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OCTOBER 2018

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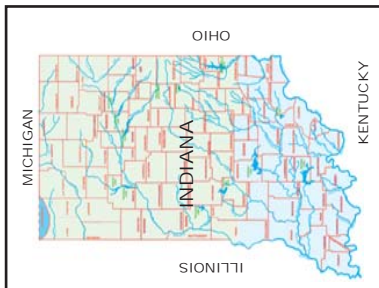


THE USFWS IS WORKING TO RE-ESTABLISH LAKE TROUT IN LAKE MICHIGAN - SEE PG 11


79TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BATTALION'S 69TH REUNION HELD AT EPHRATA, PA SEABEE HUMMEL AND SHOUP STANDING IN FRONT OF MEMORIAL TO DICK WINTERS COMMANDER OF EASY COMPANY 101<sup>ST</sup> AIRBORNE DIVISION WWII AT EPHRATA'S VETERAN PLAZA SEE PG 16-18



THE GAD-A-BOUTS VISIT INDIANA, PA GETTYSBURG, PA EPHRATA, PA AND MASSACHUSETTS - SEE PAGES 8, 9, 15-18



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ADVERTISER INDEX PG 2 / ARTICLE INDEX PG 3 READ ABOUT COVER PHOTOS ON PAGE 3

**ADVERTISER INDEX**

**YOU CAN PICK UP A FREE COPY OF THE GAD-A-BOUT AT THE ADVERTISERS LISTED BELOW or READ IT FOR FREE AT [www.thegadabout.com](http://www.thegadabout.com)**

- INDIANA**
- ANDERSON**  
9 Guns Pg 27
- AUSTIN**  
Burris Electric & Plumbing Pg 11
- BATESVILLE**  
French's Locker LLC Pg 20
- BROOKVILLE**  
52 Pik-up Convenience Store Pg 5  
Brookville Lake Guide Service Pg 5  
Dairy Cottage Pg 15  
Noble Boys Furniture Pg 28  
Pioneer Restaurant Pg 28
- BROOKVILLE LAKE AREA**  
Barton Bay Pg 13  
Dave's Triangle Pg 26  
Frames Outdoor Pg 17  
Jay's Midlake Pg 18  
Parkside Marine & More Pg 3  
Quakertown Marina Pg 17  
Steve's Marine Pg 11
- BUTLERVILLE**  
Butlerville Grocery Pg 18
- CAMPBELLSBURG**  
Campbellsburg Hardware Pg 30  
Worley Farm Salvage Pg 10
- CAMBRIDGE CITY**  
A - T & I Service Pg 24  
Building 125 Pg 4  
Log Cabin Antiques Pg 4  
National Road Antique Mall Pg 4  
Roses and Rainbows Flowers Pg 4  
The Silver Fox Pg 4  
Antiques at the Vinton House Pg 4
- CENTERVILLE**  
Animal Hospital of Centerville Pg 25  
Mills Funeral Home Pg 9  
Vintage Karting Specialty Pg 6
- CHESTERFIELD**  
Badger Sporting Goods Pg 5
- COLUMBUS**  
Bush's Market Pg 5
- CONNERSVILLE**  
Fayette County Tourism Pg 4  
Matt's Custom Guns Pg 9  
Robinsons Campgrd & RV Park Pg 19  
Wells Variety Store Pg 7
- DEPUTY**
- DUBLIN**  
Marion's Greenhouse Pg 10
- GREENFIELD**  
Rihm's Meat Processing Pg 21
- GREENSBURG**  
Highsmith Guns Pg 21  
J & M Sporting Goods Pg 29  
Jensen's Pawn & Guns Pg 24
- GREENSBURG**  
Country Mart/Prem1ier Ag Pg 10  
Cutting Edge Sporting Goods Pg 16  
Guns & Tackle, Inc. Pg 28  
Tree City Metal Sales Pg 21  
Wagner's Barber Shop Pg 29
- HANOVER**
- HARDY LAKE**  
Pate Meat Processing Pg 29
- INDIANAPOLIS**  
Pioneer Village Pg 22
- INDIANA STATE POLICE**  
Indiana State Police Pg 6  
[www.IndianaOutfitters.com](http://www.IndianaOutfitters.com) Pg 31  
Treasures of the Earth Gem Show Pg 12
- KLEMME'S CORNER**  
Annual Fall Festival Oct 4 Pg 14
- KNIGHTSTOWN**  
Knightstown Meats & Catering Pg 2  
McDonald's Bait & Tackle Pg 27  
RW Gunsmith Shop Pg 7
- KOKOMO**  
Joe's Beef Jerky Pg 24  
Martino's Italian Villa Pg 24
- LAKE MICHIGAN AREA**  
Brother Nature Charters Pg 11
- LEXINGTON**  
Ernie's Traps & More Pg 25
- LIBERTY**  
Bertch Hardware Pg 18
- Campbell Auction Team Pg 4  
Carl Sharp State Farm Pg 29  
Liberty Restaurant Pg 14  
Protect Our Liberty Firearms Pg 20  
Woodruff's Supermarket Pg 14
- LOGANSPORT**  
Dale Hardy Supplies Pg 23
- LYNN**  
Touch of Heaven Pg 19
- MADISON**  
Burris Elect & Plumbing Pg 11  
Madison Honda Pg 1  
Madison Outdoors Pg 26
- MARION**  
Riverside Sporting Gds Pg 10
- MCCORDSVILLE**  
Cap'n Hooks Bait & Tackle Pg 27
- METAMORA**
- MILROY**  
Milroy Shoes Pg 21  
Troyers Country Store & Bakery Pg 19  
Waglers Furniture Pg 7
- MOORELAND**  
John Schwartz Crafts Pg 7
- MUNCIE**  
Light House Bait & Tackle Pg 26
- NEW TRENTON**  
Connected Afield APP Pg 22
- NOBLESVILLE**  
Log Home Center Pg 18
- NORTH VERNON**  
Ebbing Auto Parts Pg 27  
John's Gun & Tackle Pg 7
- PORTLAND**  
1 Shot Sports Pg 26
- PRAIRIE CREEK RESERVOIR**  
Dry Dock Marina Pg 16
- RICHMOND**  
Army Navy Store Pg 28  
Best Pawn Pg 8  
Best Stop Auto Care Pg 15
- Cabinet Factories Outlet Pg 8  
Davis Transmissions Pg 20  
Deer Ridge Camping Resort Pg 14  
JoAnn's Cafe Pg 12  
Knuckle Busters Auto Repair Pg 21  
Mendenhall Hardware Pg 4  
Merkamp Sales & Service Pg 3  
Mighty Muffler Pg 19  
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair Pg 23  
Richmond's Complete Home Imprmt Pg 20  
Riggle-Waltermann Mortuary Pg 19  
Rogan Equipment Inc Pg 13  
Tri County Awards Pg 28  
Westside Storage Pg 21  
Wildfire Motors Pg 14
- RIDGEVILLE**  
Heritage Goodhew Metal Roofg Pg 20
- RUSHVILLE**  
Fields' Outdoor Adventures Pg 32
- SALEM**  
Red Barn Bait Shop Pg 22
- SALAMONIES LAKE AREA**  
Bozarth Country Store Pg 12  
S & S Bait & Tackle Pg 22
- SCOTTSBURG**  
C & T Cycles Pg 16  
Rick & Jeff's Floor Coverings Pg 20  
Scotts Ace Hardware Pg 23
- SELMA**  
Light House Bait & Tackle Pg 26
- SEYMOUR**  
Burris Elect & Plumbing Pg 11
- SHELBYVILLE**  
Blue River Arms, LLC Pg 26  
Pelvic Hanger Creations Pg 25  
The Gun Den Pg 29
- SUMMIT LAKE AREA**  
Gittin Jiggy With It B&T Pg 10  
Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Pg 13
- VALLONIA**  
Tollivers Hunting Fishing Supls Pg 27
- WEBSTER**  
C & C Webster General Store Pg 18



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# THE GAD-A-BOUT™



## IN THIS ISSUE

OCTOBER 2015 • Volume XXV • NO. 306

Created in 1990 & Published Monthly  
by Kentucky Colonel Ray Dickerson  
or the name given to him by Golden Eagle in 1995  
**LOKA'DWE ICHUTAKU YUSHEDON'**  
Translated "Man who gets things done!"  
at 105 East South Street, Centerville, IN 47330  
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### SPECIAL FEATURES

Visiting Don Slessler on Swift River (Remembering over 40 years of Friendship) by Ray Dickerson . . . . . Page 8 & 9  
The Gad-a-bouts Visit Indiana PA, Gettysburg PA, Ephrata PA and Worcester MA by Ray & Sherry Dickerson . . . . . Page 15-18  
The Life & Times of Miami Chief Little Turtle, William Wells & Frances Slocum, Narration Part 7 by Ray Dickerson. . . . . Page 28 & 29

### REGULAR FEATURED WRITERS

<b>ROAMING THE OUTDOORS</b> by Ray Dickerson ( <i>Frontier Days Narration, Waglers, Gem Show, Machinery Show, NRC Decision, Women Hunting, SR 1</i> ). Page 4,25,27	<b>Editorial Comment &amp; Opinion</b> <a href="#">So You Wanna' Catch More Fish</a>
<b>BROOKVILLE LAKE</b> by Tag Nobbe ( <i>October Fishing Brookville Lake</i> ) . . . . . Page 5	<b>News from the Indiana State Police</b>
<b>INDIANA STATE POLICE</b> by Sgt. John D. Bowling ( <i>2015 State Fair a Success, ISP Chaplains Program, It's Fall-Time to Watch for deer</i> ) . . . . . Page 6	<b>Indiana Department of Natural Resources News</b>
<b>INDIANA DNR</b> by Lt. Bill Browne ( <i>The Harvest Season Approaches</i> ) . . . . . Page 7	<b>Misfires &amp; Snags</b>
<b>OUTDOOR HUMOR:</b> by Dan Graves ( <i>YOU CALL THAT FOOD?</i> ) . . . . . Page 10	<b>Fishing Lake Michigan</b>
<b>LAKE MICHIGAN</b> by Capt. Mike Schoonveld ( <i>When Size Doesn't Matter</i> ) . . . . . Page 11	<b>Great Lakes of the Wabash River - Fishing News</b>
<b>SALAMONIE RESERVOIR</b> by Ryan Pershing ( <i>Bozarth August Crappie Tournament</i> ) . . . . . Page 12-13	<b>Visit Fayette County, IN For The Fun Of It!</b>
<b>TOURISM</b> by Donna Schroeder ( <i>Are You Up For A Paranormal Tour?</i> ) . . . . . Page 14	<b>Happenings in Metamora, Indiana</b>
<b>METAMORA INDIANA</b> by Janice Hunsche ( <i>October 2015 Activities</i> ) . . . . . Page 19	<b>Outdoors with Rich Creason</b>
<b>OUTDOORS &amp; TRAVEL</b> by Rich Creason ( <i>Big Birds, Berries and Buried Treasure</i> ) . . . . . Page 20-21	<b>Indiana Slab Masters</b>
<b>CRAPPIE FISHING</b> by Ron Bilbrey ( <i>Tournament Boat Maintenance</i> ) . . . . . Page 22	<b>Notes from Prairie Wolf Gun Repair</b>
<b>GUN REPAIR</b> by Marshall Smith ( <i>Holster or No Holster</i> ) . . . . . Page 23	<b>Indiana Outdoors</b>
<b>OUTDOORS</b> by Joe Martino ( <i>Three things you think are over-priced, but aren't</i> ) . . . . . Page 24	<b>Indiana State Trappers Association</b>
<b>TRAPPING</b> by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM ( <i>Trapping Season Is Around The Corner</i> ) . . . . . Page 25	

### GAD-A-BOUT DEPARTMENTS

Advertiser Index . . . . . Page 2  
Gad's Corner . . . . . Page 30  
Rate Sheet & Contract Form . . . . . Page 30

### ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

**Correction to last month Top Left Photo: I got an e-mail from Tom Stella the guy standing behind Dustin Murrell actually caught the 41 Inch Muskellunge (Muskie) near Quakertown Marina located just south of the Dunlapsville Causeway on the Brookville Lake. Dustin Murrell helped Tom get his Muskie into the boat. (Quakertown Marina Photo, Brookville Lake)**  
**Left Side:** The Ephrata's Veterans' Plaza is dedicated to all American Servicemen and women, from all wars. At the Plaza this is a Memorial to Dick Winters the plaque reads in his words, "Wars do not make men great, but they do bring out the greatness in good men" Dick Winters. Information about Dick Winters (1918-2011): Commander of Easy Company, 506 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. In Dick Winters words, "I was extremely blessed to have been commander of Easy Company. No single individual "deserved" the privilege of leading such a remarkable group of warriors into battle. And to this day, I am humbled by that experience." Dick Winters. (Side note: \*Dick Winters the Commander of Easy Company was the

subject of the HBO movie Band of Brothers on TV a few years ago.) See Pages 16 to 18 (Photo by Ray Dickerson)  
**Top Right:** The size at which a hatchery fish is released into the lake or stream it will call home for the remainder of it's life has a direct correlation to the chance it will actually survive to become an adult fish. At least for most species of fish. See Page 11 for more details. (Photo by Captain Mike Schoonveld)  
**Bottom Right:** Some time ago I began getting the Jimmy Stewart Museum newsletter. When I began planning our trip to Ephrata, PA and Massachusetts I found that we had a couple of days extra the way our vacation fell. So I asked Sherry if it would be okay if we went to Indiana, PA and visit the Jimmy Stewart Museum there. She agreed (That's her standing by the pole) so that is what we did. We truly enjoyed the visit. We grew up watching Jimmy Stewart's films. His museum is fascinating, I bought a book about his WWII experiences entitled Jimmy Stewart Bomber Pilot. See Page 15. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

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# Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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### FRONTIER DAYS NARRATION RESUMES IN THIS ISSUE SEE PG 28

I began printing the narration I wrote for the 1991 Frontier Days Re-enactment "The Life & Times of Miami Chief Little Turtle, William Wells and Frances Slocum." I intended for it to run simultaneously each month ending on Labor Day 2015. We always held the event on Labor Day, with a couple of exceptions. But unfortunately I had to leave it out of a couple of issues or shortened and didn't reach my goal. So I have resumed it in this issue with the expectation of finishing it by the end of this year. I've learned a lot more about the locations I wrote about in the years since 1991, it's been an interesting time in my life.

### WAGLERS FURNITURE HAS MOVED FROM SR244 TO 8500 S. SR 3, MILROY

Junior and Malinda Wagler own and operate Waglers Furniture located south of Milroy Indiana on SR 3. Their daughter Lydia Mae also works at the store. Waglers Furniture is at the new location at 8500 S. SR 3 just south of the town of Milroy. You can see their ad on page 7 of this issue. See photo below I took for their



Waglers Furniture has moved to a new location, 8500 S. St. Rd. 3, Milroy.

new ad in The Gad-a-bout. They are now in both buildings. Plan on spending some time there to be able to look at all the furniture and other quality products they have on hand.

### TREASURES OF THE EARTH GEM & JEWELRY SHOWS OCTOBER 2-4, 2015 INDIANA STATE FAIRGROUNDS

A reminder of Van & Rose Wimmer's Treasures of the Earth Gem & Jewelry Show coming to the Indianapolis Fairgrounds October 2-4, 2015.

The 17th Annual Indianapolis Fall Bead, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry Show on October 2-4, 2015 the hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

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

The admission is \$5 per ticket. Ticket is good for all 3 days. There is no admission charge for children under sixteen (16).

You can find out more information by visiting their website: <http://www.toteshows.com> or by calling (540) 384-6047.

I've attended Van and Rose's show for several years now and I am amazed at the quality of workmanship shown at the many different booths. It's one thing to see a rock and gem show, but it's a much more interesting show when you can watch the craft person demonstrate their talent before your very eyes.

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

Website: <http://www.toteshows.com/> E-Mail: [van@toteshows.com](mailto:van@toteshows.com)

### FRANKLIN COUNTY ANTIQUE MACHINERY SHOW SEPT. 24-27, 2015

This year the show is featuring the Case Tractors, Equipment and Michigan built engines. J.I. Case Collectors Association Inc. will be at the show.

Every year this show gets bigger and better. This years show is Sept. 24-27, 2015 at the Franklin County Fair Grounds located at 11225 County Park Road just south of the town of Brookville, IN. The

Sept. 24 & 25 nights are the Antique tractor pulls. The night of Sept 26 is horse pull. There is so much for people of all ages. Petting zoo for children is a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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Fayette County Tourism Bureau

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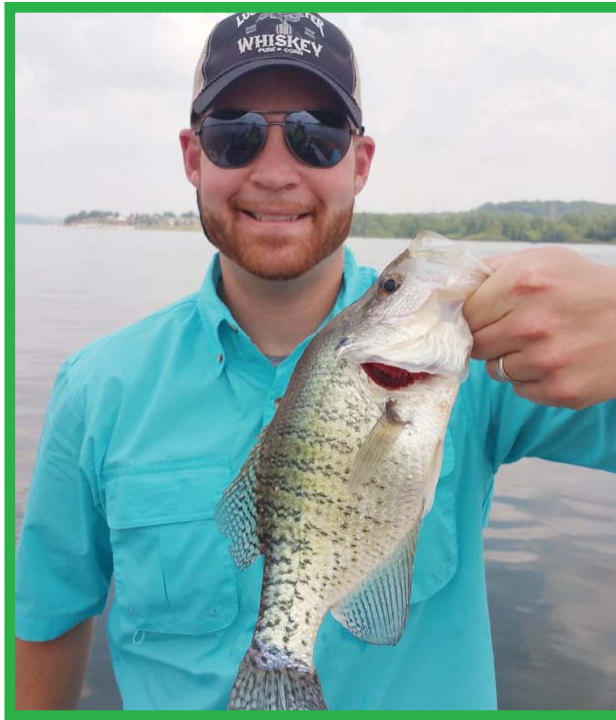
# So You Wanna Catch More Fish



**by Tag Nobbe**  
Professional Fishing Guide

## October Fishing Brookville Lake

This is the time of the year is where things start to change. Water temperature starts to drop, days get shorter, winds starts to blow, and fish start to move from their summer patterns. So if you want to continue to catch fish you have to move with the fish. Most of the summer the water temperature has been in the mid 80's with a thermo cline around 25 feet. A lot of the fish we caught this summer were from 10 feet down to 18 feet. But now with the surface temperature cooling off this will change the places, depths, times of day, and the way fish feed. All summer long fish have been feeding on crawl dads, bugs, worms, shad and just about anything else they can get in their



Left Photo: A Crappie caught by Dell George from Louisville, Kentucky while fishing with me. Right Photo: Nice walleye caught by Tag on a Gold Hopkins spoon. (Author Photos)

mouth, including each other.

All the shad that were spawned this year are now feeding on photo plankton from one end of the lake to the other. This also means that all the predator fish are from one end of the lake to the other also. This in turn will make it difficult to locate fish just by finding the bait. When trying to locate fish you'll have to think oxygen, water temperature or just places that the particular fish your targeting like to live.

For example large mouth bass like to hold next to some kind of structure and like to be shallow if they can so with the water temperature cooling off you should target shallow structure now instead of deep structure. But you still have to determine if they're on the main lake, back in the coves, the upper or the lower end of the lake. That's just one particular fish though if your targeting walleye, stripe bass, white bass or any other main lake feeding fish it can be a whole different ball game. If your timing is right you can catch a lot of fish. But if you get their even if your on the right spot after their major feeding time. It will be difficult to coax them to bite. With so many eating size shad in the lake it doesn't take them long to get full.

What you need to do is have about four or five spots that you catch fish on. Move from spot to spot at different times of the day fish from the top to the bottom, if you don't catch any fish move on from

spot to spot trying different fishing methods till you catch a fish. When you do then that's your pattern, stick with it as long as it works. There again though with the water temperature changing these fish will be on the move from the main lake to the coves in around standing timber or all the way to the upper end of the lake or they might stay right where they are. Remember there are 3 things that play a big part in where you find fish oxygen, water temperature, and food. If you have all that, then the fish can be there. Keep an open mind keep trying different techniques in different spots just because something worked yesterday doesn't mean it's going to work today.

• Things to use for bass : Tube baits, Spinner baits, Buzz baits or shallow diving crank baits.

• Things to use for walleye : 1/16 oz jigs such as whistler jigs and weed weasels tipped with live bait, spoons or blade baits.

If your a crappie fisherman a 1/16 oz plain lead head jig and tube tipped with a crappie minnow or wax worm is awful hard to beat. Look for them in all the deepest coves around under water brush or standing timber.

A jiggging spoon is another option. This a great bait for catching every thing in the fall. The best way to fish a spoon in shallow water is under hand pitch it at about a 45 degree angle then frog hop it back to the boat. For fishing a spoon in deep water, say about 45 feet deep the best way is straight up and down. Simply let the spoon free fall all the way to the bottom. From there hop it up and let it flutter down. We have caught everything that is swimming in that lake on a jiggging spoon in the fall.

Good Luck Tag  
**CONTINUED ON PAGE 13**

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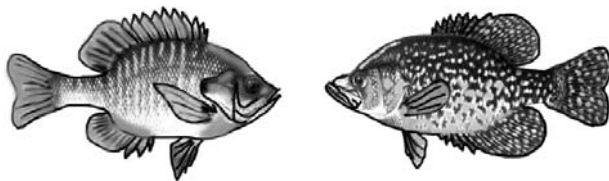
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(Photos by Sergeant John D. Bowling ~ See paragraph 3 and 4 of his 2015 State Fair A Success where John tells about the above two photos.)

### News from the Indiana State Police



by **Sergeant John D. Bowling**  
Public Information/Recruiting Officer  
**2015 State Fair A Success**

Well another state fair has come and gone, and the early attendance numbers put this year's fair at 5th all time with the attendance being just over 900,000 for the 16 day event. People come to our fair from all over the U.S., and the world. I personally spoke to folks from Texas, Iowa, Illinois, Ohio and Michigan, as well as families from England and China.

If you think our 16 day fair is long, the guy from Texas said the Texas State Fair runs the whole month of August. When I told him that was too long, he had the typical response of "Hey man, you know what they say, everything is bigger in Texas."

I had a great time meeting folks this year, and got to take a lot of photographs. I've included my favorite two photographs, with the first being myself, a little girl named Grace, Trooper Tommy Walker, Grace's big brother Jonathan and Capitol Police Officer Nick Cox. According to Jonathan's mom, he had "escaped" from the hospital, just for the day, to spend some time at the state fair. I'm very thankful we got to meet Jonathan, and I hope that little man had an awesome day.

The second picture is of me and my buddy Abe Lincoln just "goofing around" at the fair. Next summer, make plans to visit your Indiana State Fair, as you never know who you might run into there!

### ISP Chaplains Program

One of the most vital operating parts of the Indiana State Police is our Volunteer Chaplain Program. Chaplains are civilian members of the Indiana State Police, and as such aren't responsible for enforcing laws. They often come out and ride with officers, interacting with ISP personnel and the public.

Chaplains provide troopers assistance with a variety of critical incidents and disasters, hopefully mitigating the negative effects the stress of our job can cause. They have been invaluable to me over the years in assisting in making death notifications to folks who have lost loved ones in a crash or violent

act. They provide comfort and support to ISP families after a line of duty injury and death.

The program was started back in 1975. Prior to the chaplains program, clergy from various communities would help out and occasionally ride along when they could. In 1975 we decided to start our own Volunteer Chaplain Program keeping a staff of clergy on call for each district.

It's not easy to become an Indiana State Police Volunteer Chaplain, as the process starts with an application and background investigation. In addition chaplains are trained in 12 basic courses including ISP history, suicide prevention, psychological first aid and disaster response, just to name a few. They also attend an annual conference and have periodic training during the year.

Currently, there are less than 50 chaplains across the state participating in the program. Participants are issued an official State Police Identification, along with clothing that identifies them as an ISP Chaplain. It is a volunteer service and they do not actively solicit financial support from the public.

We are always in search of good men and women to serve, so, if you or someone you know would be interested in joining the program, you may contact Father Daniel Coffey, the director of the program at [DCoffey@isp.IN.gov](mailto:DCoffey@isp.IN.gov)

### It's Fall-Time to Watch for Deer

October begins my favorite time of the year with crops being harvested and the beginning of deer season. But the annual crop harvest coupled with the beginning of hunting season and the "rut," (deer mating season) makes deer movement more prominent

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

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**Indiana Department of Natural Resource News**



by Lt. Bill Browne

**The Harvest Season Approaches**

I can smell the Fall season in the air and I know you can too. My hunting buddy called me a few days ago to let me know that he has been watching deer hunting videos every evening and getting excited about opening day on October 1st. It seems like everyone I meet is getting excited about hunting season. I love the enthusiasm for this time of year and for our rich Hoosier hunting heritage.

For many of us we get excited about the hunting seasons approaching because it is our "harvest" season. My thoughts take me back to when I was a young boy. I remember how I felt when my dad would tell me the night before that he and I were going to go hunting together the next morning. I would think about it all night and get very little sleep. Those days will always be special to me and later guided me into my career as a Conservation Officer. These special times with kids engage them in a way that is slipping from our society and I believe that it is our outdoors men and women that are going to turn these tides into a positive direction.

Let's take a look at our Indiana Hunter Education Association (IHEA). This group of men and women are primarily made up of volunteers that span across this state. Each year they work tirelessly to teach young hunters how to enjoy the hunting sports and be ethical and safe while doing so. Our Outdoor Education group has brought National Archery in the Schools (NASP) to well over 300 Indiana schools and they continue to grow this fantastic program. Thousands of hours are spent on firing ranges, youth hunts, archery ranges and classrooms by these volunteers to bring the excitement that I felt during those sleepless nights to young Indiana boys and girls. Find out how you can get involved by

visiting [www.inhea.org](http://www.inhea.org).

Last year Indiana deer hunters donated thousands of pounds of venison to the Sportsmen's Benevolence Fund and ultimately served 200,000 high protein meals to feed hungry Indiana families. This is a great program for the DNR Law Enforcement Division and the Indiana Deer Hunters to work together and solve one of our society's largest problems. There is no more capable group of people in our state and we applaud all of you who have given to this program. Find out how you can get involved at [www.sbf.IN.gov](http://www.sbf.IN.gov).

A few last things before you head out to the woods this fall. Tell people where you are going and about what time you plan to return. Always carry a survival kit with you. Always use a safety harness when hunting from an elevated platform. Never point a firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot. Get permission before hunting on someone else's land. Represent us all in a way that makes every hunter proud. Treat the non-hunters, the other hunters, the landowners and the resource with great respect. And finally, have the time of your life and enjoy every second of this hunting season. I hope to see you in the woods. ■

**News From The Indiana State Police**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

and the number of car/deer crashes increase. So it's a good time to remind motorists to use extra caution when driving in rural areas of Indiana. Deer are generally more active in the early morning (pre-dawn) hours or the hours just after dusk but could be on the move at anytime.

Motorists should take the following precautions when driving in rural areas to avoid having a crash involving a deer:

When possible use high beam headlights at night and be aware that deer could be standing on or near the side of the roadway.

Drivers should watch approaching vehicles and observe what may break their headlights beams; it could be a passing deer. This technique allows extra time to slow your speed and be alert for the deer.

Watch for reflections from the deer's eyes.

Where there is one deer there are often several. Do not assume you missed the deer because more could follow. **BE ALERT!**

If your vehicle strikes a deer do not touch it. A frightened or wounded deer can cause you serious bodily injury. Remain in your car, make sure you and your passengers are safe, and call the police to obtain a crash report for your insurance company. You should report this as you would any other crash.

Finally, as always, **BUCKLE UP!**

For more information concerning deer habits, population, and trends in your area contact your local conservation officer or the Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife at **317-232-4080**.

This ends another month's installment. Thanks for reading and for letting all of us serve all of you. Please take the above driving tips seriously, so we can talk again next month. ■

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From left to right: Lori Leclerc (Slessler), Don Slessler, Ray Dickerson, Marla Hess (Slessler) and Sherry Dickerson who was moved into this photo from another photo. (Photo by Sherry & Ray Dickerson)



Top Photo: Donald R. Slessler and his wife of 67 years, Phyllis L. Slessler who passed away on June 30, 2015. Adjacent at right is a photo of a memorial and obituary I photographed that Don showed me on August 27, 2015 when we visited him at his home.

Bottom Photo: This is a photo of the Slessler family as I first knew them in 1961 England, at RAF Chelveston where we both were in the U.S. Air Force. Don and Phyllis Slessler with their children left to right Alan, Donna, Lori, Marla and Mark Slessler. (I photographed this photo at Don's home on 8-27-2015)

### Phyllis L. Slessler

1927 - 2015

#### BELCHERTOWN

Phyllis L. Slessler, 88, of East Street died on June 30, 2015 in Baystate Mary Lane. She was born January 13, 1927 in Bermuda, daughter of Harry and Patience L. Fuller. She has lived in Belchertown for 40 years, previously she resided in Ludlow. Phyllis worked as a secretary for British Army.

In her leisure, she enjoyed woodworking and crafts, and working along side her husband building houses. She will be deeply missed by her husband of 67 years, Donald R. Slessler of Belchertown. She also leaves her five children, Alan Slessler of Southwick, Donna Lafluer of Brookfield, Lori Leclerc of Belchertown, Marla Hess of West Brookfield and Mark Slessler of Southwick.

She will also be missed by a sister, Dorothy Smith of West Brookfield, 12 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren. Phyllis was preceded in death by her sister Mary Kempt and grandson James Hess in 2012.

A Calling hour was held Friday, July 3rd from 2:00-3:00 p.m., followed by a Funeral Service at 3:00 p.m. at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, contributions were made to



IN LOVING MEMORY

### Phyllis L. Slessler

January 13, 1927 - June 30, 2015



the Perkins School for the Blind, 175 North Beacon Street, Watertown, MA 02472.

(Editor's Note: Phyllis is also missed very much by Ray, Sherry and Amy Dickerson. Read adjacent article which begins in 1961 in England.)

## Visiting Don Slessler on Swift River by Ray Dickerson

I first met Don Slessler in the U.S. Air Force at RAF Chelveston in the Midlands of England. I worked in Base Supply and Don was the Unit Supply Officer for the base. As far as I can remember our paths didn't cross until 1961 when I joined the RAF Chelveston Pistol Team. Don was a Chief Warrant Officer W-3 and one of his duties was Base Range Officer in charge of all Firearm Competition matches.

Don was a member of the RAF Alconbury Pistol Team, but was responsible for wanting to get a pistol

team started for Chelveston. At a couple of our pistol matches Don made up the 5th shooter for when we were short one. With a pistol or rifle Don shot in the Expert Class, we new members of the Chelveston Pistol Team were just happy to keep the .22 and .45 holes on the target. We practiced at every opportunity, Don saw to that. The pistol range was on the other side of the target mound of the rifle range enclosed in cement. We used spent .30 caliber cartridge shells for ear plugs.

Don was unlike most officers, maybe it had something to do with his gaining rank from Private to

Warrant Officer, but we really felt at ease in his presence. It was through this time that a friendship began that has lasted to this very day. Not only with Don but his family also. Don lived at Hargrave Hall just a short distance from RAF Chelveston. I had a 1956 Ford Popular and visited Don and Phyllis from time to time at their home.

I don't recall all the members of the RAF Chelveston Pistol Team, but Anthony Trezza from A&E and I became good buddies. The last time I saw him was in Seymour, IN in the 70's when I was publishing The Outdoor Gad-a-bout. We lost touch



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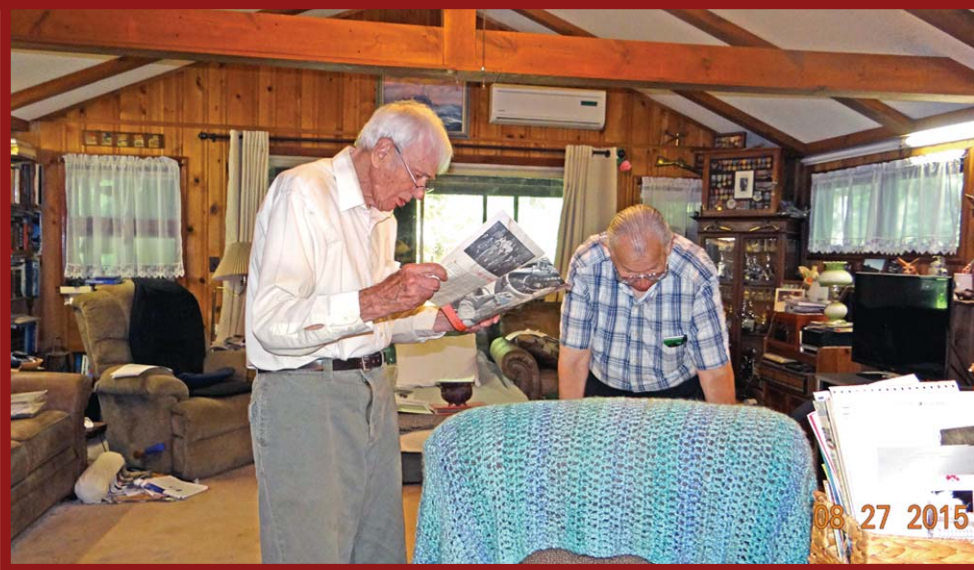

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Top Left Photo: Don Slessler comes out to greet us from the house he and Phyllis built there on the bank of Swift River many years ago. Top Right Photo: Don and Sherry in the living room standing in front of one of Don's most prized possessions, the display cabinet with all his military medals and several firearm competition trophies. Middle Left Photo: Display case of seven Military Medals of Dons. Middle Right Photo: The larger of the two Military Medal cases sitting on top of Display Cabinet. Bottom Left Photo: Here I am looking at documents and photos Don have given me to look at. We talked a lot about RAF Chelveston and Alconbury pistol competition and memories from that time. Bottom Right Photo: In the glass enclosed display case was just a few of the pistol and rifle competition match trophies Don won while in the service. From a paragraph in the book he wrote, "Lord Stand By Me", "This book is dedicated to the men I've known and served with in all of the Armed Forces of the United States for over 31 years and four wars." I am very grateful for having been a friend of Don Slessler and his family for over 40 years. (Photos by Ray and Sherry Dickerson)

shortly thereafter.

Christmas 1961, Don and Phyllis invited Trezza and I to spend Christmas with them. Two GI's away from home having Christmas in Hargrave Hall with Don, Phyllis and their five children, what a wonderful time we had. We were there for Christmas eve and watched in awe as Alan, Donna, Lori, Marla and Mark were surprised to see all the gifts Santa had left for them. Santa hadn't forgotten Trezza and I either. I received a Tie Clasp in the shape of a pistol with a pearl handle. I still have it. Oh, the memories!

In August, 1961 I attended my first official Pistol Match at RAF Lakenheath with orders. The Chelveston Team consisted of Lt. Jacobsen, MSgt Hurd, SSgt Massey, A/2c Duignan, A/2c Trezza and

A/2c Dickerson. Don Slessler went with the RAF Alconbury Team.

In October 1961 the RAF Chelveston and RAF Alconbury pistol teams flew to Bitburg Air Base, Germany to participate in the European Fall Open Pistol Match with orders. We newbies's (RAF Chelveston) team found ourselves in a predicament. In England all the pistol ranges were 25 yards. At Bitburg the range was 50 yards. Uh-Oh!

At the 10th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing Small Arms 1962 Matches I was the Assistant Statistical Officer with the responsibility of helping score the targets. On the shooting range there is no rank, every shooter is just that, a competing shooter. The reason being is when I as an Airman Second Class scoring

targets for non-commissioned officers and officers from Sergeants to Generals, when I am scoring a target, if I score a shot as a 9, a General can't tell me it is a 10, just because he is a General. On the range he and I are equal competing shooters. As soon as we step off the range it's "Yes Sir General, Sir!"

After that match I became a member of the RAF Alconbury Pistol Team and went with them to RAF Sculthorpe for an Invitational Pistol Shoot in November 1962, members included Capt. R. Johnson, Capt. G. Sanchez, Capt. C. Wylie, 1st Lt. H. Otto, CWO-W3 D. Slessler, MSgt L. Tuliano, TSgt D. Hasseler, SSgt B. Howard, SSgt H. Legg and A/2c R. Dickerson. I traveled with Don to Sculthorpe in

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 26**

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## Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

### YOU CALL THAT FOOD?

(Note)

The following article is an example of a writer scraping for subject material when the fish aren't biting and squirrels can hear you coming for half a mile.

It's obviously not a seasonal subject, but at least it beats a report on the latest news from the stock market. I apologize to all the gourmet cooks who specialize in creating edible dishes out of things I normally treat with Roundup.)

Every year as spring brings warm rains and pleasant temperatures, the growl of roto-tillers can be heard in neighborhoods as gardens are prepared for the year's crops. Those who are ambitious enough to turn their yards into something that grows edibles instead of grass have my admiration. Their willingness to spend an entire summer laboring to grow things that can be purchased for .25 cents a pound must stem from a lack of any other hobbies or activities. I've tried gardening in the past, but the results were dismal with tomatoes the size and toughness of tennis balls, green beans that resisted all efforts to cook them, and sweet corn that could be chewed like gum. In fact, I finally gave up and returned to eating Twinkies and Oreo cookies to get my required vitamins and minerals.

There are those who prefer natural vegetables, the ones found in fields and woods in the spring and summer. Although many of the more common edible wild things are known to most people, there are some that sound not only as tasty as an old tennis shoe, but downright risky. According to one of the Fox Fire books, one of these is stinging nettles. Anyone who has ever had the misfortune of rubbing bare skin against one of these nasty plants would consider them about as edible as a bowl of rose briars. Yet, there is a recipe for nettles that explains how to prepare them. I'll take the chefs word for how tasty they are and leave it up to him or her to enjoy all those little needles in the tongue.

In fact, I have doubts about eating anything that doesn't come in a plastic bag or can from the produce department of the local grocery. Even though you know you're ingesting a certain quantity of pesticides and herbicides, the risk seems somewhat smaller than dining on something that even deer won't eat. In spite of such misgivings, I'd like to share a few recipes for wild foods that will hopefully dispel any doubts about what you find growing behind the barn that grandma used to eat. Just keep in mind that if you ain't tried it, you ain't got the right to criticize.

The most common wild growing edible is of

course, the mushroom. Common that is if you can find any of the little beggars. When looking for mushrooms there are two things to keep in mind. First, stick to the varieties known to be friendly and you won't end up in an emergency room with the tube of a stomach pump down your throat. Second, forget about the person who told you about how many he found in the area yesterday. He's lying. Edible mushrooms don't get that big, and if there were as many as he said, they could be spotted from space. Next spring, just rely on a skillful eye and a whole lot of luck. For next spring's crop, use the following method.

Generally, mushrooms have an earthy, musty taste. However, there are ways to prepare them to avoid the taste normally associated with a shovel full of barn flooring. Soak them overnight in salt water to kill all the little vermin that call them home. Drain the salt water and cut them in half, stem and all. Rinse in cold water to remove the little bug carcasses and set aside. Make a batter by mixing flour, corn meal and salt with a gallon of good, dark beer. Roll the mushrooms in the batter and drop them in a skillet with hot vegetable oil. Fry until a golden brown. Place them on a paper towel to drain and cool. Pour the remaining oil in the skillet into the rest of the batter and then pour this mixture over a bowl of beans. Roll the mushrooms in the paper towel, drop them into a trash container, strain the leftover batter through a coffee strainer to return it to a liquid. Enjoy the beans while drinking the batter. You'll notice there is no earthy or musty taste to either the beans or the batter and you will have fulfilled the urge to go mushroom hunting.

Even though I've never had the pleasure of trying any of the following, many people swear by dandelion, mustard and collard greens. These things as food stuff leaves me a little confused. I wouldn't know a collard if it bit me and mustard greens sound like something best enjoyed on a hamburger. And, if the only way to rid our yard of dandelions is to eat them, I'll put my money on Weed-Be-Gone. However, there are numerous ways to prepare these weeds, so try the following.

Pick a nice mess of whatever you fancy and wash thoroughly in salt water to-you guessed it-drown all the little varmints that also like to eat the stuff. Mix sugar and vinegar with hot bacon grease and drop the greens into it. Cook for however long it takes for a bushel basket of the stuff to shrink to whatever will fit into a quart jar. Drain off the fluid, put a lid on the jar and take it to your neighbor. Tell them that it's your special recipe for ice berg lettuce and charge them a buck per quart. Not only will you not have to eat the tiny insects in the mixture, you'll have a few bucks toward a bottle of weed killer that costs as much as five gallons of gasoline.

Many plants that grow wild in the woods are, according to the experts, edible. Cattail root (used to make a type of flour), young may apples, wild strawberries and doc (whatever that is) are just a few. Keep in mind that if the critters aren't chewing on it, you should probably pass it by. One exception that is fit for human consumption by bypassed by animals is wild onion. After chewing on one I understood why critters shun it. It puts anything to shame when it comes to bad breath. I could have melted the hair off a cat's back just

CONTINUED ON  
PAGE 13

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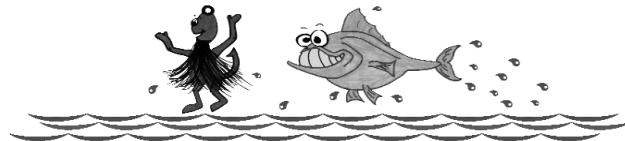
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## Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

### When Size Doesn't Matter

The size at which a hatchery fish is released into the lake or stream it will call home for the remainder of its life has a direct correlation to the chance it will actually survive to become an adult fish. At least for most species of fish.

Stock a 100 thousand northern pike fry into a lake and much less than 1 percent of the tiny, wild rice sized bits of protein will survive to become a catchable size. From 100 thousand, anglers will get only a dozen or so adults. Keep the tiny pikes in a hatchery until they have absorbed their yolk sac and can actually feed on the zooplankton in the lake and fisheries managers would expect the many more to live to catchable size from a stocking of only 10 to 15 thousand young fingerlings. It's a tough world outside the hatchery.

Raise those pike to the size they become predators on smaller fish—say 8-inches or so and with a bit of luck, more than half of the stocked fish will live to assume a significant place in the food chain.

Similar results have been proven with other species of fish—walleyes, bass, catfish, even steelhead. Larger, healthier, hatchery fish have a better chance of survival than the smaller sizes.

Since the US Fish and Wildlife Service received a mandate to re-establish lake trout in Lake Michigan and the other Great Lakes the major game plan has been stocking fingerling lake trout reared in Federal fish hatcheries. Dump in millions of baby trout, wait a 6 or 7 years for them to mature, then start searching for eggs or wild-spawned lakers as evidence the hatchery fish have produced offspring of their own.

Some of the trout survived. They grew. Eventually they became sexually mature but in Lake Michigan in particular, near zero evidence of natural reproduction has ever been found.

Many theories were tested. Specific strains of lake trout were used instead of any ol' lake trout. Some strains were thought to have originated in the Great Lakes. Other strains were known to frequent specific habitats available in Lake Michigan and the other lakes. Still no wild babies were produced.

Baby lakers from the federal hatcheries were origi-



The USFWS is working to re-establish lake trout populations in Lake Michigan. (Author Photo)

nally stocked near shore. That didn't work so the federal fish-guys switched to planting the trout offshore over specific reefs. Special containers filled with fertilized eggs were dropped on traditional spawning areas. Eventually, someone decided perhaps stocking the young trout at larger sizes might be an answer or at least a piece of the puzzle.

One of the problems with the lake trout recovery program is how long it takes to deduce solid results from a specific experiment. They won't become sexually mature for 6 years or more which means a theory being tested may take a decade or more to be proved or disproved.

Beginning in 1995, the size of yearling lake trout stocked into the upper Great Lakes was increased based on the assumption that these fish would be healthier and survive better.

Up until then, the standard size fingerlings being planted into the Great Lakes weighed about 1/20th of a pound—less than one ounce. The enhanced stocking size kept the fish in the hatchery a bit longer but allowed them to nearly double in weight. The "jumbos" were stocked at approximately 10 fish to the pound.

Additional stocking of fish this size were made for the next few years and then, as it is with lake trout experiments, the wait began. Would the fish stocked at larger sizes survive better, resulting in more living to spawning age with a better chance the lake trout would naturalize and repopulate the lake with wild spawned fish?

Surprisingly, the larger sized fish faired no better than fish stocked at the smaller sizes. The biologists in charge of the project were so sure the survival would be better, they actually reduced stocking numbers in the area being tested with the result that less than optimum numbers of adults ended up being present.

Now the plan has shifted to producing "healthier" if not larger sized lakers to stock. Since the lakes are so huge, massive numbers of fish are needed to meet optimum stocking levels and that resulted in crowded hatcheries and lower quality fingerlings. Perhaps stocking healthier, fatter, more robust fingerlings will be the key to success.

In the meantime, we wait.

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Left Photo: These are the some of the winning crappie that took home first place overall for the team of Jeff Yeakle and his grandson John Brumley. Their winning weight was 4.71 pounds (Author Photo) Right Photo: This is the father / son duo of Paul and Charlie Hildreth. They took home 2nd place overall and also won Big Fish. Their total weight as 4.62 pounds and the big fish weighed 1.14 pounds. (Author Photo)

## Great Lakes of the Wabash River - Fishing News



by Ryan Pershing  
Mgr of Bozarth Country Store  
**Bozarth's August Crappie Tournament**

After missing out on a big chunk of the summer activity season here at the Great Lakes of the Wabash due to the high water levels things finally have returned back to normal. We were fortunate to receive a reprieve from the rainfall which allowed for the three bodies of water (Salamonie, Mississinewa, and Roush Lakes) to be drawn back down to their normal summer pool levels. For this we are all very thankful as the high water resulted in many family vacation plans being altered and denied many boaters, fishermen, campers, and horseback riders the chance to enjoy their weekends doing what they love to do. Although we missed a good portion of the season, I would like to remind you there are still several more weeks ahead to plan a family fun outing. The autumn season, which happens to be my favorite time of

the year, provides a great time to get out and enjoy the beauties of nature and also do it at a time when the temperatures provide for a very comfortable setting. As an added bonus, the Army Corp of Engineers, announced they were pushing back the date to release the water for winter pool on Salamonie Reservoir from September 15th to October 1st!

With the Salamonie Reservoir back at its normal summer pool level, we were able to hold our third of four Bozarth crappie tournaments of the 2015 season on August 29th. Twelve teams showed up to battle in what turned out to be a very pleasant day to be on the lake fishing. Fishing reports leading up to this day were many crappie being caught but you had to really "fish" for the bigger crappie. That report came to fruition for the tournament as many of our anglers caught many fish but were struggling to find the bigger fish to put them over the hump. The team which came out victorious for the day was Jeff Yeakle along with his grandson Jonathan Brumley. Their top seven fish weighed in at 4.71 pounds. This is not their first time taking top honors in our tournament and was nice to see them back in action after missing a few of the previous tournaments.

Right on the heels of the top place finishers were the father son duo of Paul and Charlie Hildreth. Their second place total was 4.62 pounds and they also took home top Big Fish honors with a crappie that weighed 1.14 pounds. Rounding out the top three was the team of Brian Justice and Allen Reed with a weight of 4.11 pounds. The team of Kevin Wisheart and Mike Hopper took home second place big fish with a crappie that weighed 1.12 pounds,

just barely missing overall Big Fish. I would like to thank all the fishermen who participated in our tournament and also welcome anyone else who would like to fish in our last tournament. The last tournament of the 2015 season will be held on Saturday, September 26 and will allow fishing on both the Salamonie and Mississinewa Reservoirs. For more information contact us at (765) 981-4522.

The following is a list of upcoming events at the Great Lakes of the Wabash. On the weekend of September 18th-20th the Salamonie Reservoir will host the Salamonie Riders Rendezvous. The Salamonie Reservoir will also host their Fall



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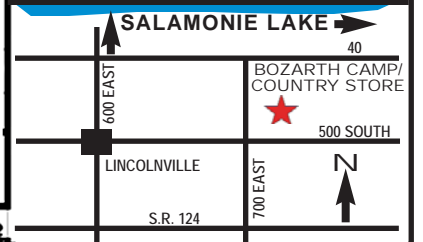
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April 1-3, 2016 = 18th Annual Indianapolis Spring Show



Left Photo: This is Allen Reed and Brian Justice displaying their crappie that helped claim them 3rd place overall with a weight of 4.11 pounds. (Author Photo) Right Photo: Kevin Wisheart and Mike Hopper shown with their crappie that gave them a 2nd place finish for Big Fish. This crappie weighed 1.12 pounds which was just barley beaten out by Team Hildreth. (Author Photo)



Festival on October 17. The Mississinewa Reservoir will host the Autumn Camping Weekend I on October 2nd and 3rd and will follow up with the Autumn Camping Weekend II October 9th and 10th. Also on the weekend of October 9th and 10th will be the Mississinewa Battle of 1812. For more information on these events you can contact the Upper Wabash Interpretive Services at (260) 468-2127. As always I would like to open an invitation to visit us here at Bozarth's Country Store when visiting the area. Take a minute to grab one of our delicious sandwiches and then shop our store which is full of a "little bit of everything...you won't be disappointed!"

### So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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### MISFIRES & SNAGS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

by breathing on it. If you are expecting your dentist to fill a tooth on the next visit, just pop a little in your mouth before you go. He'll pass out before he can do any real harm. Just remember that if your great grandmother used this stuff all the time, it was probably mixed with fried possum to make it palatable.

The above is to help prepare those adventure-some souls for the coming spring. I accept no responsibility for the improper interpretation or application of any the above suggestions. But, do try wild onions at least once on your dentist.



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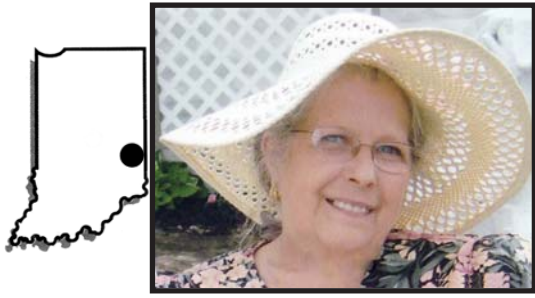
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by **Donna Schroeder**

President of Fayette County Tourism Bureau

## Are You Up For A Paranormal Tour?

Do you believe in spirits and haunts? Are you intrigued by things that go bump in the night? Would you like to take a tour of a Victorian mansion with a group of professional researchers?

Come prepared to be contacted by Helen, a resident of the house from days gone by. Don't be shocked when a conversation takes place between her and a male spirit.

The mansion itself is a work of art. Built by local businessman William Newkirk in 1883, it remains a wonderful example of the craftsmanship of the era. Hand carved mantles and a cherry staircase grace the home, along with twelve inch tall hardwood baseboards and crown moldings. Newkirk's attention to quality and detail can be seen throughout his home. The house originally consisted of twelve rooms. Far ahead of its time, there was a central heating system and indoor plumbing.

Mr. Newkirk was born in 1828 and came from Pennsylvania as a boy, along with his parents, Jacob and Julia, and siblings. They settled in northern Fayette County, later coming to live in the city of Connersville. Jacob had been a hatter, a hotel keeper, and a shoe manufacturer.

William first worked as a clerk in a general store, learning the mercantile business. He then started his own hardware store, and, eventually, founded the Indiana Furniture Company in the south end of the city. His factory specialized in high end buffets and sideboards crafted from the abundant supply of lumber in the area, particularly cherry, walnut, and ash. In 1885, the company had 100 employees and produced 120,000 pieces per year. The furniture was shipped all over the United States.

When his health failed, Mr. Newkirk sold his furniture factory to the Krell brothers, owners of the Krell piano company, who built standard and player pianos. The five story factory building still stands at the southern end of Eastern Avenue in Connersville.

William Newkirk was married three times. His first two wives are buried in the historic Connersville City Cemetery, along

with Jacob, Julia, and others. Matilda, the second wife, died while the mansion was being built. He then married Ida McIntosh who was many years his junior. While there were several children from the first two marriages, none lived beyond infancy. Two daughters, Elizabeth and Helen, were born to William and Ida.

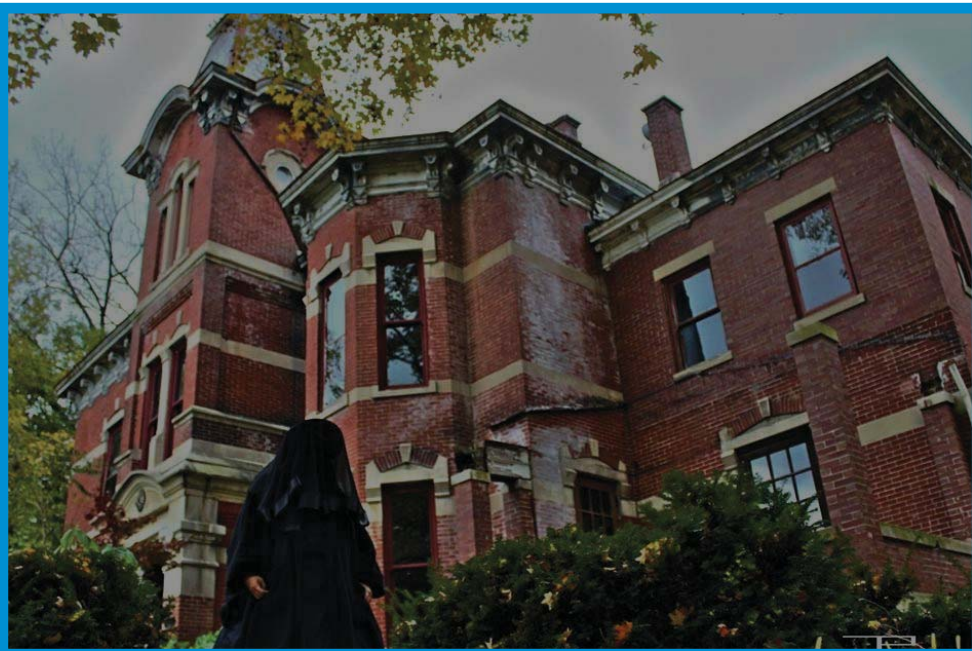
Elizabeth, her husband, and son lived in the mansion with the Newkirks, while Helen made her home in California. Oddly, it seems to be Helen who visits in spirit during the tours. Did she long for her Indiana home so much that she now wanders the rooms and halls?

The brick carriage house behind the residence, once the home of horses and servants, was converted into apartments. It has been said that, at times, one of the rooms becomes completely dark for an instant, as if someone or something is blocking the light from the doors and windows. Visitors also recount hearing the sounds of horses as they stand in the circular driveway. Others say they can smell the aroma of horses. Not the bad odors that horses produce, but the unmistakable smell of the horse itself, known to those who have brushed or ridden one of the animals.

The house has served many purposes over the years – private dwelling, apartments, and nursing home. It seems that the spirits of some of the nursing home patients may also lurk in the upstairs rooms of the mansion. Even in the daytime, visitors to the house report feeling something brush past them or gently touch their arms.

During the summer of 2012, Historic Connersville members gave numerous tours of the mansion. In several photos, there are unmistakable orbs around the hostesses. Many of those pictures were taken in the dining room where people often complain of feeling chilled, regardless of the temperature in the other rooms. In this room, Mr. Newkirk's initials are ornately carved in the face of the fireplace. William died while wintering in Florida in 1911. Does he visit? Some would say he does. It was in this room that one of the members reported a black form, in broad daylight, passing through and dashing into the room beyond. Others wonder if it is the spirit of Matilda, the wife who passed before having the opportunity to live in the mansion.

Having spent many hours in the house, members of Historic Connersville feel the spirits are there, waiting quietly to make their presence known. Could it be that others are waiting in graveyard where the Newkirk wives are interred? In addition to the house tours, tentative plans have been made to offer tours of City



A dark figure walks in front of the 1883 Newkirk mansion. (Author Photo)

Cemetery, weather permitting.

Connersville's City Cemetery has been designated as a local historic district. Dedicated in 1851, it is the third cemetery location in the city. The original burying ground was near the current junction of Third and Water Streets, on the bank of the Whitewater River. Over time, the river began to wash away the graves. Bodies were moved to the second cemetery near Seventh Street and Western Avenue. When this graveyard was determined to be too small, the graves were again moved to the current area between Grand and Western Avenues, north of Twelfth Street.

Surely the spirits of those buried here must wander among the monuments. Oscar Wetherald, the boy who went to the Civil War at the age of thirteen, served as a drummer boy and died of disease. His older brother died in battle and was buried some-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

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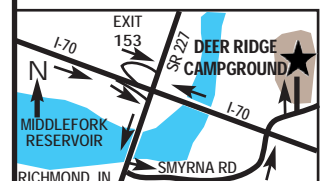
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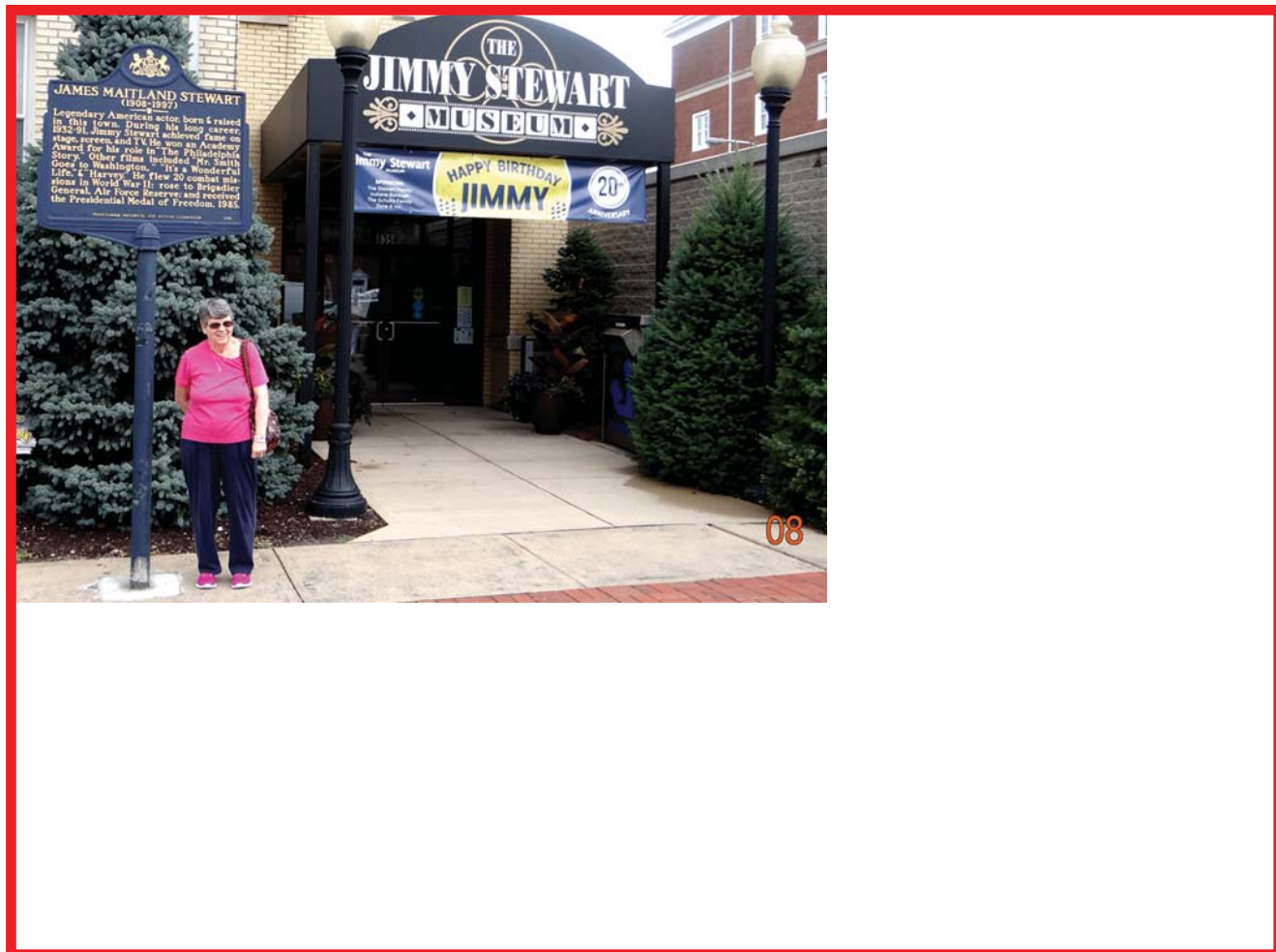
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Sherry Dickerson standing in front of the Jimmy Stewart Museum entrance located at 835 Philadelphia St. in Indiana, PA. We had a wonderful visit there, we walked all the way through. I was especially interested in his military career.

## Jimmy Stewart Museum

by Ray & Sherry Dickerson

August 17th Sherry and I left Centerville early on Monday with our first stop planned to be in Indiana, PA to visit the Jimmy Stewart Museum on Tuesday.

I had found the Museum while online some time ago. I thought it would be a neat place to visit since we would be in Pennsylvania in August for the Seabee Reunion in Ephrata.

We found Indiana, PA okay, but had a hard time finding the Best Western motel that we had reserved a room. After stopping for directions we found it okay. It was a really nice and comfortable motel. We had a great free breakfast the next morning.

August 18th we checked out of the motel and headed for the Jimmy Stewart Museum located at 835 Philadelphia Street in downtown Indiana, PA. We lucked out finding a parking spot behind the museum.

We entered at exactly 10:03, it opened at 10 a.m. We were greeted by Mary Ann Soule, a volunteer in the museum. I asked if I could take photos and found that the only place we were allowed to photograph was Harvey and a few things out in the Foyer, no where inside the museum. She gave us a quick introduction to the museum pointing out the different rooms and the special displays.

We entered the first room, the photographs and documents were laid out in chronological order from Jimmy's birth May 20, 1908 to his passing

July 2, 1997. All the movies he appeared in had their show bills displayed along the walls with the facts. His first movie was Murder Man in 1935, his last was An American Tale: Fievel Goes West in 1990.

Displayed along the walls also was many awards he received from Veteran groups. Jimmy joined the the U.S. Army Air Corps before WWII. He was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant January 19, 1942 and arrived at Tibenham, England, Squadron Commander of the 445th Bomb Group, 8th Air Force in November 1943, then transferred to 453rd Bomb Group, Old Buckenham. Colonel Stewart returned to Indiana, PA in September 1945 to resume his acting career. On September 28, 1945 he joined the Air Force Reserve and retired on June 1, 1968 as a Brigadier General.

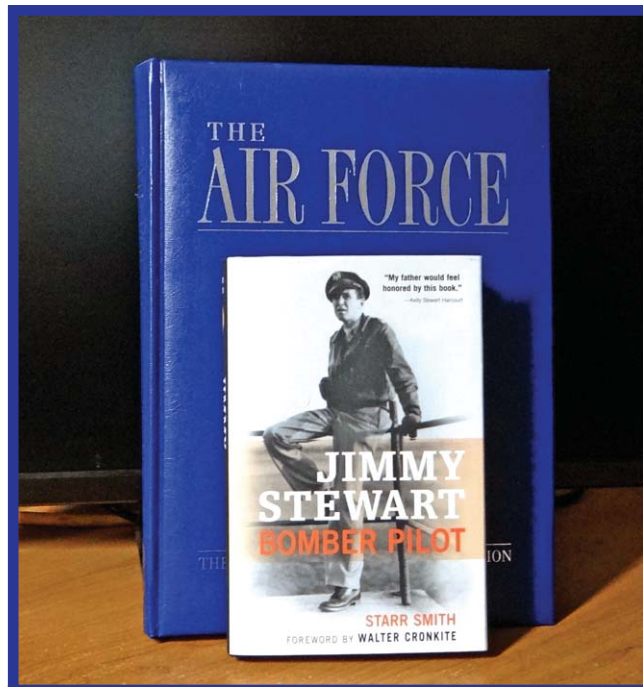
Mary Ann asked us if we wanted to watch a 45 minute movie about Jimmy's life and we said, yes. Jimmy Stewart seemed so ordinary, the guy next door.

I recommend the Jimmy Stewart Museum to everyone, especially Veterans.

The Museum is open Monday thru Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sunday 12 to 4 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors, military & college students, \$5 children 7 to 17 and under 7 Free. Inquire about Special Group Rates and Event Rentals. There is a gift shop too.

For information online [WWW.JIMMY.ORG](http://WWW.JIMMY.ORG), 1-800-83-JIMMY or mail to P.O. Box 1, Indiana, PA 15701. Limited parking behind the Museum. Additional parking: Indiana Borough Parking Garage 650 Water St.

We then left for Gettysburg and the 1863 Gettysburg Inn for the night. See page 16.



Top Photo: I bought the book Jimmy Stewart Bomber Pilot in the Museum gift shop. Jimmy Stewart flew 24 combat missions in B-24's over Europe in WWII. Bottom Photo: The giant stuffed animal is Harvey, on his left is Mary Ann Soule, a 12 year volunteer at the Museum and on his right is Sherry Dickerson (Mrs. Gad-a-bout). The foyer is the only place in the Jimmy Stewart Museum you are allowed to take photos. They kept my camera in the office while we strolled through the museum. Mary Ann's mom is from Scottsburg, IN.

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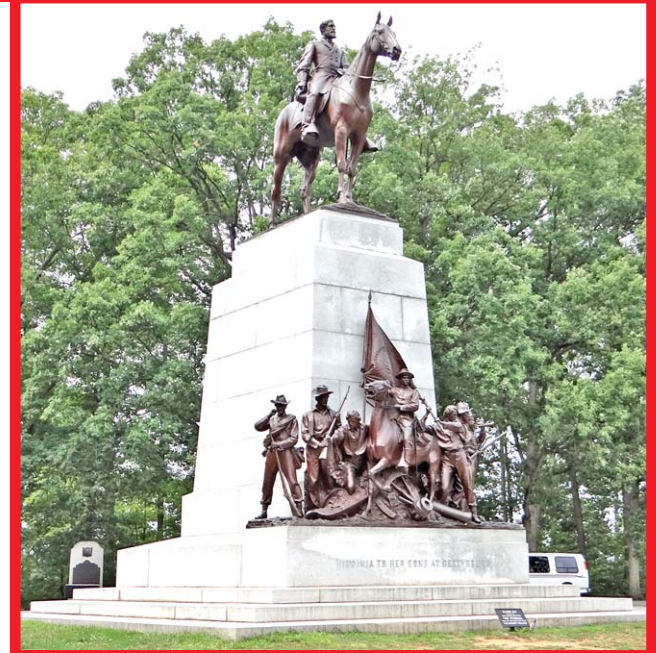
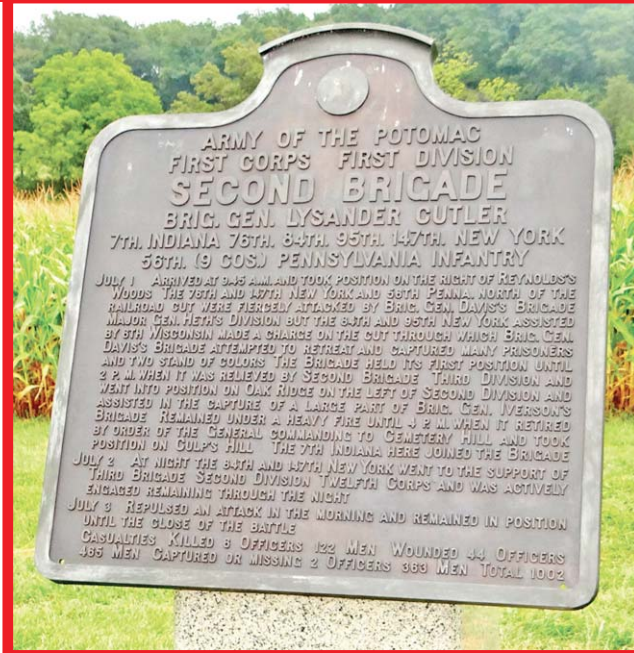
**The Gettysburg Address**

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure.

We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract.

The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living rather to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain, that this nation under God shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.

Abraham Lincoln, November 19, 1863



Top Left: Outside the Gettysburg Visitor Center is a statue of Abraham Lincoln, here Sherry sits next to it. Top Right: Next to Abe is his famous Gettysburg Address. Bottom Left: The Gad-a-bout Van along the Gettysburg Auto Route. Bottom Middle: A battle monument, Army of the Potomac, Second Brigade, 7th Indiana etc. Bottom Right: Virginia Memorial to General Robert E. Lee mounted on "Traveller and the group represents various types who left civil occupations to join the Confederate Army. Left to Right: a professional man, a mechanic, an artist, a boy, a business man, a farmer and a youth. Dedicated June 6, 1917. Sculptor F.W. Sievers (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

## GETTYSBURG, PA.

Sherry and I arrived in Gettysburg toward the evening of August 18, 2015, we found our motel rather easily. As luck would have it we had supper at a really nice restaurant right across the street from the motel. The Avenue Restaurant. We had the same game plan, we ate a very good free breakfast (all the trimmings) Wednesday morning then checked out.

August 19th our plan for the rest of the day was stopping at the Visitors Center then driving the auto route through the Battlefield. It was hot that day, fortunately for us our Van has air conditioning. We have done this before, years ago but this time it seemed more interesting. The Auto Tour has 16 points of interest marked on the battlefield map. 1. McPherson Ridge; 2. Eternal Light Peace Memorial; 3. Oak Ridge; 4. North Carolina Memorial; 5. Virginia Memorial; 6. Pitzer Woods; 7. Warfield Ridge; 8. Little Round Top; 9. The Wheatfield; 10. The Peach Orchard; 11. Plum Run; 12. Pennsylvania Memorial; 13. Spangler's Spring; 14. East Cemetery Hill; 15. Mead's Headquarters; 16. Soldiers National Cemetery. Between all the points there are miles of cannons pointed in every direction, fencing lining

the roadways and fence rows. Memorial signs, plaques, statues, buildings and wooded areas. I started photographing the monuments, but gave up when I began running out of battery power.

We returned to the Visitors Center to buy some souvenirs and then left for Ephrata, PA.

## EPHRATA, PA

### 79th Naval Construction Battalion 69th Reunion at Hampton Inn

Sherry and I left Gettysburg Tuesday evening heading for Ephrata, PA to attend the 79th Naval Construction Battalion's 69th Reunion.

I'm not a Seabee, but my father MMS 1/C Raymond E. Dickerson was in the 79th NCB in WWII. I have been attending the 79th NCB reunions since my Sister and I attended one in Lancaster, PA in 2007 when we were invited there by Jeannie Winters. I attended the 68th Reunion of the 79th NCB in Ephrata at the Hampton Inn in August 2013. We had 16 attend that reunion.

We arrived in Ephrata on Thursday, August 19,

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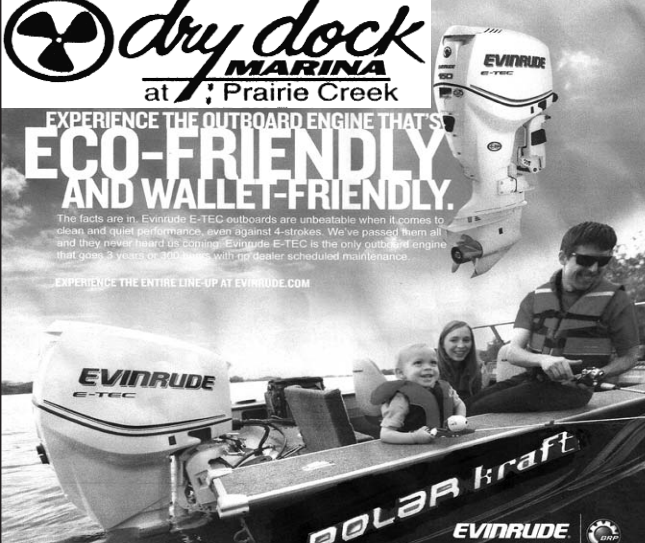
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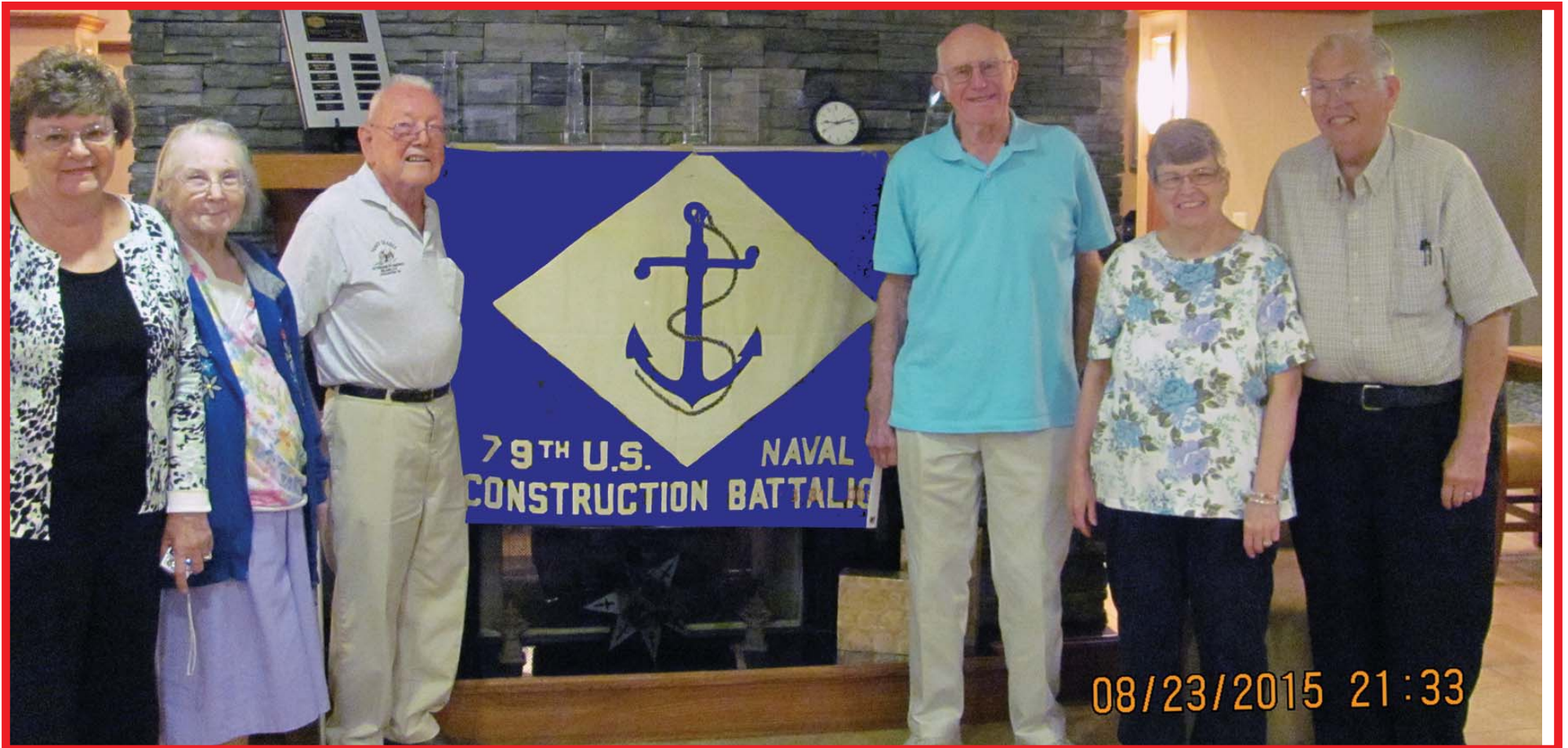
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79th United States Naval Construction Battalion's 69th Reunion held at the Mountain Springs Hampton Inn in Ephrata, PA. From left to right: Carolyn Huls, Lenore Hummel, Seabee Fred Hummel, Seabee Conrad Shoup, Sherry Dickerson and Ray Dickerson. (Photo by Lyjanka Stafford Hampton Inn Desk Clerk)

2015, a day early due to our travel schedule for this trip. We checked in and got settled in for the five days we would be there.

August 20th we got up in time to have the Inn's breakfast. I learned from the Seabees to stay at motels that serve good breakfasts. This Hampton Inn is one of the best. They have a very friendly staff too.

That afternoon the Seabee's began arriving. By supper time there was six of us at the motel. Fred and Lenore Hummel, Carolyn Huls, Conrad Shoup, Sherry and I. Six more had been coming, but due to circumstance beyond their control they couldn't make the trip.

It is probably safe to say this reunion, the 69th, will be the 79th's last one. You never know though Seabees are a wily bunch, you know their motto, "Can Do!"

Since I had my passenger van at this reunion we all loaded into it and went out for supper. We returned to the Inn and sat in the TV and lounge area chatting about past reunions, family's, etc.

Most turned in early promising to see each other at breakfast. I noticed that Lyjanka Stafford, one of the Inn's desk clerks was on duty, so I stayed to talk to her for a bit. Lyjanka is originally from Wales. She was here 2 years earlier for the 2013 Seabee Reunion. Back then when I noticed she spoke with what I thought was a British accent, she made it clear that she was Welsh, not British. I introduced her to Sherry who enjoyed talking to her too.

August 21st, we all had breakfast together at the Inn. Fred and Lenore were the 79th's Reunion hosts and even though they live nearby they got a room at the Inn to be with all of us. Nothing was planned ahead Lenore said we could decide what to do as we

wanted to do it.

I asked Fred if we could return to \*Dick Winters grave site, the photos I took back in 2013 were lost along with 651 photo files that were on a External Hard Drive that went kapoot! He said okay. We all loaded up in my van and headed for the cemetery.

After visiting the grave of Dick Winters we drove to Ephrata's Veterans' Plaza which is dedicated to all American Servicemen and women, from all wars. At the Plaza there are 2 Memorials to Dick Winters one that reads, "Wars do not make men great, but they do bring out the greatness in good men," said by Dick Winters.

Dick Winters (1918-2011): Commander of Easy Company, 506 Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. "I was extremely blessed to have been commander of Easy Company. No single individual "deserved" the privilege of leading such a remarkable group of warriors into battle. And to this day, I am humbled by that experience." Dick

Winters. (Side note: \*Dick Winters the Commander of Easy Company was the subject of the HBO movie Band of Brothers on TV a few years ago.)

From the Veterans Plaza we went to The Udder Choice for lunch.

After lunch we visited Stephen's Green Dragon, a huge flea market, I mean huge. It was an interesting place. Sherry likes visiting flea markets, festivals and what-not shops. From there we went back to the Hampton Inn.

Fred and Lenore made reservations for us to have supper at the American Legion that evening. We really dined in style there.

After eating we returned to the Hampton Inn and again gathered downstairs sitting and talking.

August 22nd, we met for breakfast and afterwards we went to the hospitality room. I brought a slew of seabee photos I'd gathered from lots of sources and

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 18**



Resting in the hospitality room of the Hampton Inn from left to right: Fred Hummel, Lenore Hummel, Conrad Shoup, Carolyn Huls and Sherry Dickerson. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



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Granddaughter Breanna, Sherry and Grandson Dylan at Denny's Restaurant in Worcester 8-25-15.



Sherry and Amy Dickerson at a restaurant in Worcester on Wednesday 8-26-15. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)



Breanna, Logan and Mo Mo Sherry resting on a couch at Amy's house Monday 8-24-15

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

some books. We had an assortment of goodies to eat when we wanted to snack on them.

We didn't do much until the middle of the afternoon when we all got into the van and headed for a wildlife area. From there we headed to the Lititz Family Cupboard Restaurant & Buffet. Talk about good food, I felt like a "oink" walking out of there.

We returned to the Hampton Inn. It was about dusk so I slipped out and took some photos of the setting sun. Then I joined the rest of them in the hospitality room for the rest of the evening.

August 23rd, we met for breakfast, this was our last full day of the reunion. We relaxed most of the day in the hospitality room until it was time to go to the reunion banquet. This year Lenore and Fred had reservations at The Brickerville House Family Restaurant in Lititz, PA. The food was excellent. Afterwards we returned to the hospitality room at the Hampton Inn. I got my tri-pod and camera set up to take photos of the group. Lyjanka Stafford was working the desk so I asked if she could help us get photos of the group. See photo on page 17, Lyjanka took that one and several others. She and Sherry posed for a couple of photos saluting us. We all got a laugh at their antics.

Everyone went to their rooms, we would be leaving early Sunday.

August 24th, Conrad, Carolyn, Fred, Sherry and I met for breakfast at 6 a.m. I had loaded the Van up the night before. We ate, said our goodbyes, shook hands, hugged and hit the road.

WORCESTER, MA

August 24th Sherry and I headed north east around Allentown then to Stroudsburg to Pt. Jarvis to get on I-84 traveling east through thru New York and Connecticut turning north to Massachusetts and Route 20 to Westborough and to Motel Six. No breakfast here, but we've stayed at this motel for a couple of years, mostly due to its location with easy access to our daughter Amy's home and it's very comfortable. We like the owner and his desk clerks. They are very professional, kind and courteous. They are located at 399 Turnpike Rd., Route 9 West, Westborough, MA 01581, phone number is 508-366-0202. Our room was spacious, clean and comfortable, just like last year.

We arrived in Worcester (Wooster if you live there) early in the afternoon, unpacked, squared everything away, then got back into the van and headed for Amy's house.

Sherry called Breanna telling her we were on our way and again when we were parked at their house. Breanna came running out the back door and hugged Sherry and me. We walked into the door and there was Dylan, who greeted us too.

We walked upstairs, Amy hugged us and we sat down and began talking about our trip and how everyone was doing. Paul was there and Sherry finally got to see her new grandson, Logan, in person instead of in photos, this was a treat for Mo Mo!

Amy fixed supper for everyone. We ate and then went into the living room to talk some more.

Tuesday was Breanna and Dylan's last free day before school started on Wednesday. We had already talked about picking them up and taking them shopping and spending the day with them. Amy had to work Tuesday so it worked out perfect for everyone.

August 25th Sherry and I picked Breanna and Dylan up and went shopping for school clothes and the like. Afterwards we asked them where they would like to go eat, so we went to Denny's Restaurant and had a good meal. Afterwards we took them home, telling them we would see them after school on Wednesday.

August 26th we picked Amy up and drove to a Verizon Wireless store so Amy could help Sherry upgrade her phone. The salesperson was Kaylee and did she know her facts about good service. She was a peach, helpful, understanding, eager to please, she fixed Sherry right up. That was the first time I ever remember having things run so smoothly getting a phone.

Then we took Amy to lunch at a real nice restaurant. We took our time eating, timing it out so we could go and pick Breanna up after school. She was surprised to see us in our van waiting for her. We drove them home and visited for awhile.

August 27th Sherry and I drove to Belchertown and visited with Don Slessler for the day. See Page 8 & 9.

August 28th Amy picked us up at our motel in the morning and we went shopping at several shops including a Christmas shop.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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# Happenings in Metamora, Indiana



by Janice Hunsche

## October 2015 Activities

### Metamora, A Historical Canal Town

The Whitewater Valley is always so pretty when the leaves change. There are so many yellow and orange leaves with the occasional red one peeking through. One fun way to enjoy the leaves is to take the Fall Foliage Flyer Train. It leaves Connersville at 10am every Thursday and Friday in October and has a 2 hour layover in Metamora.

October in Metamora, means the 47th Annual Canal Days Festival. This year it's **Oct 2-4** from 10am-5pm. There will be the usual mix of crafts, flea market items, antiques and more. The Metamora Canal Days Limited train will be running all three days. Friday **Oct 2** departs 10:00am w/2 hour layover, Saturday **Oct 3** departs 10:00am w/4 hour layover and 12:01pm w/2 hour layover and Sunday **Oct 4** departs 10:00am w/4 hour layover and 12:01pm w/2 hour layover. There is only one return back to Connersville on Saturday and Sunday. More information as well as tickets can be found at <http://www.whitewatervalleyrr.org/excursions/> or by calling (765) 825-2054.

This month the Whitewater Valley Railroad is running three dinner trains. **Oct 2** and **16** is the Twilight Limited Train to Dinner. It leaves the station at 6pm for the trip to the Laurel Hotel for

Dinner. On Oct 30 is the Wild West Train to Dinner with the Circle D Rangers. Due to limited capacity reservations are required for these trains. <http://www.whitewatervalleyrr.org/excursions/> or by calling (765) 825-2054.

Metamora has a new event this October. The Metamora Chocolate Trail will be at the Opry Barn on Saturday, **Oct 10** 1-5pm. The cost of a ticket is \$10 and includes 5 tasting coupons. There will be chocolate vendors with samples and chocolates available for purchase, children's crafts, an art exhibit and live music. Tickets can be purchased at the door or at Mosaic starting Sept. 1.

**October 10th** is the last running of the Statesman Train with Abraham Lincoln. This is a fun train with Mr. Lincoln aboard. This is your chance to ask him questions, get your picture taken with him and listen to him give a memorable speech before the train departs Metamora.

Sunday **Oct 11th** has two events. At 2pm, the photography club will be meeting at Mosaic. This is open to all. At 6pm, the Cat and Fiddle Event Center, 10104 Columbia will be hosting the premier of the Flea-Bitten Dawgs. Cost is \$5 and Cat will be selling her delicious home cooking. This show will fill up fast, so call for reservations!! **513-403-0672**.

The Haunted Village of Metamora returns again this year on **Oct 16, 17, 23 and 24** from 7-10pm. Beware of ghosts and ghouls who just might pop up as you tour the haunted village. The evening starts with a hay ride followed by a guided tour. Cost is \$5. Adding to the fun is Spooky Halloween Cruises on the Ben Franklin III. These will be Saturday **Oct 17th and 24th** with sailings at 7:30pm, 8pm and 8:30pm. Cost is \$5. There will be a storyteller on board telling family friendly spooky stories.

Not everyone likes Halloween activities so we have some decidedly non-spooky activities as well. **Oct 17th** starts with the Breakfast Jam at 10am at Mosaic. Just bring your instrument, a breakfast dish to share and come prepared to make music. The last Overland Limited Wild West Train of the season is **Oct. 17th**. This popular train has the Circle D Rangers protecting the Metamora bound train. The train leaves the Connersville station at noon. The Opry barn is hosting bluegrass night with Tom Coffey and Elkridge. Doors open at 5:30pm. Cost is \$6 and food is available for purchase. The Cat and the Fiddle Event Center is hosting Rick Cicerno. This show will fill up fast so call for price information and reservations at **513-403-0672**. **Oct 17th** is definitely a busy Saturday.

Another fun tradition is the Pumpkinliner **October 24th and 25th**. These trains depart from the Connersville station at 10am, 12:30pm. 2:30pm

and 4:30pm for a trip to the pumpkin patch. Tickets are \$10 and include the train trip, hay ride to and from the patch and a pumpkin for children 12 and under. Reservations are recommended since tickets are limited. For more information please visit <http://www.whitewatervalleyrr.org/excursions/> or call (765) 825-2054.

**Oct 30** is Acoustical Final Friday. Signup is at 6:30pm and music starts at 7pm. This is usually held at Lanes End stage, but moves indoors to the Opry Barn for bad weather.

This year the Safe Trick or Treating for Kids is actually on Halloween, **Oct 31**, from 5-7pm. This is hosted by the shopkeepers and families are encouraged to come to town in costumes and pick a small treat.

October means the end of several fun activities in Metamora. **October 31** is the last day to enjoy a canal ride or take the train from Connersville. It's always sad to see rides close for the season, but they will be back next year in May.

Wow, that's a busy calendar this month. So if you're looking for a fun trip why not come and see us in Metamora. ■

## The Gad-a-bouts Head East

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

She dropped us off at our motel. We had plans to meet again at Amy's, then we would all go to Denny's Restaurant for supper. This would be our last night in Worcester, we planned on leaving real early Saturday morning and driving straight home.

We all got to Denny's at around 6 p.m. We filled the table up and enjoyed every minute of the meal. We all then went to Amy's to visit for our last time. It was a tearful goodbye with the grandkids and Amy.

We left and headed for our motel. I loaded up the van before going to bed.

August 29th we got up at 4 a.m. and was on the road by about 4:30. It was pitch black as we headed for I-290, going back a more direct way to I-84 and picking up I-80 across Pennsylvania to I-71 in Ohio to I-70 and arriving home at around 11 p.m.

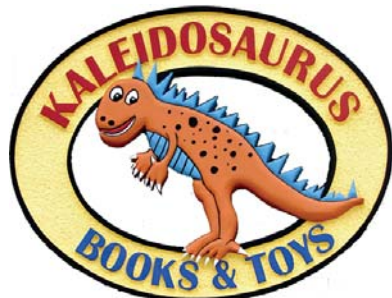
One thing we noticed which I think is very appropriate in this day and age along I-84 in particular thru New York and Connecticut, road signs that read "3 Text Violations - Lose License," "Five miles to next Text Stop," "Text Stop - Rest Area" We saw numerous autos stopped by police on I-84 and I-80, especially on I-80 through Pennsylvania. In my mind if you text while driving you are just plain stupid! ■

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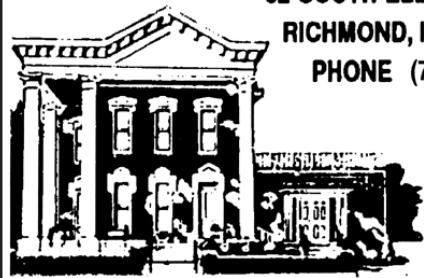
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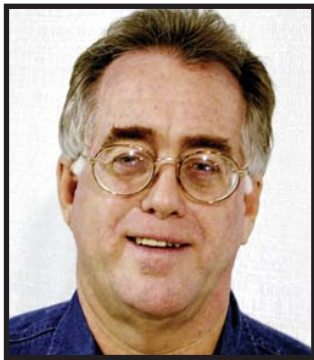
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Left Photo: One of many Ocean Spray signs in the Wisconsin Rapids area. (Author Photo) Right Photo: This cranberry field has two visible sprinkler heads for watering the crops. It also has two large sandhill cranes in it. (Author Photo)

## Outdoors



With Rich Creason

### Big Birds, Berries and Buried Treasure

One of our recent journeys found us heading north to Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin for a few days. This would be our second visit to this area. July of last year found us in the same region for basically the same purpose as this year. We would spend three days at a metal detector hunt and one day on Lake Michigan trying to persuade some walleye to join us for dinner. We would be going out with Wolf Pack Adventures for the second time. Watch the Gad-A-Bout for my story on that part of our trip in a future issue.

We arrived mid-afternoon on a Friday after driving just short of 500 miles. We checked into one of the local motels, then got back into the truck to drive a few more miles. Susie wanted to stop at the quilt

and fabric shop in town and a few minutes later, we pulled into their parking lot. Thirty minutes and a couple hundred dollars later, we walked out the door with her purchases.

Ten minutes later, we stopped at the Wisconsin Dairy State Cheese Company. Like last year, we walked up to the second floor which overlooks the cheese making area. Huge vats the length of the room had mixers moving from one end to the other doing something in the cheese making process. Back downstairs, we surveyed cases and cases of assorted cheeses, many with names we had never heard. We made our selections, spent more money, and were out the door.

Next stop wasn't a stop. We just drove along the back roads in the area looking at the huge fields of cranberries growing. The small vines would later be filled with the red berries which would be picked in September or October. This area has a huge festival every year during berry picking time. You can drive yourself around and watch the harvesting operations or take a guided tour. One of the cranberry fields had a huge sign saying "Ocean Spray". I was looking for the two guys in the TV commercial to be standing hip deep in water and floating cranberries, but apparently it was their day off.

One of the neat things about these fields was the extensive sprinkler system and the deep moats surrounding each field. After the berries ripen, the fields are flooded and the cranberries are knocked loose from their plants. They float to the surface and are corralled and loaded into trucks. But right now, the crops were growing like any other fruit.

As we drove the back roads, we noticed the large numbers of sandhill cranes walking around. I assume they were eating bugs from the tiny plants. If they

were eating the berries, these six feet tall birds would clean a field out in no time. We also saw many of the big birds in yards throughout the area. They seemed used to vehicles stopping and taking their picture, as they seldom moved even when we were close.



Here is a one ounce silver and a tenth ounce gold. Prizes I won by finding the correct tokens in a recent hunt. (Photo by Susie Creason)

Saturday morning found us at a campground near Nekoosa where our metal detector hunt was located. For these events, we pay an entry fee to participate. (This one was \$120 per person.) The group putting on the hunt takes the entry fee, converts it to old coins, mostly silver dimes with some silver quarters, Indian

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Left Photo: A small portion of an adult treasure hunt. There is often over 100 participants in a field searching for buried coins and prizes. (Author Photo) Right Photo: Some hunts have a special event for kids, often in a sand playground or on a beach for easier digging. (Author Photo)

head pennies, etc. They bury these coins plus metal targets with a number on them which are good for prizes not buried in the field.

Then, three or sometimes four times a day for two days, the participants line up around the coin-filled field. When the horn sounds, everyone starts searching for buried treasure. What you find, you keep. We try to find enough coins to make back our entry fee. If we find any prize tokens, those items help make up the difference if we don't dig enough money. Some of these prizes are nicer old coins they don't want to bury, hats, assorted household items, backpacks, lots of other neat things, new metal detectors, and sometimes gold coins.

Each of these hunts will be slightly different. One might be an assortment of half dollars and the dollar coins. Another one could contain a bunch of silver dimes with prize tokens. An "oldies and goodies" hunt would have Indian head and wheat pennies, buffalo and "V" nickels, and Barber and Mercury dimes. Another hunt would have silver foreign money.

The "Competition" hunt here in Wisconsin is a two day event. Usually, only the better hunters enter this one. A field is buried full of pennies painted a certain color. This timed hunt may last 30-45 minutes. At the end, everyone stops and counts their finds. A total is kept on a score board for each hunter. After the second day, the top winners get trophies and prize money.

I found enough to recover my entry but didn't get any prizes. Susie was just under the entry, but she found a token good for a really nice backpack which had a hat, flashlight, first aid kit, and other items. After the hunt is over, we can sell our coins back to the group putting on the hunt. As it turns out, we usually hunt for free, plus getting a few prizes to take

home. In the two days, 14 metal detectors were given out as prizes, but we didn't win any.

We have been attending these hunts for almost 40 years. They are located all over the country, from Florida to Canada, and from the east coast to the west. We have attended many one and two day hunts all over, and even week long hunts in Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. Some are held in parks, campgrounds, or just farm fields, others on beaches. Our daughter started metal detecting with us when she was five and our grandson also started when he was five.

While I am starting to slow down in my old age, I can still beat some younger hunters because of my experience. There are many other entrants in these events who are in their 70's and even 80's. I really feel bad when some of those can still do better than me.

The author may be reached at [eyewrite4u@aol.com](mailto:eyewrite4u@aol.com).

## Paranormal Tour

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

where in the south. When their mother learned of Oscar's fate, she went by train to retrieve his body and bring him home.

Everyone knows the little dollhouse of Vivian Allison, placed on her grave by her grief stricken parents.

If you've ever been here, you might have noticed one tomb built beneath a mound of grass. Legend said a family built it for a daughter who, when dying, asked not to be buried in the ground. A few years ago, a camera was lowered into the space. It was empty! The mystery of its origin and purpose remains unknown.

Why inspect the tomb? For the most part, it came from the continuing mystery concerning the burial place of Caleb Blood Smith, a local attorney who served as Lincoln's Secretary of the Interior. His gravesite has remained in question since his death in the 1860's. Southern sympathizers, the story goes, had threatened to dig up his body and drag it through the streets, so his wife had him buried in an undisclosed location. In the 1970's, with the permission of his descendants, an unmarked grave was opened in hopes of finding Judge Smith. The body in the grave was found to be that of his brother in law, and Smith's whereabouts remain unknown.

Do Judge Smith, little Vivian, Oscar, and others walk about in the "city of the dead"? Bring your camera. You might catch a glimpse of them at dusk.

The tours of the Newkirk Mansion begin in mid September and continue until late October. House tours begin at 9 p.m. and last about three hours. Reservations are required and space is limited. For more information, visit "The Newkirk Mansion" on Facebook, call 765 825 1523 and leave a message, or email [us@historic.connersville@gmail.com](mailto:us@historic.connersville@gmail.com).

**Editor's Note:** Donna Schroeder is President of the Fayette County Tourism Bureau and will be writing regularly in The Gad-a-bout. Next month she will be writing about a Cord automobile that was built in Connersville, Indiana and currently is in the Fayette County Museum. It was driven to Connersville from California and arrived there recently.

Fayette County is chock full of interesting destination places, keep reading The Gad-a-bout to find out about them.

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# Indiana Slab Masters



by Ron Bilbrey

## Tournament Boat Maintenance

In the five plus years I have been fishing Crappie tournaments one of the most important things I have learned is that you cannot be competitive if your boat is not in good working order. Case in point I fished a tournament on Salamonie earlier this year, I have always considered this my home lake and in most tournaments here, I feel I have a slight advantage, however in this particular tournament I had a relay go bad on my tilt and trim rendering my big motor useless which kept me from fishing my best areas. I was not competitive in this tournament and relied totally on my trolling motor the entire day. Relays going bad are hard to predict as well as electrical and some mechanical issues however good boat maintenance and upkeep can help avoid simple issues. I service my boat prior to the beginning of each season starting with removing the batteries, draining the lower unit and refilling before I store my boat each winter. When I take it out of storage I refill the batteries, change the plugs, grease all steering parts and wheel bearings before it ever goes to the lake. I always take a can of WD40 with me that first trip just to stop squeaks the first time out.

Throughout the tournament season I continually monitor all fluids, air pressure, and battery levels and quickly repair issues as they arise. I let nothing go unfixed if possible, not to say it may not take me a couple times to get something fixed correctly. On a boat that is 15 years old it is imperative to fix things before the list grows to long and you forget or worse you do major damage. I see more boat trailers broke down with wheel bearing trouble than anything else; I grease my bearings prior to every trip even if only a couple pumps from a grease gun I have never had a bearing go out.

Prior to a big event like the national championship or the Crappie USA Classic I go thru my boat and remove everything from the boat and start over. When I fish a big event I don't like to leave anything to chance. Before reloading the boat all batteries get refilled with distilled water, battery terminals get cleaned and battery tie downs checked. Live wells get cleaned with kosher salt and sanitized with 1/2 cup peroxide added to a full live well of water, remember to run it thru the circulating pumps also and then flush with clean water. I rinse and vacuum all compartments and tighten down all rod holders before starting on the tackle.

I start with my tackle storage compartment I check all boxes to make sure they are full of plas-



My Triton TR20 Tournament boat ready to fish the National Championship on Kentucky Lake September 25th and 26th. My addition to the back of the boat was the Talons shallow water anchor system installed before season this year. (Author Photo)

ing the lake, this can be avoided by being diligent before you leave. This does not mean you are never going to have problems there is always some luck involved, you cannot predict a relay going out or some other two dollar part breaking that will cost you time on the water or keep you from getting to your favorite spot but from experience I would much rather do what I can in the driveway or garage rather than on the lake.

Tight Lines  
Ron Bilbrey

tics, jig heads, hooks, sinkers, double minnow rigs and anything else I may need to fish that body of water. I visually inspect fire extinguisher, life jackets, throw able and tool kit. Once these are inspected and filled I place them back in their compartments knowing all is in order. Next is Rod and reels I remove the line from every reel and take them off the rods cleaning and greasing them before replacing the line which is always a 6lb or 8lb flouresant mono depending on the lake. Last thing I want is to lose a good fish or tournament because of a flaw in a line that could have been prevented. With the rod and reels back in their lockers I move to the last compartment it contains my required paddle, lights, nets, Cumberland Crappie double seat mount and oxygen bottle for the bait tank. Again I clean and inspect everything including having the oxygen filled before putting it back in the compartment. With the last compartment done I vacuum the carpet clean the windshield and electronics and put the cover back on.

This extensive process does not get done for every tournament only at the beginning of the year and the bigger tournaments at the end of the season it is a pretty lengthy process which I usually give myself about two weeks to complete. I do have a much shorter version in which I just do a quick visual check on everything prior to smaller tournaments. I once read an article in which Ronnie Capps stated that being prepared is the single most important thing to help you win tournaments. If you get to a lake and have to work on equipment than you are not catching fish or learn-

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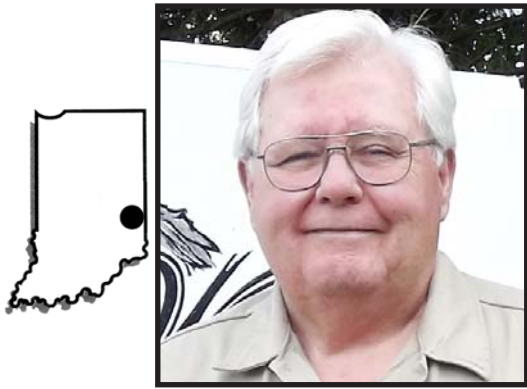
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Left Photo: Excuse this old black powder replica of a Remington Navy. It was given me by a good friend but needs many parts. But it is representative of the "in the belt" or "Mexican carry" of the 1800s. I searched the internet trying to find a public domain picture of the Mexican style of carry but due to the political incorrectness of the term "Mexican Carry" the pictures are unavailable. Middle Photo: This is almost self-explanatory. The revolver is so low in the waistband, just a quick twist and it's on its way to the ground. Same is true of any semi-auto. The grip is hard to grasp and dig out of the cloth and belt, the cylinder will hang on the belt and inside the waistband. However, the trigger is covered. Right Photo: Here is a Colt Combat Commander, series 70, (no firing pin block), carried in a Fobus Roto-Holster paddle style. This particular holster can be adjusted to be used as a cross-draw, bodyguard/driver (aka: appendix), small-of-the-back, and strong-side carries. The Colt is carried in this instance in Condition 1, Cock and Locked. Ready for instant presentation. Notice that the trigger is completely covered by the holster and the gun stands out for easy grasp. The Fobus is a retention holster and your's should be also. (Author Photos)

**Random Notes from:  
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair**



**by Marshall Smith**  
Owner/Gunsmith

**Holster or No Holster**

I and many of my readers have been known to carry a handgun in the waistband of our pants or just tucked inside the belt. That can be quick and convenient but also a bit dangerous. Let me explain. Back in the 1800s when the single action revolver or single shot derringer were the only pistols carried, holster-less carry was something done regularly. The revolver was tucked in the belt (Mexican carry), no cartridge under the hammer, and the gun had to be cocked before it would fire, all of which made the holster-less carry more appealing. Derringers were meant to be pocket guns and also had to be cocked before firing. Neither gun was carried cocked and ready to fire.

Then along came the semi-auto pistol. The semi-auto pistols were generally less bulky and encouraged the concealed carry. Many gun-owners felt that they could easily conceal the pistol in their waistbands or pockets as a holster tended to bulk up the pistol and make it hard to conceal. To carry the gun safely, it needs a safety which blocked the trigger from being moved, or the hammer from falling on the firing pin, and then later the firing pin safety to block the firing pin from contacting the primer

unless the trigger was fully engaged. Still, there were many negligent discharges occurring from guns being carried in the waistband or in a pocket and discharging and injuring someone, usually the person carrying the gun. Notice that I didn't say accidental. Even revolvers could go off if the gun owner had a bullet in the chamber under the hammer and the hammer was struck hard enough to contact the primer. So revolver safety evolved with the early S&W hammer block appearing around 1914. An improved hammer block safety was developed and put in service during WWII after a Victory model S&W with a hammer block safety discharged when it was dropped on the deck of a U.S. Navy ship. Leave it to the Navy to get things done.

Early semi-auto models like the Colt 1911 could be carried cock and locked (Cooper's Condition 1) safely by a trained individual. But negligent owners often forgot the locked part and shot themselves in the leg or foot. Today's semi-auto has several passive safeties to keep the firearm from going off until the trigger is pulled. Some models are smoothed and polished so that they slide from the holster easily and smoothly. That brings us back to why you should carry your gun in a holster. The holster covers the trigger to stop negligent fingering of the trigger. It keeps the trigger covered from external hooks and crooks which can trip the trigger. It also keeps the gun in a relatively secure position on the body and readily accessible in an emergency. And I think, more importantly, you learn to draw and fire the gun from the same position on your body. So that, in that high stress situation, you don't have to THINK, "where's my gun?"

Carrying your gun inside the waist band or in your pocket creates a couple of problems. One, in the waistband, the gun can slide right on down your leg at the most inopportune times. Say like when your shopping at your favorite discount store. Or in that stressful instance you go for your gun and its not there. Then you THINK "Oh, it's on the other side or it's on the table because it was pinching me, or, it's sliding down my ??????" Secondly, your belt or waist band of your pants won't provide even support of the gun and when you go to draw the weapon it will hang up, snag your belt or waistband and slow or even stop your draw. You can see where I'm going

and how dangerous a holsterless carry be.

If you haven't bought a good holster for your gun, try going to gun store and try different holsters out to find one that fits your gun, and is comfortable to wear. Hip, Shoulder, Appendix, Crossdraw, Crotch, Ankle, or Thigh, doesn't matter as long as you train with it until it's second nature when you go for your gun.

FBI Decides to Carry 9mm instead of the .40S&W

As I was navigating the internet news I ran across an article from SecondCall Defense. The article summarized what the FBI had determined by extensive scientific testing that most of the common knowledge about the effects of ammo on the human anatomy is rooted in folklore. The FBI's extensive testing has come to the conclusion that the 9mm ammo of today is as effective as the larger calibers in stopping power and is more cost effective. Note the real conclusion here is that they want to save money. That's all. The FBI shoots hundreds of thousands of rounds a year in training. Remember a short while ago the rumor that they had ordered a billion rounds of ammo? They did and now they can't afford all of it. So then they spend a massive amount of time and money to justify the change in ammo. Sorry folks, it doesn't matter what caliber of ammo you use if you know how to find your target and hit it every time. A .22lr is as an efficient round as any if the bullet placement is right. Choose the ammo you can best shoot with, practice as much as you can afford to, and you'll be OK.

**Quote of the Month**

"We've heard black lives matter, all lives matter. Well, cops' lives matter, too." - Sheriff Ron Hickman, Harris County, Texas

That's all for this month. These notes are mine alone and do not represent the opinion or position of the Gad-A-Bout or any of its staff, 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 [PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com](mailto:PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com). I'll answer your questions as best I can and some answers may be included in this column.

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

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# Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

## Three things you think are over-priced, but aren't

Author shares his insights on some of industry's best items.

Things are expensive. Today, it seems like just about everything is pricey, and just trying to make can be a real bear sometimes. The outdoor world is no different. The cost of participating in the outdoors can be a tough hurdle to conquer for sure.

But like the old adage goes, you get what you pay for. For the most part, it is very true.

Even though it seems like the cost of just about everything hunting related can be scary, there are always a few items specifically that seem to force an, "I just can't see spending that much for a.....," when I bring them up in conversation.

But here are three items which I feel, although expensive, are absolutely worth every cent, without question.



Yeti coolers are the best in the industry. Period. There are imitations, but there is only one Yeti. (Author Provided Photo)

### YETI COOLERS

No one on earth will ever question the effectiveness of any Yeti cooler or accessory. However, many people have also never experienced first-hand their real value either because they get a bit gun-shy when they see the price tag.

It has been said that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, so the makers of Yeti products should feel extremely flattered then. Since Yeti was introduced,

scores of other companies have scrambled to get in on the market, but trust me, no other brand named after a whale, a bear, a panda, or whatever they try to call themselves stacks up against a Yeti. The others may be good, but they are not THAT good. And at nearly the same cost, why not just get a Yeti and have the best and be done with it?

While you may not think you need the quality of a Yeti as an everyday cooler, I disagree. Once you use one, you won't want to use any other.

Yeti coolers keep ice for days, several of them. Think about how valuable this is on back country trips where you will find yourself miles from the nearest store to get ice. Once you fill your Yeti cooler up upon arrival, you won't have to worry about it for the rest of your trip. This is invaluable when in the wilderness for days at a time. Or, if you need a petty reason to purchase one, how's this? If you are like me and sometimes just simply are not in the mood to empty out the cooler and put everything back up after a long day, no worries! Just leave the stuff in there until you are ready to unpack it. Heck, if you will be getting back out boating or fishing the next weekend anyway, you won't have to empty it at all!

They are also bear proof and nearly indestructible. Yogi will not be getting into your goodies. I refer to them as the little black box of coolers!

And as for their drink ware, let me just say that they uphold the same quality as the coolers do. No more filling your cup up with ice each time you make a new drink. That first fill up of ice will last you all day. Plus, I have dropped mine a few times and been all around pretty rough on it and it shows no signs of it.



The author spent hundreds on inferior blinds that didn't do the job before he started using Primos Double Bull blinds. He won't make that mistake ever again! (Author Provided Photo)

### PRIMOS DOUBLE BULL BLINDS

Look around and you will find plenty of blinds available on the market. Many are considerably less expensive than a Double Bull, and all are inferior.

Go ahead and shell out that one hundred bucks for a cheap blind. I did years ago too. As a matter of fact, I shelled out a hundred bucks a handful of times trying to find a blind that I could actually kill a deer out of until I made the best move I could have when I

bought my first Double Bull. It was then that I realized I could have bought two Double Bulls with the hundreds I spent earlier.

Double Bulls don't, fade, rattle, or whip in the wind like cheaper blinds do. Plus, they blend in extremely well, seeming to nearly disappear when set up. You don't have to spend an hour brushing it in or set it up weeks ahead of time to "let the deer get used to it."

Until I hunted out of a Double Bull for the very first time, I had no idea just how awesome they are. In fact, I still hunt out of the very first one that I bought twelve years ago. A bit of fair warning however, your taxidermy bill will go up when you start using these blinds.

### MATHEWS BOWS

When it comes to bows, it is often said that any of them will do the job. This is true, but if it is in your budget, why just settle for one that will do the job?

When it comes to high-end bows, they are all similar in price, but in my opinion, Mathews outperforms them all.

The new ultra-smooth Mathews No Cam HTR is the smoothest bow I have ever shot. And it isn't slow either - garnering the same speed that you would get out of single cam bow. Mathews has always been known for their amazingly smooth draw cycles, whisper quiet releases and unmatched level of accuracy and forgiveness, and they have never comprised on these things.

To put it in perspective, a good friend of mine who does not shoot a Mathews was on a business trip recently and visited an archery pro shop after his work day ended one evening. He texted me that evening saying, "If I thought I could get it on the plane, and if my wife would not be upset, I would buy this Mathews No Cam HTR right now." That says a lot for a guy with whom I frequently take turns with kind-heartedly jabbing each other over our bows. The point is clear. Shoot one and see for yourself.

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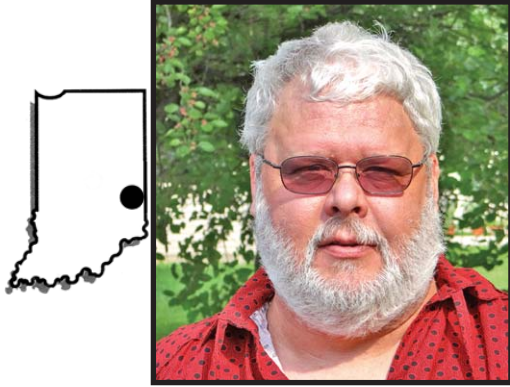


Mathews Archery builds the smoothest, most forgiving, shootable bows in the author's opinion. Lesser quality bows are not much cheaper, if at all, so why not shoot the best you can? (Author Provided Photo)

looking to purchase a new cooler, drink ware, or a new bow. You can certainly save a few bucks on other brands, and in some cases, that might be just fine. But, on the other hand, if you demand the best from your equipment, do not intend to be replacing it anytime soon and want it built to perform and last, then think twice before being too much of a miser.

By going with the above mentioned items, you won't have to worrying about becoming a victim of the phrase caveat emptor.

## Indiana State Trappers Association



by Dr. Fred Philips, DVM

### Trapping Season Is Around The Corner

Ray asks for each month's article by about the 5th of the previous month. So September's Article was turned in around August 5th. October's article will be turned in around September 5th, too early to make it my Convention article. As I write this article, the Indiana State Trappers Association's (ISTA) 54th Annual Convention and Rendezvous is only a few weeks away. It is September 18 & 19, 2015 at the Hendrick's County 4-H Fairgrounds located at 1900 E. Main St., Danville, IN 46122. Set up will begin Thursday, September 17th at noon. Booshway Tom Setser is organizing the tables and you may reach him at (317) 287-9027 or through his email: thesets85@gmail.com. The Convention will start in earnest Friday morning around 8 am. The ISTA member's meal will be Friday evening around 5 pm, with the White Elephant Auction beginning around 6 pm. This is always a good time, and a great fund-raiser for the ISTA. I hope that you can be there, or send Tom a donation of unused trapping equipment to support the sale. Tom's address is 2496 N. Washington St. Danville, IN 46122. There will be demonstrations going on all day on Friday and the inside Vendors and the outside tail-gaters will be there ready to deal. Saturday, doors will open around 8 am and demos will begin shortly after that. There will be kid activities and trap setting contests around noon. At 2pm the Member's meeting will begin. At 4 pm the drawing for the Henry Rifle in .357 Mag will be done as will the counting of the ballots to determine the new Officers as of January 1, 2016. The Event will close around 5 pm with the final pick up of the grounds. I hope to see you there.

The other thing coming up fast is trapping season, and this year Indiana will have a NEW specie to trap. Otter will become fair game in SOME of Indiana's counties AND there will be a two (2) otter limit for an individual trapper, over ten (10) years of age, AND a 600 otter limit State wide. The otter season runs with the Beaver season, BUT you need to check in periodically with the IDNR to see how many otter have been registered as caught. [See the IDNR 2015 / 2016 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Booklet for more information. Call your local CO for more complete information on the regulations.] IF the 600th otter is caught Christmas Day, then the otter season closes while the beaver season continues on into March. This may sound a little confusing, but it is a start and many members of the ISTA, NTA, FTA and the

IDNR, with the oversight and direction of Wildlife Specialist Shawn Rossler, and the Wildlife Specialist before him (who's name has escaped me) have spent many hours bringing this to completion. No one's efforts should be discounted. The ISTA sold T-Shirts eons ago to help bring these otters to Indiana. DNR research in Indiana as well as other States showed that the otters would stay put and repopulate the environment as long as what they needed to live was there. (I actually observed some Otter surgeries at Iowa State Veterinary College where radio trackers were implanted within the otter's body.) Trappers in the south used foothold traps to catch those otter that were ultimately transported to Indiana, and elsewhere, for release. Everyone's efforts over all of those years have lead to Indiana having an otter season. Let's respect that and do our best to follow the rules.

From everything that I have read, prices for our furbearers to not appear to be real promising this year. Nice pale coyotes appear to still have a market to a degree, but most of Indiana's coyotes have too much red in them. Muskrats may still be worth the effort, but almost everything else is going to be for the sport. That being the case, you may want to consider having your furs tanned this year and then either use them in your own garments or projects. This will be a good year to try your hand at fleshing a skin. If you ruin it, it will not be a great financial loss. You may also find other outlets for tanned fur. Several people called me this last year looking for tanned furs to use in their crafts and hobbies. I did my best to direct them to people who I knew had some extra fur laying around. One guy wanted to know if he could use squirrel tails to make fishing lures and flies. I told him that he could, but that he could also trade them for prepared lures with Mepp's Fishing Lure Company. Just look at the back of any Mepp's Fishing Lure card.

So enjoy the sport of trapping this year, but be prepared to think outside of the box when it comes to selling or disposing of your furs this year. Be sure to do your best to let those little ones go for next year's harvest. Take care, and be safe. See you at the Convention.

Watch yer top knot. Keep yor eyes along the skyline.

Fred "DR" Philips, DVM

## Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

big attraction and games for the tractor enthusiast. On Sunday Sept. 27 is the church service for everyone who wants to attend.

For information log onto [www.facebook.com/fcanc.org](http://www.facebook.com/fcanc.org) or call Dale Hertel 765-220-1615 or Susan Van Meter 765-265-2882. For camping call Greg Pflum 765-265-1404 or Mark Lang 765-502-2750. For Flea market call Roger Pettit 513-385-7128.

### NRC GIVES FINAL APPROVAL TO NEW CATFISH RULES

A INDIANAPOLIS – The Indiana Natural Resources Commission on Tuesday gave final approval to rule changes that govern commercial fishing and sport fishing for catfish.

The new rules raise the minimum size on catfish from 10 to 13 inches and limit the number of large catfish that can be taken — no more than one each per day of channel catfish at least 28 inches long, blue catfish at least 35 inches long, and flathead catfish at least 35 inches long.

The changes apply to both commercial fishing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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## Donald R. Slessler

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

his VW Van.

Friendship is the most precious thing on earth, especially when it is coupled with the respect of those involved.

One of the last times I got to spend an evening with Don and Phyllis in England was at the December 31, 1962 New Year's eve party at RAF Chelveston. We had a great time, I remember it to this day.

I left England February 17, 1963 bound for the good ole' USA.

As time passed we have kept in touch by mail. I have a post card here from Don who was in Vietnam at the time.

Don remained in the Air Force until July 1, 1972 when he received his "Certificate of Retirement."

Just prior to retiring Don and Phyllis began looking for a place to retire too. They saw an ad for a summer camp on the Swift River in Belchertown, MA.

(June 1971 from Don's book "Lord Stand By Me")

"On a Sunday in late June 1971, we did go to see the 'camp.' Our initial impression was terrible, not to the house, but the driveway/washed-out gully going down to the house.....After looking around, I knew God had this in mind for us. It was in the middle of 1,100-acres of state wildlife land."

Don and Phyllis built a home there and have lived there for a lifetime. See photo on page 9 of their home on the bank of the Swift River, tailwater of the Quabbin Reservoir near Belchertown, MA.

When we (Sherry and I) left Worcester, MA on Thursday, August 27, 2015 enroute to Don's home, I was a little vague on finding Don's home. We were in Worcester the year before, but were unable to visit Don and Phyllis. I did speak to Phyllis for an hour or more on the telephone. Little did I know it would be the last time we would talk. This is one reason why I like talking on a telephone instead of texting. Talking person to person is becoming lost in a world of an electronic maze.

We've been to Don's home about 10 times from 1981 to 2015. The easy part is finding the fish hatchery, once you find East Street. The hard part is finding the right lane to go down.

Just like Don described driving down the half-mile lane on their initial trip in 1971, it's similar today. Except now he has a few pull-offs in case you meet a vehicle coming the other way.

Guess what? We entered his driveway driving slowly between the trees, curves, dips and whoaaaa. Facing toward us was a very big delivery truck. I stopped started backing up until he could maneuver far enough over for me to get past. When I got past him he started backing down the lane behind me. I looked at Sherry and she looked at me. We continued on to Don's house, parking in a familiar spot.

Coming over to where we were, Lori and Marla came to greet and hug us. Then they said I had to move the van because a delivery van was backing all the way from the road to Don's house to drop a "Pod" container. I moved the van.

We could hear the backing whistle as the delivery truck backed to the gate and stopped. Don came out of the house and headed toward the driver and they discussed where he could drop the "Pod."

Marla told us that Don had been away to a birthday party and while he was gone, somehow the dog had turned on the water in the bathroom and flooded Don's bedroom. Everything had to be removed and stored until the bedroom could be repaired.

The driver dropped the "Pod" and left. Then another truck arrived, this time it was a huge dump truck that had a load of gravel for Don's lane. Don showed the driver where he wanted the gravel dropped so he could spread it out later. I forgot to mention, Don in a young 93, who is far more active than I am at 74.

Once the dump truck driver headed up to dump his load in several locations, Don turned to welcome us. Lori and Marla was there to help their Dad move the bedroom to the "Pod."

We arrived at Don's home around 10 a.m. and we stayed until 4 p.m. It was a wonderful visit, except for all the time knowing that Phyllis wasn't there, left a void in our hearts. Phyllis was so genuinely friendly, loving and giving of herself to everyone. I'm writing this with tears welling up and running down my cheeks at this very moment. She was always

there with Don, they were an important part of my life, Sherry too. We missed her presence, she was always so giving to all of us who had the good fortune to meet and know her as well as we did. We all have to leave this worldly place, but it hurts more when you've learned to like some more than others.

As I looked around the empty room (s), knowing Don by the look on his face, missed Phyllis very much. He wasn't laughing or smiling as much, but talking is a great healer. And as we talked about England, the guys and gals we both knew and the several times Sherry and I have visited when Phyllis was there, helped.

Don began getting photos out, talked about his military medals, we walked over to see them and his competition shooting trophies. He picked up Phyllis's book she had made with all the different crafts she designed. Sherry told him we still had the large wooden butterfly she gave us in 1981, it hung in the maple tree in our back yard since then.

Marla and Lori came in and talked to Don about some of the items they were moving out to the "Pod."

I asked them to let me take some photos of them with Don, Sherry and I. See the photos on page 8 and others on 9.

Shortly thereafter Lori and Marla had to leave, we hugged and said our goodbyes. I wish we could have got with Alan, Donna and Mark too. I've been keeping in touch with Mark by e-mail.

Departing, Marla told us that Don wanted to take us out to lunch, just up the road. So the three of us got in our van and headed up to Almeida's Country Cafe for lunch. It was a nice place, they had really good food. We stayed well past the 2 p.m. closing time. We thanked them for their hospitality and headed back to Don's home.

Regressing just a bit back to 1973 when I began publishing The Outdoor Gad-a-bout. I sent Don and Phyllis a copy each time it was published until I discontinued it in 1978.

In 1981 I contacted Don asking if we, Sherry, Amy and I could visit them at their home. He told us it would be great seeing us, in fact we could stay with them in their home. He wanted to show us their outdoor world, living on the tailwater (Swift River) of the Quabbin Reservoir. He had a Boston Whaler he could take us for a ride on the river, catch trout right in front of his house. We planned a visit.

So in 1981, Sherry and Amy, who was 2 years old at the time, visited Don and Phyllis for the first time there on Swift River. For me it was a reunion having last seen Don and Phyllis at their English home near RAF Chelveston in February of 1963.

Prior to arriving Amy had hurt her foot on a corner of a camping table that was folded down in the van enroute. It looked like we should have it looked at so we stopped at a hospital in Washington, PA. A doctor at the hospital took care of the toe, instructed us to soak it every so often and have it looked at again in a few days.

After we arrived at Don and Phyllis's home, I can remember seeing Amy sitting in a little chair on their porch looking out over Swift River. She sat there patiently waiting for the chance to move.

We had a wonderful time visiting them. Don showed us his paradise. We could tell they loved their surroundings.

We stayed at their home for several days before leaving for Boston to see the sights there.

Over the years since 1981 on our ten or so visits we have had the pleasure of visiting everyone of their family, except maybe Alan. I don't remember seeing him since England. I've saw family photos that Don and Phyllis have shown us through the years. Just about every Christmas up until the last couple of years Phyllis had sent a Christmas letter to all her friends telling us the news of their family and friends.

Returning back to Don's home after our lunch, we sat down and began talking about old times again. Soon Don got up and brought over a photo of the Air Sea Rescue boat he served as Marine Engineer on. He also showed me a couple of paintings of his boat.

As the time neared 6 p.m. I told Don we needed to head back to Worcester (Wooster if you are a native). I told him when we visited our daughter in 2016 we would visit him again. We shook hands, hugged briefly, waved goodbye as we got in our van and headed up the lane.

We turned left on Route 9 to Wooster.

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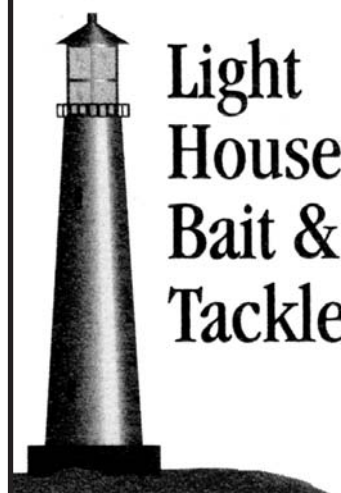


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## Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

and sport fishing on lakes, reservoirs, streams, and rivers, including the Ohio River.

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife proposed the changes in order to increase survival of younger catfish and ensure continued large or "trophy" catfish opportunities for both sport and commercial fishing. Larger catfish also have higher reproductive potential and can help control populations of forage species such as gizzard shad and Asian carp.

The Commission granted preliminary approval to the rule changes in November, after a public comment period that included one public hearing. The rule changes will not be in effect until approved by the Attorney General's Office and Governor's Office and published in the Indiana Register.

The Commission also dedicated two nature preserves in Wayne County, bringing to 269 the number of state-dedicated nature preserves in Indiana.

Old Northwest Boundary Line Nature Preserve is a 92-acre site characterized by reforested uplands and dissected by ravines that drain into Lick Creek. The second site is Old Hamilton Road Nature Preserve, whose deep valley features springs, seeps and a significant fen wetland. Several noteworthy endangered or rare species occur on the 27-acre site.

Whitewater Valley Land Trust owns and manages both properties. Indiana Heritage Trust helped buy the Old Northwest Boundary Line preserve, and the Bicentennial Nature Trust helped buy the Old Hamilton Road preserve.

In other actions, the NRC:

Readopted rules that govern trails and scenic rivers (312 IAC 7); timber buyers, their agents, and timber growers (312 IAC 14); forest and resource management (312 IAC 15); and standards regarding oil and gas exploration (312 IAC 16 and 312 IAC 17).

Approved changes to the roster of Indiana animals, insects and plants that are extirpated, endangered, threatened or rare. Ruffed grouse and rufa red knot were added to bird species of special concern, and the name of northern cavefish was changed to Hoosier cavefish. Scientific names for several species were modified to reflect current names.

Turned down a citizen petition to amend the rule governing issuance of nuisance wild animal control permits to reduce conflicts of interest.

The NRC is an autonomous board that addresses topics pertaining to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources.

NRC members include the DNR director, heads of three other state agencies (Environmental Management, Tourism Development, and Transportation), six citizens appointed by the governor on a bipartisan basis, the chair of the NRC's advisory council, and the president of the Indiana Academy of Science.

### WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN HUNTING INCREASING

What do Eva Shockey, Melissa Bachman, Katniss Everdeen, and 1.5 million women in the United States have in common?

They're hunters.

Shockey and Bachman are hosts of TV hunting shows, and Everdeen is the main character in the "Hunger Games" movie franchise.

They represent a wave of female hunters, whose numbers increased by 85 percent from 2001 to 2013, according to the National Sporting Goods Association's annual participation survey.

In Indiana, the number of hunting licenses sold to women increased by 93 percent from 2006 to 2014, and female youth hunters — those under age 18 — skyrocketed 114 percent from 2006 to 2014.

"Two major reasons come to mind," said Mary Zeiss Stange, author of "Woman the Hunter," a study of women's cultural and historical relationship to hunting. "One is that women have gained sufficient ground socially and economically and have disposable income comparable to men's.

And very importantly, among younger women — the 'millennials' and whatever this next upcoming generation will be called — there is very little patience with the idea that an activity like hunting is 'unfeminine.' Indeed, they thrive on the idea of adventure."

Stange, a professor and director of religious stud-

ies at Skidmore College in Pennsylvania, also said: "It's reasonable to assume that women's growing participation in hunting mirrors our increased participation in the entire array of social and cultural activities that were formerly masculine territory. That's the 'scholarly' answer. The practical reason, of course, is that hunting is fun and deeply rewarding."

The Department of Natural Resources has played an active role in opening the door with events specifically geared to women:

- Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, an annual weekend workshop near Lafayette that offers training in a variety of outdoor activities, including game cleaning, bowhunting, and introduction to deer, turkey and small game hunting
- Women's days at DNR-managed shooting ranges
- Women's special hunts at DNR-managed fish and wildlife areas

The DNR's online video series "CookIN Gone Wild: Field to Table" has a female host, which is by design. DNR Hunt, Fish, Eat workshops and National Wild Turkey Federation's Women In The Outdoors (WITO) programs are additional examples of low-pressure events that help get women into the field.

Outdoor events for women appear to gain in popularity when the instructors are women, according to Responsive Management, a Virginia-based research firm specializing in natural resource and outdoor recreation issues.

Responsive Management also seems to have discovered a difference between male and female hunters. In a nationwide survey, researchers asked hunters if their primary reason for hunting was for the meat, to be with friends and family, for the sport or recreation, or to be close to nature. The researchers found significant differences between men and women in every category:

- Hunt for meat — females 47 percent, males 22 percent
- To be with friends and family — females 27 percent, males 11 percent
- For sport or recreation — females 20 percent, males 45 percent
- To be close to nature — females 7 percent, males 22 percent.

Female firearms ownership also is rising. From 2012 to 2014, gun permits issued to women in Indiana increased by 42 percent. A National Shooting Sports Foundation study released earlier this year reported that more than one-third of the women participating in an NSSF-commissioned study said they purchased their first firearm within the last three years. Nearly all of them (95 percent) have tried target shooting, more than half (58 percent) have hunted and 73 percent said they have taken at least one training class.

The DNR is reaching out to those wanting to learn firearms safety and shooting techniques. The shooting ranges at Atterbury, J. E. Roush, and Kingsbury fish and wildlife areas offer onsite instruction at events through the spring and summer that accommodate women and families in a safe, friendly environment.

"Our motto is that if you want to hunt, we want to help," said Amanda Wuestefeld, assistant director of the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife. "As Hoosier hunters, if we are going to keep the tradition of hunting strong in Indiana, it looks like female hunters may very well play a key role in our success."

### SR 1 PAVEMENT PROJECT BEGINS 9-21

Wayne & Randolph Counties - Contractors plan to begin on or after Monday, Sept. 21 on a pavement project intended to increase friction on State Road 1 north of Jones Road to US 36.

E & B Paving will begin by patching potholes on the nine-mile section of highway. The contractor will then use a fine-milling cutting drum to remove approximately three-eighths of an inch from the surface pavement. The pavement will then be fog sealed to protect against moisture.

The milling process, often called pavement scarification, is intended to increase friction on the section of road ahead of winter weather. The highway is scheduled to be chip sealed next year.

According to INDOT pavement engineers, previous chip-seal applications are nearing the end of their expected life cycle and need to be removed before a new chip seal surface can be applied.

Flaggers will direct traffic around work sites throughout the project. ■

## 1991 FRONTIER DAYS NARRATION

(Written by Ray Dickerson)

### Part 7

#### America's

## General "Mad" Anthony Wayne

### Part 6 Recap

Wayne received the surrender of the British Fort at Detroit on Aug. 7, 1796. Afterwards Little Turtle and William Wells traveled to Philadelphia to meet President George Washington along with other Chiefs from various tribes.

General Wayne died Dec. 15, 1796, most historians feel if Wayne had lived William Wells and Little Turtle may have been more successful with their civilization program for the Miami Indians.

A year later William Wells and Little Turtle returned to Philadelphia and met the new President, John Adams.

Between 1798 and 1800 Little Turtle became convinced if the Miami were to be able to convert to an agricultural way of life they must be prevented from obtaining liquor.

On Jan 4, 1802 Little Turtle, William Wells met with Jefferson in Washington concerning stopping the sale of liquor to the Indians.

Little Turtle emphasized that none of his prior requests would be of any value unless the sale of liquor to the Indians was stopped. He said, "Father, your children are not wanting in industry, but it is the introduction of this fatal poison, which keeps them poor. Your children have not the command over themselves that you have, therefore before anything can be done to advantage this evil must be remedied."

He also spoke about the Quakers who had professed a desire to help them. He related to a visit that he and Wells had made with them a week or so before.

### Day 3 - September 7, 1992

#### The Life & Times of Miami Chief Little Turtle, William Wells & Frances Slocum

##### Opening Scene Wells & Little Turtle

Wells and Little Turtle had met with the Quakers of Baltimore on Dec. 26, 1801 at the direction of Jefferson. They met with Elisha Tyson, John McKim and George Ellicott. Little Turtle told them they had a common belief in the Great Spirit and plainly stated, "Brothers and friends: It is the real wish of your brothers, the Indians, to engage in the cultivation of our lands, and although the game is not yet so scarce, but that we can get enough to eat, we know that it is becoming more scarce and that we must begin to take hold of such tools as we see in the hands of the white people. Brothers, we are a jealously disposed people. Almost every white man who comes among us endeavors to cheat us, and it has caused jealousy. But your talks, brothers, are different and we are disposed to believe you...."

"Brothers and Friends: I will take the liberty to say that most of the evils existing among the red people have been caught from the white people, not only the liquor that destroys us but also the diseases that our forefathers were ignorant of before we saw you. When our forefathers first met on this Island, your red brethren were very numerous. But since the introduction among us what you call spirituous liquors, but what we think may justly be called poison, our numbers are greatly diminished. It has destroyed a great part of your red brethren."

As a result of this emotional speech made by Little Turtle the Quakers drafted a petition to Congress asking for what Turtle had asked them. The petition dealt mostly with the liquor problems. A committee of seven signed it and presented it to before Congress.

The Seventh Congress of the United States passed legislation on both problems, Prohibition of Liquor traffic to the Indians and the introduction of Agriculture to the Indians. Little Turtle became one of the first prohibitionists of record in the United States.

On the subject of agricultural the 7th Congress legislation read "And be it further enacted that in order to promote civilization among friendly tribes and to secure continuance of their friendship, it shall be lawful for the President of the United States to

cause them to be furnished with useful domestic animals and with implements of husbandry, and with goods or money as he shall judge proper, and to appoint such persons from time to time as temporary agents to reside among the Indians, provided that the whole amount of such presents and allowances to such agents shall not exceed \$15,000 per annum.

President Jefferson saw to it that the new law on liquor sales was advertised throughout the Northwest Territory. However the distance between Washington and the Northwest Territory hampered its enforcement.

Jefferson referred Little Turtle and William Wells to the Secretary of War, Henry Dearborn. Dearborn appointed Wells as the official Indian Agent at Fort Wayne with an annual salary of \$600.00 per year with four rations per day. He would be responsible for distributing the annual annuities to the Miami, Bel River Miami, Wea Miami, the Delaware and the Potawatomi Indians. Wells had given Dearborn several letters of recommendation from influential friends in his behalf. Col. J.F. Hamtramck, American commander at Detroit related his part in persuading Wells to change sides in the war and his brilliant work as a spy for Wayne. Harrison described Wells as "a sober, active, and faithful public servant" and noted his knowledge of Indian customs and languages, and of Wells family connections in Kentucky.

Little Turtle and William Wells returned to their homes in the spring of 1802, they felt they had accomplished a great deal. However they lacked a knowledge of Jefferson and his supporters in the west, many of which were very much anti-Indian. Wells visited his brother Samuel in Louisville enroute to Ft. Wayne.

Little Turtle's request for a trading post at Fort Wayne was granted. But William Wells was not put in charge of it. The Secretary of War directed William Wells to have a government factory built as well as a residence for the new government factor, John Johnston. Johnston was to begin on July 1, 1802, he was an intimate friend of William Henry Harrison.

From the outset Johnson disliked William Wells and done everything in his power to discredit him. There were those who believed that Johnston resented Wells popularity with the Indians and the fact that he fought against the Americans during Harmer's and St. Clair's battles.

William Henry Harrison also proved to be a stumbling block for Little Turtle and William Wells efforts to civilize the Miami Indians. At the beginning Harrison seemed genuinely interested in the plight of the Indians. But he became indifferent the longer he was in office. He became more interested in acquiring land, especially when he became aware of Jefferson's desire to acquire Indian land more than making them acceptable to the white society. Harrison agreed to press a program of land acquisition as rapidly as possible and became such a willing instrument of this policy that no person in American history has rivaled his record. His plan ran counter to William Wells and Little Turtles plan to hold onto the Miami land until they had been taught to support themselves entirely by agriculture, for then they would need less land for hunting. Jefferson wanted to acquire the land first, which would force the Indians into agricultural pursuits.

After the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory from Napoleon in 1803, which included one million square miles of new territory on the west side of the Mississippi, Jefferson lost sight of his original commitments. Instead he advocated that the Indians should be moved from the Northwest Territory to the new land west of the Mississippi. He believed they could live there without coming in contact with any whites. His thinking would eventually bring the tribes close to extinction in the next 50 years.

Many chiefs met with Harrison at Vincennes in 1802 to discuss the sale of land to the American government. They agreed to sell 1.6 million acres in present day Illinois and Indiana provisionally only, the land sale would have to be ratified at a second conference to be held in the summer of 1803.

Late in the spring of 1803, Harrison journeyed to Fort Wayne and met with the Indians there about the land cession. They all agreed to it, including Little Turtle and William Wells. The cession was ratified



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and signed on June 7, 1803.

During 1802 and 1803 farm implements were delivered to Fort Wayne and distributed to the Indians who were interested in agricultural. But most were not trained in the raising of farm products. So Little Turtle and Five Medals jointly wrote the Society of Friends in Baltimore to ask them for their help in having an agent sent to live among the Indians to teach them agriculture. They indicated that even though the government made it a law that their fellow Indians couldn't get liquor, they still wanted liquor more than they wanted to be farmers. Turtle and Five Medals felt that if the Friends would send someone who could actually show them how to raise the crops and animals properly, the Indians would be more interested in helping themselves.

The letter was read before the Friends Committee on Indian Affairs in the city of Baltimore on Feb. 6, 1804. The Committee acted at once and appointed another committee of four to travel to the land of the Wabash. They were George Ellicott, Gerald T. Hopkins, Joel Wright and Elisha Tyson. Of the four, only two made the trip, George Ellicott and Gerald Hopkins. They hired a young man, Philip Dennis, a skilled farmer and of other arts to make the trip with them. Dennis would live with the Indians teaching them the needed skills to become proficient farmers.

Though it was the dead of winter, the three Quakers set out for Little Turtle's home, some 600 miles to the west. They left Ellicott Mills, Maryland on Feb. 23, 1804. They traveled overland along the Braddock Trail (Now the National Road) across Maryland and Pennsylvania towards the Ohio River. Their progress was from 15 to 35 miles per day depending on the conditions and the depth of snow. They arrived at Fort Wayne on March 30, 1804.

Word was sent to the area chiefs to send representatives for a council to be held early in April to discuss agricultural with the Society of Friends representatives.

The visitors were invited to Wells house for dinner, they dined on turkey, cranberry sauce and assorted vegetables. Wells was married to Turtle's sister at the time. Sweet Breeze had died a few years earlier.

The Indian council met on April 10, 1804 at the home of Wells. The Quakers explained to the Indians it was time for them to give up the chase for wild animals and become settled in the habit of agriculture. Philip Dennis was introduced to them, as the instructor of the proposed school of agriculture. The School would be located at an equal distance between the different tribes, so no one would be jealous over its location.

On April 14th, Wells, Dennis, and a few Indians traveled down Little river to where it Forks with the Wabash, the spot, where they would construct the first ever school of agriculture in the Northwest Territory. All were pleased with the site and Dennis's house was staked out. Ellicott and Hopkins left for Baltimore on April 16.

A 32 by 17 foot log house was built for the use by the Wabash Farm School. The agriculture experiment was quite a success as more and more Indians became interested in the project. Dennis proved to be well suited for the job. He had someone teach the Indian women the finer arts of home work. Getting the male Indians to stay on the job was his biggest challenge. They would disappear into the woods or drop everything to go sit in the sun. In the first year they raised four hundred bushels of corn, a quantity of turnips, potatoes, cucumbers, watermelons, pumpkins and other vegetables. He also had raised 23 hogs and pigs, seven weighing more than 200 pounds.

As winter approached Dennis prepared to leave, an Indian family moved into the school and was instructed to divide the food equally between the chiefs for their people. He arranged for a butcher to come from Fort Wayne to show the Indians how to properly butcher the hogs and preserve the meat.

On Aug 18, 1804, Harrison acquired all of the Ohio River hunting grounds from the Delaware, who didn't own it. Harrison's treaty with the Delaware recognized them as rightful owners of all of the White River lands. The truth in fact was that they resided on those lands only with the consent of the Miami, which they knew. Both Wells and Little Turtle voiced their opinion against this purchase. Ten days later Harrison purchased the same land from the Piankashaw Miami, the rightful owners.

Harrison wrote Secretary of War, Henry Dearborn about Wells and Turtle's dissatisfaction with him with his dealings with the Delaware.

Harrison's recognition of the Delaware as owners of the Piankashaw hunting grounds and also the White River lands; put Wells and Little Turtle in opposition with him. In response to this they wrote President Jefferson concerning the matter, they indicated that Harrison was buying land from landless Indians and then paying only a pittance for it. They further suggested that, rather than sell their lands, the Indians might fight for them once more, if foreign aid were available. The letter was written by Wells and signed by Little Turtle. The letter was sent to General Wilkinson, who gave it to the Secretary of War, Dearborn. The president never saw the letter. After sending the letter both knew their threat was empty and they would have to make amends with the governor in order to achieve their goals.

In the mean time Harrison wrote Dearborn accusing Wells of jealous rivalry and Turtle of wishing to become the head of a great Indian confederacy. He would learn of his error of judgment, but he never set the issue straight with Washington, so both Wells and Turtle were distrusted by Secretary of War Henry Dearborn from then on.

Also unknown to William Wells was that John Johnston was writing letters to Secretary of War Dearborn constantly criticizing him. No basis for his dislike of Wells was recorded, most likely he was either jealous of his position with the Indians or that he was doubtful of his allegiance to the United States.

Johnston was the only source of derogatory remarks concerning Wells that Harrison had. Harrison hadn't asked him to watch Wells, but Johnston made a point of reporting what he thought Wells was doing in violation of his trust. Harrison was sending reports to Dearborn too. Dearborn accepted all the letters as fact, he did not investigate any of them. His attitude of Wells was less favorable, but not enough to let him go as Johnston wanted him to do.

Only two irregularities were ever proven against William Wells. First he did not keep a detailed record of his expenditures in a way that satisfied the Secretary of War, but when took to task for this, he began to keep better records. On a specific charge that he employed soldiers as rail splitters and had used some of the rails for his own private fencing, Wells readily admitted that he had done so, but didn't consider it a crime at the time.

In 1804 Harrison sent John Gibson and Francis Vigo to Fort Wayne to invite the Miami to meet with him in 1805 at his home near Vincennes, called Grouseland. Chief Richardville told the emissaries that William Wells had advised them to stand up for their rights. In Harrison's view this amounted to treachery, but Wells believed that he was properly counseling them in their best interests.

In Harrison's view an Indian Agent's duty did not include the government's responsibility for the welfare of the Indians, whom he regarded as possessing no rights.

Little Turtle through help of Wells had previously discovered the value of land ownership and had indicated this knowledge at the Greenville Treaty when he relayed to Wayne the area he considered under the ownership of the Miami.

When Vigo and Gibson visited with the Delaware villages at Muncie Town and Anderson Town, they found that the Delaware had second thoughts about their ownership of lands they occupied. It soon became clear to Harrison that he may have acted in haste towards the Little Turtle and William Wells.

In the spring of 1805 many members of the Eel River and Wea tribes of the Miami nation moved down near the agriculture project and took up farming. The idea was spreading, especially among the Indian women. By planting season the farm at the school had more than 100 hogs on it.

The Society of Friends had sent a small group to set up farming about five miles up the river from the Indian project, with the consent of the Miami. A working relationship developed between them and the Indians of the project. The future looked bright for the Indians of the Wabash Valley.

The Indian tribes met with Harrison at Grouseland in August of 1805. The main question to

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 30**



This is Forrestt and Jason Rihm, taking first place in the Ron Bonham days fishing tournament at Prairie Creek Reservoir with over 16 lbs of fish on July 4th. The story behind this is something. Our brother in law, John Tweedy, loved this lake. We never really had any good luck on this lake, few here and there. On this day John was to fish this tournament with Jason, but on June 13th he passed away. Jason tells me this tournament was like no other. He didn't feel pressured, he was at ease, like John was there guiding him. As you can see, Jason has a red rag in his right pocket, that was John's. He had left it on the boat last time he guided us on Prairie Creek on Mother's day. Jason knew he had to have it in his pocket that day and was forever grateful that John was guiding him that day from the heavens above. His bigger two bass were 5.26lbs and 5.14 lbs. They limited out with an hour left of the tournament so came in early not knowing what others might have had, but didnt want to chance one of the big ones dying. The lake was good to us that day as father and son took the 1st place trophy in their first ever tournament together. And Tweedy was guiding them.



My son Scot Ames, Jr., age 17 took this 8 pt. buck on 11-24-13 at 9 a.m. in Washington Co. with his Remington 870 while hunting with his girlfriend in 18 degree weather, true love. Signed, One proud dad (Scot Ames).



Nicholas Blevins took this 9 point 185 pound buck on 11-16-14. (Red Barn Bait & Guns Photo, Salem, IN)



Andrew Harrison took this 8 point, 145 pound buck on 11-22-14. (Red Barn Bait & Guns Photo, Salem, IN)

## Frontier Day Narration

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29

be answered was land ownership. The official interpreter for the Miami was William Wells. Lavish gifts were given to the attending tribes from Harrison.

The Delaware acknowledged they did not own the White River lands, but lived there by the consent of the Miami Indians. In return the Miami withdrew there objections to the Treaty of Vincennes of the previous year. They also agreed to sell the remaining portion of their hunting grounds along the Ohio River from the Falls of the Ohio to the mouth of the Kentucky River in return for increased annuities and for Harrison's Pledge that the U.S. recognize all land lying in the Wabash River drainage as the exclusive property of the Miami.

Following a private conversation with Wells and Turtle, the governor reported to Dearborn that past differences with them had been resolved and that he was convinced they could work together from then on. However, Dearborn continued to distrust Wells in light of Harrison's latest exoneration of him.

Governor Harrison's Indian treaties had netted the American Government a total of nearly 30 million acres of land. There were a few that held a great dislike for the taking of Indian land by treaty, whether ethical or not. In 1803 and 1804, a Shawnee brave and his brother held a silent protest to the goings on of Harrison and Jefferson. The two was none other than Tecumseh and his brother, The Prophet. The Shawnee were landless, they migrated continually and had no say in the land acquisitions. During these early years, The Prophet was most notable only as a drunkard. In Greenville in 1805 he had a visionary experience which led him to reform and to announce to his tribesmen that he spoke with the voice of the Great Spirit. The Prophets message to the Indians was anti-American. He urged the Indians to cease drinking and return to the old way of life.

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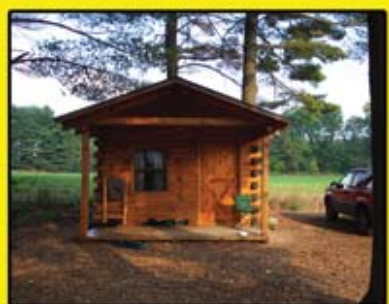
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