the weather reports, I expect our squirrel and raccoon population to be replaced by polar bears and timber wolves. At least we won't have to worry about polar bears robbing the bird feeders.

Anyone who hasn't experienced a semi-tropical environment, especially a couple of Hoosier hicks, would be surprised at the different types of wild life and greenery that abounds here. Tall, skinny trees with a top knot of big leaves the locals call palms and smaller varieties with flowering blooms called---boo-gan-villia. Undergrowth along the roads so

thick, a snake would need a machete to crawl through it. A type of so-called maple tree that appears to have been here since Moses parted the waters, spreads its huge limbs in curling forms that touch the ground twenty feet from the trunk. But, in spite of weird greenery, nothing compares to the flying critters that flock the beaches and parking lots.

Almost universally, the birds have long, scrawny necks and stand on webbed feet attached to legs that look like long knobby chop sticks. Beady little eyes behind beaks shaped like stilettos make them look like skinny gang members itching for a fight. And, one species can't be trusted to turn your back on it. One sunny afternoon as my wife and I sat on the beach soaking up sunshine and munching on snacks, I loaded a scoop chip with peppery hot salsa. As we sat side by side talking I held up the scoop while making a point. A white winged missile streaked between us, snatched the scoop out of my hand, hovered in front of us and gulped it down. Hot salsa and all. Then the feathery assassin landed a few feet away and looked at us begging for more. A hot salsa grubbing gull. Apparently, this thug would eat a chip covered with flaming gun powder, so I decided to give him the full load with another chip. I found that to be a mistake when his buddies showed up out of nowhere, surrounding us with their beady little eyes gleaming. Regrettably, I hadn't brought my supply of WHOOP A-- hot sauce with me. It would have been soul satisfying to watch a bunch of larcenous gulls blowing steam out both ends. Having learned not to feed the "gulls" I decided to try some fishing.

Some things any greenhorn needs to learn are what bait to use, the right type of equipment, and what type of fish can he expect to catch. As for bait the locals seem to prefer shrimp. Good grief, I thought. I can't afford shrimp in a restaurant much less using it as bait. I would try it and if any was left over Judy could use it to make a shrimp salad. Any way you look at it we would enjoy sea food. Next came some local advice on the type of rod, reel and line. The rod should be about twelve feet long with the flexibility of a telephone pole. The reel, loaded with telephone cable sized line tipped with steel leader for those species equipped with teeth is the order of the day. Fish with teeth? Why would I want to fish for something that can bite you back using bait normally found in gourmet restaurants? I was asked if I had a pair of leather gloves and when I answered no, I was advised to buy a pair. Now, not only was I warned about the local finned characters being armed, I was expected to dress like a welder and use ten dollar a pound bait to have the privilege of being assaulted by whatever I hauled in.

The next obstacle was finding a suitable place to fish for these assassins. After some advice I stood on a beach looking both directions for about three miles either way. No coves or drop-offs, no underwater stumps or sunken tree havens, just miles of sand and three foot high waves to knock me off my feet. I felt like a hitch hiker looking for a ride in the middle of the Gobi desert. The preferred fish with names like groupers, red snapper (I didn't like the sound of that one), whiting and sea trout (that's more like it) were the ones most sought after. Big deal! I wouldn't know a grouper from a tropical carp. Nonetheless, I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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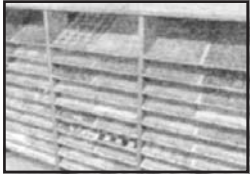
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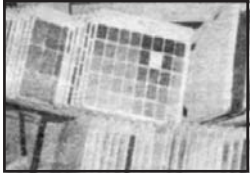
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Pond Maintenance 101

by **Mark Litwiler**
(Owner of Ponds Rx LLC)

Pond scum! You can use this phrase to call someone or something a derogatory name or you can be talking about that green stuff on the surface of a pond or lake. In this case, we are talking about your body of water.

What is that green stuff on my pond? Very good question.

Before we go into the identification of what you may be experiencing, let's look at a typical pond or lake. For clarification, we consider anything under 10 acres a pond. Here in the Midwest, we have thousands of farm ponds, retention ponds, and many other types scattered around. The water in these ponds is naturally nutrient rich with phosphorus, nitrogen and many other elements. These elements, primarily phosphorus, are used as a food source for aquatic vegetation. If you add in runoff these ponds/lakes receive from farm fields, fertilized lawns, streets, etc, the potential for "pond scum" growth is very likely. A pond can be miles away from civilization and still have an abundance of weed and algae growth.

The identification of your "pond scum" can be

broken down by category; algae, underwater weeds, or floating vegetation. It is very important for the identification of the problem be very accurate. What you may think is algae may be duckweed, or vice versa. Treating the wrong plant/algae can end up being a waste of money, time and can potentially harm the water resource. Identification can be done fairly easily by seeking out an expert in the aquatics field. We can determine what the problem is by just viewing an emailed picture. There are also extension agents that can help if you take a sample to them. They may also help with treatment advice. The key here is to make sure of the problem before taking further action.

Management in ponds/lakes can range from chemicals (herbicides and algaecides), diffused aeration, managing the watershed, stocking weed eating fish, or even using a pond dye to darken the water. Any product being used in water, needs to be EPA approved to be used in aquatic environments.

Most aquatic vegetation problems in ponds/lakes can be taken care of by the "do-it-yourselfer" using products specifically designed for specific plants - hence proper weed ID. Contrary to popular belief, most problems are not treated with copper sulfate. Copper is primarily used as an algaecide. Using too much copper can be toxic to fish and the environment, so care needs to be taken when using this or any other product in water. Ponds Rx, as well as other companies, can recommend products that are easy to use and fairly safe for the handler. The aquatic specialist you chose to assist you should be very knowledgeable and be available to answer any questions or concerns during the treatment process.

Diffused aeration is used in water management for a couple of reasons. We use aeration to reduce the amount of nutrients and muck available in the water that is used as a food source for the weeds. It is a long biology lesson on how and why it works. Too much to talk about in this article. Just know that, over time, muck levels are reduced resulting in cleaner, clearer water. The water quality changes, usually reducing the amount of weed/algae growth.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Annual ATA show provides look at new products as well as some old standbys

Having recently returned from the annual Archery Trade Association (ATA) show, I had the opportunity to see hundreds of booths with items geared towards bowhunters. The ATA show is a dealer show and is not open to the public. It is where manufacturers of archery products come together with buyers and shop owners in order to showcase their product lines and make deals. It is the largest archery-specific show in the country and is where both parties do the bulk of their business for the year. As a member of the press, I feel it is my responsibility to report on the products that I feel are revolutionary or just plain of benefit to my readers.

As usual, there are always a few products that leave me scratching my head as to the significance they really play when it comes to being useful, there are those that I may have seen a hundred times or simply did not grab my attention, and then there are those few that wow me. In this column, I am going to mention the products that really impressed me and that I feel will have the greatest potential to improve your bowhunting/outdoor endeavors. Most of them aren't actually new to the industry this year, but were new to me as this was the first opportunity I have taken to really check them out. And a couple products, well, have stood the test of time and I feel are still tops in their field. So, if some of these products are new to you as well, they are definitely worth checking out in my opinion.



Even before the blades on the Dead Ringer Rampage deploy, you still get the 7/8" cutting diameter of a fixed-blade broadhead. Plus you get the flight characteristics (especially in the two-blade version) and devastation of a mechanical head. This is truly a revolutionary "hybrid" broadhead. (Author Photo)

Dead Ringer Broadheads:

Perhaps the one item, that will have the biggest

impact on my hunting success this year and beyond comes in the smallest package. In fact, two words can summarize just how big of a role I truly believe Dead Ringer's new Rampage broadheads will play in my future hunts: Game changer.

Why, you ask? The reason is two-fold. Is it a mechanical broadhead; well yeah, is it a fixed-blade broadhead; yep; is it a breakthrough hybrid broadhead that has the reliability of a fixed-blade, yet the accuracy and devastation that comes only with mechanical heads; yes!

This past season found me hunting with a quiver filled with mixed broadheads, quite frankly because I couldn't find one that I was comfortable enough with. That's not good. I have always preferred fixed-blade heads over mechanicals simply because anything mechanical has the opportunity to fail. But, I also felt like a mechanical broadhead flew better, especially at longer distances. Then I found Dead Ringer. They are spot-on when they say, "Failure....Not an option!" So, from now on, I, along with everyone in my crew, will be hunting with our quivers full of Dead Ringers.



Not only do Yeti coolers keep ice longer than any other cooler on the market, they are also nearly indestructible - and bear-proof! Perfect for those of us that tend to find ourselves in situations that require just such a cooler! Think all coolers are the same? Think again. (Author Photo)

Yeti Coolers:

Yes, it's a cooler, but no, it isn't your typical one. As they claim, Yeti coolers do exactly what they are supposed to do - keep things cold. However, they do it to the extreme, and better than any of the others, period. By this, I mean that for the most part, Yeti coolers will hold ice for days, not hours, so there is no need to worry about hurrying home to filet those crappies you have on ice, or being far from a store and wondering if the items in your cooler will last.

Heck, you can even drop it, kick it, throw it, or I don't know, maybe run over the darn thing and it will still do its intended purpose. Yep, it is truly a cooler made for us outdoorsy types.

Primos Double Bull Blinds:

Okay, so this is not the first time I have written about how Primos Double Bull blinds will absolutely change the way you hunt, I know that. But you know what, after years of using them, I still haven't seen anything that compares - or even comes close.

I have convinced many skeptics. Friends and colleagues who have been disgusted with cheaper blinds, and nearly gave up on blind hunting altogether-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27


RUSTY DUCK



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Renegade walking behind his mother, Cheta, in the Sunrise grazing field. (Author Photo)



Sunrise horse, Cheta, walking in the green pasture. (Author Photo)

Horses Are Heroes



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

The Appaloosa breed

In last months edition of The Gad-A-Bout, its' readers learned about Quarter Horses and what they have done for us and our society in the United States.

In this months edition I would like to teach you, the reader, about the Appaloosa breed. The Spanish introduced the Appaloosa breed to Mexico in the 1500's, although, there was not yet a name for it. When the horse came into the lives of the Nez Perce tribe it changed their lifestyle greatly. Before the Appaloosa, the Nez Perce were primarily fishermen for their food. However, when the horse came along they had better mobility which meant that soon the Nez Perce would be known for their hunting and craftsmanship skills.

Meriwether Lewis, explorer, noted in his diary entry on February 15, 1806 that he was exceptionally impressed by the Appaloosa horse that the Nez Perce was now breeding.

Of course, as years went past the horses began to spread up into America and this is where they were finally named. "A Palouse Horse" was originally named this after the Palouse River, which runs through Idaho. This name evolved into "Appalousey" and then finally, as we know it today, "Appaloosa."

The Appaloosa began being seen in rodeos and round-ups and has since become an extremely popular breed.

Sunrise Inc. currently has three Appaloosa horses of very different personalities. Cheta, Renegade, and Wonder Boy are the three Appaloosa's that are housed at Sunrise Inc.

Wonder Boy is a large gelding (male horse,



Renegade with a Sunrise volunteer and rider. (Author Photo)

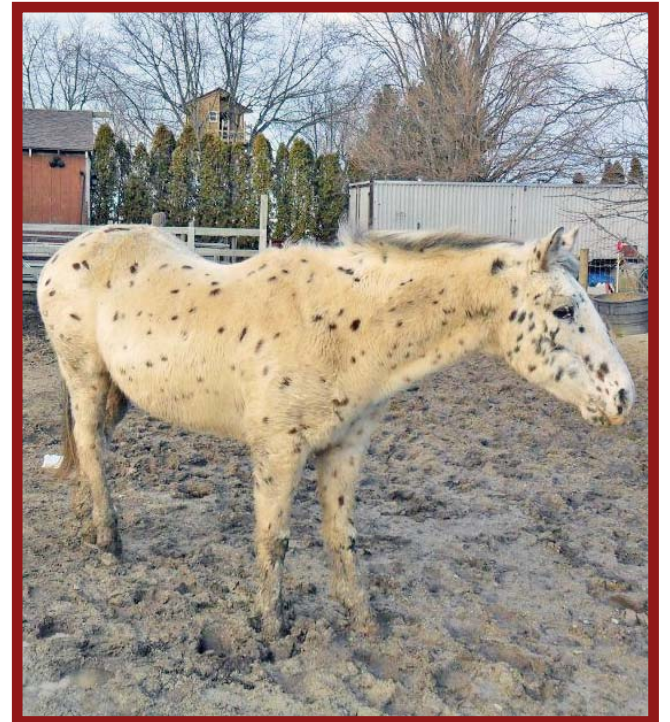
unable to bare foals), being the tallest of the three "Appy's," and is Dapple Grey in coloring. He has a very large personality and can even be a little bit pushy when it comes to food or treats. When out in the pasture, he enjoys playing with other horses. He often comes up to the barn when people are there to "say hi" or to look for company or treats. Wonder Boy sometimes pushes his way through the other horses but when it comes down to the pecking order (the status and placement of each horse in the herd as they [the horses] have made it) he isn't exactly lead gelding. Renegade and Cheta have very different temperaments than that of Wonder Boy. An interesting fact about these two horses is that Cheta is the mother of Renegade.

Cheta is a spotted mare which means that she has spots evenly spaced all over her body, although, she seems to have a thicker "blanket" of spots on her shoulder area which looks almost smeared. She, unfortunately, got an infection in her right eye and the eye had to be removed so she lives with only her left eye which causes her difficulty and discomfort in the field and stalls. This is

due to the fact that she cannot see on one side of her body, so, any time another horse comes up to that side she may spook and lash out at the other horses. She is definitely not at the top of the totem pole and she is sometimes picked on by the other horses. Overall, she has a very loving and calm temperament, rarely begging for treats or attention. She is a good ride even with her short stature and she loves to be groomed and pampered. Her off-spring, Renegade, is an interesting color.

Renegade is Bay in coloring which means that he has a lighter color, roan (or red), on his body and a darker color, black or dark brown, on his lower legs, muzzle, mane, and tail. What makes him look like an Appaloosa, though, is his Frost coloring. Frost means that he has white markings with spots along his topline (back) and hindquarters (hips). Renegade is a very sweet and gentle gelding with a very similar temperament to his mother. However, he enjoys playing and being with the herd whereas Cheta prefers to graze alone. He recently has developed back pain which has compromised his comfort during riding so he, unfortunately, doesn't get ridden. He gets chiropractic work about once a month to help with his back.

Just by discussing the color characteristics and temperament of these three Appaloosa's, our reader's will know that the Appaloosa breed can greatly vary.



Previous Sunrise horse, the late Ed, standing on the side of the Sunrise classroom and barn. (Author Photo)

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Members of the Centerville Police Department from left to right: Reserve Officer Ned Hines, Police Officer Brad Smoker, Reserve Officer Darren Riney, Police Officer R.J. Meyer, Police Chaplain Dr. Martin Holman (Hillcrest Baptist Church), Police Chief Ed Buchholz, Police Chaplain Rev. Stephen Abernathy (Centerville Christian Church), Police Commissioner Dan Wandersee (President Centerville Town Council), Police & K-9 Officer Matt Alexander and Police Dog Kendra, Police Officer Lloyd Ritchie (May 14, 1963 - January 25, 2014). (Centerville Police Department Photo)

In Memory of Everyone's Friend in Centerville, Police Officer Lloyd Ritchie May 1963 - Jan 2014

by Ray Dickerson

When I heard that Centerville Police Officer Lloyd Ritchie had died Saturday, January 25th, I thought to myself, that can't be, he's too young! But it was true, a 911 call was received by the emergency personnel - they responded to Lloyd's home doing all they could, he was transported to Reid Memorial Hospital where he was pronounced deceased.

The whole town was in a state of mourning for the loss of this wonderful person, Police Officer Lloyd George Ritchie who served the people in Centerville as well as Wayne County for so many years. Besides his 23 years as a Centerville Police Officer he had been a part-time dispatcher for the Wayne County 911 Emergency Center, a job he held full-time before becoming a police officer for Centerville. He worked as an EVOC instructor for Wayne County police departments and as a reserve officer for the Cambridge City Police Department. Lloyd served as treasurer for John Henniger Lodge 63 FOP. He participated for several years in the Shop With A Cop Program and enjoyed dressing as Santa Claus to hand out presents to the children during the Santa Breakfast.

Lloyd loved his job as a Centerville Police Officer almost as much as he loved his family, boating and fishing. He and his wife Anna Sue enjoyed the outdoors, all one had to do was look at the photos shown at the Centerville Christian Church to see the fun they had together.

I didn't get to attend Lloyd's visitation on Thursday at the Centerville Christian Church, but was able to attend the funeral service on Friday.

When I arrived at the Christian Church about a half hour before 10 a.m., I had a hard time finding a parking place, most of the parking that was available was filled with police cars. I found one in the back,



Centerville Police Officer Lloyd G. Ritchie 1963 - 2014

grabbed my camera and tape recorder, then proceeded to take a few photos after entering the church. Inside I was able to photograph some of the family photos and awards Lloyd had received on display. Then I entered the chapel finding a seat close to the aisle toward the back. I always try to get near an aisle so if I want to take a photo or leave I can do so without disturbing anyone. I gave up trying to count all the men and women in uniforms, they were too numerous. I recognized some of the uniforms of the Centerville Police Department, Richmond Police Department, Wayne County Sheriff Deputies, an Indiana Conservation Officer and Fire Departments. There were several police officers and individuals attending not in uniform.

Up on the Chapel wall at the front left, large family photos were being shown from a projector appearing sequentially. The photos reflected the life of Lloyd, his family, friends, his job, his off duty

Soon beautiful songs echoed through the chapel. Then members of the Centerville Police Department silently walked to the front of the chapel stretching across the room facing the casket of their fallen comrade lying in front of them. They saluted Lloyd ceremoniously, then filled the front row of seats on the right side adjacent to Lloyd's family who were seated in the front row of the left side.

Reverend Stephen G. Abernathy (Centerville Police Chaplain from Centerville Christian Church) opened the service with the Invocation, Scripture Reading and a Prayer.

Rev. Abernathy then introduced fifteen year old Makenzie J. Philpot (Lloyd's niece) who wanted to say a few words about her Uncle Lloyd.

We listened intently to her quivering voice as she poured her heart out for all to hear and see.

(The following is off a reference sheet of phrases Makenzie held and referred to during her talk about Uncle Lloyd: Smile [it's okay to cry!] (1) niece - relation, (2) tease me, (3) what Uncle Lloyd is/was, (4) will still be watched, (5) thank everyone, Santa Claus love[d] him, (6) anything else? catch bad guys? tell a story.)

I imagine most of the others in the crowd responded to Makenzie's words with the same tears trickling down their faces, like mine.

Dr. Martin F. Holman (Centerville Police Chaplain from Hillcrest Baptist Church) got up next and finished the service telling us some heart warming stories he knew about Lloyd, I wish I could repeat them here, but I can't remember them that well, it's sufficient enough to tell you two nick names Lloyd earned, "Big Paw" and "Lightning Lloyd."

Rev. Holman finished with the Eulogy and Message, the chapel fell silent.

Next came the Final "10-42 Dispatch" Ceremony, you first hear a keyed microphone dispatch message: "...Attention all units"... "attention all units and listening stations"... "on January 25, 2014 Corporal Lloyd G. Ritchie of the Centerville Police Department answered his final call"... "While off duty due to natural causes"... "there is no greater love than a man who has laid down his life for another"... "Centerville Police Department Corporal Lloyd G. Ritchie took his final call to come home"... silence.

After the 10-42 ceremony Funeral Director Gary

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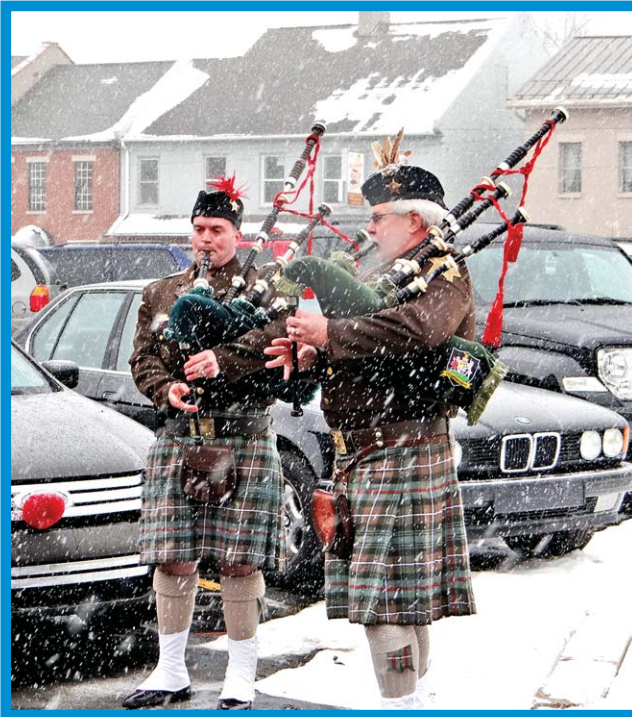
Anna Sue and Lloyd enjoying one of their times together. (Ritchie Family Photo)



Lloyd's award for his 20 years of Distinguished Service to Centerville. (Ritchie Family Photo)



Walking amidst the falling snow the Centerville Police Honor Guard slowly move their fallen comrade toward the awaiting hearse. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Marion County Bagpipers play "Amazing Grace" while Centerville Police Department Honor Guard fold the American Flag. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Phil Schroeder of the Richmond Fire Department plays "Taps" following the 21-Gun Salute in honor of Centerville Police Officer Lloyd G. Ritchie. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Riggle motioned for the visiting uniformed and plain clothes police officers to pay their respects to both Lloyd's family and the Centerville Police Department. Next the visiting congregation paid their respects to Lloyd's family and the Centerville Police. Then the Centerville Police Department paid their respects to Lloyd's family.

The family remained in the chapel saying their last goodbyes after everyone else had left. All the uniformed officers, town officials and other officials formed two single lines stretching from the hearse back to the church exit, one line on the north side and one on the south side facing each other. It was snowing with a brisk breeze blowing outside.

Soon the American Flag draped coffin was wheeled out from the church, with the following Pallbearers: Centerville Police Department members Matthew Alexander, Robert Meyer, Brad Smoker and Ned Hines; Indiana State Police Officer Andy Wandersee; Wayne County Sheriff Deputy Randy Wright and Richmond Police Department Officer Mike Britt - followed by Centerville Police Chief William "Ed" Buchholz and Funeral Director

Gary Riggle (Riggle Waltermann Mortuary). Crisply on cue all the uniformed officers saluted the passing American Flag draped coffin, while bagpipes sounded in the background played by Quinton Owens (left) and Steve Bond (right) courtesy of the Marion County Sheriff's Department in Indianapolis, Indiana.

When Lloyd's American Flag draped coffin reached the hearse the Pallbearers performed their Honor Guard function of preparing the Flag for folding while the bagpipes played "Amazing Grace" Once the American Flag was folded it was handed to Centerville Police Chief Ed Buchholz who carefully hand carried it to Lloyd's wife, Anna Ritchie.

Following the presentation of the American Flag Uniformed officers of the Richmond Police Department and Wayne County Sheriff's Department Honor Guard performed the 21-Gun Salute.

Then Taps were played by Phil Schroeder from the Richmond Fire Department.

The Pallbearers loaded the coffin into the hearse and everyone was dismissed.

Lloyd George Ritchie, age 50, died Saturday (January 25, 2014) at his home. He graduated from Richmond Senior High School in 1981.

Survivors include his wife of 25 years, Anna Sue (Philpot) Ritchie; He also leaves nieces and nephews that will always remember their Uncle Lloyd that includes Amanda E. Philpot, Luke A. Philpot, Skylar J. Burdette, Mackenzie J. Philpot, Madison I. Philpot, Peyton M. Philpot, Noah J. Philpot, Ryan D. Philpot, Olivia I. Philpot. He also leaves behind friends Randy and Christine, Greg and Kim and Mike Rice. Lloyd will be remembered by the many friends, associates and acquaintances he met throughout is life. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd George Ritchie, Sr. and Patricia Elizabeth (Donavan) Ritchie. Services were conducted at 10:00 a.m. on Friday (January 31, 2014) in Centerville Christian Church. Rev. Martin Holman officiated. Memorial contributions may be made to Centerville Police Department, P.O. Box 125, Centerville, Indiana 47330. Riggle - Waltermann Mortuary was in charge of arrangements. www.riggle-waltermann.com .

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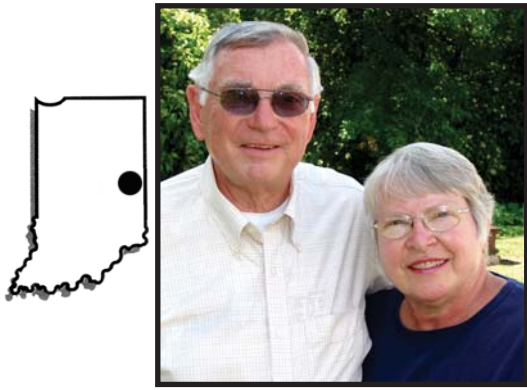
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Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

Other Types of Camping Places

One aspect of camping, to which we've alluded upon occasion over the last almost five years writing in the Gad-a-Bout, is the need for us all to make very specific efforts to research the camping grounds in which we are going to stay on trips. If we should blindly arrive at a campground after a long drive and find a "mess," we'd probably never be able to excuse ourselves to those traveling with us. What one family thinks is a very good place (even for overnight) may seem mediocre or worse to another.

I'm sure people have left our campground and told others they were disappointed in one aspect of another. We always tried to be truthful in any advertising we did and provided for the needs of those who camped with us. Over the years this seemed to help people decide whether or not to return. We didn't ever advertise anything we didn't have or were able to produce on the spur of the moment. We've found this not to be true at numerous places we've chosen (before the trip) to camp, even in the various countries we've camped.

We use the internet, camping guides with hundreds of campsites listed, 50% camp guides, state department of recreation guides, state campground association guides, guides for camping published by the Federal Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, National Parks and National Forests, Fish and Wildlife Areas, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Tennessee Valley Authority. Where we can see reviews from previous campers, we study their blogs. This, of course, takes time, especially in relation-ship to finding good campgrounds on our chosen route.

If we were to drive in to a campground and something seems suspect, i.e., unkempt, unpainted

signs, fences broken, etc., we ask if we can drive around and look at possible campsites. If disappointed, we stop at the office, thank them and drive on down the road. We try not to reserve and pay ahead of time by card or check unless we know for what we're paying. We've had to have been there before or to have been given good vibes from family or friends who have been there. If the site is in a heavy use area with a lot going on and sites are hard to find, a paid reservation is usually necessary.

Usually in camping guides like the American Automobile Association, Woodall's, Good Sam, 50% clubs Trailer Life and others, will rate campgrounds using strict guidelines, usually with a one to five star system or similar. Inspectors from these publishing companies sometimes appear unannounced and go over all aspects of the campground. Ratings usually are published within the next year and many camping families rely on what positive or negative points a campground gets. You might imagine this can help or hinder a campground, especially if improvements aren't made from one season to the next. The inspectors, usually retirees or work campers, have the same territories for several years, know their campgrounds well and what the camp owner's plans are from year to year. If a campground has a "mess" such as adding campsites, new cabins, or extensions of buildings, the inspectors have had early warnings of what to expect a year or so before. So, this is another way you can judge the campgrounds in the path of your travels.

Besides state parks, national parks and forests and private campgrounds, there are county and city parks, church camps and fairgrounds we've found in pretty good physical shape and with real reasonable price rates, usually lower than private campgrounds. But, please realize that these private parks are not subsidized by local and state taxes and it is necessary for private parks to usually be somewhat pricier to be able to provide what campers want. Type in camping sites in the county you wish to camp on the internet and most probably you'll get private and other types of parks from which to choose.

If you're going to a reunion, celebration, funeral, wedding, or a tournament you can bet there are facilities nearby for your event. We had our daughter's wedding reception at our local county fairground and, had it not been in the winter, there were several camping sites nearby. We also had places to eat, hotels and shopping nearby so it was a good choice so guests did not have to travel far that evening. We had to be out by 1 A.M. so clean up had to be done for an auction the next day. For fam-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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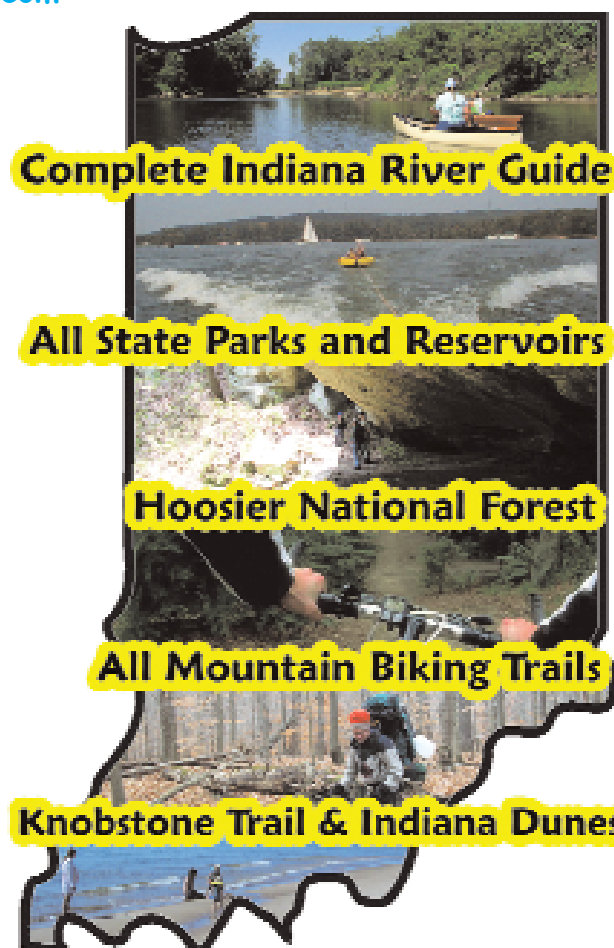
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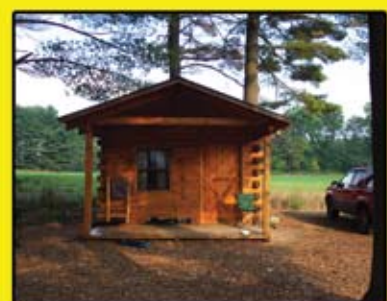


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Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

An On Going Debate

Tournament season is in full swing in the southern states but here in Indiana, it looks like more snow is forecast for this week. The Indiana Slab Masters held their annual Seminar this past weekend at Westside bait and tackle in Indianapolis more than seventy people showed up to hear some of the top tournament crappie fishermen in the state discuss some of their tactics to catch big slabs on Indiana lakes.

As I listened to their seminars, each one included jigs and presentation in their discussion, only one included live bait, not that I don't use jigs or believe in them for tournament fishing, I am sponsored by Crazy Angler who makes great plastics. I consider myself a minnow fisherman. I always have minnows in the boat and can only think of one time I couldn't catch fish on minnows, just so happened it was the biggest win of my tournament career so case in point, jigs do work and are efficient in tournament fishing. This being said each one of the speakers stressed use what you have confidence in, my confidence is in live bait. I prefer shiners in the 2"-2.5" range' bigger on some of the southern lakes. I am sure that every jig fishermen out there will have a very good argument to dispute my reasons for using live bait, but again, it is what I am confident in.

My main reason for using live bait is typically we



All four Crappie were caught on chartreuse plastics. (Photo Provided by Crappie USA)

are fishing for white crappie, and minnows or shad are their main food source so it makes sense to give them what is natural to them. When we are pre fishing or tournament fishing, we are typically looking for area's that hold schools of shad. Most times while pre fishing I will run at least one rod with plastic, usually tipping with minnows and when I locate fish I will try different colors to see if they do want plastic or certain colors. I never count plastics out and I have no problem with my partners running them, if that's what they are confident in. If you look at the best plastics on the market they usually mimic minnows in shape and sometimes color, but not so sure about taste. To me a crappie will hold on to live bait longer than plastics, giving us old guys a little longer to get a hook set.

The downfall of live bait is locating a good source and keeping them alive until tournament end. Seems that at some point throughout the season it gets hard to find good bait and sometimes I will get it a week prior to a tournament. It is very critical to learn what works to keep bait alive and healthy for an extended period of time. I have over the last four years, learned to keep bait alive, but it was a costly learning

curve. I once bought 8 pounds of shiners to take to a tournament down south and I let them get too cold on the ride down and by the time I stopped to check on them, I had lost all but one pound. I now use a cooler which I rigged with a thru the hull bilge pump, which pumps water out of the cooler up thru a 2" PVC pipe that contains Filter floss and an organic charcoal which removes ammonia from the water. I have an aquarium floating thermometer and cool the water with frozen pop bottles. When the water is pumped back into the cooler, I use a smaller piece of PVC with small holes drilled in the bottom which acts as a spray bar. This helps give current and also adds oxygen to the water. On the boat I use a smaller cooler with quality air stones and a 12 volt pump with two outlets, one for the cooler, and one for the



A couple Kentucky lake Crappie caught on Shiners (Photo by Tom Hankins)



An Indiana slab caught on a jig tipped with a shiner (Photo by Walter Moore)

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bucket, which never contains more than a couple dozen minnows. This whole system runs on a twelve volt system so I can run all pumps off my truck battery while traveling, or I can set it up at a motel, or in my garage if needed.

I once read an article by another angler that also preferred live bait. His reasoning was that with live bait, he never had to spend his time worrying about what color to choose, because in his opinion, live bait was always the right color. I don't feel this is always true or else all tournaments would be won by live bait. I just think it goes back to my main reason that it is just natural for crappie to feed on minnows. There are days when color works, anyone who crappie fishes has had days where they changed jig colors and nothing else and immediately caught fish, or maybe it was the other way, they were catching fish and changed colors and they bite stopped. I have had both happen to me on several occasions. There have been a lot of tournaments that crappies prefer a certain color and I am not going to ignore this preference. I am going to use plastics to present color but I am going to tip with a minnow or scent to try to get them to hold the bait a little longer.

A jig versus minnows is a topic that has been debated for years. As long as both are winning tournaments and catching fish, I would say the dispute will go on indefinitely. There are multiple companies that produce great plastics for crappie fishing and I have caught plenty of fish on jigs, especially when crappie are aggressive such as pre spawn there is no need to take time to bait hooks and keep hooks out of the water any longer than necessary. This is usually one time of the year I will use plastics, but guaranteed there will be minnows in my boat just in case.

Again, as each one of the speakers stressed in the
CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Register Now for *BOW Program

(*Becoming an Outdoors Woman)

Do you remember the old country song "Don't Take the Girl"? For many years, that was the attitude with which many girls had to contend. Fathers always shared hunting, fishing, and other outdoor pursuits with their male offspring, but usually, not with their wives or daughters. The girl was left at home.

That is finally changing. More and more women are learning to enjoy the outdoor sports. Most states and Canadian provinces and many outdoor organizations are offering schools, workshops, seminars, etc. based on helping ladies learn more about outdoor activities. Still, very few males that I know try to teach their female friends and family outdoor skills or invite them along on "guy" outings.

Is this because most women (or girls) are not interested? I don't think so. I have found most females enjoy the outdoors if exposed to it in a helpful, non-threatening way. Those who have grown up in families where the males spend a lot of time hunting, fishing, etc. are usually easily persuaded to try these activities. Those who have never know anyone active in the outdoors sometimes require extra effort to persuade them to try our sports.

Fortunately, the Indiana Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) is here to fill that need. Ladies, whether you're a veteran outdoors person or have never been in the woods or on the lake, you need to attend a BOW workshop. If you've never done these activities, but would like to learn, if you have some skills but want to improve them, or just want to learn some new ones, this is the place

This year, you can sign up for workshop sessions on everything from basket weaving to basic riflery and handgun shooting. If you are interested in sports related to the water, basic fishing, or canoeing, fly fishing, and advanced fishing, kayaking and fly tying may be the courses you choose. If weapons interest you, firearms safety, shotgun, rifle, and handgun instructions, intro to small game hunting, and muzzleloading are options. Other sessions include fish & game cleaning, backpacking, wild habitat & tracking, personal safety, outdoor cooking, survival, and trapping & fur craft. More options are tree identification, orient yourself outdoors (orienting), wild edibles & wildflowers, outdoor cooking, backyard habitat, and trailer handling. Included on Sunday is also a workshop on introduction to turkey hunting. These are tentative classes and may be added to or changed if necessary.

You can pick a different session to attend on Friday evening, Saturday morning, Saturday afternoon, and Sunday morning. If you are interested in the shooting or



Becoming an Outdoor Woman. Top Photo: Learning how to fish. Middle Photo: Learning how to start a fire. Bottom Photo: Learning how to properly handle a firearm and hit the target. (Photos courtesy of Danielle Floyd, IDNR)

archery sessions, you must take the firearms safety class on Friday first unless you have a hunter education card.

The BOW workshop is from May 2nd through the 4th, 2014, at Ross Camp, West Lafayette, IN. Online reservations begin March 1, 2014 and openings fill up fast. Cost of the three day workshop is \$185. In the past, scholarships were sometimes available, so check on that if interested. Meals are included from Friday evening thru Sunday afternoon. This includes a main entrée, side items, bread, fruits and vegetable, dessert, and drink. Vegetarian meals are also offered. Tea, lemonade, and water are available throughout the weekend. If needed, you must bring your own candy, stacks, and soft drinks as no vending is available on the grounds.

Lodging arrangements at the camp are scheduled when you arrive on Friday. Two barrack style buildings contain hot showers, electricity, etc. RV and tent sites are on the premises. Sleeping is on wooden bunk beds with no mattresses. You will need a foam or air mattress with bed linens or a sleeping bag and your pillow.

Dress at the camp is informal. Most of the class sessions are outdoors so dress appropriately for Indiana spring weather. It could be hot, cold, wet, dry, or all of those. There is no alcohol allowed on in the camp. Smoking is not permitted inside the buildings.

While the Indiana Becoming an Outdoors Woman has several sponsors, one of them is Brother Nature, Mike Schoonveld. You can find Mike every month in the pages of *The Gad-a-bout* newspaper writing about great fishing on Lake Michigan. You can also contact
CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM

Indiana State Trappers News

Editor's Note: Please note that in the February issue the January article was reprinted in it. The following is the correct article for February about the Fur Sale held on 1-11-14. (I should fire the editor!)

"Trapping seasons are all open and the weather has been tolerable." Did I really write that? I really jinxed the season. Shortly after that came out, the weather went to single digits. I was breaking ice in a flowing creek trying to retrieve my muskrat traps before they were frozen in for the season. My catch has been way down, mostly due to the weather and my lack of time. I have heard from several other members that their catches are the worse for ten (10) years due to the weather. This should make for an interesting sale season. The ISTA's Fur Sale was on Jan. 11, 2014 and with luck the results are included in this month's Gad-A-Bout below. If it isn't there, I didn't quite make the dead line and you will have to look it up on the website, www.indianatrappers.org, or watch for it in the Trapper's Post. During one of the warm ups, I caught my first "double" using cage traps. That is I had one (1) raccoon in each of two (2) traps, not two (2) raccoon in one (1) trap. These were nice size raccoons that had had an easy life of cat food for many years. The owner of the barn is really looking forward to his cat food bill going down this next month. With the end of January, most of the seasons close. Coyote and Beaver are about the only things that remain available on into the late winter, though you have to be tough to continue on in sub-zero weather. Snares, I am sorry, cable - restraints, with "relaxing" locks become one of your best options. For coyote, a 10 - 12" loop hung 12 - 14" above the trail or tracks can be a deadly set. Please be sure to have a deer stop and or break-away device on your cable so you do not accidentally take a deer. For Beaver, you are probably working under the ice. There are setups for poles that can be low-

ered into under ice travel lanes, or 330 conibears may be used. Be careful walking on ice. Need I say that? Always have a plan of what you will do if the ice breaks. A pair of ice "picks" / screw drivers, hung around your neck may save your life if you go thru the ice and need traction getting out. Having a friend along also goes a long way for providing safety. Ropes are also good. Think about it, before you do it. For those of you who wish to share with everyone else, let's see those pictures. Send them to me at fpp@juno.com or 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. Concerning the "State of the ISTA", we have had a great past year. There was a fantastic Fur Sale in Jan., 2013 followed by seven (7) Trapper Education classes scattered across the state from May till October. We had them all listed on-line and in the Indiana Hunting and trapping Regulations Booklet. Most, if not all of them were also listed in various publications to the best of my ability. The ISTA had a booth at the Hoosier Outdoor Experience, and those who helped out had a great time. An idea was even floated to have representatives of the IDNR areas in the State form a council of sorts to help the ISTA get things done. I am going to take this idea to the Board and Membership in April. Remember, the next Membership meeting will be April 12, 2014 at the Mill Pond Park in Union Mills, IN. The Membership/Board meeting will begin at 10am CST. There will be a members luncheon at noon, and then hopefully an afternoon of fun. 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. This will be a first, so come on to Union Mills and help us make it a hoot. Note, 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.

Indiana State Trappers Association 2014 Calendar

Current information available at www.indianatrappers.org/calendar or contact Fred Philips at 765.938.1806 or fpp@juno.com
April 5 - 6
 Bloomington (Lake Monroe) Trapper Education Class / Advanced Trapping Technique Class.

North Fork Service Area, 5300 N. McGowen Rd., Bloomington, IN 47401 Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com

April 12
 Spring Membership Meeting 10 am CST, Mill Pond Park, 100 Mill Pond Rd. 400 W., Union Mills, IN 46382 Contact Ron Elliott 219-241-1299

May 30 - June 1
 Carthage (Hancock County) Trapper Education Class, IHYC, 8577 E. 300 S. (Hancock Ct.), Carthage, IN 46115. Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com

July 26 - 27
 Kokomo Trapper Education Class, Jackson Marrow Park, 2800 S. 100 W., Kokomo, IN 46902 Deric Beroshok 765-860-7499, email: trapperfur@aol.com Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com

Aug. 23 - 24
 Danville Trapper Education Class, Tom Setser's (317.287.9027 or laureltom1985@yahoo.com) Fur Shed, 2302 N. Washington St., Danville, IN 46122. Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com

Sept. 12 - 13
 ISTA 53rd Convention and Rendezvous, 1200 S. CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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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		

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Roaming The Outdoors
BEGINS HERE IN MARCH ISSUE

New Trenton Woods & Water LLC
by Travis Wooley

New Trenton Woods & Water LLC. is your "One Stop Sportsman's Shop" located at 4080 US 52, New Trenton, IN. The new locally owned business is geared toward all your outdoor needs. This includes hunting, fishing, trapping and houndsman supplies, firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, live bait, taxidermy, fur buying and deer processing. They are currently an authorized dealer for Obsession Bows; the number #1 voted bow at the 2014 Archery Trade Show.

New Trenton Woods & Water, will not only keep an abundant supply of your necessary outdoor accessories; they can do special orders to meet your individual requests.

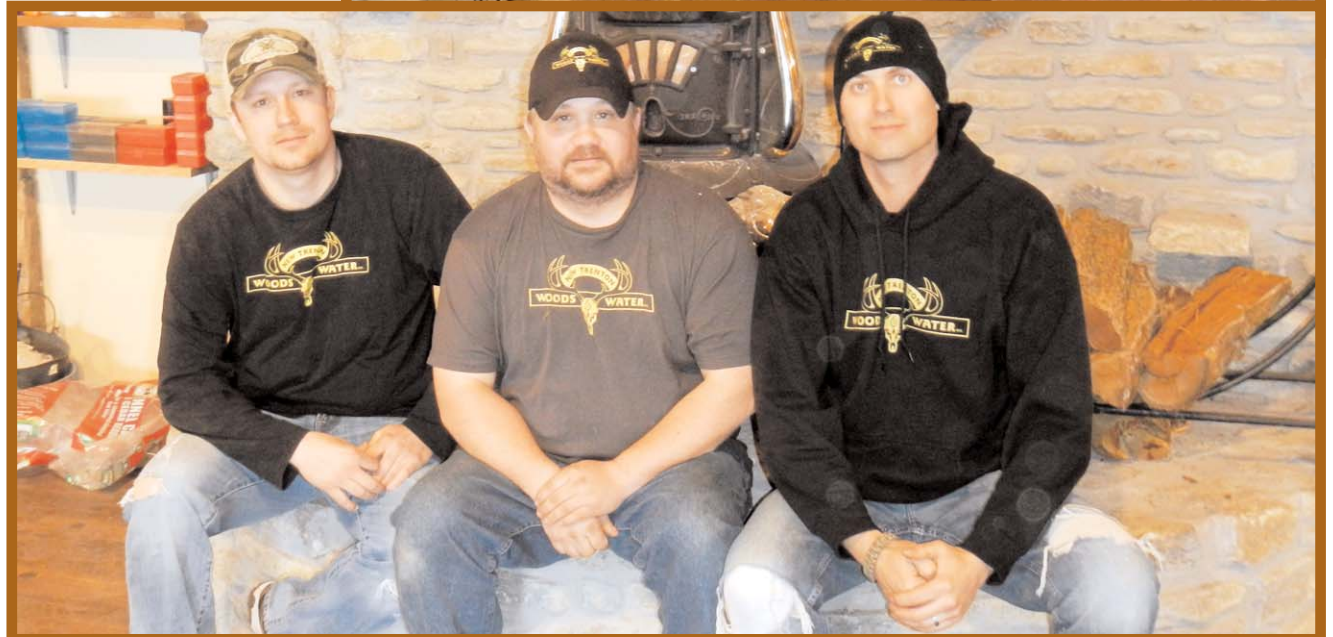
They also have a full

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hunting supplies	fishing tackle
deer processing	live bait
fur buying	we buy used guns
taxidermy	firearms

YOUR ONE STOP SPORTSMEN'S SHOP



Top Right Photo: The business is located at 4080 US 52, New Trenton, IN. You can't miss it, this sign is on the north end of the building. Middle Photo: Step inside and you are greeted with a comfortable outdoor atmosphere. Bottom Photo: Co-owners of New Trenton Woods and Water are seated above, from left to right: Travis Wooley, Travis Offill and Jerry Grubb, Taxidermist and Fur Buyer. (Travis Wooley Photo)

service bow repair shop. New Trenton Woods & Water plans to offer hunter education courses and personal protection/conceal carry classes. This new sportsman's shop wants to pride themselves by offering the best prices around, quality product and customer service you can only get in a small town. As local outdoor enthusiast themselves, the staff is very knowledgeable and will work hard to please each and every individual that walks in the doors. Business hours will vary depending on the season to meet everyone's needs.

New Trenton Woods & Water will be opening on March 8th at 8:00 a.m. with a grand opening

on Saturday, March 29th. The grand opening will entail door prizes, food, live music and great deals!

For more details and information: call (812)637-3474 (FISH) or check them out on Facebook at "New Trenton Woods & Water".

BELIEVE IT OR NOT - ROBINS HERE

I think it was Sunday, February 2, when I picked up Sherry at the hospital where she works. On our way out of the drive she said, "Look robins!" I looked and we saw robins sitting on posts along the road and a couple more flying away.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

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ASH TREES



RIVER BIRCH

This is the north side of the Doll Nursery building that can be seen from I-74 between SR 1 and Batesville (South Side). The tree photos are placed here as part of the article.

Doll Landscape & Nursery

by Ray Dickerson

I traveled south on Monday, February 3rd to meet with Greg Doll, owner and operator of Doll Landscaped and Nursery. Greg is an avid outdoorsman, fisherman, hunter and trapper.

Greg grew up on the family's grain farm located in Ripley County. After graduating from school he worked at Hildenbrand's until he decided to go into business for himself. He bought his dad's farm and began planting trees and bushes on the fifty acres of good farm land.

In 1996 he opened Doll Landscaping Nursery Inc., selling his trees and bushes wholesale and retail in the tri-state area.

For the Nursery side of the business he sells thirty types of trees including shade, ornamental and evergreen. He also sells ten to twelve kinds of bushes including deciduous and evergreen.

Here is a list of the bushes and trees:

Ornamental Bushes

- Dwf. Burning Bush
- Viburnum - Burkwood, Mohican, Northern Burgundy & Juddi
- Juniper - Pom-Pom Bushes, Sea Green-Blue Pfitzer
- Crepe Myrtle (red, white, pink)

Evergreen Bushes

- Boxwood - Green Velvet, Green Mountain
- Yews - (Spreaders) Densiformis
- Yews - (Pyramidol) Capitata, Adams
- Yews - Hicks
- Arborvitae - Techny, Elegatissima & Emerald Green

Ornamental & Flowering Trees



Greg Doll standing next to a Arborvitae Evergreen bush.

- Red Bud - Eastern, Forest Pansy
- White Bud
- Yoshino Cherry
- Pear - Cleveland Select, Aristocrat, Red Spire
- Hawthorn - Winter King
- Dogwood - Kousa (white & pink)
- Crabapple - Prairie Fire, Donald Wyman, Indian Magic, Purple Prince, Sargentina, Coral Burst
- Weeping Cherry - Snow Fountain
- Magnolia - Sweet Bay, Royal Star, Doc Merrill

Shade Trees

- Maples (rubrum) - Red Sunset, October Glory

- Maples (sacchrum) - Sugar
- Maples (platanoides) Crimson King
- Oak - Red, Pin, Swamp White
- Honeylocust - Skyline, Imperial
- Weeping Willow
- Birch - River, Heritage (clump & s.s.)
- Sycamore - London Plane
- Tulip Poplar
- Sweet Gum

Evergreen Trees

- Spruce - Norway
- Spruce - Colorado (Blue & Green)
- Pine - Eastern White, Southwestern White, Austrian

For the Landscaping side of the business he does hardscapes (stone), installs lawns, seeding and sodding, retaining walls, patios, walkways, landscapes, lighting - well if you come right down to it, he will do just about anything you have in mind. See the before and after photo on the next page, the bottom left and right photos.

Here is a list of the types of Landscapes Greg and his crew do:

Hardscapes

Hardscapes are everything in the landscape that isn't living, from a simple brick-edge design that showcases a flowerbed to an elaborate stone wall nestled around a pond.

Landscape Walls

Well-constructed walls can control soil erosion, add depth and elevation to enhance aesthetics of your landscape, and serve as great spots to install raised gardens.

Steps

Steps in a wall improve accessibility to the various levels in your landscape. Steps take many forms, from a formal, groomed look to a more natural, sim-

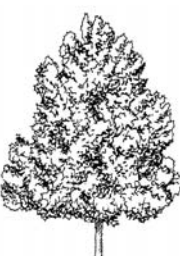
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Looking north giving you a view of the main drive that divides the 50 acre nursery.



This is a view of Arborvitae bushes and Spruce Evergreen trees.



Looking west are Spruce trees and Burning bushes in this winter scene.



These are whats left from last year. New bushes and trees will be planted in 2014.



If your home looks like it needs landscaping, check out what it could look like at right.



Finished product by Doll Landscaping crew design and results. (Customer Photo)

ple look.

Patios

Patios provide function and form, man-made and natural materials makes the possibilities endless and gives you the opportunity to make your landscape unique.

Driveways

Driveways can be as good-looking as they are functional. Pavers add beauty, style and surprisingly easy maintenance. Like other elements of professional landscaping, pavers can add significant value to your property.

Walkways

Walkways define your outdoor space, help you move through the landscape, and add beauty to your yard. The many styles of pavers and natural stone will give the finishing touch to your yard and garden.

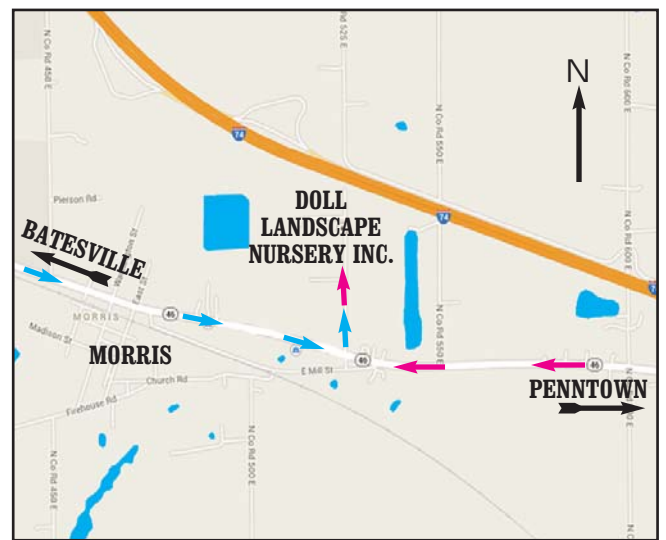
Choosing the right contractor can determine the success or failure of a landscaping project. That is why I recommend Doll Landscaping Nursery, Inc., for your first or next landscaping project.

Give Greg a call at **812-934-5760**.

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri by appointment only
Sat: 8-3 pm; Sun & Holidays Closed

Wholesale Hours: Please call and arrange for a date & time.

Directions to Doll Landscape Nursery, Inc. located at 14365 N. CR 525 E, Batesville, IN 47006. **From Cincinnati** take I-74 west to Sunman Exit, go south turn right onto SR 46 at Penntown go west, turn right onto CR 525 E to Doll's Driveway on left. **From Indianapolis** take I-74 south east to Batesville, SR 229 Exit, go south, turn left onto SR 46, go east to Morris, turn left onto CR 525 E go north to Doll's Driveway on left. See map at right.



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Notes from:

Prairie Wolf Gun Repair



by Marshall Smith
Owner/Gunsmith

Broken springs & other parts, Long Term Gun Storage

One of the most depressing sights is to pull that fine old gun out and find it doesn't function like it used to or it won't fire. Ever had that happen to you? Maybe you pull the gun out and what was once a beautiful, gleaming, shiny firearm is now a rusty old hunk of metal that resembles something found in the junk yard. Well there are ways to avoid those problems and I'll address both in this article. Let's start with the broken springs and parts.

I've run into the problem of broken parts and springs so often that it becomes part of the disassembly process to examine each part for cracks or obvious flaws which may cause the part to fail. Replacing rusty springs is a must. Now here is a key word, Disassembly. To many hunters and shooters go out for a day's hunt, or a day on the range and get home late and think I clean and wipe the gun down later. Later then turns into days, weeks, or months and moisture, fouling, and fingerprints work their mischief. Not a good practice. A gun, like your car, needs regular maintenance. "Yep, gotta change that oil buddy. Better give her a good wash & wax, and, clean the interior too."

As I've said before, rust and neglect are the greatest enemy of a gun. By neglect I mean the the failure to regularly disassemble the gun, not just field stripping, for a complete cleaning and inspection. Older guns, that is guns over 20 years old may never have been completely disassembled and

cleaned. I know you may slather lots of oil on the insides of you guns but that doesn't always cover all the nooks and crannies and parts inside the gun. Even newer guns will develop areas with corrosion in a very short time after a hard day and not cared for at the end of the end of the day. As rust builds up in the interior of the gun the parts can become stressed and develop cracks or just break. I'm including a photo here of a shotgun lock where rust had done just that, stressed the hammer mainspring and opened cracks and broke. The shotgun was neglected and not disassembled. Rust built up and another part, the hammer, developed cracks. The only way the cracks in the hammer was found was that the broken mainspring brought the gun to the gunsmith. A complete disassembly and inspection by the gunsmith found the problem.

In another instance a Winchester 1894 Carbine rifle was brought in for cleaning and inspection and everything including the mainspring appeared good. It was completely disassembled and cleaned, inspected, and all rust and corrosion was removed. The customer took the rifle home and while showing it to another family member the hammer became loose. When he brought it back I found the mainspring had broken. Even though my inspection had included a thorough examination of the mainspring I didn't see any cracks or the beginning of a crack or weakening of the mainspring.

The conclusion was that with the gun being nearly 100 years old the spring just failed. It had been neglected and stored away for twenty years or more. I don't know if the hammer was in the cocked or not position during that time or part of that time. The mainspring remains under tension at all times in this model Winchester and I believe that contributed to the failure. That leads into my next discussion for this month. That of long term storage of your guns.

Gun Storage

Now that the hunting season is over many of your guns will not see use again until this fall. I believe that any gun should be oiled and wiped down at least every 2 or 3 months when not in use every day. At least once a year it should be totally stripped and inspected for corrosion. Moisture left over from a hard day of hunting or at the range will linger inside the action and start the rusting process within a few hours. I also urge owners who plan to put their gun away until the hunt next

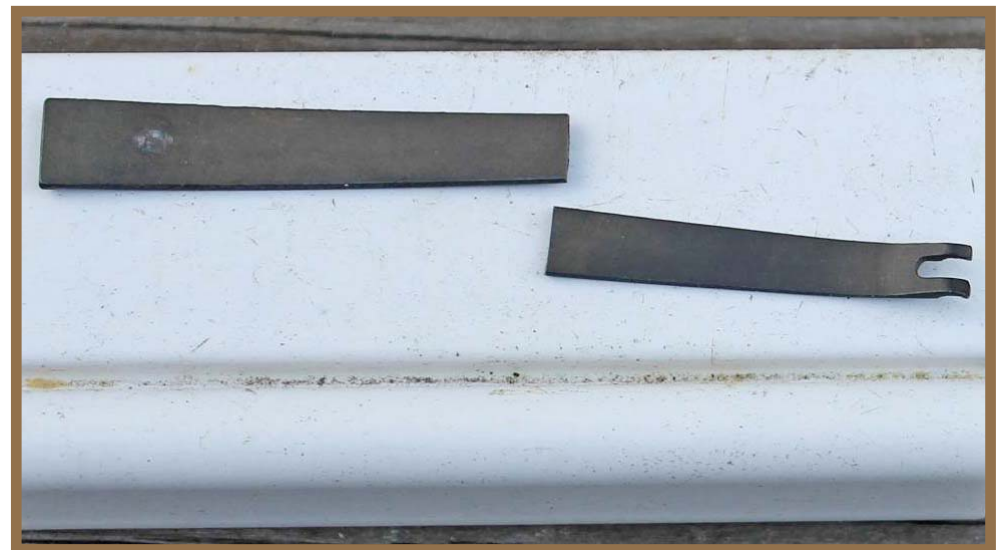
year or years from now and if they have the expertise, remove or loosen any springs that are normally under tension such as mainsprings, firing pin springs, etc. This includes semi-auto pistols and revolvers. It also makes them safe from accidental discharges. Trigger locks are a better choice if you are planning on keeping the weapon close for



ZCORE Products Tactical and handgun bags and Poly Gun Bag. (Author Photos)



Look closely at the base of the hammer for the cracks in the metal. I've blown up the area in the inset and the cracks to make it easier to see. Picture is from B.K. Webster Gunsmith, Yorkshire England on the internet. (Author Photo)



It appeared to have just failed, having been under tension for years. Picture is of a Colt revolver mainspring, downloaded from the internet. The spring, which is a flat spring nearly identical to the Winchester 1894 mainspring, broke just as the Winchester spring. (Author Photo)

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protection. However, guns that are going into long-term storage should be stripped, thoroughly cleaned including removing copper, lead, and plastic from the bore, and lightly oiled with a good quality synthetic gun oil. Why synthetic? Standard gun oils dry and harden losing their ability to repel moisture. Synthetics do not. Breakfree Collector Longterm Storage Synthetic oil and CLP both are good oils for longterm storage. Brownell's, MidWay USA have oils available on their web sites. Another option is to bag your gun in one of the corrosion inhibitor bags available from Brownell's, MidWay USA, ZCORE Products, and Poly Gun Bag. All claim their bags will protect your gun for 5 to 50 years or more. Price is the factor here so do your research before buying. The chemicals in the bags form a vapor barrier around your gun keeping moisture out. The bags are good for long term storage of your ammo also and are in use by the military to store guns.

Another method for long term storage is similar to the days of cosmoline. Birchwood Casey offers a good quality gun grease that can be applied to the metal surfaces of the gun to protect from rusting. Here you want to disassemble and thoroughly clean your gun as described above and apply the grease to all metal surfaces including the bore. Then wrap the gun in gun paper (available from Brownell's) or cotton muslin and then place in a place free of moisture. A gun Safe with a moisture absorbing desiccant (I use rice, it's inexpensive and works well) is generally your best option. Some may want to hide or bury their guns for long term storage and there are several options available. One option would be to make a waterproof container out of plastic water pipe, 6 or 8" diameter, with a cap glued to on one end and a screw in plug on the other. Just make sure it's watertight and use a desiccant. That type of gun safe could be buried or stored with other pipe. Hiding in plain sight. I'm sure you can come up with great ideas for securely storing your guns without a great expense.

Gun Control

Before I end this piece I want to address an opinion article written by Marda Dunsky for Aljazeera.com titled **"Will we come to our senses on gun control in 2014?"** and subtitled **"Americans cannot continue framing gun control laws in terms of infringement on their freedom."**

In her opinion piece she states;

"The US and the world have changed greatly since the Bill of Rights was adopted in 1791. The events of recent years have shown Americans that our freedoms are not immutable and absolute but are subject to reinterpretation, revision and, in some cases, even limitation."

OMG, another intellectual trying to change historical facts to fit her agenda. The Bill of Rights were written to state our position against oppression and those who then thought and today continue to think just as she does. Our rights must remain absolute and to stand unchanged and not

subject to reinterpretation or we will fall under the heel of the oppressors. Our founding fathers and the people who fought for our right to liberty and freedom were not against the King of England, but wanted to have representation before the government of England. They didn't want to go the war with England, but the King wouldn't listen, he continued to oppress the colonists. He sent troops to enforce his will and collect money from the colonists without their agreement or disagreement. The colonist's just didn't have any say in the matter. The troops drove the colonists into a corner and the day came (April 19, 1775 when they realized that what they were going to have to fight for was the right for liberty, self determination and governance. Those who want to take away our rights, want to convince us to give up those rights, will always refuse to be and will not be responsible for their actions and will continue to want to be the oppressors. Will continue to try to steal power through killing, maiming, lying, cheating, and all types of terrorism. Those who think that by giving up their rights will make their lives safer have never read a history book or least don't understand the history they read. Have never learned why we in American love our constitution and our rights and why we are willing to die for those rights. Or why we are willing to die to give others the chance to enjoy the liberty, the freedoms we enjoy. Marda Dunsky, let it be known, we have all our senses, we know our history, and we will always fight to protect our rights as set out in the Constitution. You write, trying to convince us that our constitutional rights must be changed, that society has changed, therefore our rights must change. That is the lie power crabbers hope to convince us of. Society has never changed. In the entire history of mankind we have not changed. The desires for power and control is the same today as it was 200, 500, 1,000, 10,000 years ago. It is an absolute necessity that our constitutional rights remain unchanged, and the Bill of Rights remains unchanged. Those documents, those rights, are what stands between us and those who want to oppress us.

The whole of the Bill (of Rights) is a declaration of the right of the people at large or considered as individuals.... It establishes some rights of the individual as unalienable and which consequently, no majority has a right to deprive them of." (Albert Gallatin of the New York Historical Society, October 7, 1789)

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.

And as always, Remember, B SAR (Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible)

Marshall Smith
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair
Marshall@MarshallJSmith.com

MISFIRES & SNAGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

picked a spot somewhere between Tarpon Springs and Tampa Bay and spent the first day whipping the telephone pole and wasting some tasty shrimp on--- nothing. After all, with thirty miles of fishing spots one can't expect to be where the denizens of the deep are congregating. If I have enough time I'll try to cover the entire thirty miles at one mile per day. If fishing doesn't work I'll keep myself entertained by loading some dipping scoops with a laxative and feeding them to the gulls. ■

Pond Maintenance 101

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Aeration is also used to oxygenate the water to grow bigger, healthier fish. As a result of adding oxygen, fish kills are very rarely seen when these systems are sized and used properly.

Managing the watershed can be as easy as diverting runoff away from the water resource. It can also be leaving natural vegetation along and around the perimeter of the pond. These plants can take up pollutants before they flow directly in the pond. Keeping as many sticks, dead leaves, grass clippings out of the water is also a huge help. This material breaks down quickly when in the water and will cause "pond scum" quickly.

Triploid grass carp are also a tool we use in water management. There are permitted by the state and are certified to be sterile and vegetarians. They are not a "silver bullet" but are used to help maintain growth when using other methods described here.

Pond dye is used to darken the water. By coloring the water, the sunlight isn't as available to the plants to use in the photosynthesis process. Because of this, less growth usually occurs. In closing, there are many methods used to manage ponds and lakes. None alone are the perfect answer. When used in conjunction with each other, a cleaner water

resource will be the result. Make sure that when you chose an aquatic specialist, be sure they are an expert and will take the time to help you through all of your questions and needs.

Company Overview
www.PondsRx.com

Ponds Rx is dedicated to helping the do-it-yourself person take care of their pond needs. We offer expert advice as well as a One-Stop-Shop for all pond care products. In the Indy area, Ponds Rx is a full service pond/lake management company. ■

Indiana Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

er, were quick converts once I convinced them to give one of my Double Bulls a try. I could explain everything that makes them superior, but I don't have the space in this column. Trust me, throw a Double Bull up and get ready!

Whitetail 'R' Licking Branch:

This seems like a rather simple idea, because it is, but it is also one which I am intrigued by. The Whitetail 'R' licking branch is nothing more than a flexible metal rod that hangs on a tree step which is screwed into a tree. You simple then hang a branch on the end of the rod and see what happens. The rod

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28



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Indiana Outdoors

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is supposed to simulate the dominate branch of the tree, which is what attracts deer to it.

Most serious deer hunters realize the importance a licking branch has in a whitetail deer's social circles, so if this works, it will become a new tool in my bag of tricks. I plan on trying one out this summer near a trail camera, so stay-tuned for more on this product.

Spot Hogg sights:

If ever an archery sight were bullet-proof, this is it. I have been shooting Spot Hogg sights for years and won't compromise. I have shot them all and I simply shoot tighter groups with a Spot Hogg. Just like a Leupold scope will tighten your groups with a firearm, I noticed a difference when I went to Spot Hogg. Their manufacturing tolerances are tighter than their competition and the materials used and quality are unmatched. I've broken the fiber-optics on just about every sight I shot – until I switched to Spot Hogg over a decade ago.

Click It Hot heat packs:

Okay, so they are just hand and body warmers – or are they? Yes they are, but with a pretty cool twist; they are reusable! These cool warmers are filled with a gel that is activated by a chemical reaction once you click a metal coin that is inside each one. They instantly reach a temperature of 130 degrees F and stay warm for up to a couple of hours.

Another neat feature of these pads is that they can actually be used as cold packs too. Simply toss them in the freezer to get them cold.

Mathews Bows:

Mathews did not have a booth at the ATA show, but I still feel it necessary to mention them. While it is true that every bow manufacture makes a good product, I would also be amiss if I didn't say that I also feel that – as in everything else – some do it better. True, most all brands of bows will certainly do the job, but there are a couple that are simply the best. Will a Dodge Neon get you to work and back; sure, but will it perform and have the reliability of a Ford truck; uh, no.

Yes there are a couple of bow manufacturers who stand out from the rest, but when it comes to pure shootability, quality, and dedication to service, I believe that Mathews tops them all. Shoot one for yourself and see.

These are some of the products that I feel have and/or will make big impacts on the bowhunting world this year and that have the potential to improve your bowhunting experience. Check them out!

Camping Here and Beyond

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

ilies with children these large public facilities have a lot of room to run and blow off energy in these type parks. In looking in Indiana and surrounding states for camping areas near where your get-together is happening, we think you'll be surprised to find some nearby.

So---now you new campers have more sources from which to choose for just a camp experience or for staying near friends or relatives' homes or for events. Get busy and plan camp outings now for spring, summer and fall of 2014. E-mail or call the numbers you see in the campground guides or on the internet and make plans for your trip(s). Many

will still be closed for the winter and just leave voice mail or an e-mail message. Most managers or owners will get back to you for the date(s) you want to camp, your name, phone number, address and e-mail address. Campground management which is on the ball and want your business will contact you by one or more of the methods above. Don't just click off all the "spam" and all the "unknown" e-mails until you check to see if they may be replies from your contacted campground.

Having had our own campground for 32 years we were advocates of private camp-ground ownership and camping, but we've traveled and camped in all of the previously mentioned types of camping grounds. Be aware that by using older GPS systems you may be directed on to older roads and maybe on gravel roads. The newer roads may not have been on the older discs. The campground to which you're headed might be newer than what is on the GPS system. Old signs, unkempt along the road, might tell you something about the campground. Usually at the exits along the interstates are campgrounds that are some of the better and well-kept camping grounds. We have been disappointed in some of these well-advertised parks. Large and newly painted signs are usually a good omen. The camps along the Interstates are taking in money and can easily keep up their advertising. Environmentally, I believe so many of them are ugly, but not so much as the late Ladybird Johnson, wife of the President, who went after all signage along these new-fangled new roads called Interstates.

If you have any camping topic you think would be a challenge to us to explore contact us by calling 260-637-3524 or by e-mail at jmacnut@yahoo.com. Get your camping plans made early as the Baby Boomers and Generation X's are retiring and are buying RVs and tents and are taking thousands of sites all over the country. Get started.

John and El McCory

Outdoors with Rich Creason

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

him to schedule your own fishing trip for salmon, trout and other species which can be found on the end of his lures. Go to www.brother-nature.com.

Go to the website at www.indianaBOW.com for all the details. Fill out the registration form or call or e-mail for more information. You can contact the BOW coordinator, Danielle Floyd at 317-232-4194, or e-mail her at dfloyd@dmr.IN.gov.

If you've ever wanted to learn more about the great outdoors, here is your chance. Join with other ladies who want the same thing in a friendly environment with no pressure from your "guy" trying to teach you something.

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

Indiana State Trappers Association

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

Main St. (SR. 19) Tipton, IN 46072

Oct. 4 – 5

Andrews (Salamonie Reservoir) Trapper Education Class, 9214 West Lost Bridge, Andrews, IN 46702. Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com or contact the Upper Wabash Interpretive Center at 260-468-2127.

Nov. 1 – 2

Rockville (Raccoon Lake SRA) Trapper Education Class 1588 S. Raccoon Parkway, Rockville, IN 47872. Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com, or register with CO Dustin Whitehead 765-344-1412, more info: Stu Grell 765.363.2207 or sgrell@tds.net

Nov. 8 – 9

LaPorte (Kingsbury F&W Area) Trapper Education Class, 5344 S. Hupp Road, La Porte, IN 46350 (across from Range) Must be pre-registered thru www.passitonindiana.com, or register with CO Ron Lorman 219-393-3612

Jan. 10, 2015

ISTA Fur Sale, Peru, IN. More information available at www.indianatrappers.org/calendar or contact Fred Philips at 765.938.1806 or fpp@juno.com

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

Indiana Slab Masters

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

seminars, use what you are confident in. It doesn't matter what you use if you don't have confidence in it, you probably won't give it a fair chance to catch fish anyway. My go to rig for tournament fishing is a BnM Capps and Coleman rig, also known as an egg sinker rig with 2" shiners. If this rig needs color to produce, I thread a Crazy Angler Slab Bandit on the hook and tip with a small shiner.

Tight Lines Everyone,
Ron Bilbrey



www.bnmpoles.com



www.driftmaster.com



www.crazyanglertackle.com



www.thesportsmansshack.com



www.jiffyjigs.com

On The Cutting Edge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

it a 4-H controlled property? He told me that in 1995 the employees of the fairgrounds was included on the County Payroll and that the county was in charge.

In my opinion this agreement isn't fair to bar camper dealers and associated products from the use of the fairgrounds. It limits not only some of the business community from holding shows such as Raper's Rally, but also limits the Lions Club Show, the Wayne County Fair, 4-H activities and other functions as to who they can include in their activity.

On Feb 9,1999 I sent an e-mail to the Indiana Attorney General asking if this kind of agreement was legal. I got a reply from his office on Feb. 10, 1999. It read, "I regret to inform you that the Office of the Attorney General cannot provide you with the legal opinion that you have requested. As you may know, the

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Indiana Code stipulates that the Attorney General can only provide legal counsel to state agencies and certain elected officials. I can however suggest that you contact your local prosecutor's office with this information, or a private attorney. I hope that this information proves helpful."

The first week of March 1999 I tried to call the president of the Wayne County Commissioners, John Catey, but wasn't able to make contact with him, we played phone tag for a couple of days, neither one of us in the same place at the same time.

I called Tom Raper's office, he wasn't in, I left a message for him to call me about the agreement. I received no call.

On March 8, 1999, I attended the regularly scheduled Wayne County Commissioners meeting at the Courthouse Annex. During the meeting I was asked by John Catey if I had something to say to the Commissioners. I got up and told them about my proposed campout at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in the year 2000 with my sponsors and how Don Wampler had informed me of the 20-year agreement with Tom Raper. I told them that it didn't seem fair that Tom Raper was the only camper dealer to be able to use the fairgrounds. I asked them if this agreement was indeed going to last for 20 years. John Catey indicated that there may be some changes made, but wouldn't elaborate on them. I asked if the changes would be made before the year 2000. He said he didn't have an answer to that question. I thanked them and left.

I went back to Don Wampler's office to find out more information. I asked for a list of the members of the fairground board or other officers to talk to about this agreement. He gave me the name of Jim Miller, chairman of the Fair Committee.

I called Jim Miller, he told me when the deal was struck between Tom Raper and the Commissioners, the Fair Committee, the 4-H, nor the fairground board of directors were contacted about it. Jim was told two weeks prior to the 1998 Wayne County Fair to pick up a list at the fairgrounds office of what kind of businesses *couldn't* set up at the fair in 1998.

On March 19, 1999 I went to Tom Rapers, Inc., I talked to his receptionist who told me Tom was out of the office that day. I asked about the coming Monday, she indicated he wouldn't be in that day either. She referred me to Gerald Sharp, Vice President of Operations, who was busy at the time. We set up for an appointment at 11:45 a.m. that same day.

I returned at 11:40 a.m. and we met at 12:05 p.m. in his office. I told him why I was there, the agreement, and asked him if he thought it was fair to the other camping businesses in the area. Mr. Sharp told me that Rapers was nothing more than a corporate sponsor of the fairgrounds, similar to the Pepsi Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. He said you can't buy a coke there. He said that the fairgrounds needed money for upkeep and no one was coming forward to help. He said Tom Raper had spent better than \$600,000 at the Fairgrounds with the new Tom Raper Pavilion and camper hookups. He showed me a layout of the fairgrounds and prospects for additional sites as time goes along. The fairgrounds looked like a huge campground. His rally was in its fifth year and would be bigger for 1999. He also indicated I should bring some information to them about my paper, maybe they would advertise. I made no comment to that statement.

I told him that it was impressive, but Rapers rally was only one weekend out of the year, was it fair to block the other 51 weekends to certain businesses. Mr. Sharp indicated that they were looking at other weekend camping activities at the Fairgrounds as time goes along.

I thanked him and left for another meeting in

Brookville.

He was right about the Pepsi Coliseum, you can only buy Pepsi's there, but that is just one building. I didn't know at the time if the rest of the Indiana State Fairgrounds was restricted from buying coke. I felt that Tom Raper should be able to limit the use of the building he built on the Wayne County Fairgrounds to whomever he wishes. However in my opinion I don't think he should have complete control on the entire fairgrounds property and buildings or have the say who gets to use the Wayne County Fairgrounds and who don't.

I will be working on this one as long as it takes. I will update this for the Wayne County readers as time goes along.

Well it is now February 2014 and the contract between Dave Bane (owner of Tom Raper RVs) and the Wayne County Commissioners is still in force and will be until June 2017, limiting "Who Can Use The Wayne County Fairgrounds and Who Can't."

The numerous camper hookups installed by Tom Raper RVs in 1998 are still on the Wayne County Fairgrounds, the Annual Tom Raper Rally is no longer held on the Wayne County Fairgrounds as far as I know. The hookups are still used by other fairground users who are cleared to rent them.

Is it fair to some of the businesses of Wayne County to not be allowed access to the Wayne County Fair, the Wayne County Fairground facilities, The Lions Club Home Show (which ended recently), other weekend activities that might be wanting business participation from the whole county, the state and beyond? Is it fair to the residents who visit the activities at the Wayne County Fairgrounds to not get to see what the barred businesses might have to offer them?

(I think it is important to reprint here that part of 20 year contract that effects the businesses who can't use the Wayne County Fairgrounds)

Because of this, still enforced 20 year contract (June 1998-June 2017), Note: Excerpt from legal document "Rental Agreement Wayne County Fairgrounds Complex" between the Board of Commissioners of Wayne County, Indiana and Tom Raper, Inc. and Tom Raper Homes, Inc.

5. "County shall not, so long as Raper is in compliance with this Agreement, rent or permit the use of all or any part of the Fairground Complex for an event which involves the promotion or sale of:

A. Recreational vehicles including a rally

B. Travel trailers/Fifth

C. Motor Homes D. Homes such as

1. Mobile homes

2. Sectional homes

3. Modular or site built homes

E. Boats

F. Parts or service agreements as to any of the above."

I remember watching D&J Homes dismantling a Modular home they set up at a Wayne County Fair after the above mentioned agreement was enforced after June 1998. A local recreational equipment dealer was forced to leave a Lion's Club Home Show also after it was determined he didn't qualify to be there.

As time went on the local recreational businesses and activities affected by the contract had to consider the Wayne County Fairgrounds off-limits until June 2017.

Most of the local residents, if they knew about this contract by maybe reading about it in the April 1999 Gad-a-bout, have probably forgotten all about it.

I haven't forgotten. I have been publishing The Gad-a-bout since April 1990, I can happily say not one Tom Raper RVs advertisement has ever been displayed in it. In fact, since Dave Bane purchased Tom Raper RVs I've had 3 telephone calls from his staff wanting to run a display ad in The Gad-a-bout. I asked all three one ques-

tion. "Is the contract between Tom Raper RVs and the Wayne County Commissioners still enforced?" Their reply has been they didn't know. I tell them to find out and if it is indeed no longer enforced, call back and I will put their ad in The Gad-a-bout. None have ever called me back.

We have 3 more years until that contract runs out. Last Tuesday, the day after the Council meeting for Tom Raper Way signage, I asked Don Wampler at the Wayne County Fairgrounds office if there was any chance that the Wayne County Commissioners or Tom Raper RVs might want renew the contract for 20 more years when this one runs out. We talked about it for awhile, but I won't print it here.

Everyone is entitled to an opinion and I have always expressed myself to the full extent of this right.

After June 2017 I guess I may be able to host a camper rally of my own. It makes me sad to think of all the events that could have taken place at the Wayne County Fairgrounds in the soon to be 20 years. I would almost bet my monthly Social Security check that back in 1998 if the Wayne County Commissioners had tried harder they could have come up with a plan to build a second building similar to the Kuhlman Center with funds that didn't have strings attached to them.

I stopped at Tom Raper RVs the same day I stopped to talk to Don Wampler, Tuesday February 4th, the day after the Richmond Common Council passed the resolution to add the "Tom Raper Way" signage to Williamsburg Pike between Progress Drive and Interstate 70. Dave Bane wasn't in his office. I asked a lady who was in the showroom if I could schedule an appointment to speak to Mr. Bane. She gave me the telephone number of his secretary, saying I should call her to set up the appointment. Needless to say after calling twice and leaving a message for her to call me, I haven't been able to speak with Mr. Bane.

In my opinion it's suffice for me to say I don't think Tom Raper has earned the signage "Tom Raper Way" added to Williamsburg Pike or any other road in that area. Of course, the signage will be added its online!

For comments on this "Cutting Edge" issue contact me by calling my cell 765-960-5767, e-mail me at ray@thegadabout.com or go online to my website www.thegadabout.com and send me an inquiry. ■

Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

SEE DAVE FIELDS LATEST CARTOON ON PAGE 31 - HE'S GONE POLITICAL ON ME

I never know what to expect from Dave Fields, this is the third issue he has sent me a cartoon. He has a gift, that is for sure. I tried my hand at drawing cartoons many years ago. I could picture them in my head, but drawing them proved I wasn't a cartoonist. See his latest cartoon on page 31.

DON'T MISS UPCOMING GEM SHOWS IN RICHMOND IN MARCH 7-9, 2014

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 their advertisement on page 4.

There is construction on Salisbury Road, follow these directions **From I-70 exit at US 35 South, turn right onto NW L Street, go west to North Entrance of Fairgrounds off NWL Street. (Salisbury Rd Closed)**

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

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

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Sixty-five year old Kim Fulford from Monroe County trapped all these game animals in Monroe Co in the past season. The total is 78 coon, 8 coyotes, 6 red fox, 2 beaver and 1 muskrat. He built the cabin 4 years ago, it serves as a trapping shack in winter, as a room for his friends who come to turkey hunt in the spring and storage for all his equipment in the summer. (Kim Fulford Photo)



Steve Maudlin took this 10 point buck on 11-2-13. It weighed 190 pounds. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Christian Chandler took this 14 point buck on 11-16-13. It weighed 195 pounds. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)



Kim Fulford took this 10 point buck with a crossbow in the late bow season this year. It was one of the largest bucks he has taken in the 50 or so years since he has been hunting for them. At 65 he doubts he will get many more chances to do better. (Kim Fulford Photo)



Kelly Barnes took this 13 point buck on 11-22-13. It weighed in at 185 pounds. (Red Barn Bait, Guns & Deli Photo, Salem, IN)

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

then turn left onto NW L Street follow to N. entrance.
IN INDIANAPOLIS MARCH 21-23, 2014

Van and Rose Wimmer fill the Indianapolis Ag/Horticulture building with every kind of gem stone and craft imaginable.

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 page 4 for their advertisement in this issue. To learn more about Van and Rose Wimmer's Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Shows by logging onto their website: www.toteshows.com.

FISH LIMITS ON WEST BOGGS CREEK RESERVOIR WILL BE RELAXED

Anglers at West Boggs Creek Reservoir in Daviess County will be allowed to harvest more fish starting Saturday, Feb. 8.

The reservoir will undergo a renovation during fall that will consist of draining the water and eradicating the fish population. A temporary change to size and bag limits will allow anglers to harvest more fish before the lake is drained. The rule change is in effect from Feb. 8 to Oct.10.

The bag limit for largemouth bass on West Boggs will increase to 10, and there will be no size limit. Bag limits for all other species will be double the normal daily bag limit.

Two fish salvage operations will also take place in spring and fall for adult bass and catfish.

The lake is scheduled to reopen to the public in February 2015.

GAME BIRD HABITAT DEVELOPMENT FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR LANDOWNERS

Private landowners looking to improve wildlife habitat on their property may qualify for financial assistance through the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, particularly if they want to benefit bobwhite quail and ring-neck pheasants.

Bobwhite quail and ring-neck pheasant are prized game birds. However, populations of both have suffered from permanent habitat loss or lack of maintenance on existing habitat.

"It used to be that farming practices created and maintained a lot of quail and pheasant habitat," said Gary Langell, private lands program manager for DNR Fish & Wildlife. "More ground was typically disturbed each year than what was planted and harvested. Many of those disturbed areas would remain idle for two or three years and provided ideal nesting and winter cover. It is this type of habitat that we are lacking, but it requires landowners to create and maintain it."

The DNR Fish & Wildlife's Private Lands Unit works with landowners to restore such habitat. A district wildlife biologist will meet with the landowner, inspect the property and prepare a management plan. The biologist also will discuss financial assistance programs through DNR Fish & Wildlife to help offset the cost of habitat restoration or maintenance.

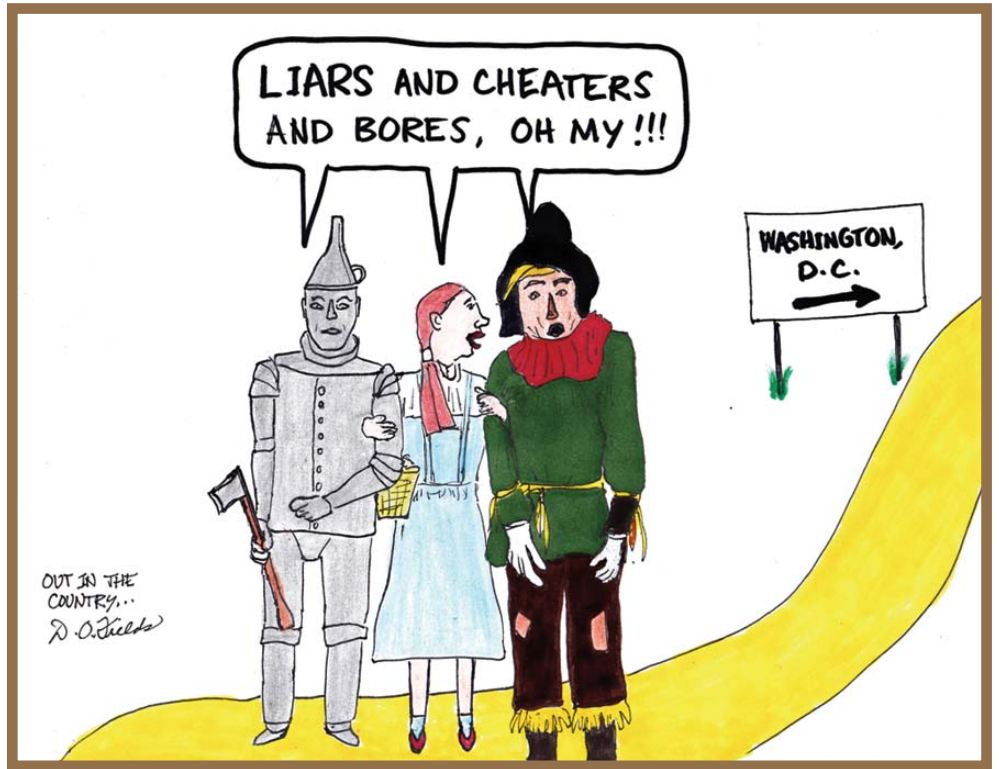
Qualified landowners are reimbursed in the amount agreed to by the DNR Fish & Wildlife. Enhanced cost-share assistance is available to landowners in any of the Division's quail or pheasant priority areas.

"Each district wildlife biologist has a quail or pheasant priority area," said Josh Griffin, south region private lands supervisor for DNR Fish & Wildlife. "The more pheasant and quail habitat we can create or restore in these areas, the greater the potential for these birds to disburse into other areas of good habitat and maintain sustainable populations."

To determine if your land is in a quail or pheasant priority area, see dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/2352.htm. For more information on quail or pheasant priority areas, or for information on developing wildlife habitat on your property, contact your local district wildlife biologist. A directory for district wildlife biologists is at dnr.IN.gov/fishwild/2716.htm.



Allison McFarland took her first buck on 12-15-13 in Franklin County. Allison used a Muzzleloader, it had 7 points and weighed 160 pounds. (Photo submitted via e-mail from Sherry McFarland)



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\$614.25	\$312.00	\$208.00	\$156.00	\$78.00	\$58.50	\$52.00	\$39.00
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