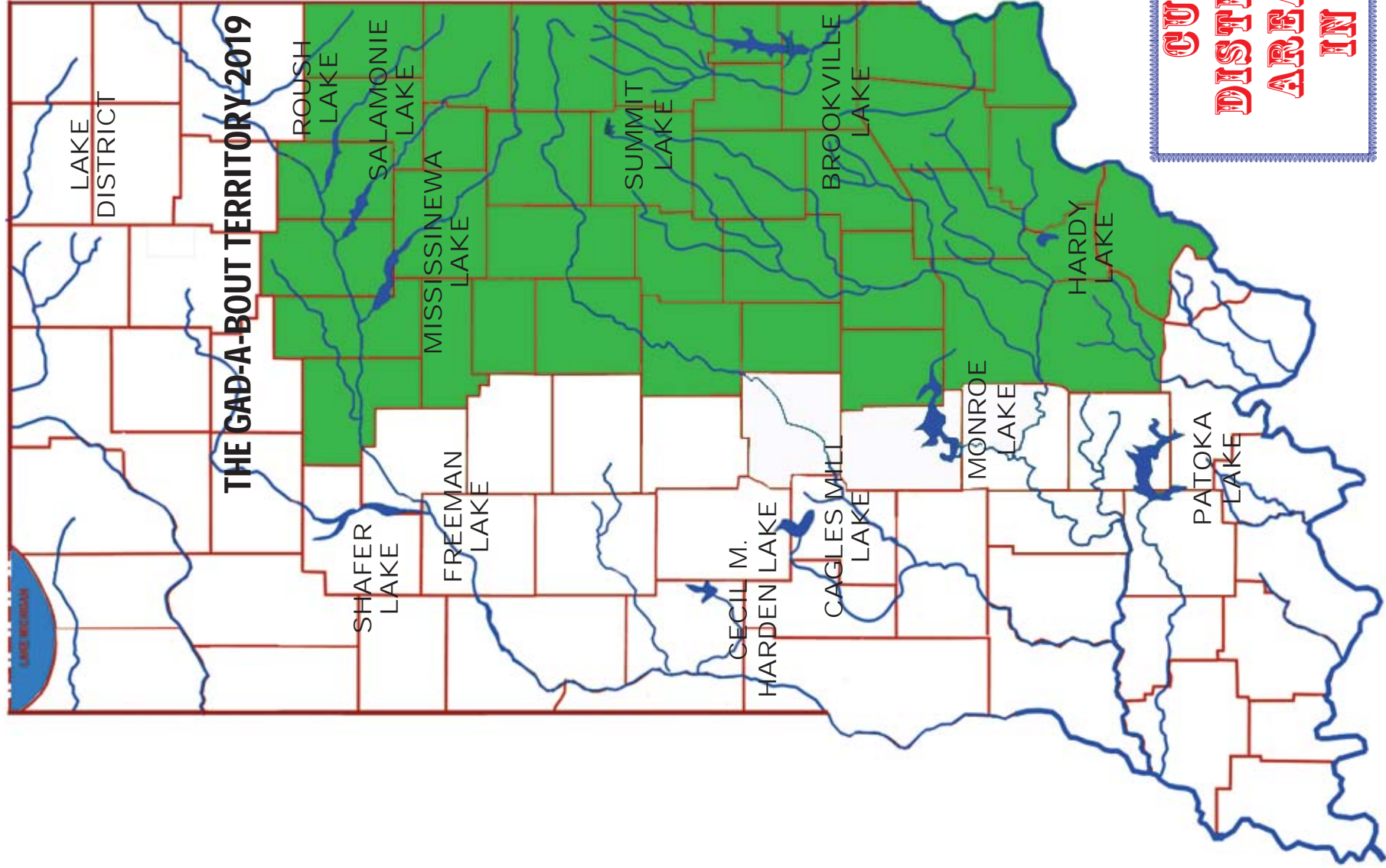


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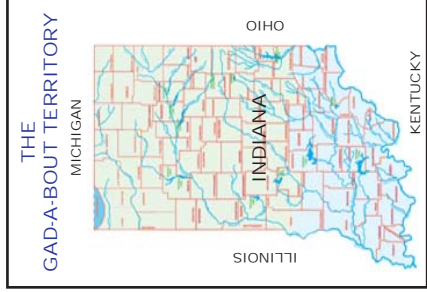


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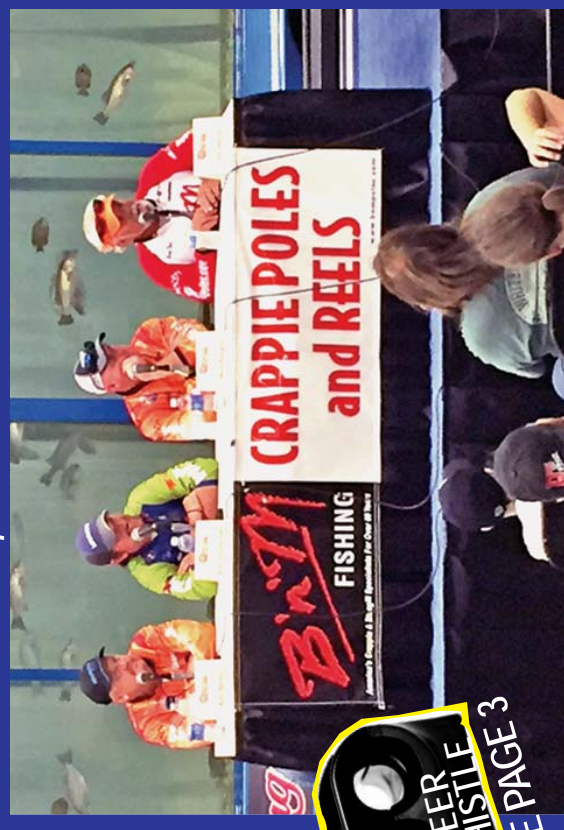
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DEER WHISTLE  
SEE PAGE 3



BAN THE STRAW. SAVE THE WORLD?  
SAYS MIKE SCHOONVELD - SEE PG 11



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# THE GAD-A-BOUT™

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### ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

**Top Left:** What a great turn out for the 2nd annual Brookville Bash, presented by Willow Pines Outdoors, in association with the Franklin County tourism office. On November 11, twenty four teams braved the cold, and slick ramp, for morning check-in at a temperature of 19 degrees. The team of Dave Stang and Dave Adair brought in the big one. See Page 19. (Photo by Mike Parks)

**Bottom Left:** I apologize if you are getting tired of columns dealing with the evils of plastic in our world. One of my goals is to keep you readers up to date on outdoor issues and plastic pollution is currently an environmental hot button. (Photo by Mike Schoonveld)

**Top Right:** Special Pull-Out Section Pages 13-16 For the Ford 65th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds. I will be pretty close to where I was last year, booth 4756. If you come into the Blue Ribbon Pavillion from the south parking area, once you pass through the gate turn right (Aisle 700), I'm the third booth on the right. (Photo Provided by Renfro Productions)

**Bottom Right:** Big Blue River Chapter 3049 of Quail Forever in Shelby County hosted their youth pheasant hunt November 10, 2018. Dave Dennison chapter president said there was a great turnout for the event. He wasn't able to attend due to military obligations. Dave said all officers and committee members stepped up to make the event very successful. See Page 24-25. (Photo by Steve Dake)

**Deer Whistle Pic:** I won't drive down the road without a deer whistle like the one shown on the front cover of this issue. This deer whistle works not only for deer, but also most other wild animals in Indiana. I can't remember the last wild animal I hit since putting this deer whistle on my vehicles in 2005. I also put one on the wife's car. You can purchase one locally at **Mendenhall's Hardware** at 125 S.W. 5th St., Richmond, IN 47374. Call 765-962-4842, see their advertisement on page 2 in this issue.

You can order by phone to Living Products LLC 1-(303) 838-4083, E-mail: [info@deerwhistle.com](mailto:info@deerwhistle.com) or on line "Save-A-Deer by Living Products, LLC. <https://deerwhistle.com/companyinfo.html> .

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# Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson  
The Gad-a-bout

**FOUR PAGE SPECIAL PULL-OUT IN THIS ISSUE FOR THE FORD INDIANAPOLIS BOAT, SPORT & TRAVEL SHOW FEB 14-24, 2019**

For everyone's enjoyment see the special 4-page pullout for the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show February 14-25, 2019. For more information log onto [www.indysportshow.com](http://www.indysportshow.com) for the latest up to date information on the up coming event.

**I WILL BE SET UP AT THE FORD INDIANAPOLIS BOAT, SPORT & TRAVEL SHOW AGAIN FEBRUARY 15-24, 2019 IN THE BLUE RIBBON PAVILLION BOOTH 4756**

For this February 2019 Ford 65th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show, Todd Jameson, Director of Marketing at Renfro Productions & Management, Inc. provided the feature article written by Josh Lantz on Page 13-14. Josh is a good friend of mine who I've known for some time. He is an excellent and very knowledgeable outdoor writer who I know you will enjoy reading his feature article in this issue of The Gad-a-bout. Please attend this years Ford 65th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

Todd also sent me some photos for this centerfold, I really appreciate Kevin's and Todd's help with this year's special four page pull-out of their show.

I hope you stop by my booth in Tackle Town (Blue Ribbon Pavilion Booth 4756). My booth space is easy to find, it's the third one on the right just past the south entrance from the parking area to the Blue Ribbon Pavilion (Tackle Town). I will be looking forward to seeing everyone again this year.

This year helping me with the booth is Mikel Davis - Beck, Executive Director of the Franklin County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission. The booth will look a lot better than in the past, Mikel is letting me use the Franklin County booth back drop and providing with some needed help in the booth. Stop by to pick up your Gad-a-bout and we'll have lots of Gad-a-bout Territory information (See map on bottom half of front page for Gad-a-bout Territory). Mikel has been Executive Director of the Franklin County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission for eight years. Since her presence in Franklin County, the county has had phenomenal growth and unprecedented success in my opinion. She has been the best thing to happen in Franklin County since Lois Clark had that position back when Dick Johnson, Tag Nobbe and I carried and set up the Franklin County booth to both the Cincinnati and Indianapolis Sport Shows yearly. It's going to be like old times, a refreshing addition

timed perfectly especially in these times today. Be Safe.

For complete details of the Ford 65th Annual Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, visit their website at [www.indysportshow.com](http://www.indysportshow.com).

**NEWS FROM THE INDIANA STATE POLICE SGT. JOHN BOWLING'S COLUMN ON PAGE 6 SEE HIS WRITE-UP ON TRAFFIC LAWS**

I want to thank Sgt John Bowling for writing about Traffic Laws in his column this month. This is a subject of great importance, especially for those drivers who ignore stop signs and speed limits.

He also writes about the Indiana State Police Seeking Recruits for the 79th Recruit Academy and Hobbies "Required" which tells of the need for officers having some quality time for family and hobbies.

**WHITETAILS UNLIMITED "CELEBRATE THE HUNT" WEST FORK CHAPTER BANQUET JANUARY 26, 2019 CONNERSVILLE EXPO HALL, CONNERSVILLE, IN**

Something new on the horizon for deer hunters. See page 21 for all the details. For more information contact Call Travis Wooley 765-698-8639; Jon Stollings 765-914-1064; Joel Biltz 765-969-7479; Jeff Harmeyer 765-698-7721; Clint Woeste 765-580-8403 or Jesse Barton 765-914-5118.

Order Tickets at [www.whitetailsunlimited.com](http://www.whitetailsunlimited.com).

**THE STATE PARK DAY HIKES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY BELOW BRINGS BACK MEMORIES OF SHERRY, AMY AND I'S NEW YEARS DAY TRIPS TO McCORMICK'S CREEK**

It's been some time ago in the early 1980's when Amy was quite young. We had relative's who lived in Spencer, Indiana who we visited quite often and always visited McCormick's Creek State Park when we visited them. After we adopted Amy we decided to spend New Year's at McCormick's Creek State Park in Canyon Inn. The tradition continued for several years. On our first New Year's eve Amy made friends with Lila Seeber and her parents from Oak Park, IL. From then on it became a tradition for a New Years eve get together. We all looked forward to the yearly visits. I took a video probably the second year. Amy and Lila were so young then, it's nice now to view it and remember those New Years eve reunions at McCormick's Creek SP. So long ago.

**STATE PARK PROPERTIES OFFER FIRST DAY HIKES ON NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Usher in 2019 with other outdoor lovers at one of the many First Day Hikes offered Jan. 1 at Indiana's state parks.

First Day Hikes are a healthy way to start 2019 and a chance to get outside, exercise, enjoy nature and connect with friends.

Information on First Day events in Indiana is at [StateParks.IN.gov/2420.htm](http://StateParks.IN.gov/2420.htm).

The guided hikes are organized by Indiana State Parks in cooperation with America's State Parks. Hikes will take place in all 50 states.

First Day Hikes originated more than 20 years ago at the Blue Hills Reservation, a state park in Milton, Massachusetts. The program was launched to foster healthy lifestyles and promote year-round recreation at state parks.

For more information, visit America's State Parks website ([stateparks.org](http://stateparks.org)) or

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# So You Wanna Catch More Fish

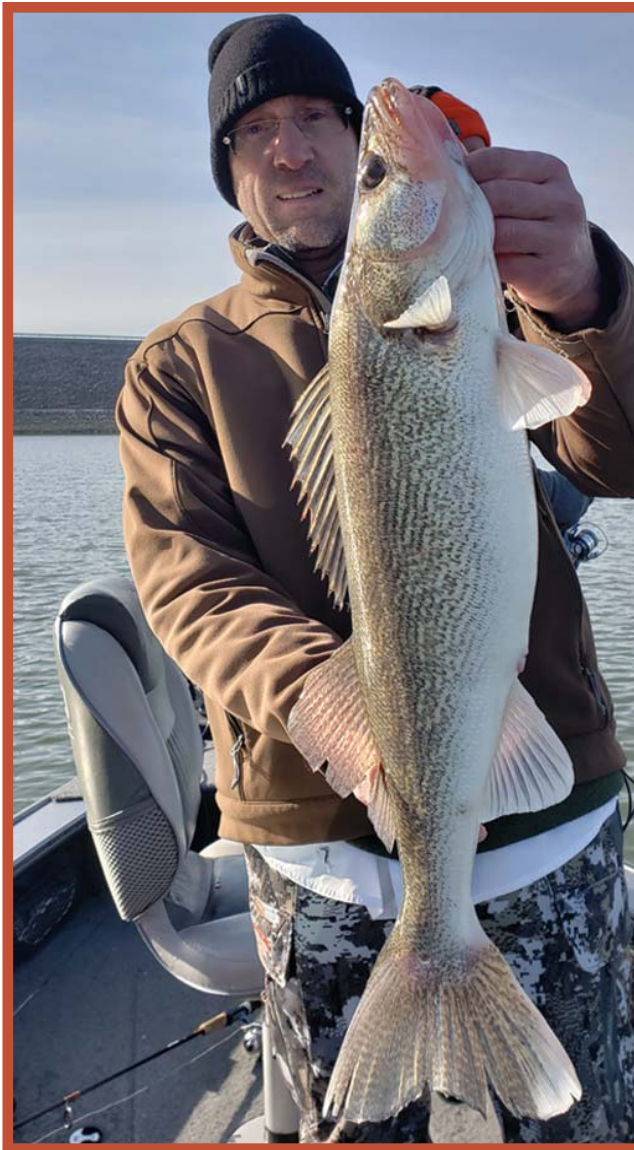


by **Tag Nobbe**

Professional Fishing Guide

## Fishing Brookville Lake in January

Your biggest obstacle with this time of year is snow and ice. I have never tried to put my boat in the lake when the boat ramp was covered in snow, but I have taken it out a time or two. I had a couple guys out walleye fishing in January 2012. The bite started out slow, but when it started to snow the bite turned on. We were catching big female walleye, a few catfish and some small striped bass. All the while we were commenting on how pretty the snow looked and how well the fish were biting. It was kind of hard to tell that the snow was building up sitting in the



Mark Fisher from Greenwood Indiana holding this really nice Walleye is the husband of little country. (Author Photo)



Gary Fisher, Uncle of Mark's from Holland, OH also holding a nice walleye caught fishing with me that day. (Author Photo)

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boat on the water, but it was pretty apparent when we pulled up to the boat ramp. As I slowly made my way down to the ramp on 3 inches of fresh snow it didn't appear to be that bad. As I turned the truck and trailer around at the edge of the water to back in, the front of the truck slid straight towards the water. This is when I got that sinking feeling in my stomach. Like holy crap I'm in a tight spot.

I had let the guys on my boat that day to believe that this was no big deal, it happens all the time. I'm sure at the time I was just trying not to look like an idiot. So, they thanked me for the great day fishing and headed to the parking lot. That was another one of my bad decisions, do you see a pattern here. Anyway, I got the boat loaded on to the trailer jumped in the truck made sure it was still in 4-wheel drive. When I tried to go the truck just spun all 4 tires. It didn't slide towards the water it just didn't go forward. So, I backed up into the water a little bit to get my back tires out of the snow. As luck would have it, I started to move. The only problem was all 4 tires were spinning like crazy, but I had to stay committed at this point. As I slowly moved up the ramp, I could tell I was drifting sideways at a 45-degree angle. This was all happening at Bonwell hill boat ramp that is a really wide ramp and trust me I was using all of it. At one point the truck and trailer seemed like it was going to spin around and head straight back down the ramp towards the water truck first. I was pretty sure I was not breathing. Once I got up onto the black top part of the ramp the truck got better traction and I was able to get it straightened out.

As I pulled into the parking area at the top of the

hill the guys that I had taken fishing that day had been sitting in their truck watching all this unfold on the ramp. They both got out and high five'd me and said they were not going to leave till they saw me at the top of the hill. Thank god for intelligent people. We have been fishing quite a bit this month and catching a lot of nice walleye. If you go look for them holding off steep drop ledges, underwater brush piles, or just look for big schools of bait fishing holding close to the bottom. The walleye, white bass, catfish striped bass will be close. In the summer time all the predator fish have their own little places they like to leave and eat. But in the winter, they all live together.

With the way the weather has been the last few years anything can happen in January though. Two years ago, the water temperature in the lake never was below 40 degrees all winter. That was a first for me. Most of time in January the water temperature will be close to freezing. When the lake does first start to freeze it freezes in spots. The north end is usually first then the coves then the main body. Also, the lake is at winter pool so be careful. The flats like Garr hill flat have only a foot of water over them. So, if you don't know the lake take your time moving around them.

Good Luck Tag

If you need more info go to my web site [www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com](http://www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com)

To schedule trips contacted m-e at [tagnobbe@gmail.com](mailto:tagnobbe@gmail.com) or call my cell 765-265-3238

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**CONTINUED ON PAGE 19**



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## News from the Indiana State Police



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

### Indiana State Police Seeks Recruits for the 79th Recruit Academy

The Indiana State Police is now accepting applications for the 79th Recruit Academy. Individuals who are interested in beginning a rewarding career as an Indiana State Trooper must apply online at <http://www.in.gov/isp/2368.htm>. This website will provide a detailed synopsis of the application process as well as information on additional career opportunities with the Indiana State Police.

Applications must be submitted electronically by **11:59 pm (EST) on Sunday, February 10, 2019**. Applications submitted after the deadline will not be accepted for the 79th Recruit Academy.

Basic Eligibility Requirements and consideration factors for an Indiana State Trooper:

1. Must be a United States citizen.
2. Must be at least 21 and less than 40 years of age when appointed as a police employee. (Appointment date is **December 19, 2019**)
3. Must meet a minimum vision standard (corrected or uncorrected) of 20/50 acuity in each eye and 20/50 distant binocular acuity in both eyes.
4. Must possess a valid driver's license to operate an automobile.
5. Must be willing, if appointed, to reside and serve anywhere within the State of Indiana as designated by the Superintendent.
6. Must be a high school graduate as evidenced by a diploma or general equivalency diploma (GED).

The starting salary for an Indiana State Police Department Recruit is \$1,615.39 bi-weekly during the academy training. At the completion of academy training, the starting salary is \$48,000.00 a year. Graduates of the 79th Recruit Academy are offered an excellent health care plan, which includes medical, dental, vision and pharmacy coverage for both current and retired employees, along with their families, until reaching age 65. The Indiana State Police pension program provides a lifetime pension after 25 years of service. Additionally, the Indiana State Police Department provides comprehensive disability coverage and a life insurance program. Student loan forgiveness programs are being offered at this time through the following: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service>

Interested applicants can obtain additional information about a career as an Indiana State Trooper by visiting <https://www.in.gov/isp/3041.htm> to find the recruiter assigned to your area.

### Hobbies "Required"

As troopers, we are required to make decisions in a split second that can affect the lives of those we serve and their families, as well as ourselves and our families, forever. There is always the danger that goes with every traffic stop we do, whether it's someone trying to hurt us or the possibility of getting run over or hit as we sit on the side of the road. My car has been hit twice over the last few years, and, unfortunately I was in it both times. There is the danger of driving to calls, as well as the danger associated with those calls.

The men and women that do this job will tell you it's important to have a strong family support system and hobbies that get you away from it all. I think that's why most of the troops I know hunt and fish. I can think of nothing better than getting out in the woods and putting



Indiana State Police Major Mike Eslinger with the buck he harvested on October 20, 2018 with his Mathews Triax bow in Sullivan County, IN. (Author Photo)

the phone on silent. We all need quality family time and hobbies to keep life, and the things that are important in life, in perspective.

Speaking of hunting, I've included a picture of Indiana State Police Major Mike Eslinger with the buck he harvested on October 20th with his Mathews Triax bow, out west in Sullivan County. Mike, like most of us is an avid bow hunter, and he has been a contributor to the Gadabout nearly every year with big buck pictures. Congratulations to the Major on another successful bow season!

### Traffic Laws

The more I drive here recently, the more I'm baffled by the public's lack of knowledge, or simple disregard, of some basic traffic laws that seem to have "fallen by the wayside." There is a rural two lane road in Henry County that has no posted speed limit on it. Just a few years ago, as you left New Castle on Dublin Pike, there was a 45 M.P.H. sign before entering a curve and hill area. That short section of the road had a speed limit sign posted on the north and south end, which tells you *just that short section* was 45 M.P.H. Now then, if you're driving on down the road, out in the county, then what is

the speed limit?

I've had a variety of answers ranging from 30 to 45 M.P.H. In Indiana, if a rural two lane road is NOT posted, then the speed limit is 55 M.P.H. I was recently behind a lady who was one mile outside a small town that she had just driven through. That town had a 30 M.P.H. zone, but since she saw no 55 sign as she left town, she assumed the speed limit out in the county must still be 30. Remember, in Indiana, if it's a rural highway and not posted with a speed limit, then the speed limit is 55.

**9-21-8-29** says that "When two vehicles approach or enter an intersection from different highways at approximately the same time, the person who drives the vehicle on the left shall yield the right of way to the vehicle on the right." I get cut off all the time at four way stops anymore, even when in my police car, by folks that are oblivious to "Yielding to the Vehicle on the Right."

Along the same lines, at four way stops, you must come to a complete stop at the stop sign, or white line painted across your lane, before proceeding. I see cars all the time stopped behind a car that's stopped at the stop sign; then when the car in front of them goes through the intersection, they go right along behind them. Guess what? They just ran the stop sign! You must pull up and stop again, when behind a vehicle stopped at a stop sign. When I stop folks for this they seem baffled by the principle!

How about a vehicle that's going to run the stop sign, then after entering the intersection, realizes a fully marked State Police car is sitting there waiting to go, (OOPS!) so they stop out in the intersection, AFTER passing the stop sign, and AFTER crossing the white line. Stopping now doesn't correct the error, as they've just run the stop sign. I could go on and on with examples, but these are some of the most common I've seen lately.

Just a reminder, if you're out driving this holiday season and find yourself in stopped traffic due to a crash or construction zone, make sure you leave a car length between you and the vehicle in front of you. Be sure to watch approaching traffic in your mirror and take evasive action if the traffic is coming up too fast to stop. Always watch out for the "other guy."

Also, if you encounter an impaired driver this holiday season, call 9-1-1 with a vehicle description and direction of travel. Don't follow them, as you don't want to be involved in their collision. District 51 Commander Lieutenant Tony DeLello, and all of us here at the Pendleton District, hope that you and your family have a safe Christmas and New Year's Holiday season. Thanks for reading this month's article and for allowing all of us to serve all of you. ■

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**Indiana Department of Natural Resource News**



by PLO Travis Stewart

**January Gad-a-bout**

I want to begin by stating that if you are planning to attend the recruiting events previously released in the December article, those have been postponed at this time. The DNR will provide information if they are rescheduled for a later time.

**Citizens are Helping Stop Illegal Activity By Calling TIP**

Next I want to thank the citizens of this great state for the information that has been passed along to our officers. These tips that come in are followed through as best we can. Sometimes they come to an end with nothing being found out. We work hard to investigate the information brought to our attention, but we don't always discover a "culprit".

In other occasions, these tips lead to suspects that lead to illegal activity taking place. Either way and whatever outcome occurs I want to thank you for the tips, whether to me or other officers.

This year we have had tips of various information and I want to point out where some of these tips lead. If you follow our Facebook page, or are a subscriber to our New Releases, then you have heard this information. If you don't follow either, I will describe both of these outlets later in this article.

Not too long ago in December, a citizen con-

tacted our officers and local deputies about possible illegal activity taking place in Decatur County. After some hard work from our officers and the responding deputy, they were able to discover three deer that were illegally harvested. One of those deer was shot from the roadway. This all stemmed from a concerned citizen picking up the phone and making a call.

Another citizen called about illegal activity in Dearborn County. Our officers and a Dearborn County Deputy arrested two men after shooting two deer from the roadway. Both deer had been shot with a .22 caliber rifle.

After receiving multiple complaints of deer located with only the head and antlers cut off along county roads, our officers stepped up their patrols in Jackson County today. It didn't take long for their efforts to pay off, as they witnessed a man stop and shoot from his truck in the roadway- No deer was killed. They were assisted by the Jackson County Sheriff's Department and US Forest Service personnel in that case.

Two men in southern Indiana went road hunting and shot a buck and a doe from the roadway. A law-abiding hunter witnessed the encounter and contacted our officers. They were able to locate the suspect and seize the illegal deer.

A buck was shot from the roadway in southern Indiana from the roadway. After a call from a citizen, our officers were able to locate a suspect and seize the deer.

Two hunters were caught hunting by the aid of bait in southern Indiana that stemmed from a call to our TIP hotline. One attempted to shoot a deer but was interrupted by our officers stopping them in the act.

These are just a few instances among many calls that have taken place. If you have a concern or a TIP never hesitate to let us know!

If you are unaware, the ICO dispatch center operates 24/7. A TIP can be made through the hotline at **1-800-TIP-IDNR** or submitted online at: <https://www.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/2745.htm>.

If you want to follow our news, we have a Facebook page that can be followed at: Indiana DNR Law Enforcement.

We also post news releases that be received by signing up at: [dnrlaw.IN.gov/9803.htm](http://dnrlaw.IN.gov/9803.htm). From there you can click the county you wish to receive news releases from or you can subscribe to the whole state.

As always, Stay Safe Indiana!

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Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) (Photo by Mike Miller, Colorado Division of Wildlife)



CWD AZ. G&F - Beth Williams - U. of Wyoming.

## Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

### What are the differences between EHD and CWD? Although not at all similar, the two are often confused

**EHD.** The mere mention of these three letters spreads doom and gloom around whitetail circles. So do the letters **CWD**. They have each affected deer in the Midwest, as well as other deer species across the United States. Although affecting some of the same species and coordinates, causing many to mistakenly think they are the same thing, the two diseases are different in many ways.

**Epizootic hemorrhagic disease (EHD):**

EHD is an illness spread by the *Culicoides* biting fly or midge and is typically spread during periods of drought or minimal rainfall. The reason for this is that the midge's larvae hatch in the mud or extreme shallow water edges surrounding water sources, therefore, these areas are where the midges concentrate. During periods of drought, the soft, muddy areas where the water has receded make the perfect breeding ground for the midge – and are areas where deer must step in order to drink. For this reason, **EHD** is not noticed until the summer or early fall months, when water levels are lower.

White-tailed typically show signs of the disease after about one-week. Its sudden onset is consistent characteristic of the disease. Animals stricken with **EHD** lose their appetite, as well as their fear of humans. They also grow progressively weaker, often salivate excessively, develop a rapid pulse and respiration rate, and get a fever. The fever is what causes deer and other animals to seek out water in an effort to reduce their body temperature. Eventually the animal loses consciousness and dies, explaining why most dead deer are found in or around water sources.

Hemorrhaging and a lack of oxygen in the blood results in a blue appearance of the tongue, hence the name 'bluetongue'. While **EHD** is often called bluetongue, it actually is not. The bluetongue virus is closely related to **EHD**, and has similar signs, and is also spread by midges, but it is a different disease.

Bluetongue is a serious disease in cattle, as well as other ruminants. Testing is required to be able to tell the difference, but for deer hunters, it is **EHD** that we are all actually dealing with. **EHD** can take its victims quickly. 8 to 36 hours following visible symptoms, deer enter a state of shock and can perish.

**EHD** is not always fatal, however. Some deer survive the disease by being able to withstand its effects until it passes. Telltale signs of a survivor include curved or misshapen hooves. Also, a hard frost kills the midges, so the disease cannot be contracted after about October, depending on where you live.

**EHD** affects most areas to some degree, but in the last decade has had profound effects throughout much of the whitetails range, specifically in areas of the Midwest. It can literally seem to wipe out most of the deer in small pockets of areas, while a mere handful of miles away, the herd is unaffected.

Summers with higher levels of rainfall and/or an early frost can certainly help reduce the effects of **EHD** on a local deer population.

There seems to be no danger of a person ingesting the meat of an animal that had **EHD**.

**Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD):**

Chronic Wasting Disease (**CWD**) is something entirely different. It is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (**TSE**) found in mule deer, whitetail deer, elk, moose and caribou. It is similar to "mad

cow" disease in cattle. It causes a characteristic spongy degeneration in the brains of infected animals resulting in emaciation, abnormal behavior, loss of bodily functions and death.

By all outside appearances, **CWD** looks a lot like mad cow disease, but in actuality, the diseases are distinctly different. Currently, there is no evidence that **CWD** poses a risk for humans; however, public health officials recommend that human exposure to the **CWD** infectious agent be avoided as they continue to evaluate any potential health risk.

Another reason that it is likened to mad cow is that when **CWD** really hit the hunting community was also when we saw a surge in high-fenced game farms. The first reported case was in 1967 in a closed herd of captive mule deer in contiguous portions of northeastern Colorado. Such farms typically provide supplemental feed to their animals. This practice congregates a lot of animals in a tight space, with saliva from each animal being passed to other animals as it clings to food particles that they are all sharing. Animals in the wild are less likely to con-

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EHD QDMA. (Photo by Tom Stafford)



EHD QDMA1. (Photo by Tom Stafford)



Joel Lacefield KDFWR

In 2001, **CWD** was also found in free-ranging deer in the southwestern corner of Nebraska (the area bordering Colorado and Wyoming) and was later discovered in western Nebraska. The limited area of northern Colorado, southern Wyoming, and western Nebraska in which free-ranging deer, moose, and/or elk positive for **CWD** have been found is referred to as the endemic area. In 2006, **CWD** found its way into parts of eastern Utah, southwestern South Dakota, and northwestern Kansas, followed by areas not contiguous to the endemic area in central Utah and central Nebraska.

The disease was first found in wild whitetails in south-central Wisconsin and northern Illinois in 2002. From there it spread to Northwestern portions of Indiana. It was also found in an isolated area of southern New Mexico. In 2005, it was found in wild white-tailed deer in New York and in Hampshire County, West Virginia. In 2008, the first confirmed case of **CWD** in Michigan was discovered in an infected deer on an enclosed deer-breeding facility. The disease reared its ugly head in Maryland in 2011 when a deer shot by a hunter tested positive, and again in February of this year when a Mississippi deer tested positive. It is also present in the Canadian provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The most obvious and consistent sign of **CWD** is weight loss over time. Affected animals continue to eat but just not as much as normal, leading to gradual weight loss. Excessive drinking and urination are also common during the terminal stages of the disease.

Behavioral changes also occur in the majority of cases, including decreased interactions with other animals, listlessness, lowering of the head, blank facial expression and repetitive walking in set patterns. In elk, behavioral changes may also include hyperexcitability and nervousness. Excessive salivation, drooling and grinding of the teeth also are observed.

The World Health Organization has reviewed available scientific information and concluded that currently there is no evidence that **CWD** can be

transmitted to humans, but during the period 1997-1998, three cases of sporadic Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (**CJD**) occurred in the U.S. in young adults who had consumed venison. This led to speculation about possible transmission of **CWD** from deer or elk to humans. However, review of the clinical records and pathological studies of all three cases by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia, did not find a causal link to **CWD**.

Still, health and wildlife officials advise caution. Hunters are encouraged not to consume meat from animals known to be infected. In addition, hunters should take common sense precautions when field dressing and processing deer or elk taken in areas where **CWD** is found.

**CWD** is still present and continues to spread its reaches, but swift action taken by state game departments in several states during its onslaught helped reduce the number of cases dramatically. At its height, states like Wisconsin and Illinois put regulations in place for required harvest quotas and trusting to be done in an effort to keep the disease from spreading.

**Conclusion:**

Both **EHD** and **CWD** have had a profound impact on the deer we hunt over the years. Each has affected most of deer country as a whole and has had specific impacts on certain local or regional herds. While **CWD** is certainly not a thing of the past, **EHD** has had a more significant impact on deer in recent than years than **CWD**. This may partly be due to the fact that there is really no known way in which to combat **EHD**. Mother Nature has to do that. ■



EHD and CWD - January 2019 Gad.docx

tract **CWD** since they are more spread out and are not feeding from and sharing pile of food. Nonetheless, **CWD** did make its way into our wild herds and has been spread in the wild.

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# Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

## Old Timers Solving The World's Problems

I never thought it would come to that. For years I had been aware of select groups of, shall we say, older gentlemen who gather on a daily basis at one of the local fast food joints for a couple of hours of fellowship and casual conversation. On numerous occasions I had been invited to join them, but since I didn't consider myself old enough to qualify for the popular title of "geezer" I politely declined. Besides, when they told me what time they normally gathered in the morning, I would tell them that I wouldn't get up that early to judge the Miss Nude America contest. However, with the passage of time things had changed.

For years on a regular basis a friend and I would meet at his place of business for a cup of coffee and jaw for an hour or two on what we did the previous day and voice our opinions on local and national politics. Even though nothing significant had happened since the last cup of coffee, we could blow the simplest subject completely out of proportion to its importance. For instance, the matter of a flock of downtown pigeons that kept the sidewalks and the occasional head decorated could take an hour to solve. Shotgun 'em, poison 'em, put steel spikes on the window ledges of the court house. Make a little spending cash by dressing 'em out and selling fresh squab ready to bake.

A newspaper article about a questionable decision by the city council? Shotgun 'em, poison the whole bunch, run 'em out of town on a rail. The good part was, he and I seldom met before ten a.m. Then he told me he had been meeting the "guys" at one of the local cholesterol factories for quite a while and invited me to join them. "We're normally there before 7 a.m.," he said.

The next morning I fell out of bed at 6 a.m. and headed for my first encounter with the Over The Hill Gang. There are gangs that meet at a couple of other joints in town, but before I made a choice I would check these guys out and decide to either stick with them or move in with another group, say local business men or a bunch of lawyers. After getting a cup of coffee at the geezer discount, I sat down among a few familiar faces who were dressed in worn coveralls and ratty cowboy hats that they had undoubtedly received as Christmas gifts on their 16th birthday, threadbare jackets with the logo of the company they used to

work for, and no introductions to the fellows I didn't know. A stray dog accepted into the pack.

During that first session I sat and listened to get an idea of what subjects were being discussed that I could join in with. I don't know diddly about hog farming or the union situation at Acme Manufacturing, so I followed the old dictate of "an idiot should be seen, not heard". The next morning I tumbled out of bed and didn't bother to brush my teeth since everyone else also had bad breath. I wasn't going to do something to make me an outcast this soon. Thank heavens for small favors when someone brought up the subject of dogs, especially the hunting variety.

Now, here was a subject I thought I could sink my teeth into alongside the best of them. For thirty minutes one breed or another was dissected for its merits or shortcomings. One of the older gentlemen related his younger days of hunting with a muzzle loader behind Ol Blue. The others claimed he was old enough that a club was a modern weapon back then. When a break in the action came I decided to offer my two cents worth.

"I used to have a cocker spaniel that kept the birds shooed out of our cherry tree". You would think I had just called Eisenhower a bootlegger. It got real quiet while the others inspected the ceiling tiles and I shrank down into my seat. Thank goodness it was time to disband for another day.

One morning, one of the gang started relating his latest fishing adventure. That's like popping the cork on a jug of moonshine in a chain gang. When that happens, the normal church going person will fold his tent and head for the door because the only subject that generates more lies are dog stories. If you've never been in a group of eight or nine fellows, some of who were probably involved in the civil war, and the subject of fishing comes up, you haven't experienced one of the gaudier facets of life. Best types of rods, killer baits or lures, best places to fish and enough monster fish to make even the Japanese blush with envy. Then in a slight pause in the action I made another supreme social blunder.

"I fish only with fly rods for trout, bass and pan fish". It got real quiet. You would have thought I had just insulted their mothers and claimed that anyone who drove a pickup was a low I.Q. hillbilly. I might as well have been wearing lace around my neck and on my shirt cuffs. After a long silence I tried to back peddle by explaining that I was just kidding and that I really use the rod for catching shiner minnows to use as bait on my trot lines. I don't know if they bought it, but the conversation slowly fell back on the advantages of pond fishing and whether chicken guts were better than hog guts for cat fishing.

I kept going back for a while, hoping they would accept me as a genuine geezer. I stuck to dog stories and stopped trying to impress them with lies of big trout caught on flies with names like Humpy Hairwing and Wooly Booger. I even tried a spinning rod baited with chicken entrails and ten pounds of lead sinkers. Finally, after finding it impossible to keep my mouth shut, I gave up the morning sessions. After all, social acceptance is an important part of life if you expect to be a member of the early morning geezer gang. ■



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# Fishing Lake Michigan



by **Capt. Mike Schoonveld**

## IT SUCKS TO BE A STRAW

I apologize if you are getting tired of columns dealing with the evils of plastic in our world. One of my goals is to keep you readers up to date on outdoor issues and plastic pollution is currently an environmental hot button. The first column I wrote about it was in 2015 when researchers, awash with grant money, started looking at the Great Lakes hoping to find "floating islands" of plastic refuse adrift out in the nether regions of the inland seas.

The issue started years earlier when a Korean container ship lost part of its load in a storm and thousands of Nike shoes were set adrift. Months



Ban the straw. Save the world? (Author Photo)

later, hundreds of these wayward jogging clogs drifted ashore in the Pacific Northwest and a couple years later a few pairs came ashore in Hawaii.

Plastic litter has been around since plastic was invented - or at least since single use, disposable plastic was invented (which is nearly one and the same). Floating plastic litter was a new twist to an old problem.

However, few people are willing or able to live a plastics-free lifestyle. We live in partially plastic homes, sit on partially plastic furniture, drive in partially plastic cars and fish out of partially plastic boats. Things previously made of wood or metal are now made better, lighter and cheaper out of plastic. One of the good things about plastic - it doesn't rot or rust - is also the bad thing about plastic, it doesn't rot or rust, so once it's produced, it lasts a long, long time. That's good in a plastic home, bad if it's a piece of jetsam floating in Lake Huron.

So leave it government to come up with a logical solution. Leave it to businesses to turn it into a marketing tool - ban drinking straws!

When this innovative solution first popped up in California a year or more ago, I thought it was just another idea being floated by left-coast loonies. Surely it would never get past the discussion stage. Surely I was wrong.

Though there are thousands of tons of plastic refuse escaping the confines of terra firma and ending up in the sea each year, only drinking straws are specifically banned. Add to this, the straw-ban agenda started in a state by and large populated by citizens demonstrably willing to recycle or properly dispose of single use plastic products. What? Do Californians recycle everything except for soda straws which they haul down to their ocean front and toss into the surf?

The fact is drinking straws account for a ridiculously insignificant amount of the plastic products produced daily. Drinking straws account for a ridiculously insignificant amount of the plastic found floating on the ocean's surface. On beach clean-ups conducted by the Alliance for the Great Lakes, volunteers pick up more plastic cigar tips than discarded drinking straws.

The mega-coffee shop chain, Starbucks is using

amount of plastic needed to produce one Iced Caffe' Latte sippy cup.

McDonald's came under fire recently from drinking straw activists for not buying in to the ban-the-drinking-straw movement. McCustomer's of the fast food chain pull millions of plastic straws from the serve-yourself, in-store beverage counters every day. Number one, the customers could choose to eschew the straw and just drink out of the cup (assuming they'd mastered sippy-cups when they were toddlers). Number two, there's more disposable plastic in the pickle buckets, bulk French fry bags and other single use containers (such as the drink cups, themselves) used by McDonald's than in all the plastic straws.

I was sitting at a dockside restaurant last summer with a discrete notice on each table saying "Save a Turtle, Don't ask for a Straw." I was glad I saw it. First, could you imagine the service I'd have gotten if I'd told the waiter, "I hate turtles. I want a straw!" More importantly, it seemed so curious to me, I investigated the turtle/straw connection.

There's no doubt turtles (and birds and fish and other wildlife) occasionally, mistakenly or accidentally eat plastic stuff. But are straws at the top of the list of turtle snacks? Not that eating plastic is ever a good thing. Anti-plastics activists and researchers are searching diligently to unearth something particularly toxic about any of it, especially the plastic used to make drinking straws. For the most part those studies haven't found much other than the occasional critter with a clogged digestive system.

The seed of all this anti-straw hoopla apparently was a video-gone-viral of a drinking straw being pulled from a sea turtle's nostril. It was gross. I've seen photos of ducks and fish caught with 6-pak rings, I've removed discarded fishing line from tangled-up geese. I'm sure there are millions of instances of fish or wildlife coming up on the short end of an encounter with discarded plastic.

Straws, however, have been made the scapegoat when they are no more than a teeny part to a larger problem. Unfortunately, governments and sippy-cup latte drinkers act as though banning the straw has solved the problem of plastic pollution in the environment.

THE END

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# Gad's Corner

Photos sent to The Gad-a-bout for GAD'S CORNER should contain the following information: date taken, weight, points, length or other identifying information, experience if it's your first hunt or if you want to tell the reader about the hunt, fish caught or other outdoor experience. Send a phone number or e-mail in case I need to contact you. Send Photos to: The Gad-a-bout, 105 E. South St., Centerville, IN 47330 or E-mail .jpg photos to: [raythegadabout@gmail.com](mailto:raythegadabout@gmail.com) Questions, Call My Cell Phone: 765-960-5767



Adam Baldwin took his buck on November 17th. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)



Dylan Sparks took his 9 point buck on November 27, 2018 in Wabash County. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)



Mike Eviston took his 11 point buck on November 23, 2018 in Wabash County. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)



Dave Judy took his buck on November 7, 2018. Ryan says, Congrats to Dave! (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)



Tony Jester took this 8 point buck on November 19, 2018 in Jefferson County. (Photo sent to The Gad-a-bout via E-mail by William Jester)

## Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

[facebook.com/Americas-State-Parks-205324976548604](https://www.facebook.com/Americas-State-Parks-205324976548604)

First Day events at Indiana State Park properties are (all times are local):

—**Brookville Lake**, Mounds State Recreation Area, 4 to 4:45 p.m.: Meet at the Campground Shelter across from Wildlife Wander Trail for a 0.7-mile hike. Along the way, a naturalist will explain what life is like for animals during winter. The trail is rated easy. Hot cocoa will be served around a campfire afterward.

—**Brown County State Park**, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Meet at Abe Martin Lodge for a hike around the original state park property, including a walk across the covered bridge. Learn about those early years, then stick around for refreshments and a slideshow with historic pictures.

—**Chain O'Lakes State Park**, 2 to 4 p.m.: Meet

the park's naturalists at the boat rental parking lot for hike around the winter landscape. Two lengths of hikes are available. Hot cocoa and snacks will be served afterward.

—**Charlestown State Park**, 10 a.m. to Noon: Meet at the Ohio River overlook for a rugged hike on Trail 6. Enjoy great views of the Ohio River on this 2.3-mile hike.

—**Clifty Falls State Park**, 7 to 7:30 p.m.: Meet at the Clifty Falls State Park Nature Center to enjoy a winter night under the stars hike. It will be a half-mile, 30-minute hike to the observation tower on Trail 1 that will be lit with luminaries. This will be a moderate hike. Discover the night sky and learn about the animals that roam Clifty Falls in the dark. After the hike cookies and hot cocoa will be served at the inn.

—**Fort Harrison State Park**, 1 to 2 p.m.: Meet at the Delaware Lake parking area for a hike on Harrison Trace. The paved loop is 2.25 miles long. Hot cocoa will be provided by Friends of the Fort

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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# FORD SIXTY FIFTH ANNUAL INDIANAPOLIS BOAT, SPORT & TRAVEL SHOW AT INDIANA STATE FAIRGROUNDS FEBRUARY 15TH THRU 24TH 2019



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Hawg Trough Seminar Fishing Pro's answering questions from the visitors.



**The Best Fishing is Where You Find it**  
Sometimes it's right here in Indiana

*Guest Article by Josh Lantz*

I've had a passion for fishing as long as I can remember. With some luck and hard work, I've turned it into a long and rewarding career—not as a tournament angler, but as a fishing guide, an outdoor

communicator and, today, as a PR and marketing professional working with some of the world's best fishing companies including Aqua-Vu, Fish Monkey Gloves, LIVETARGET Lures, Raymarine, Seaguar, St. Croix Rods, and Z-Man Fishing Products.

I've made a lot of special fishing memories over the past 45 years, having fished in 27 different states and five other countries. But I'll let you in on a secret: many of those memorable angling experiences were garnered from fishing adventures in my native state of Indiana.

***Indiana's Best Fishing Holes***

While not widely discussed or recognized, the Midwest – and specifically Indiana – can rightfully boast some truly exceptional angling. The early spring coho salmon fishing along Southern Lake Michigan's Indiana coast is the best on the Great Lakes. Musky densities in many of North-Central Indiana's glacial lakes are some of the highest in the United States, while striper and wiper (hybrid white bass) fishing on some of Central and Southern Indiana's reservoirs is truly world class. Northern Indiana's St. Joseph River is home to an incredible variety of gamefish species, including plentiful smallmouth bass, walleye and Northern pike, but is

best known for its healthy run of Skamania-strain steelhead. Depending on annual weather patterns, it's possible to catch a steelhead in the St. Joe during any month of the year. Chinook (king) salmon, large lake-run brown trout and other salmonid species can also be caught in the St. Joe, as well as a handful of other Lake Michigan tributaries in Northwest Indiana. Throw in giant Ohio River blue cats, Southern lake Michigan jumbo perch and wide-spread opportunities across the state for crappie, bluegill and largemouth bass, and one can quickly realize why Indiana deserves recognition as a world-class angling destination. But the state of Indiana offers yet another exciting resource for anglers.

***Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show  
Bringing Fishermen Together for 65 Years...***

You can't talk about Indiana's significant fishing opportunities, history or fishing culture without mentioning the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show.

Even in today's world of infinite media for outdoor sports enthusiasts, outdoor sport shows are more relevant than ever, holding a special place in

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 14**

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Hoosier Wall of Fame, Deer Scoring and Record Book Trophy Deer Display.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13



Josh Lantz in a more natural setting, an avid fisherman, outdoor writer, photographer, videographer, etc. (Author Photo)

America's outdoor heritage and traditions. They are the only places where angling enthusiasts can talk one-on-one with fishing-industry experts and celebrities, then put the very latest fishing gear in their hands to see how it works and feels firsthand.

In addition to being one of the largest outdoor sport shows in the country, the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show is also one of the oldest consumer sport shows – something show organizers, Renfro Productions, do their best to celebrate each year. “Our show was here in the 50’s, when post-war America began its infatuation with boats, RV’s and outdoor recreation travel,” says show organizer Kevin Renfro. “We were here in the late 60’s and early 70’s during the genesis of modern bass fishing. We have entertained, informed and outfitted hundreds of thousands of people in their pur-

suit of fishing adventure, outdoor recreation, travel and family memories... so each year of the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show becomes another opportunity to remind all generations of anglers where our collective outdoor passions have come from. And we are still here today,” Renfro continues. “Rapidly expanding technologies are resulting in mind-blowing fishing electronics, fishing kayaks, new lure designs, high-performance fishing rods, reels, lines and other new fishing products that are expanding fishing opportunities and bringing anglers more opportunities for success. And the continual innovation we employ in planning and delivering the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show to angling consumers has to match that of our industry.”

The 65th installment of the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show returns to the Indianapolis State Fairgrounds February 15-24, 2019, and promises more for anglers than ever before.

The ever-popular Tackle Town USA will once again greet visitors with nearly two-acres of all things angling, serving up over 100 unique exhibitors offering cutting edge, hard-to-find fishing tackle, gear, equipment and accessories at special show prices. Tackle Town has everything for the fisherman or fishing family, including charter fishing captains, fishing guides, outfitters, fishing lodge and resort operators and angling travel specialists who can take you to the big ones. Tackle Town also features daily multispecies fishing seminars delivered by the best, most knowledgeable national, regional and local fishing pros; the Kids’ Zone casting area and trout fishing pond; along with an incredible array of other interesting events and attractions. Put simply, if Tackle Town doesn’t have the fishing gear and information you are looking for, it probably doesn’t exist.

Boats are the fishing enthusiasts’ magic carpets, whisking them and their friends or family members away from the demands of daily life and placing them into the secret angling spots of their dreams. Of course, boats have always been a mainstay of the

Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show, and over seven acres of boats will be on display at this year’s show. From fishing kayaks, bass and walleye boats, multispecies aluminum fishing boats, crappie rigs, center console fishing boats and offshore models, great deals and on-the-spot financing will be offered on the very latest watercraft, along with boating lifestyle products and accessories from many of the best dealers across Indiana.

Fishing passions and traditions can be varied and diverse, but no matter where, how or why you fish, one special annual event caters to all anglers, and it’s right here in Indiana. The 65th Annual Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show is the undisputed king of consumer fishing shows – a special place where those who make the outdoors their lifestyle and those with more casual interests gather to meet with others who make the outdoors their business. It’s ten days of the best of fishing and the best of the outdoors, and it’s happening at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, February 15-24. For more details about the show, check out their website at [www.indysportshow.com](http://www.indysportshow.com).

See you there.

## The Gad-a-bout Booth Will Be In Tackle Town Again This Year

I will be pretty close to where I was last year, booth 4756. If you come into the Blue Ribbon Pavillion from the south parking area, once you pass through the gate turn right (Aisle 700), I’m the third booth on the right.

I’ve had a problem getting enough volunteers to have someone in the booth when I have to be away. The problem is solved this year, helping me this year is Mikel Davis - Beck, Executive Director of the Franklin County Convention, Recreation & Visitors Commission. The booth will look a little different too, Mikel is letting me use her back drop.

Stop by to pick up your Gad-a-bout and we’ll have lots of other information for you too. See you.

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## Adventures Await at The Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show February 15-24, 2019

One of the oldest and largest outdoor shows takes place in the heart of Indianapolis. The Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show remains the biggest and most popular in the nation, largely because it has been run by the same passionate family for over 60 years. The 65th Annual Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show comes to the Indiana State Fairgrounds February 15-24 and will consist of over 700,000 square feet of pure outdoor excitement in six super-sized buildings, providing plenty for readers, viewers and listeners to get excited about.

**Tackle Town USA**– At 70,000 square feet with aisles and aisles of exhibitors, Tackle Town has everything for the individual angler or fishing family. From that one-of-a-kind lure to custom fishing rods and everything in between!



**Fishing Seminars** – Between the interactive-style Fishing Camp: Ask the Pros and the giant Hawg Trough, visitors will find the best fishing seminars from anglers like Tommy Skarlis (walleye), Ed Stachowski (walleye), Joe Thomas (bass), Mike Delvisco (bass), Mark Martin (walleye), Matt Firestein (musky), Jim Vitaro (bass), “Mr. Crappie” Wally Marshall (crappie), Billy DeHaven (carp) and Dan Armitage of Ohio (kids’ fishing fun) – are just part of this year’s line-up!

**Travel and Tourism Pavilion** – No matter what kind of travel experience your readers are looking for, they’ll find them at a great price at the Travel and Tourism Pavilion, featuring exhibitors representing camps, lodges, outfitters, guides and other destinations in over 25 states plus Canada and Africa, South America and New Zealand. A new feature this year in the Travel Café is Indy Sport Show Live! – one-on-one stage interviews with top-name show speakers that will be real-time live on Facebook!

**Boat Pavilion** – Over 180,000 square feet of boats, boating-lifestyle products and accessories. Dealers are motivated to sell and on-the-spot financing is available.

**Progressive Insurance RV Pavilion** – Over 180,000 square feet of the latest motor homes, travel trailers, fifth wheels and campers. Dealers are motivated to sell and on-the-spot financing is available.

**K-9 X Games Presented by Alpha K9 U** – Thrilling exhibitions of canine athleticism, including X-treme Retrieve, X-treme Vertical, X-treme Air and Big Air! Fun for the entire family!

**Twiggy the Waterskiing Squirrel** – Who knew this audience-beloved waterskiing creature was here to teach watersafety in a family-fun and friendly way? That’s how she started out – and how she continues. Twiggy is one of the most popular attractions for show goers!

**Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo (Feb. 21-24 only)** – The Midwest’s Premier Hunting Expo, the Indiana Deer, Turkey and Waterfowl Expo has everything the hunter or hunting family could hope to find in one place – no matter what kind of camo they wear. Special features include a new Archery Alley, Outfitters from Around the World, Deer Scoring and the Hoosier Record Book Trophy Deer Display.



Seminar Stage features seminars by Chuck Adams (bowhunting), the Holder Family (Raised Hunting TV), Melissa Bachman (Winchester Deadly Passion TV), Bill Epeards (turkey and waterfowl), Tom Nauman (mushroom hunting), C.J. Winand (wildlife biologist and hunter) and more.

Kids’ Day is Saturday, February 24 – Kids live coming to the show. From the Hawg Trough, Kids’ Fishing Fun seminars by Dan Armitage and Kids’ Trout Fishing Pond in TackleTown USA, to the K-9 X Games, Peak Adventure Rock Wall, DNR wildlife

and hunter education programs and the Youth Archery Range, the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show offers plenty to engage and excite kids – no matter when they attend. But on Saturday, February 24th they’ll love it even more. The first 500 kids through the door will receive a great gift!

So much to do for everyone from the young to the young-at-heart: YOUR ADVENTURE AWAITS! For complete details, visit their website at [www.indysportshow.com](http://www.indysportshow.com).

**Show Hours:**

- Friday, Feb. 15: 1pm – 8pm
- Saturday, Feb. 16: 10am – 8pm
- Sunday, Feb. 17: 10am – 5pm
- Mon – Thurs, Feb. 18-21: 12pm – 8pm
- Friday, Feb. 22: 12pm – 8pm
- Saturday, Feb. 23: 10am – 8pm
- Sunday, Feb. 24: 10am – 5pm

(Photos provided by Renfro Productions and Ray Dickerson)



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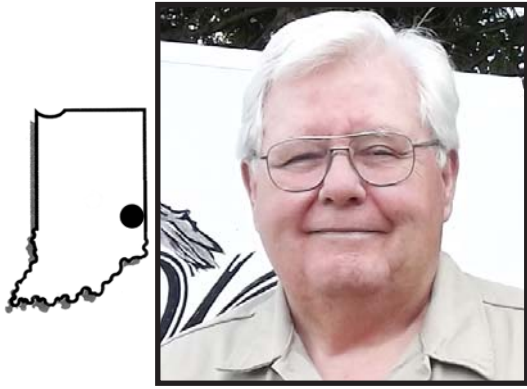




Norinco 1911A1 a Chinese clone of the Colt 1911A1 series 70 model (Author Photo)

The hammer and sear as they should connect in the cocked position. (Author Photo)

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



by **Marshall Smith**

Gunsmith, NRA Life Member, Retired LEO

**Gunsmithing  
Dangerous Gun by Owner**

I just finished working on an older model Norinco 1911A1, a Chinese clone of the Colt 1911A1 series 70 models. The series 70s didn't have a firing pin block as a back up safety. The weapon looked to be in good condition with a black dull finish. There were no scratches or dings and looked as if it were rarely used. However, when the slide was racked the hammer would not stay cocked. The hammer could be manually cocked and the thumb safety placed in the locked & cocked carry mode but the gun was still unsafe. If the safety was lowered to the fire position the hammer would drop discharging the weapon. Plus, when the safety was in the SAFE position a strong pull on the trigger and the safety would roll to the FIRE position and the hammer would drop. Of course this made the gun unsafe at any time except when empty.

My first thought was "poorly manufactured Chinese junk sold to us gullible Americans". Then I reminded myself that Norinco was the maker of the SKS rifle which is well thought of and has been making clone copies of guns since 1980. Their guns have sold all over the world and their AK-47 copy has

been used with success in the middle east. I'm not giving Norinco a thumbs up but according to Wikipedia Norinco's history is that it was "Established in 1980 with the approval of the State Council of China, Norinco is an enterprise group engaged in both products and capital operation, integrated with research and development, manufacturing, marketing, and services. Norinco mainly deals with defense products, petroleum & mineral resources development, international engineering contracting, optronic products, civilian explosives and chemical products, sports arms and equipment, vehicles and logistics operation, etc. Norinco has been ranked among the forefront of China's 500 largest state-owned enterprises in terms of total assets and revenue." From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

With that said, China may be good at copying great products but don't use the best materials when making products for sale in foreign countries. It is my opinion that inferior materials were used in this particular weapon or some previous owner decided to "improve" the gun and tried to make changes to the weapon and didn't know the proper way to make those changes. I, at first, thought the thumb safety was the problem as it didn't appear to be an exact replica of the Colt 1911 thumb safety. So, being the gunsmith I am, I changed the safety out for one made by Colt. Well that should fix that ... Wrong!

Well if the safety didn't fix it then either the hammer or sear was at fault. This is where I get on my band wagon about inferior materials. I found the hammer was not hardened as it should have been nor was the sear. The sear was rounded and didn't fit the cocking notch of the hammer. Neither the sear nor the hammer passed my hardness file test, that is a file cut easily through the metal. I removed both the hammer and sear and inspected them under magnification. The hammer appeared to be as should but the sear had large scratches across its contact surface and the angle was wrong. The relief angle of the sear was non existent and was rounded. Someone had tried to decrease the trigger pull but didn't have the knowledge or tools to do the proper angles. I stoned the sear to its proper angles and also deepened the hammer notch to assure good contact. The trigger pull fell in at 4.5 pounds. Exactly where it should be. The safety worked exactly as it should and I was satisfied that it would, for a time, be safe. As the sear and



Left to right, the hammer, the sear, the trigger disconnect, and the manual external safety. All of these parts will need to be replaced to make the gun safe and avoid the safety issues of the untempered hammer and sear. The trigger disconnect and manual safety will have to be replaced and tuned to the hammer and sear. (Author Photo)

hammer were not of hardened steel I have no idea how many rounds will go through it before it will need to be corrected again. When I do a trigger job on a 1911 part of the process shortens the length of the sear which reduces creep and trigger pull. I left the sear on the Norinco long to maintain a longer life before it would have to be replaced.

Addendum: The hammer notch did not last long and failed after several tests. The trigger could still be pulled with enough force to cause the safety to roll to the FIRE position and the gun would fire. The next thing will be to replace the factory parts, that is the Hammer, Sear, and Safety with good American made and hardened parts. The current owner of the gun must approve. A cheaply made gun will soon be an expensive repair. Moral: Don't buy cheaply made guns, they will end up costing you more than a more expensive gun.

**Gun Control has just received a Boost**

What is the real purpose of gun control? Having control of the sale and possession of guns is for only one purpose that I can see. It results in the control of honest, decent, law abiding people. The proposed protection of the state controlling the possession and sale of guns and ammo is non-existent. Crime hap-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

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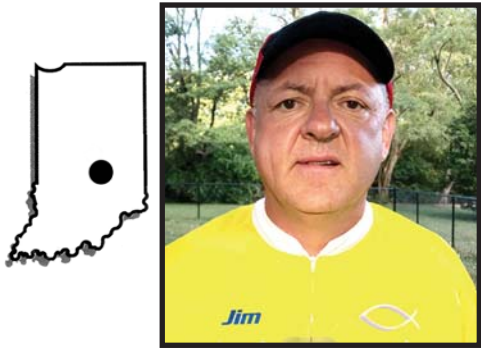
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# Indiana Slab Masters



by **Jim Raymer**

Founder of the Indiana Slabmasters

## Indiana Slab Master's 2019 Season Preview

The Indiana Slab Masters are experiencing a very exciting time right now. I have retired as the club president, and a younger energetic team that the new president, Joe Rosinski, has put together are now leading the way and keeping the club alive and well. The new board has decided to bring an 8 regular season to the 2019 schedule. The club is kicking off its 9th regular season with a choice tournament at Geist or Morse Reservoir Saturday **March 23, 2019**. At the time of the writing of this article, they have yet to determine the location of the check in and weigh in site. Please keep an eye open to the website or the Indiana Slab Masters Facebook page to keep up with the particulars on these tournaments.

The second tournament of the season will be on Brookville Lake on Saturday **April 6, 2019** and will be out of the Fairfield Launching area. This lake is Indiana's 3rd largest reservoir behind Monroe 1st and Patoka 2nd. This lake has shown some real promise in the past and always is a very competitive lake for all the competitors. The 3rd tournament of the regular season was the 2018 classic location. This tournament is another choice tournament – Lake Freeman or Lake Shafer on Saturday **April 20th, 2019**. This area has started to produce and the club has found it to be a good location for a tournament.

The 4th tournament will be a super event at Mississinewa and Salamonie on Saturday and Sunday **May 5th & 6th, 2019**. This spring event last year showed the full potential of these lakes as the club hit them almost perfect on the timing and both lakes the crappie were very close to the

spawn. Not only did each team limit out, most of the limits were very large fish compared to a normal tournament weight at this location. This tournament should be a very good time and there should be a lot of fish caught during this time on these lakes. Our 5th tournament will be a Saturday **June 1, 2019** tournament at Lake Monroe in Bloomington. Not only is this our largest lake in Indiana but also the largest crappie lake in Indiana as well with not only the club record stringer weight for 7 fish but this lake has broken the record multiple times. This lake produces the largest stringers every year and with the average fish increasing in size, this tournament has all the makings of a barn burner!

The 6th regular season tournament will be at Tanner's Creek at the Ohio River in the Markland Pool on Saturday **June 15th, 2019**. As I have stated before on many opportunities, this area of the Ohio River is one of our best fisheries in the state! The diversity of the fishing and the different ways that the fish can be sought after is what makes this experience so unique! Nearly everyone seems to have a good time when we go to the River. I hope you can mark this one on your calendar to make if the river isn't too muddy or hasn't muddied up quickly before we arrive for the tournament. The entire Markland Pool is open for this tournament as long as you have the proper fishing license for whatever state's creek you fish in. This will be the final tournament of the season prior to the summer break.

After the summer break is over the 7th tournament of the season will be at Raccoon Lake Saturday **August 24th, 2019**. Raccoon is located in western central Indiana and is predominately a black crappie lake. The final regular season tournament will be at Cataract lake near Cloverdale, Indiana. This lake has been a favorite over the years, but the club appeared to outgrow it in the past since it is under a 1,000 acres. The final regular season event is usually one of the smallest ones, so this tournament may just make it in this final regular season slot!

The 2019 Indiana Slab Masters classic will be at Lake Monroe on Saturday and Sunday **September 28 & 29th 2019**. Keep an eye on the website for all the check in times and locations. I hope you can all make it out and that the winter isn't too harsh on us all. If you make it out, tight lines to you!

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### INDIANA SLAB MASTERS 2019 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Saturday March 23 - Geist or Morse Reservoir  
Saturday April 6 - Brookville Lake, Fairfield Launching Area  
Saturday April 20 - Lake Freeman or Lake Shafer  
Saturday May 5 & 6 - Mississinewa & Salamonie  
Saturday June 1 - Lake Monroe  
Saturday June 15 - Tanner's Creek, Ohio River Markland Dam Pool  
Saturday August 24 - Raccoon Lake  
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Michael Parks, Chad Martin, Joey Buttram and Matt Brennan.



Winners of the Brookville Bash Walleye Event Dave Stang and Dave Adair.

## Outdoor Scenes & Verse



by Anita McFalls



Also braving the 19 degree morning was Emma Lee Lewis, local student, singing the National Anthem prior to the beginning of the Brookville Bash.

## Results of the Brookville Bash Walleye Event Nov. 11, 2018

Photos: Provided by Mike Parks of IWAA

What a great turn out for the 2nd annual Brookville Bash, presented by Willow Pines Outdoors, in association with the Franklin County tourism office. On November 11, twenty four teams braved the cold, and slick ramp, for morning check-in at a temperature of 19 degrees. Korner's Kountry Kitchen warmed everyone up with hot coffee and donuts, and they were much appreciated! Volunteers from several surrounding high schools contributed by releasing the fish after weigh in and any other task presented them.

Emma Lee Lewis, a local student, sang the National Anthem, as Country and Veterans were honored. To the folks "behind the scenes," and those in the fore front, we couldn't have done it without you! Thanks go out to Geoff Church and Tim McFarland, along with JJJ Packaging for their generous donations and participation in mak-

ing this event a huge success. There was an awesome amount of donated merchandise by many businesses to raise money for the raffle and a great deal of money was collected to assist Matt in his battle against cancer. Contributions continued to come in even after the tournament, and Matt was extremely thankful and humbled, he thanked each person personally.

Although it was a tough day on the water, the big fish weighed in at 6 lbs. 2 oz. The team of Dave Stang and Dave Adair brought in the big one and they also won the tournament with a total weight of 12 lbs. 2 oz.

Chris Hill and William Oesterkamp took second place with a total weight of 8.5 lbs.

Jeremy and Hunter Smith took third place with a total weight of 8.07 lbs.

Isaiah and Dean Noah took fourth place with a total weight of 6.77 lbs.

Derrick Johnson and Marty Krause finished in fifth place with 5.55 lbs.

This event showed again, that when the going gets tough, the tough get going, and go fishing!

I want to share with you all, that Matt is now cancer free, and still in the healing stage. Doctors say the worst case scenario would be back surgery at a later date. Glory be to God, and believe in prayer and healing!

Here at Gittin Jiggy With It, we're ready to turn our focus to Christmas and ice fishing! Wishing you and yours, a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

## So You Wanna' Catch More Fish

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Brookville lake. We fish out of a 2017 pro V 2075 with a 250 Honda outboard engine. I supply everything all the way down to cleaning the fish. I can take 1 - 5 people. The price is according to how many go \$500.00 for 5 people \$450.00 for 4 people \$375.00 for 3 people \$325.00 for 2 people and \$275.00 for 1 person. We start at 7:30 am and fish till 1:30 pm to schedule trips call my cell 765-265-3238 or [tagnobbe@gmail.com](mailto:tagnobbe@gmail.com)

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## Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

pens now, not later. Government, any kind of government, can't provide enough people to be present all the time.

Now that the Nancy Pelosi gang has charge of the U.S. House of Representatives they will do everything possible to push their anti-gun agenda. The left will push further into the government in their attempt to convert the U.S. Constitution and remove the 2nd amendment, the 3rd amendment, and eventually the First amendment. Beware.

### Quote of the Month

*Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel. Unfortunately, nothing will preserve it but downright force. Whenever you give up that force, you are inevitably ruined. - Patrick Henry*

That's all for this month. These notes are mine  
CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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Top Left Photo: A sturgeon caught near Sportsman's Lodge, one of our trip donors. (Joe Henry Photo) Top Right Photo: A gathering of large bull elk ready for winter. (RMEF Photo) Bottom Left Photo: Huge walleye taken on Lake of the Woods near Sportsman's Lodge. (Photo by LOW Tourism) Bottom Right Photo: Display of reloaders at the MEC factory in Wisconsin. One will be on our Live Auction. (Creason photo)

# Outdoors



With Rich Creason

## 20th Anniversary Banquet Coming Soon

About 20 years ago, I received a call asking if I would attend a meeting in Muncie to write a story about the start of a new chapter of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Since there were folks there from Winchester, Muncie, Anderson, and elsewhere, the chapter was named the East Central Indiana Chapter of the RMEF. I thought I was there just as a reporter to cover the details and possibly gain some publicity for the new group. Little did I know at that time what the next 20

years would bring.

Over the last two decades, I have been a member of the East Central IN committee, and over the last 15 years, I have been Chapter Chairman, Merchandise Chairman, Publicity Chairman, and every other Chairman position except Finance Chairman. (I spend money, I don't keep track of it.) Most of these positions, I have held at the same time. For the last three years, I have been training Dave Troyer, another committee member to take my place as Chairman. This year, his wife, Debbie will be taking my wife's place as Ticket Chairman. After this many years, it's time we stepped back a little.


But, this year, I am going full throttle to make our February 2, 2019 fundraiser the best ever. For the last several years, our fundraiser has netted (that means PROFIT) around \$23,000 each year. If we can net \$25,500 this year, our total for the 20 years will exceed a quarter of a million dollars for the Elk Foundation. Not bad for a RMEF chapter in a state with no wild elk.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation was founded in 1984 in Montana and now comprises over 500 chapters across the country. Their mission is to "ensure the future of elk, other wildlife, their habitat, and our hunting heritage". To date, the RMEF has been a major part of bringing back wild elk to Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina,

Tennessee, Virginia, Wisconsin, Ontario, and recently, to West Virginia. They are a 501 (C) 3 tax exempt organization and are rated four star by the Charity Navigator group. Since Indiana has no wild elk, we receive grant money for Women in the Outdoors, 4-H Shooting Sports, Archery in the Schools, Conservation Kids Camp, and other worthwhile groups.

Anderson will be the site for our fundraising banquet on February 2. We will have a great buffet meal, live auction with trips, guns, golf outings, ladies items, and more. We have two Ontario bear hunts, a KY turkey hunt, fishing in MN, MI, KY, TN, and IN. Besides the live auction, we have a silent auction with 50-60 choices and dozens of raffles. One of our raffles is a 7.0 cubic foot deep freeze. The winner also gets two gift certificates, each for \$250 meat of their choice at Knightstown Locker and Rihm's meats in Cambridge City.

We will have lots of items for the ladies. Besides a special ladies raffle, we have a matching five piece Vera Bradley package on the Live Auction. A \$100 piece of Vera Bradley which



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every adult female who attends will get a free ticket for a chance. Another table has a Kitchen Aid food processor, cookbooks and more. And the first item on our live auction is our "Romantic Package". This includes a night at a local hotel, movie tickets, dinner, candy, ice cream, some other surprises, and a diamond necklace.

A popular item for several years at our event is the MEC reloader. Once again, BPI Outdoors has donated a CVA 50 caliber muzzleloader for our auction. Several companies have sent us fishing poles and gear to help and Snag proof Lures gave

us a box of 1700 assorted lures which will be spread in many different raffles and auctions. Over the many years I have been Merchandise Chairman of our event, we have had hundreds of donors help make our event a success. We have averaged over 100 donors per year for the last 10 years, with 150 several times. This means we have enough merchandise that everyone at our event goes home with something.

Our fundraiser is usually filled. We have attendees from Elkhart, Ft. Wayne, Terre Haute, Evansville, and all over much of Indiana. We even

attract folks from western Ohio every year. Dress is casual and about a third of our guests are ladies. If you would like to attend our banquet, and help support the efforts of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, email the author with specific questions about the event or contact Debbie Troyer at 765-998-6060 or email [hairydave1@att.net](mailto:hairydave1@att.net) to sign up to attend. Space is limited at our venue, so don't wait to respond.

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



# West Fork Chapter Banquet

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# News of Native American Indians in Indiana



by **Shirley Willard**  
Fulton County Historian, Rochester, Indiana

## Trail of Death Caravan Across Missouri

Huntsville, Missouri, Trail of Death marker at the courthouse. George Godfrey blesses the marker with tobacco, sweet grass, cedar and sage, while the Potawatomi and guests turned with him to face the four sacred directions. (Click image for a larger view.)

On Thursday Sep 20, 2018, we crossed the mighty Mississippi River to West Quincy, Missouri. A Trail of Death marker at the second Ayerco gas station was our first stop.

We had breakfast with the Heritage Seekers at Hardee's restaurant in Palmyra. They escorted us to Big Spring Park so we could taste the water. Legend tells that if you drink this water, you will return some day.

Then we traveled gravel roads to the historic Gander house south of Monroe City. Josephine and Clifford Gander had hosted our caravan there several times but are deceased now. Their daughter, Alice Gander Bell, and granddaughter had prepared a big spread for our lunch. This was the high light of the whole trip. We sat on the porch overlooking the former road and across the meadow where deer and eagles could be seen. The Potawatomi walked on that former road in 1838. We hated to leave and travel on.

We drove by the United Methodist Church where Jo and Cliff Gander had erected a Trail of Death marker. A picture of them is on our Facebook page and website.

The next stop was Paris which has a museum inside the courthouse. Refreshments were served and we had the chance to meet the local folks. A black priest from Nigeria prayed for our safe journey. This is a beautiful courthouse with murals depicting history of the county.

At Moberly we visited the Trail of Death marker in Rothwell Park. It was a long walk so transportation in golf carts was provided.

We ate supper in Felicia Restaurant, hosted y Randolph County Historical Society, Joyce A. Cooper-Campbell and Joe Barnes.

Friday Sep 21 found us in Moberly, Missouri. We visited the Huntsville museum and saw the Trail of Death marker at the courthouse.

We drove by the Salisbury Trail of Death marker



Huntsville, Missouri, Trail of Death marker at the courthouse. George Godfrey blesses the marker with tobacco, sweet grass, cedar and sage, while the Potawatomi and guests turned with him to face the four sacred directions. (Author Photo)

at the Scout Cabin. In Keytesville we drove by the Trail of Death marker near the Confederate General Sterling Price statue. You may recall that in the movie "True Grit" John Wayne's cat was named General Sterling Price.

At Brunswick boat ramp we met Don and Mary Riddle. This is where Cub Scouts erected a Trail of Death marker in 1999. They accompanied us to eat lunch at DeWitt community center, which had a big turn-out but no school kids this year.

The museum was not open at Carrollton. This is a large museum and I fear they are having financial difficulties because the museum is open only on Saturdays now.

Richmond High School had prepared a ceremony to meet us and many students came out to learn what the Trail of Death was all about. The rock on which two plaques were attached is deteriorating so local people said they would find a better boulder to put it on. One of the plaques is a map of the Trail of Death. One plaque was made by a student/ Boy Scout and one was by the Ray County Historical Society. After crossing the Missouri River on a new bridge, we drove by the Trail of Death marker and Madonna of the Trail at Lexington. We also drove by the Wellington and Napoleon markers. Apparently these little towns were named for Napoleon's defeat in 1815.

Near Buckner we went back the lane to Fire Prairie Creek Wetland Park. Gene Pittman, Scout leader, and Boy Scouts met us there with bottles of water.

Next was Lake City Bicycle Park where we walked over a bridge and on a path to the Trail of Death marker.

We visited the historical marker and log cabin at Pioneer Spring Park in Independence, Missouri. Roy and Julia Slavin, Citizen Potawatomi regional representatives, met us. Julia told how the Trail of Death

marker was broken by a city mower and she got the city to replace it. Now it has blocks around it to keep the mower away.

We bought fast food and took it to the National Frontier Trails Museum to eat together. We stayed in hotels at Independence, MO.

Linda Anderson, Citizen Potawatomi, wrote: "It was extremely dusty on gravel roads. When I turned on the windshield wipers, clumps of dirt fell away. I imagined the Potawatomi in 1838 walking behind wagons that stirred up the dust. Being covered in it, the dust filling their eyes and mouths, sticking to their sweat. I can't even imagine how horrible that would have been. We had showers and comfortable rooms and plentiful food at the end of each day. They didn't."

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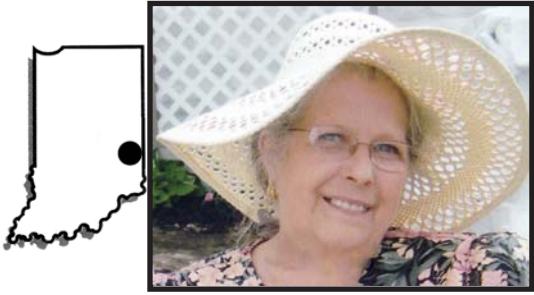
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# Whitewater Valley History



by **Donna Schroeder**  
Fayette County Historical Museum

## Over the River and Through the Woods

That song has always been a favorite of mine. We really did go over the river and through the woods to my grandmother's house. Every year I think about how much I miss those days.

My mom was the only girl in a family of four. Two of her brothers had no children and the other had three, so I didn't have cousins on the dozens on that side. I was my parents' only child for ten years, until my brother came along. They were married seventeen years when I arrived, so I was kind of a curiosity to the family. All my cousins were about ten years older, and I thought they were the coolest people I had ever met. I wanted fluffy skirts like my girl cousins. I thought my boy cousin was the most handsome, funniest person I had ever set eyes on.

But, as usual, I digress. Mamaw wasn't rich by any means. She lived in a plain little house that was left to her by a widower that she cared for until his death. She was a lady who always worked hard. Every spring, she washed the outside of her little house. She took in laundry to supplement her income. She and my grandfather had divorced long before I knew them, so she had to be self sufficient.

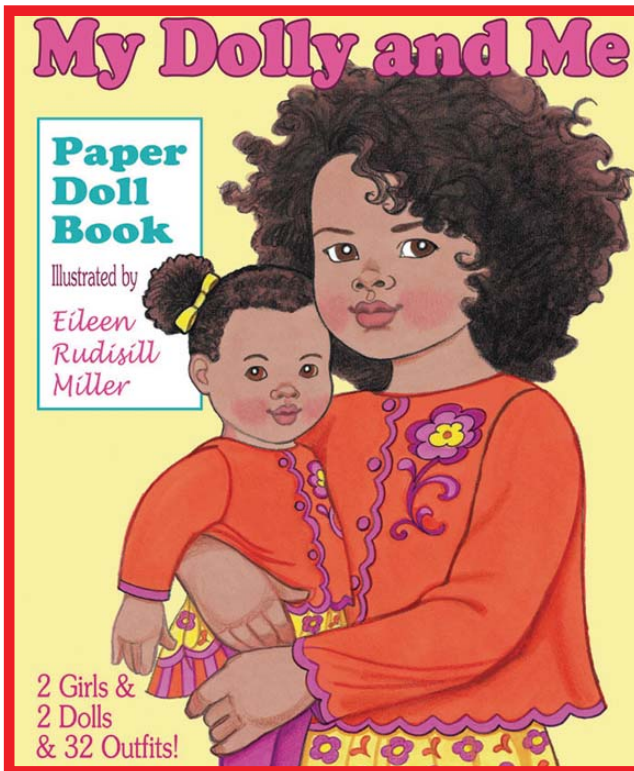
I don't remember any Christmas particular Christmas presents from her, except a Native American princess doll. She's plastic and has plastic beads and a feather headband, and she's tucked away at my house. I'm sure there must have been others, but that was the one I treasured. What I remember best are the times we all sat around her table. She had been a pastry chef at a hotel, so the pies and cookies were the best gift anyone could want. I never saw her use a recipe. My cousins and I have tried to replicate the sugar cookies we all loved, with no success. She was the product of southern families, so we had "cheery" pie at her house instead of cherry.

She had funny sayings. One neighbor went to church frequently, so she said that anyone who needed to go to church more than once a week must be very good or very bad. If you had to do laundry more than once a week, you must be very clean or very dirty.

I was thinking about gifts the other day at the museum. We have always had a small gift shop, but the larger place seemed the logical site to make more available. I thought about the toys I had as a child. One favorite was a fashion doll that came from the



Cut-Outs Dolls and Dresses.



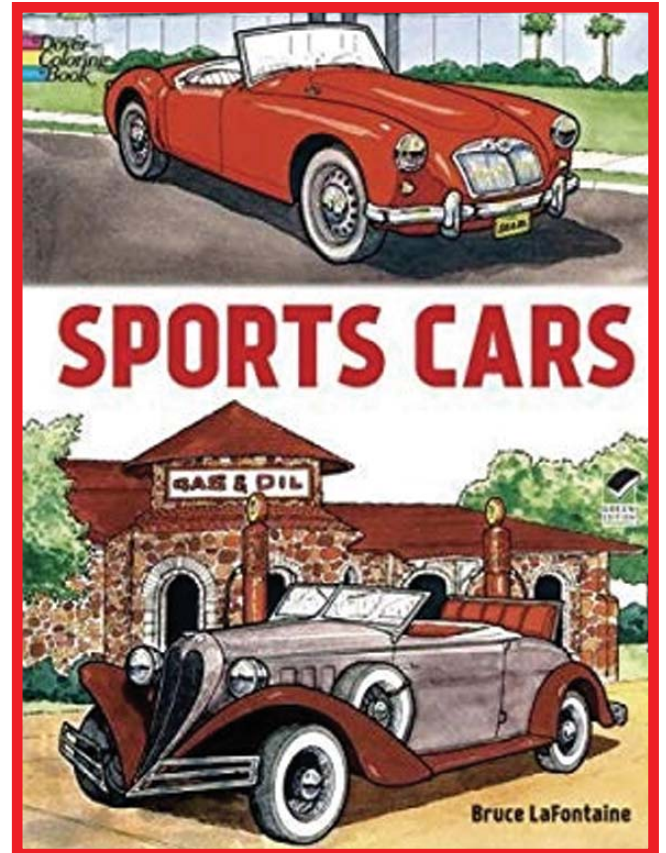
Cut-Outs Dolls and Dresses.

general store in Orange, Indiana. She has a fancy dress and a "picture hat". I still have her. I remember staring at her on the shelf at the store. One day, to my disappointment, she was gone. When she showed up at my house on Christmas, I was glad that Santa had a spare and that he knew how much I wanted one.

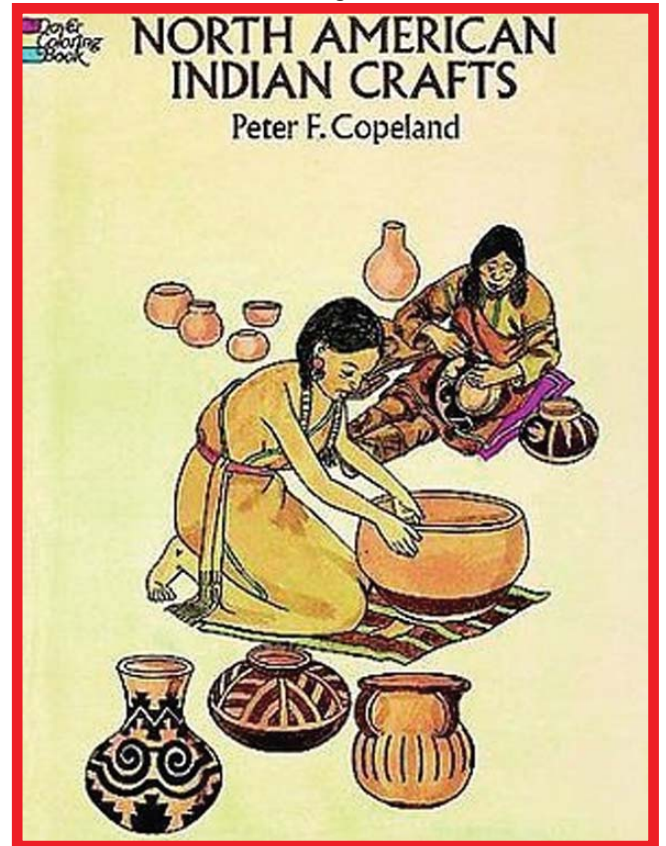
I have the china dishes that my cousins gave me. I have often wondered what happened to my favorite paper doll. Paper doll! So, I began a search for paper dolls to sell at the museum. Will little girls play with them? Will grandmas buy them for their granddaughters?

Jacks. I loved jacks. Do kids use them now? Are they a choking hazard? I know they were a hazard if you stepped on one with your bare foot.

What do you buy for the kid who has grown up with electronics? I remember hearing about a game called shinny that my dad and his friends played. That would have been in the 1920's. To play shinny, you cut a sapling from a hillside so the root had grown sideways into the bank. Then you hit a tin can around on a frozen creek. It was the poor kid's hockey, and they called it shinny because it was a treat to hit the other guy in the shins with the stick. That sounds bru-



Coloring Book.



Coloring Book.

tal. I remember mud pies, and I wonder how much kids use their imaginations now. We have china dolls on display. Those didn't seem very practical to me.

So, what do I know about today's toys? Nothing. The gift shop is about to be stocked with educational coloring books about Native Americans, the Underground Railroad, and history making cars and trains. There are paper dolls with aprons and recipes kids can make. A Rosie the Riveter paper doll tells the story of the Rosies and others that tell the stories of pioneers. Will they sell? Time will tell.

I have a feeling that they will. I hope kids are still interested in the simple things. If you're interested in buying any of these, as well as the hand crafted gifts in the gift shop, stop by or give us a call for hours from now until Christmas. The number is 765-825-0946 or 765-969-6795.

Wishing you and yours all the blessings of the season. Come see us soon at 200 W 5th in Connersville, Indiana.

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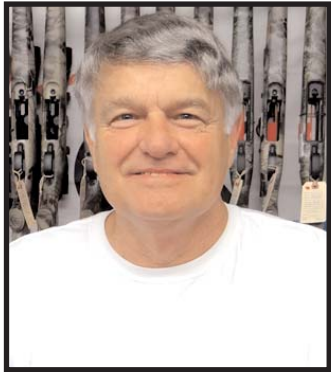
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Youth group Korbyn Jackson, Shane Riley, Curtis Strange, Troy Bruce, Conner Evans, Carter Schutz, Myla Ritchie, Zayne Ficklynn, Alec Ritchie, Porter May, Nick Bray, Devin McCullum, Wyatt Hamilton, Aspen Dennison, Marissa Sullivan, and Dane Kissell. (Author Photo)

## Blue River Outdoors



by Steve Dake

### Big Blue River Chapter 3049 Of Quail Forever in Shelby Co. Held Youth Pheasant Hunt

Big Blue River Chapter 3049 of Quail Forever in Shelby County hosted their youth pheasant hunt November 10, 2018. Dave Dennison chapter president said there was a great turnout for the event. He wasn't able to attend due to military obligations. Dave said all officers and committee members stepped up to make the event very successful. Dave would like to thank all sponsors The Gun Den, Kurt Layered, Terri Dennison, Bill Richie Sr.



Successful shooter Marissa Sullivan got her a pheasant. & Jr., Dennison Barber Shop, Buck Pro Mounts, Freeman Family Funeral Homes, and all officers and committee members for all there hard work and dedication.



Another shooter Myla Ritchie got her a pheasant too.

The chapter furnished pheasants, dog handlers and safety personnel with each group of youth that went out. The morning started off with a large breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, bis-

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Youth practice shooting at clay birds before they go afield for pheasant. (Author Photo)



Tim Weaver gets his pheasant as guide watches behind him. Good shot! (Author Photo)



Successful pheasant hunters Dana Kissell and Marissa Sullivan with dog handler Foster Wilson holding dog. (Author Photo)

cuit & gravy, juice, and milk. After that a safety meeting was held and then they shot clay birds. Big Blue River Chapter furnished firearms, ammo, clay birds and any other item needed for the youth. The chapter tries there best to get every youth a pheasant to take home to eat or have mounted. Every youth gets a chance to harvest one. Big Blue River Chapter picks up the bill for the entire event. No youth pays for anything.

to replace an old firearm that you had when you was a kid. We buy or do consignments on large firearms collections.

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Anyone who is interested in joining, coming to our banquet, donating, or have a youth who may like to be a part of the organization and events, please call Dave at 317-364-2791 or call The Gun Den at 317-398-3852.

The Gun Den has a large selection of firearms in stock for you to look at or visit our website at thegun-denonline.com for specials. We also find hard to get firearms for collectors or just wanting

## Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

alone and do not represent the opinion or position of anyone, just me. If you have a question or a comment on guns, gunsmithing, gun rights, or, would like to just make a comment email me with your comments at [PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com](mailto:PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com). I'll answer your questions with the most up to date information available. Some answers may be included in this column as I'm sure there are others with the same question. No question dealing with guns or self-defense is a bad or stupid question. Only those questions not asked.

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

Marshall

[PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com](mailto:PrarieWolfGuns@gmail.com)

## Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

group.

—Hardy Lake, 10 a.m.: Meet at the main trail-head for a winter basic birding intro hike. Bring binoculars if you have them.

—Indiana Dunes State Park, 10 to 11 a.m.: Meet at the nature center for a special 3-Dune Challenge covering 1.5-miles. At the end, park volunteers will welcome hikers with snacks and a fire provided by the Friends of the Indiana Dunes group.

—Lieber State Recreation Area, 10 a.m.: Meet at the Hilltop Shelter for a 2-mile hike expected to last about 90 minutes.

—Lincoln State Park, 1 p.m.: Meet at the nature center for a hike to the Lincoln State Park fire tower. The trail has been improved greatly, and hikers can climb to the top of the tower if they want. Be prepared for a bit of a wait. Not everyone will be able to climb the tower at once.

—McCormick's Creek State Park, 2 p.m.: Meet at Canyon Inn for a Canyon Hike and photo contest. The hike will be on Trail 3 to the falls. Hikers can bring cameras or smartphones to snap photos for an optional contest. Refreshments will be available at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26



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# Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

the end of the hike.

—**Mississinewa Lake**, 5 p.m.: Meet at Miami State Recreation Area's Bostwick Pond for a 1-mile hike that will last about 30 minutes. S'mores and a fire will be available after the hike. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

—**Monroe Lake, Fairfax State Recreation Area**: Monroe Lake will host the sixth annual First Day Trail Run/Walk. Registration/check-in runs from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. at Bay View Shelter. The run/walk starts at 3:30 p.m. The event is untimed. Participants can choose from a 1.3- or 3.7-mile course. Registering in advance costs \$15 and includes a post-hike buffet. The advance registration deadline is Dec. 30.

—**O'Bannon Woods State Park**, 10 a.m. to noon: Meet at the nature center to walk with the park's oxen, Forest and Gump, and its donkeys, Garth and Gracie. The walk will be on a roadway for about 1 mile. Enjoy refreshments upon return to the nature center. The event is contingent on weather and road conditions.

—**Patoka Lake**, 1 to 2 p.m.: Meet at the nature center for a 3/4-mile hike on the scenic Garden Rock Loop Trail.

—**Pokagon State Park**, 2 to 2:30 p.m.: Meet at the nature center for an easy stroll to look at the winter landscape. The event will end with a bonfire and hot cocoa.

—**Potato Creek State Park**, 1 to 3 p.m.: Meet at nature center for a group photo before a one-hour moderate hike. Warm up in the Peppermint Hill Shelter afterward with hot drinks and s'mores.

—**Prophetstown State Park**, 2 to 3:30 p.m.: Meet at the visitors center for a prairie hike that ends at the Native American Village with a fire in the council house and hot beverages.

—**Raccoon Lake**. Noon to 1 p.m.: Meet at the park main gate for a midwinter hike through the ruins of the village of Portland Mills. This will be a 1 mile moderate hike on and off trail. Learn about this village, founded in the 1830s, that was removed in 1959 to make way for the lake.

—**Salamonie Lake**, 10:30 a.m. to noon: Meet at interpretive center in Lost Bridge West for a for a leisurely stroll on Salamonie's tree trail. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.

—**Shades State Park**, 1 to 2 p.m.: Meet at Hickory Shelter for a one-hour hike on Trail 1. Reflect on the past year and look forward to 2019 at Prospect and Inspiration points.

—**Spring Mill State Park**, 1 to 2:30 p.m.: Meet at Spring Mill Inn's front patio for a lake hike highlighting the history of the CCC and the lake. Cookies and hot cocoa will be served at the inn after the hike.

—**Summit Lake State Park**: An indoor activity for kids starts at 10 a.m. at the park office. At 11 a.m., hikers should meet at the nature center for a 1-mile, 30-minute hike. Coffee, hot chocolate and cookies will be available at the park office beforehand.

—**Turkey Run State Park**, 11 a.m. to noon: Celebrate the new year by hiking trails 6 and 11 while learning about the natural and cultural history of Turkey Run. The hike is moderately rugged hike. Refreshments will be available afterward in the inn.

—**Versailles State Park**, 2 to 4 p.m. Meet at the Oak Grove lot for an easy 2.75-mile hike along trail 2, which runs along the edge of Fallen Timber Creek.

—**Whitewater Memorial State Park**, 1 to 2:30 p.m.: Meet at the Poplar Grove Shelter for a moderate, 2.5-mile hike on the Memorial Loop Trail with a trivia game. Participants can drink hot cocoa around a fire afterward.

If you don't see the property nearest you listed, check the DNR calendar for updates.

Information on First Day events in Indiana is at [StateParks.IN.gov/2420.htm](http://StateParks.IN.gov/2420.htm).

## BROWN COUNTY STATE PARK TO HOST MYSTERY HIKE SERIES

Explore the curious and fascinating side of Brown County State Park with the Mysterious Hills Winter Hike Series.

The hikes feature places not normally seen by visitors, including some strange anomalies like a boulder in a tree or a lake that never was. If you feel you have seen all of the state park, these hikes may change

your mind.

There are eight hikes in the series overall. All will start with a meeting at the nature center at 11 a.m. during which participants will make plans and then carpool to the trailhead. Dress for the weather.

The hikes include:

**Hike to Kelp Village**, Dec. 22 – A hike town the rugged-rated Trail 6 to the remains of an old village. Three miles long, 1.5 hours.

**Bridges, Tunnels and Interesting Places**, Jan. 1 – A hike down Trail 3 to see the unique structures of the park, including the oldest bridge in the state. Two miles long, 1 hour.

**Deserter's Cave Hike**, Jan. 19 – A hike off trail to Deserter's Cave. Off trail is rugged hiking. Two miles long, one hour.

**Curious Quarry Hike**, Feb. 9 – A rugged hike to the quarry and the longest hike in the series. Four miles long.

**The Lake That Never Was Hike**, Feb. 16 and March 30 – A rugged hike including several creek crossings descending into Hidden Valley. Two miles long, 1.5 hours.

**How Did That Boulder Get In That Tree Hike**, March 2 – Another off-trail hike to a unique location. Two miles long, 1.5 hours.

**Ten O'Clock Line Nature Preserve Hike**, – A hike along the fire trail to the nature preserve. 2.5 miles long, two hours.

Brown County State Park ([on.IN.gov/browncounty](http://on.IN.gov/browncounty)) is at 1450 S.R. 46 E in Nashville, 47448.

### GOV. HOLCOMB DETAILS NEXT LEVEL TRAILS GRANT PROGRAM

Thursday, December 6, 2018

INDIANAPOLIS – Gov. Eric J. Holcomb today announced the launch of the Next Level Trails grant program, which will dedicate \$90 million to connect communities through more hiking, biking and riding trails. Next Level Trails is part of Gov. Holcomb's Next Level Connections, a \$1 billion statewide infrastructure program announced in September.

"By linking communities, we will make a serious investment in connectivity and quality of life," Gov.

Holcomb said. "Next Level Trails' strong focus on partnerships will drive collaboration among neighboring cities, towns and counties, as well as fill gaps among existing trails to create a larger network for more Hoosiers to enjoy the great outdoors."

Next Level Trails is the largest infusion of trail funding in state history. The grant program is divided into two components: a \$70 million fund for regional projects and a \$20 million fund for local projects. Each fund will require a minimum 20 percent project match, which can include monetary contributions, land value, and in-kind donations of materials and labor. Projects funded through this program must be open to the public.

"We've seen trails positively impact communities of every size across Indiana over the past decade," said Cameron Clark, Department of Natural Resources director. "The Next Level Trails program will build upon these successes by developing many miles of trails at an accelerated pace to benefit more Hoosiers and their hometowns."

Next Level Trails funds will be awarded in rounds until all funds have been allocated. The opening round will include up to \$20 million in regional projects and up to \$5 million in local projects. The application period for the first round begins Jan. 1, 2019 and ends Feb. 15, 2019. Eligible applicants include units of government or 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

Those interested in applying are encouraged to attend one of the three application workshops:

Dec. 12 at **Fort Harrison State Park Inn** in Indianapolis (also offered via a webinar)

Dec. 19 at **Potato Creek State Park** near North Liberty

Jan. 9 at Falls of the **Ohio State Park** in Clarksville

All workshops will begin at 3 p.m. ET.

More information regarding Next Level Trails is at [on.IN.gov/nextleveltrails](http://on.IN.gov/nextleveltrails).

More information regarding Next Level Connections is at [in.gov/gov/nextlevelconnections.htm](http://in.gov/gov/nextlevelconnections.htm).

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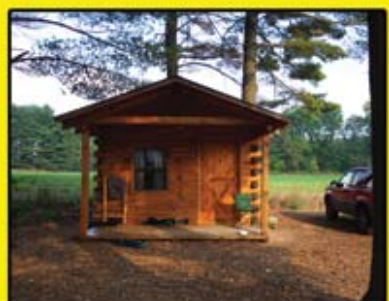
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6.5 Crdmr 129 Gr Interlock (81489)	\$17.99
6.5 Crdmr 140 Gr ELD Match (81500)	\$24.99
.308 Win American Whitetail 150 Gr (8090)	\$17.99



30 OZ Tumblers \$10 each.

Description	Model	Caliber	Sale Price
Woodsman	B-14	Various	\$749.99
Timber	B-14	Various	\$749.99
HMR	Tactical	Various	\$799.99

