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## BOAT SHOWS ISSUE



CINCINNATI JAN 17-26, 2020 PAGE 12-14  
INDIANAPOLIS FEB 24-23, 2020 PAGE 15-17



INDIANA BOBCATS ARE BECOMING MORE  
COMMON PLACE THESE DAYS - SEE PAGE 9

READ ABOUT COVER PHOTOS ON PAGE 3



VETERAN SERVICE OFFICERS PETE MCDANIEL &  
RON WEADICK BEGIN NEW COLUMN - SEE PG 7



BRIAN "SNOOK" NOBBE TOOK THIS 8 POINT  
DEER WITH A CROSSBOW - SEE PAGE 3

ADVERTISER INDEX PG 2 / ARTICLE INDEX PG 3

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**INDIANA**

**ANDERSON**

9 Guns Pg 22

**BROOKVILLE**

52 Pik-up Convenience Store Pg 5

Brookville Lake Guide Svc Pg 5

Dairy Cottage Pg 10

Pioneer Restaurant Pg 4

**BROOKVILLE LAKE AREA**

Barton Bay Pg 10

Dave's Triangle LLC Pg 27

Frames Outdoor Pg 9

Parkside Marine & More Pg 16

Steve's Marine Pg 13

**BUTLERVILLE**

Butlerville Grocery Pg 23

**CAMBRIDGE CITY**

A - T & I Service Pg 25

**CENTERVILLE**

Mills Funeral Home Pg 18

**CONNERSVILLE**

Fayette County Museum Pg 24

Matt's Custom Guns 27

Whitetails Unlimited W. Fork Cptr Banquet Pg 10

**DUBLIN**

Rihm's Meat Processing Pg 21

**FOUNTAIN CITY**

Texas Jack's Lock Stock & Barrel Pg 2

**GREENFIELD**

Highsmith Guns Pg 11

Jensen's Pawn & Guns Pg 25

**GREENSBURG**

Guns & Tackle, Inc. Pg 21

Tree City Metal Sales Pg 2

**HARDY LAKE**

Pioneer Village Pg 3

**INDIANAPOLIS**

Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport

& Travel Show Pg 15-17

Indiana State Police Pg 6

www.IndianaOutfitters.com Pg 28

**KNIGHTSTOWN**

Knightstown Meats & Catering Pg 1

McDonald's Bait & Tackle 24

**KOKOMO**

Martino's Italian Villa Pg 21

**LAKE MICHIGAN AREA**

Brother Nature Charters Pg 8

**LIBERTY**

Bertch Hardware Pg 22

Carl Sharp State Farm Pg 2

Liberty Restaurant Pg 19

Pizza King Pg 17

Woodruff's Supermarket Pg 17

**LOGANSPORT**

Dale Hardy Supplies Pg 3

**MARION**

Riverside Sporting Gds Pg 9

**MILROY**

Milroy Shoes Pg 5

Troyers Country Store & Bakery Pg 2

**NORTH VERNON**

J & L Sporting Goods LLC Pg 11

**REDKEY**

Hatzell Bros Roofing Pg 8

**RICHMOND**

Army Navy Store Pg 19

Best Stop Auto Care Pg 20

Cabinet Factories Outlet Pg 4

Mendenhall Hardware Pg 6

Merkamp Sales & Service Pg 3

Mighty Muffler 9

Prairie Wolf Gun Repair Pg 22

Riggie-Waltermann Mortuary Pg 11

Tri County Awards Pg 2

Wayne Co. Veterans Services Office 7

Wildfire Motors Pg 18

**RIDGEVILLE**

Heritage Goodhew Metal Roofing Pg 19

**RUSHVILLE**

Davis Recovery & Towing Pg 4

**SALAMONIES LAKE AREA**

Bozarth Country Store Pg 6

**SCOTTSBURG**

C & T Cycles Pg 11

Scotts Ace Hardware Pg 3

**SHELBYVILLE**

The Gun Den Pg 20 & 23

**SUMMIT LAKE**

Gittin' Jiggy With It B&T Pg 8

**WEBSTER**

C & C Webster Store 23

**WILLIAMSBURG**

J D Farm Supply Pg 4

**KENTUCKY**

**UNION**

Knot Marine Pg 12

**OHIO**

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Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sports

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# THE GAD-A-BOUT™

## IN THIS ISSUE

JANUARY 2020 • Volume XXX • NO. 358

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by Kentucky Colonel Ray Dickerson

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### SPECIAL FEATURES

West Fork Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited Chapter Banquet January 24, 2020 by Jesse Barton . . . . . Page 10  
Hawg Trough Coming to Cincinnati by Mike Schoonveld Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Boat Show January 17-19 & 22-26, 2020. .Page 12-14  
"The Show" Is The Place To Make "The Plan" by Mike Schoonveld Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show February 14-23 . . .Page 15-17  
Bert "Sunny" McQueen "A Civil War Family" by Ray Dickerson . . . . .Page 18-19  
Speaking of Turkeys by Mike Mentz . . . . .Page 21

### REGULAR FEATURED WRITERS

**ROAMING THE OUTDOORS** Editorial Comment & Opinion  
by Ray Dickerson (Pete McDaniel & Ron Weadick Veterans Column, Bert McQueen's Book, DNR Releases). . . . .Pages 4,11 & 27

**BROOKVILLE LAKE** So You Wanna' Catch More Fish  
by Tag Nobbe (Fishing Brookville Lake in January) . . . . .Page 5

**INDIANA STATE POLICE** News from the Indiana State Police  
by Sgt. John D. Bowling (California Woman Arrested with Meth, Hobbies Required, ISP Adding Extra Patrols). . . . .Page 6

**WAYNE COUNTY VETERAN Services Office** Veterans Stories & Information  
by Veterans Pete McDaniels & Ron Weadick (Blue Water Navy Veteran's Benefits. . . . .Page 7

**LAKE MICHIGAN** Fishing Lake Michigan  
by Mike Schoonveld (ISLE ROYALE MARTINS THEY'RE BACK) . . . . .Page 8

**AFIELD IN THE OUTDOORS** Catching Takes Lots of Practice  
by Tyler Frame (Indiana Bobcats) . . . . .Page 9

**OUTDOOR HUMOR:** Misfires & Snags  
by Dan Graves (Twas The Season To Be Jolly?) . . . . .Page 11

**OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENTS** Blue River Outdoors  
by Steve Dake (Shelby County Quail Forever Hosted Youth Pheasant Hunt) . . . . .Page 20

**GUN REPAIR** Notes from Prairie Wolf Gun Repair  
by Marshall Smith (Shopping the Gun Shows). . . . .Page 22

**OUTDOORS & TRAVEL** Outdoors with Rich Creason  
by Rich Creason (Fall is not just Hunting Season) . . . . .Page 23

**WHITEWATER VALLEY HISTORY** New Adventures In Old Places  
by Donna Schroeder (And Then What Happened?) . . . . .Page 24

**INDIANA INDIANS** News of Native American Indians in Indiana  
by Shirley Willard (Chief Abbeenaubbee's True Story) . . . . .Page 25

### GAD-A-BOUT DEPARTMENTS

Advertiser Index . . . . .Page 2 Rate Sheet . . . . .Page 2  
Gad's Corner . . . . .Page 25-27 Other Gad-a-bout Pick Up Locations in Indiana . . . . .Page 27

### ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOS

**Top Left:** It is with great pleasure that I can announce officially in this issue that Veteran Services Officer Pete McDaniel and Ron Weadick will be contributing articles to The Gad-a-bout concerning area Veteran stories and also Veteran information vital for their well being and current communications on their behalf. See more on Page 7

**(Photos by Ray Dickerson)**  
**Top Right:** The Hawg Trough and Trout Pond is coming to the Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sport and Boat Show in January and it's just one of the many changes in store for visitors to this year's show. Whether or not the professionals and experts climbing up on the Hawg Trough stage will actually catch any fish is unknown. What is certain is a wealth of fishing information is going to be available to the audience clustered around the giant aquarium. See Pages 12 thru 17.

**(Photos by Ray Dickerson)**  
**Bottom Left:** Brian "Snook" Nobbe took this Mainframe 8 point buck with a crossbow in Franklin County during the 2019 Deer Season. (Photo by Brian Nobbe)

**Bottom Right:** Be Once upon a time it was considered a farce or absurdity to hear about a bobcat sighting in the state of Indiana. Today bobcat encounters are becoming a regularity. Bobcats have been reported most prevalent in the counties near the southwest region of the state, but here in the east-central part of Indiana there have been growing numbers of Bobcat sightings via trail cameras and deer hunters. See Page 9 (Photo by Tyler Frame)  
**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 order it by phone to Living Products LLC 1- (303) 838-4083, E-mail: [info@deer-whistle.com](mailto:info@deer-whistle.com) or on line "Save-A-Deer by Living Products, LLC. <https://deerwhistle.com/company-info.html> or locally you can purchase one at Mendenhall's Hardware at 125 S.W. 5th St., Richmond, IN 47374. Call 765-962-4842, see their advertisement at the top of page 4 in this issue. ■

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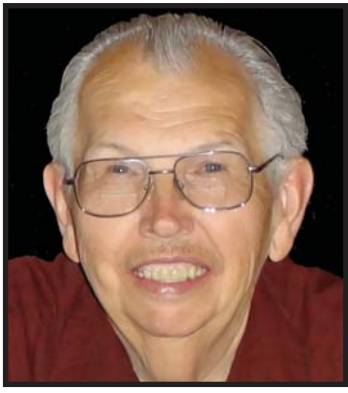
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# Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson  
The Gad-a-bout



Pete McDaniel  
U.S. Marines

Ron Weadick  
U.S. Army

**BEGINNING THIS MONTH VETERAN PETE MCDANIEL AND VETERAN RON WEADICK WILL BE CONTRIBUTING ARTICLES TO THE GAD-A-BOUT - SEE PAGE 7 IN THIS ISSUE**

It is with great pleasure that I can announce officially in this issue that Veteran Services Officer Pete McDaniel and Ron Weadick will be contributing articles to The Gad-a-bout concerning area Veteran stories and also Veteran information vital for their well being and current communications on their behalf.

Their debut article can be found on page 7

I asked each of them to send me some information about themselves so you the reader (s) could get to know something about their service to our country.

### Pete McDaniel

Pete McDaniel is the Wayne County Veterans Service Officer and is a proud former United States Marine Corps Veteran. He is a member of the Whitewater Marine Corps League, National Association of County Service Officers, Indiana Veterans Service Officers Association and an accredited Representative with the Veterans Administration.

Pete and his wife Angela, who is also a Veteran of the United States Army, have two children, Ashley McDaniel and Pete McDaniel both of which have enlisted in the Armed Forces. Ashley in the "Army" and Pete in the "Marines."

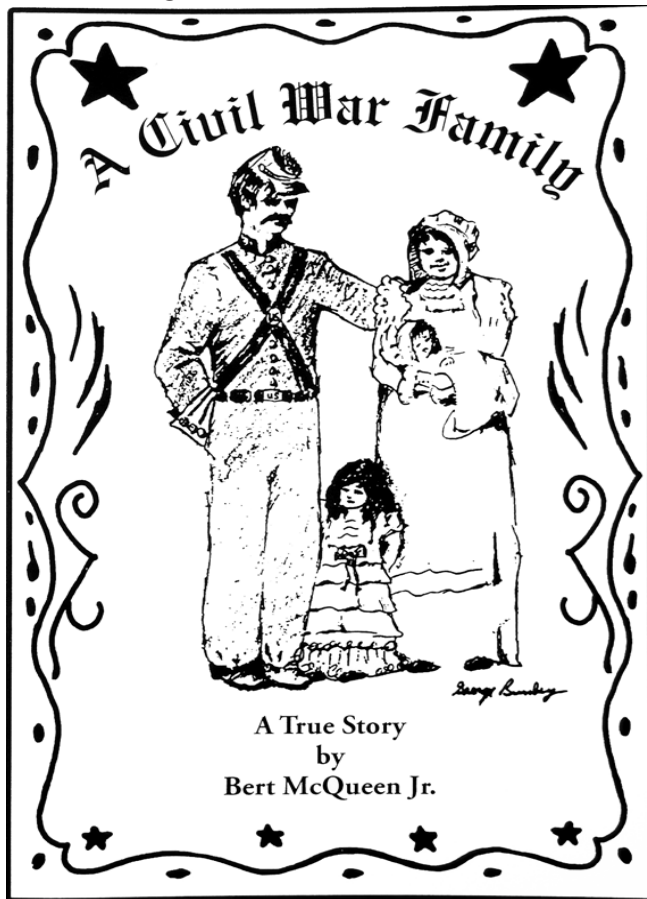
### Ron Weadick

Ron Weadick is a County Veteran Service Officer. Ron is a U.S. Army Viet Nam veteran. He served three years in the U. S. Army and a total of nine years in the Army Reserve and Indiana Army National Guard. He is a member of American Legion Post 65, VFW Post 1108 and VVA Chapter 777. Ron and his

wife Sandy volunteer with Dayton VA Volunteer Services and coordinate the van for the DAV Transportation Network to transport veterans to and from the Dayton VA Medical Center. He is a member of the Veterans Stakeholder Committee at the local VA Community Outpatient Clinic.

Also see at the bottom of page 7 is the location of the Wayne County Veteran Services Office, their hours and contact information.

### BERT McQUEEN'S "A CIVIL WAR FAMILY"



In the cover above of "A Civil War Family" book drawing portrays at left John S. Majors, at right his wife Carrie Majors who is holding Baby Frank and standing at their feet is Little Ella. (Cover of Bert McQueen's book)

Bert McQueen from Brownsville, Indiana has written a story about the Indiana Majors family and especially John S. Majors, Civil War soldier which he has had it published in a book.

A "Civil War Family" A True Story by Bert McQueen Jr. He wrote it, had it published and Copyrighted in 2018 by Page Publishing Inc. New York, N.Y.

He has dedicated his book to his mother, Mildred Fern (Major) McQueen. He says she has been a devoted wife and a super mother. "When growing up, she taught me to be honest and proud of what I do and who I am. My mother has never let me down. When my going got rough, she was always there to lend a helping hand. Mom this is your book."

See Page 18-19 I've spent several days interviewing Bert at his home in Greens Fork, Indiana and have enjoyed it immensely. He is a walking encyclopedia in every sense of the word when it comes to appaloosa horses and breeding them. I wish I had more room in this issue to do him more justice telling you readers about his life.

Locally you can read the book at Morrison Reeves library in Richmond and libraries in Cambridge City, Liberty and Brookville.

The book currently sells for \$13.95 at most book stores including Barnes and Noble. You can also buy it on line from Amazon, eBay and other similar websites.

### GAD'S CORNER FISH & GAME PHOTOS

Fish and Game photos are on page 1 and 25 to 27 in this issue. I have been trying to get more fishermen and hunters to send me their

photos. I would appreciate those reading The Gad-a-bout who have photos of the fish and game they have to send them to me. See page 26 for how to send them to me.

### WHITETAILS UNLIMITED SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 2020

Jesse Barton, Owner of Barton's Bay Boat & Self Storage at Brookville Lake has written about the upcoming Whitetails Unlimited West Fork Chapter Banquet and other facts on **Page 10 in this issue.**

Whitetails Unlimited's mission is to raise funds in support of (1) educational programs, (2) wildlife habitat enhancement and acquisition, and (3) preservation of the hunting tradition and shooting sports for future generations.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

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# So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by **Tag Nobbe**

Professional Fishing Guide

## Fishing Brookville Lake In January

This can be accomplished all winter, as long as you don't mind how you get it done. To quote Forest Gump, the weather in Indiana is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you're going to get. Some years the lake is frozen solid, while other winters the water temperature barely gets below 40. Some years you get snow and other years nothing. The issue you'll have with snow though, is the boat ramp. The boat ramps are never plowed and never salted by anyone.

What this means for all the fisherman is you are



Tag Nobbe's Guide Service boat all ready to take you fishing on Brookville Lake. (Author Photo)

on your own to do as you will. I love that though, as long as I don't get hurt to bad. Duck hunters have been putting their boats in the water for years in the winter on snow covered boat ramps. The only difference is their boats are small and light.

Having said that I would not recommend putting your boat in the water on a snow-covered boat ramp. I stayed out to long one day fishing in a snow storm and pulled the 21 foot Lund off the water with 2 inches of fresh snow on the ramp and I really had to struggle with it all the way to the top of the hill with a 4 wheel drive truck, and I told myself right then and there, never again.

If there's snow on the ground and you just have to go fishing, the tail water is a good choice as long as the corps is not dump water off the lake. Fish right over the fence. Now the water is going to be a long way down, so getting the fish after you catch it might be a little tricky, but I think you can figure something out. Fish them with spoons or live minnows that's what they like.

If nothing is going on there go down river to the Brookville town park and catch a few trout. The river is stocked with rainbow and brown trout. Fish for them using light spinning tackle or a fly rod it just depends on how you like to fish. Nymphs seam to work most of the time on a fly rod. If your going to use spinning tackle, small inline spinners, salmon eggs, or live minnow are a good bet.

If nothing in the river is working out go the lake,

there are access points all around the lake starting at the dam. Now there are gates at the tail water and the dam. This doesn't mean that you can't fish there, it just means your going to have a longer walk. Look for fish on the riprap along the dam, a simple cast and retrieve should let you know if anything is in the area. From there just work your way up the lake stopping at all the boat ramps these are great access points for getting you close to the water. In doing this you will be fishing in spots that are on the main lake to places that are back in the coves. Pay attention to rocky spots and fallen timber that's laying in the water. Walk up and down the shore lines fishing shallow or deep, it going to be a sort of process of elimination.

By all means though if there is no snow on the ramps and the lake is not frozen get on the the water with your boat and fish, they can be caught all winter.

Good Luck Tag

If you need more info go to my web site [www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com](http://www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com) or stop in at 52 Pik-up Convenience store just south of Brookville on State Road us 52. We have a full line of live bait, tackle and Fried chicken to go. So, when you ask for chicken liver, be specific. Lol

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

I guide fish for walleye, and crappie starting in mid-April till the end of December 7 days a week on Brookville lake. We fish out of a 2017 pro V 2075 with a 250 Honda outboard engine.

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# News from the Indiana State Police



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

## California Woman Arrested With 21 Pounds of Meth

**Henry County** – Back on 11/14 just before midnight Trooper Ray Otter was on I-70 east bound just west of the New Castle exit when he saw an east bound GMC Yukon that had a license plate light out and was following the vehicle in front of it too closely. Otter activated his lights but the vehicle continued to drive for a mile before stopping on SR 3 after exiting I-70.

After Trooper Otter made contact with the driver, Yolanda Romana Bisaiz, age 47 of Los Angeles, California, her two adult daughters and two children under five, he became suspicious. Trooper Ratliff was nearby with his K-9 partner Tora and came to assist Otter. Trooper Ratliff took "Tora" around the outside of the Yukon for an open air sniff, and the dog indicated the presence of contraband in the vehicle.

Further investigation by the troopers turned up 21 pounds of Methamphetamine in the vehicle, along with a small amount of marijuana. Bisaiz was arrested for Dealing Methamphetamine in the Presence of a Minor, Level 2 Felony; Dealing Methamphetamine 10 or more grams with the Intent to Deliver, Level 2 Felony; Possession of Methamphetamine over 28 grams, Level 3 Felony and misdemeanor Possession of Marijuana.

Bisaiz was lodged in the Henry County Jail and her vehicle was impounded. The other passengers were transported from the scene and allowed to leave. The Methamphetamine had an estimated street value of \$105,000 to \$210,000. Otter was assisted in his investigation by Trooper Ratliff and Henry County Deputies Thrasher and Marcum.

**All Suspects Are Presumed Innocent Until Proven Guilty in a Court of Law.**

## Hobbies Required

People often tell me they wouldn't want my job. It's true we have to deal with a lot of tragedy and crazy situations that can cause stress. But I truly believe this is the greatest job in the world. I couldn't imagine a better way to have spent the last 28 years. With this job you know when you go home at the end of the day you've made a difference. It may have been someone you helped at a car crash, or maybe simply changing a tire for someone's son or daughter. Either way you have influenced someone's life, and it's a great honor for all of us to serve you. I look forward going to work every day.

That being said this job can also be very stressful. We see a lot of tragedy, senseless violence and death. We have to be counselors settling disputes amongst arguing neighbors and spouses, and we are usually dealing with people who don't want us there. 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 three times over the years with me in it.

All the men and women that do this job will tell you that's why it's important to have hobbies that get you away from it all. I think that is why most of the troops I know hunt and fish. November is my favorite time of the year as I can think of no better way to get away from it all than to get out in the deer woods and put the phone on silent.

Even when I go on vacation, I still take my ISP phone and computer with me. But when I'm in the



Pictured in the photo is K-9 Tora along with the 21 pounds of Meth. (Author Photo)

woods, its peace and quiet. While it wasn't the most productive deer season this year, it was still fun to be in the woods. Just like my job, every time you go out you see something different-maybe that's why most troopers deer hunt? It really doesn't matter who you are or what you do, we all need hobbies that get you away from the everyday stress of life.

## ISP Adding Extra Patrols Over The Holiday Period

AAA is predicting one in three Americans, the most on record, will be traveling over this Christmas and New Year's Holiday period, with the majority traveling by automobile. What this means for Hoosiers is more traffic on the highways. To help ensure the safety of all motorists, the Indiana State Police will be participating in Operation C.A.R.E., or Combined Accident Reduction Effort, from December 21st through January 2nd.

Operation C.A.R.E. is a federally funded program and will allow additional troopers to patrol Hoosier roadways looking for drivers that are driving aggressively or driving impaired. Please help do your part to make the Christmas-New Year's Holiday travel period safe by observing the following safety rules.

- When planning to travel, make sure you are well rested; a fatigued driver is a dangerous driver.
- Increase your following distance; remember the two-second rule.
- Watch for slowed or stopped traffic when approaching construction zones.
- Leave a car length between you and the vehicle in front of you in stopped traffic. Watch approaching traffic in your mirror and be prepared to take evasive action.
- Decrease your speed according to traffic and road conditions
- Beware of bridges, overpasses and intersections where ice tends to form first during cold inclement weather.
- Don't use cruise control on slick roads.

Make sure everyone in your vehicle is properly restrained, including making sure Child Safety Seats are properly anchored and that children stay securely fastened in them.

- **DON'T BE DISTRACTED**-Pull over and stop to use electronic devices.
- **DON'T DRIVE IMPAIRED**-Have a designated driver.
- **MOVE OVER and SLOW DOWN** for emergency and highway service vehicles.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, safety belt use is the most effective strategy a person can employ to prevent death and minimize injury resulting from traffic collisions.

Part of my job is occasionally walking through schools, meeting kids and teachers and generally being seen and known. It's great getting to interact with the kids, and I also enjoy reading some of the writing and artwork they put on the walls. One such project before Christmas break was "What would you like to get for Christmas?" There was the expected list of toys, but one of the kids had written he would like to wish for the teachers "a salad bar so they could eat more healthy." Another one that caught my eye was written small, and was hard to read. It simply said "I wish I could spend Christmas with mommy and daddy."

It's the time of year to be thankful. Thankful for what we have, and to remember what's truly important in your life, your family. This job will teach you, jobs and things can all be replaced, but people cannot. All of us here at the Pendleton Post wish all of you a safe and very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Sleep safe and sound knowing were out here, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week watching over you and your family.

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Pete and Ron standing in front of Veteran Services Office in Courthouse Annex.



Helping Veterans is Pete and Ron's first priority, here they are examining a case.

## Wayne County Veteran Services Office



### Blue Water Navy Veteran's Benefits

Naval operations during the Vietnam war consisted of patrol boats and gunboats of the "Brown Water Navy" which patrolled the rivers and inland waterways and the larger ships including but not limited to cargo ships, troop transports, destroyers and aircraft carriers of the "Blue Water Navy". The Blue Water Navy includes ships capable of operating at sea on deep ocean waters. Vietnam veterans who were "boots on ground" have long been awarded disability benefits based on the presumption that certain illnesses could be the result of toxic exposure to the defoliant "Agent Orange" used in Vietnam. The Department of Veterans Affairs though denied disability claims of thousands of veterans who served in the waters off the county's coastline and not on ground. VA officials argued the existing scientific evidence did not justify the presumption of toxic exposure for the group and opposed legislative efforts to overturn their decision.

As a result of a lawsuit originally filed in 2017 the

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit overturned past court opinions backing the VA, saying that Congress never intended to exclude service members in the seas around Vietnam when they awarded presumptive benefits for certain illnesses related to Agent Orange. On June 25, 2019 Public Law 116-23, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019, was signed into law. This law states that the veterans who served offshore of the Republic of Vietnam between January 9, 1962 and May 7, 1975, are presumed to have been exposed to Agent Orange and may be entitled to service connection for conditions related to that exposure. Any veteran who served on a Navy or Coast Guard vessel in the inland waterways of Vietnam or within 12 nautical miles seaward from the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia are eligible for Agent Orange Registry. Being in the registry does not automatically qualify a veteran for disability benefits.

Any veteran who served in the waters of Vietnam can request a VA Agent Orange Registry health exam. The exam may include your contact with Agent Orange, your health history, a physical exam and medical tests needed. It is estimated that over 90,000 Blue Water Navy veterans may have been exposed to Agent Orange. In addition to exposure a veteran must be able to show that they have one of the 14 conditions that the VA presumes to have been caused by this exposure. These are called presumptive diseases. The 14 presumptive diseases on the list are:

- AL Amyloidosis, a rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs.
- Chronic B-cell Leukemias, a type of cancer which affects white blood cells.
- Chloracne, a skin condition that occurs soon after exposure to chemicals and looks like a common form of acne.
- Diabetes Mellitus Type 2, a disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin.
- Hodgkin's disease, a malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the

lymph nodes, liver and spleen, and by progressive anemia.

- Ischemic Heart Disease, a disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain.

- Multiple Myeloma, a cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in the in bone marrow.

- Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, a group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue.

- Parkinson's Disease, a progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement.

- Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset, a nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness.

- Porphyria Cutanea Tarda, a disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun exposed areas.

- Prostate Cancer, cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men.

- Respiratory cancers, cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus.

- Soft Tissue Sarcomas, a group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels and connecting tissues.

Any Blue Water Navy veteran who suffers from one or more of these presumptive diseases should see a County Service Officer for help in filing a claim for disability based on exposure during Vietnam service. The veteran will need to provide a VA Form DD-214 along with any medical documentation showing these conditions. If they have been treated at a VA medical facility the VA will have the documentation. Proof that the condition was a result of service is not required. The VA will presume the conditions a result of exposure. If a Blue Water veteran died as a result of one of these conditions, a spouse or parent may be able to file for survivor's benefits. Any Blue Water veteran who previously applied and was denied disability compensation before this law was passed should see their service officer to file an appeal of that decision. The VA will begin reviewing these claims on January 1, 2020. ■



Pete McDaniel  
U.S. Marines

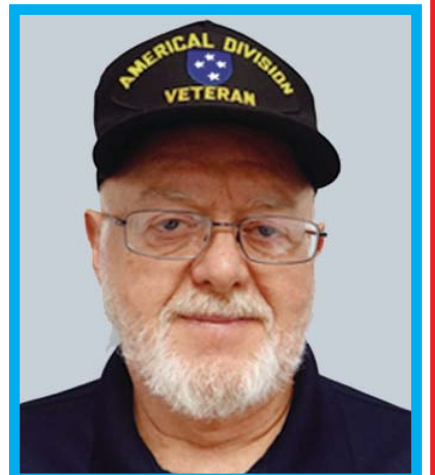
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# Fishing Lake Michigan



by **Capt. Mike Schoonveld**

## ISLE ROYALE MARTINS THEY'RE BACK

When I heard American martins are once again inhabiting Michigan's famous Isle Royale far offshore in Lake Superior three iconic movie quotes popped to mind. The first was from the 1986 film Poltergeist, "They're baaaaack...!"

Martins are a large weasel (about twice the size of fox squirrel) native to the coniferous forests or mixed conifer/hardwood woodlands across the northern portion of North America. Their affinity for living in pine or spruce forests



Pine martins are now well established on Isle Royale National Park after a 100 year absence. (Author Photo)

gives them their other common name, pine martin.

They were once common on Isle Royale, one of only 19 species of mammals documented to live on the 45 mile long island. Think of that number in comparison to the number of mammal species which can be found living on the mainland shores of Lake Superior. It's not easy colonizing an island that remote, surrounded by miles of deep, cold water.

Historically, the island was visited or occupied by people of the Ojibwa Tribe and subsequently was mined for copper and logged commercially. Much of the island was deforested by the late 1800s and by the early 1900s martins were eliminated.

The mines played out and only commercial fishermen lived on the island (at least part of the year) which allowed some of the forests time to regenerate. In 1940 Isle Royale became a National Park. Over time, it's become an increasingly popular destination for visitors wanting a truly remote and wilderness like experience.

It's also become a wonderland for wildlife researchers to study the few species of four footed wildlife present since the island is essentially a wilderness and has a paucity of outside influences. Books have been written about the interaction between Isle Royale moose and wolves.

So when the pine martin announcement was made, "They're baaaaack," the question became, "How could that be?" My first thought was another movie quote, this one from the Kostner epic, Field of Dreams. "If you build it, they will come."

It's actually one of the tenants taught in the wildlife management classes I took in college. Wildlife management, more than anything else, is habitat management. It's been proven time and again from coastal lowlands to high mountain areas. Create a marsh where there was once only open water or dry land and a variety of wetland species will soon populate the area. Create a grassland where there once was only soybeans or other crops and prairie animals and birds will show up. Build a baseball diamond in an Iowa cornfield and legendary baseball players will

start emerging from surrounding corn rows.

Okay, maybe that's only in the movies, but once the Isle Royale forests regenerated, it's not surprising for martins to come back to reclaim their niche. The question then becomes, how did they get there?

One thought is they never really went away. Perhaps a tiny number of martins remained on the island after they were thought to be extirpated. That's unlikely. Uncountable numbers of wildlife scientists, naturalists and park visitors have traversed the island at all seasons of the year. It's unlikely a small breeding population would go unnoticed for so long by so many.

The easiest way would be via human intervention. The Park Service and/or other government wildlife agencies could team up to live trap martins from the mainland and then relocate the captured animals to the park. That didn't happen. Plans were considered back in the 1960s but never instituted. It would have been very time consuming, labor intensive and expensive to gather, harbor and transport martins to the island.

It's possible, but highly unlikely, an individual did the restocking. Don't even consider the "hows" of someone doing this on the sly. Ask why?

This leaves only one other alternative which brings up the famous quote from the Jurassic Park movie, "Life finds a way." Somehow, enough martins made the journey from the lake shore to Isle Royale under their own power. The minimum distance for this is 22 miles of either ice or water and it's unlikely any martin attempting the journey (for what ever reason) would know the best, shortest route. Consider, too, martins are solitary animals, not living in herds or colonies and so at least two (and more likely, several) would have had to found their way to the island and then found each other during the mating season.

No one will ever know for sure how "life found a way" but they're baaaaack!

THE END

See map of Isle Royale National Park on Page 26.

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Left Photo: (Day light Trail Camera photo) Bobcat caught on Trail Camera November 27, 2019 Centerville Rd, Wayne Co. (Author Photo) Right Photo: (Bobcat in trap)-- Bobcat caught in coyote dirt hole set, December 29th 2017, Centerville Rd, Wayne Co. Released unharmed. (Author Photo)

## Catching Takes Lots of Practice



by Tyler Frame  
Frame's Outdoor

## Indiana Bobcats

Once upon a time it was considered a farce or absurdity to hear about a bobcat sighting in the state of Indiana. Today bobcat encounters are becoming a regularity. Bobcats have been reported most prevalent in the counties near the southwest region of the state, but here in the east-central part of Indiana there have been growing numbers of Bobcat sightings via trail cameras and deer hunters.

Bobcats stand approximately 2 feet high, 30-50 inches long, weigh 15-30 pounds, and are best identified by their 4-5 inch tail. Indiana DNR studied bobcats in the more southern counties of the state and report that bobcats can disperse up to 100 miles from where they were born. This is how they spread across available habitat quickly. A bobcat's home range stretches up to 20 square

miles. These cats are very secretive, nocturnal animals that climb proficiently for both hunting and escaping predators. Interaction with humans is rare due to this cats heightened senses and sneaky elusiveness. Bobcats have a 62 day gestational period and the kittens remain with the mother for one year.

It is reported that bobcat interaction with livestock or domesticated pets is very rare and should not be a concern. Their primary prey is the cottontail rabbit, but they also feed on mice, voles, squirrels, turkeys, and other upland game birds. Bobcat populations in the state is a positive thing, but there are always concerns with the impact on other wildlife. There have been rumors that hunting and trapping seasons for bobcat have been considered for southern counties, but we have not been able to confirm that.

Locally (Union and Wayne counties) we have confirmed trail camera photos and sightings by several deer hunters, trappers and coyote hunters. One deer hunter confirmed sighting of a bobcat and two kittens in Union County. While coyote calling, a hunter has video evidence of a bobcat coming to his predator call in two different locations. It will be interesting to see the impact that this "new" species has on our small game animals for the future. Other thought provoking questions that still linger are: If bobcat roamed the area in great numbers years ago what happened to them?... Why did they vanish? What has happened over the last several years that created a "boom" in the population? How does a species just fall off the radar and then reappear so quickly? Something to think about.

### Confirmed sightings:

- Philomath Rd , Union County
- Snake Hill Rd, Union County
- Union County Line Rd, Union County
- Centerville Rd, Wayne County
- Cart Rd, Wayne County
- Tingler Rd, Wayne County
- West Rd, Union County

(Editors Note: Since 1972 when I began writing



(Black and White Trail Camera Photo) Bobcat Photo on Union County Line Road, November 2019. (Author Photo)

about the outdoors bobcat had been verified in the Whitewater Valley for as far back as the mid 1960's south of Abington, Indiana. The IDNR didn't recognize there being any Bobcats in Indiana for a very long time regardless of personal accounts by hunters, trappers and wildlife photographers. Personally I know of one encounter I had south of the Yankee Town Bridge in Union County when I was fishing there in the mid 1960's. One of my readers a couple years ago sent me a video tape of his and a Indiana conservation officer attempting to get a bobcat out of one of his traps. They were successful in releasing it without and harm to the bobcat or themselves.

The bobcat is very elusive, to answer Tyler's question, they didn't disappear and reappear recently. Technology advances and multitudes of people moving to the country increase the chances of interaction between the bobcats and people. Trail camera use by hunters and the curious outdoors person also have increased sighting of all wildlife in Indiana and nationwide.)



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**West Fork Chapter Of  
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Serving Counties In Southeast Indiana  
by **Jesse Barton**  
Owner of Barton's Bay Boat & Self Storage

Founded in 1982, Whitetails Unlimited is a national nonprofit conservation organization that has remained true to its mission and has made great strides in the field of conservation. We have gained the reputation of being the nation's premier organization dedicating our resources to the betterment of the white-tailed deer and its environment.

Whitetails Unlimited's mission is to raise funds in support of (1) educational programs, (2) wildlife habitat enhancement and acquisition, and (3) preservation of the hunting tradition and shooting sports for future generations.

Since our beginning, Whitetails Unlimited has spent over \$94 million on projects including research, wildlife agency assistance, habitat enhancement/acquisition, scholarships, educational materials, hunter safety/education, anti-poaching measures, and cooperative projects with other conservation organizations.

Locally, the West Fork Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited was founded over a decade ago, and serves Franklin, Union, Fayette, Wayne, Dearborn, and surrounding counties in Indiana and Ohio. The West Fork Chapter holds an annual fundraising banquet each year in January. The banquet is currently being held at the Connersville Expo Hall in Connersville, IN and will take place on January 26th, 2020 this time around. The banquet has been growing exponentially each year in both the number of guests and funds raised. One of the many reasons to support Whitetails



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# West Fork Chapter Banquet

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Unlimited is that a much higher percentage of money stays local, compared to other similar organizations. This money has been used locally to support youth hunter education programs, National Archery in the Schools (NASP), equipment for our local conservation officers, scholarships to local high school seniors, breast cancer awareness, and disabled youth and wounded warrior hunts, to name a few. Guests of the banquet are able to take part in games, raffles, and both silent and live auction events to have a chance at winning great prizes including, guns, archery equipment, hunting gear, and countless other things

generously donated by our sponsors. Children are encouraged to attend, and all children at the banquet will walk away with a prize. All Veterans in attendance are also recognized and will be entered into a special drawing. Banquet tickets are currently on sale for \$45 (single ticket), \$25 (additional spouse), and \$15 (children). Tickets include dinner and free beer and non-alcoholic beverages. All are encouraged to come out on January 26th, and have a fun-filled evening of great food, drinks, and fellowship. See our flyer on this page of the January Gad-A-Bout for more information and ticket details.

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# Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

has spent over \$94 million on projects including research, wildlife agency assistance, habitat enhancement/acquisition, scholarships, educational materials, hunter safety/education, anti-poaching measures, and cooperative projects with other conservation organizations.

### FIREWOOD PERMITS AVAILABLE

The public is invited to cut certain downed trees Lincoln State Park for firewood.

Trees eligible for firewood have fallen as a result of natural causes or have been dropped by property staff. They are along roadsides or in public areas such as campsites and picnic areas.

Permit sales begin Jan. 6 and end Feb. 28, 2020. The cost of one pickup-truck load is \$10. All proceeds will be used for resource management and restoration efforts, including replacement of trees in campgrounds and other public areas.

A firewood permit must be obtained for each load at the property office, between 8:45 a.m. and 3 p.m. CT. Permits are not available on observed state holidays.

Wood may be cut and removed between 8:45 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. CT daily. For more information, call 812-937-4710.

Firewood cut at Lincoln State Park is for personal use only and cannot be sold.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

# Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

## TWAS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY?

*(It seems the jolly little elf in the red suit has taken on a number of roles, from ringing a bell in front of shopping malls to selling used cars. I'd prefer he stick to tearing shingles off the roof with a herd of reindeer instead of making me feel like a piker when I pass up the collection bucket.)*

Why is it that as soon as the Christmas season officially opens, my car begins to make funny noises? As soon as the first colorful lights appeared in front yards, the old clunker began sounding like a food processor chewing on rocks. It happens just after I've written a large check for Judy's gift just two ours before another check goes to the IRS for estimated taxes. Every year I give it a new transmission or whatever it needs for Christmas when it's not included on my gift list. I hate interlopers.

In spite of the usual financial woes that inevitably pop up in December, one must get with the holiday spirit and shrug off the possibility of filing for bankruptcy in January. What better way to do this than decorate the house, both inside and out to look like Leroy's Bargain Barn during a blowout sale. To do this requires hours of labor and thousands of fuse blowing lights, garland, wire formed moveable critters and at least a thousand feet of extension cords. As usual, one-half the light strings that turned the house into a fairyl-land last year now refuse to light, necessitating a dozen trips for replacement.

It's confession time. As the years have passed I've lost some of the enthusiasm this season used to bring. Back then the decorated tree stood in front of a window and a wreath hung on the door. Only the wealthy families who could afford the electric bill strung outside lights. The mailman, the postman, the ice man and the paper boy received small cash gifts and the dog did not wear a sweater embroidered with snowmen and Santa Claus. Nowadays, it seems that prestige is measured in watts and the huge inflatable images of snowmen and old St. Nick that stand in front yards. I'm not saying "Bah, Humbug", but when the lights in our area are turned on the security lights go out and fuses go up in small puffs of smoke.

In our case, volumes of boxes come out of storage and the fun begins. Strings of lights that were carefully wound last year are now wads of Gorgian knots that defy untangling. In spite of my efforts to convince Judy that a blob of light is more attractive than strings and that we should simply hang the mess over a bush and plug it in, she disagrees. Two hours and an equally colorful string of metaphors later, the strings of lights of which only half work, are unraveled and ready to be hung or thrown away and replaced. In addition to such finery were multiple sets of net lights to be draped over the shrubbery. Whoever dreamed up those things should be sent to work three years in Siberian copper mines as just retribution for palming such things off on an unsuspecting public. Of course the set that failed to work was the one in the middle of a set of six.

Then came the wire framed reindeer festooned with lights and an electric motor that causes the head to sway back and forth. Even though the thing had been stored since last year, it had conveniently fallen apart and had to be re-assembled. The hind legs had slipped out of their sockets and the head hung at a crazy angle giving it the appearance of a drunk searching for a key hole in total darkness. A collapsible spiral Christmas tree, a wire sleigh loaded with wire presents and other detritus finished the yard. It was time to move indoors.

Here is where I drew the line. I felt I had given my pound of flesh so I watched from my east chair as the Boss scurried around putting up the easy to assemble plastic tree and hanging decorations in every available spot in the house. My only input was to ask her politely to step to one side when she blocked my view of the t.v. Needless to say, my popularity rating dropped to an all time low even though I complimented her numerous times on the swell job she was doing.

That night it was time to push the plug into the socket and view the results. Just as our magnificent array of Yuletide finery flashed to life, we heard the clank of a massive switch being thrown close by, followed by a searing glare of multi-colored light flooding over the entire area. "Hit the deck" I yelled. "It's a nuclear attack". When no shock wave hit, even though all lighting in the area dimmed and overload alarms blared at the power station, we realized that a neighbor had upstaged us. Our meager collection of five thousand lights were drowned out in waves of incoherent light that streamed from his location. As the birds, startled off their nests, milled about our heads in confusion, we knew we were defeated in the light wars. Just wait until next year, I'm going to blow that big transformer on our telephone pole to smithereens when I throw the switch. ■

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by **Capt. Mike Schoonveld**

Photos Provided by Renfro Productions.

## HAWG TROUGH COMING TO CINCINNATI

It was the last day of the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show and I was there, in part, to visit with an old friend – O.T. Fears, then a touring bass-fishing pro. He was at the show to present a seminar to interested show attendees and demonstrate a few of the tactics and tackle he used to make his living. We visited for a just a little while before he climbed up on the Hawg Trough. Once his show was over, we planned to head for a quiet dinner somewhere and catch up on each other's news since we'd last seen each other.

I knew O.T. years before he turned pro. He was always a superb fisherman. I always claimed he could dump a bottle of water in a parking lot, cast a lure into the puddle it created and pull out a fish. He was that good.

To prove it, just for me, he told me he'd put on a special little show for everyone in attendance at the end of his seminar. He did.

The Hawg Trough is a 4,000 gallon aquarium measuring 40 feet long, 4 feet wide and 8 feet deep. It's filled with locally sourced fish - the same kinds you and I would fish for here around Indianapolis or Cincinnati. On one end of the tank is a platform for the seminar speakers to stand. Not only does it put the experts, like Fears, high above the audience where all can easily see and hear them as they describe their techniques and gear, they can actually cast their lures the length of the tank and work them back as they would if as if they were actually on their boat and fishing a tournament. You can see them bounce their square bill cranks off submerged branches, pull weedless lures through the weeds, or "walk the dog" with their favorite top water lure the length of the trough.

O.T. paused and in his Oklahoma drawl he turned to the crowd and asked, "Okay, who wants to see me actually catch a fish?" Dozens of hands shot up.

He pointed at me, grinned and said, "Here goes!"

He put down the rod and reel he had been using, picked up an open-face spinning combo,

with a small, less than three-inch tube jig tied on the line. He cast the jig about two-thirds the length of the tank so all of us in the audience could see it plop down on the surface, then slowly sink towards the bottom.

It was about half-way down when a largemouth bass darted up and gulped it. The audience gasped, O.T. set the hook and quickly reeled in the fish.

"One more?" he asked. The crowd broke out in applause.

His second cast was a repeat performance - cast, pause, fish-on. So was his third cast.

The fourth was a bit different in that the aquarium fish looked but were hesitant to strike. So he twitched his rod tip, the tube jig at the end of the line danced a bit, darted upwards a few inches, then wham! A crappie streaked in and slurped up the small tube.

I'd guess O.T. caught eight or ten fish total, including one white bass before he wrapped it up and left the stage. There's an old show-business adage that says: Always leave the audience wanting more.

### COMING TO CINCINNATI

The Hawg Trough is coming to the Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sport and Boat Show in January and it's just one of the many changes in store for visitors to this year's show. Whether or not the professionals and experts climbing up on the Hawg Trough stage will actually catch any fish is unknown. What is certain is a wealth of fishing information is going to be available to the audience clustered around the giant aquarium.

Fishing seminars are a part of every winter fishing exposition. They are a proven way of teaching novice and not-so-novice anglers the skills the pros use to put fish on the ends of their lines all season long.

If a picture is worth a thousand words and a video is worth a hundred thousand, how many words is an actual demonstration of how to fish a Carolina Rig or a wacky worm? It's actually better, in one sense, than a few hours of fishing with the same teacher.

If you could even get an invitation to fish with Scott Martin or one of the other FLW pros, the best you could do is use the same bait and try to fish it just the way they coach you to do it. "Cast here, crank like this, move your rod or twitch the tip just so..."

(I've fished with O.T. Fears many times. He always out-fishes me, even though he shows me what he's doing, loans me the same lure and I try my best.)

The difference is, watching an expert on the Hawg Trough stage gives the added advantage of being able to see into the trough and watch what the lure is doing in the water when they crank their reel or twitch their rod tip. Having that picture in your mind of how each subtle move you make to your lure looks to the fish, can be the difference between a frustrating trip and the best day ever.

### NEW PRODUCTION TEAM

The Cincinnati show has been in existence and under the same management for over sixty years. Recently, the Hart family, owner of Hart Productions and the Cincinnati Travel, Sport and Boat Show, sold the show to Renfro Productions, a firm with an even longer history as producers of outdoor-oriented consumer trade shows - including the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show, the largest such show in the country.

With the new ownership comes new sponsorship, thus the addition of the word "Ford" to the old name. This sponsorship is one of the reasons things like the addition of the Hawg Trough and the line-up of expert speakers can be expanded in 2020. Attendees can expect much more.

Expect to see more boat dealers and associated businesses than ever before - as well as more boats in 2020. Expect to see a whole new floor plan to improve the customer flow with less congestion.

Expect more emphasis on getting families involved in outdoor activities and making plans for days, weekends and vacations in Southwest Ohio and beyond. The second Saturday of the show is "Kid's Day" with free admission for youths age 12 and under, and even free fishing opportunities in the shows trout pond.

### O.T.'s SECRET

After I witnessed my friend put the hammer to the fish in the Hawg Trough, I had to ask him about his secret. "Two things," he said. "And it's actually a tactic I use when I'm fishing areas with lots of fishing pressure."

"The first thing I did was scale down. All week, the fish in the Hawg Trough have had parade of full-sized lures - crankbaits, jigs, soft baits - thrown at them. That's why I put on that small tube jig. The fish knew better than to strike at the big baits but weren't put off by the little tube I was using."

Then he added, "The part you couldn't see was the jig had been soaking in a container of Fish Formula attractant. The other guys up on the stage weren't worried so much about catching fish as showing how they fished the various lures. Between the tiny jig and having it actually smell or taste like something a fish should eat, the fish couldn't resist."

The Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sport and Boat Show will be held at the Duke Energy Convention Center, January 17 to 19 (closed Monday and Tuesday) then resume January 22 to 26. Discount Adult Tickets are available at Kroger and you can save money when you buy your tickets online at [www.CincySportShow.com](http://www.CincySportShow.com). The Show has newly amended hours, for additional information, including a line-up of the seminar speakers at the [www.CincySportShow.com](http://www.CincySportShow.com).

THE END



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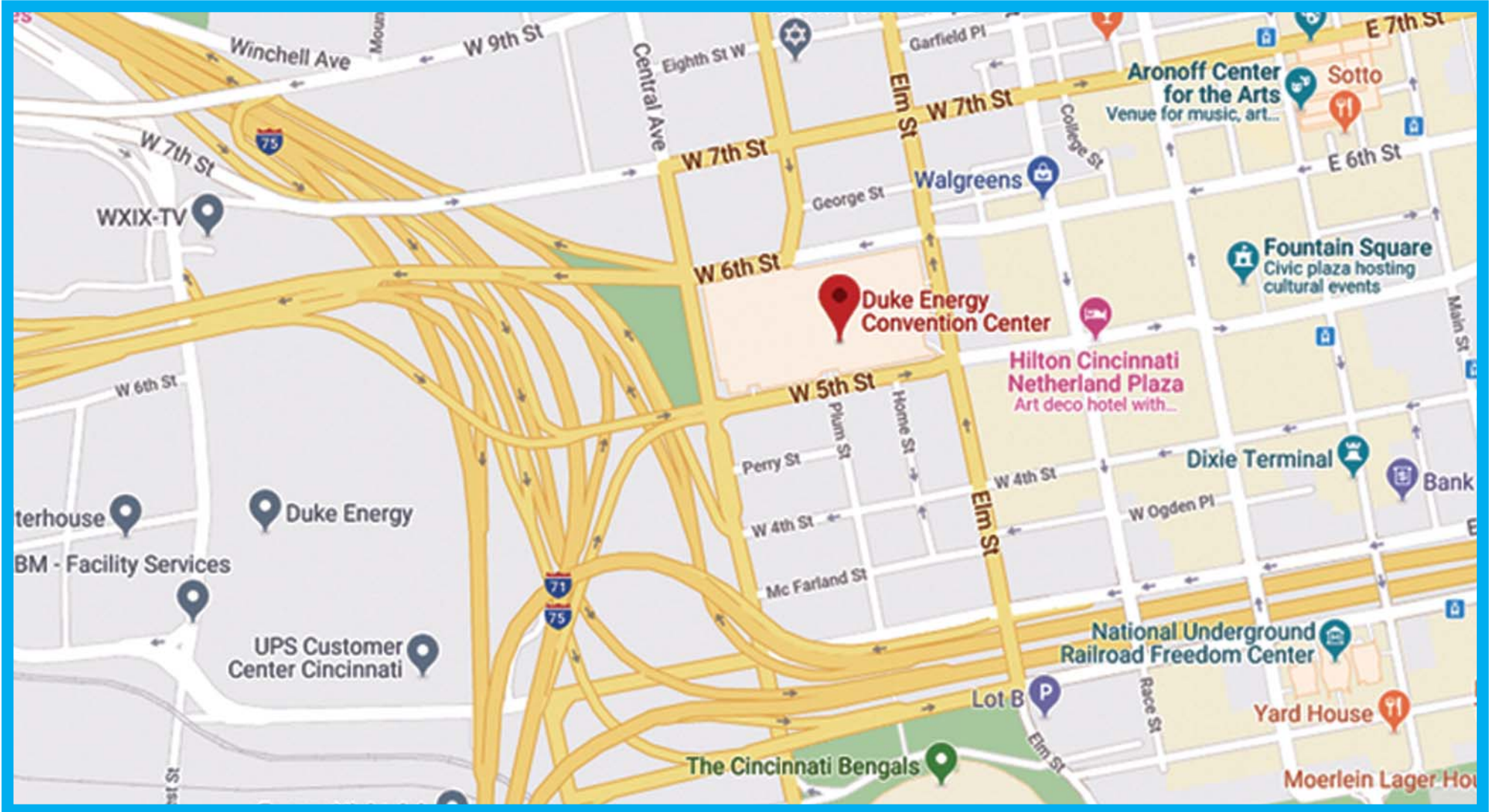


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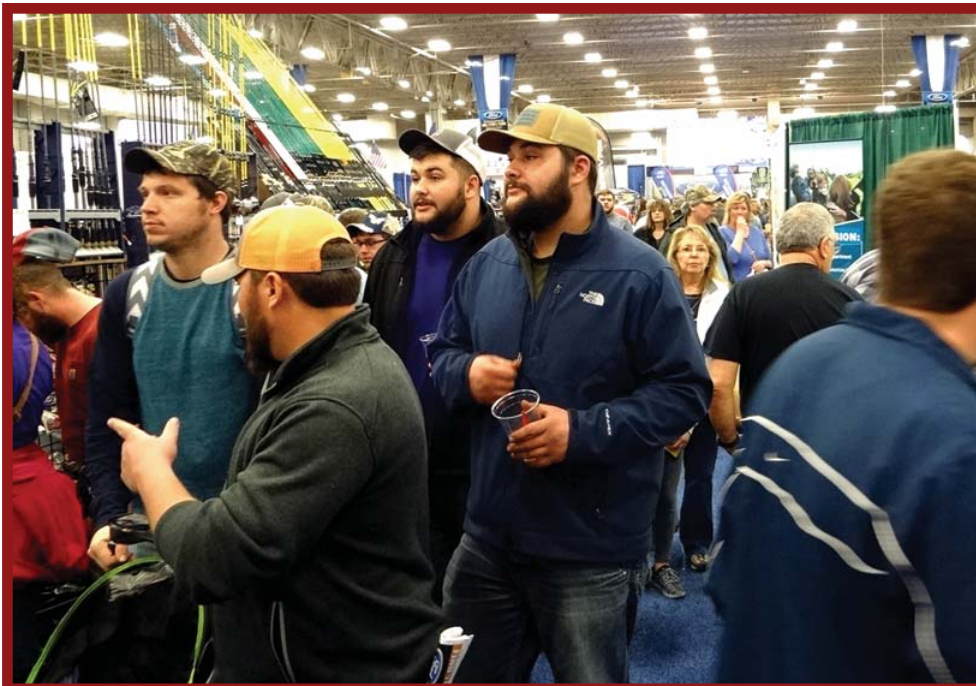
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Directions to Duke Energy Convention Center For The 63rd Annual Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sports and Boat Show January 17-19 & 22 - 26, 2020.



You don't want to miss the Ford Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Travel Show. The dates for the show are January 17 to 26 (closed Monday and Tuesday) at the Duke Energy Convention Center. The Top left Photo give you an idea of the crowds of visitors who frequent this show each year. The right photo is the Kentucky visitor booth, several neighboring states set up at this show along with outdoor and indoor attractions for every summer time fun as well as year around activities. We hope to see you at our show.

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Top Left: All the latest boating, lifestyle products and accessories are here. Top Right: The world famous Indy Hawg Trough Seminars and audience participation. Middle Left: The Trout Pond is the place not only for your kids or grand kids to catch their first fish, but a trout! WOW!! Middle Right: Trailers galore, all sizes, popular brands outfitted with all the latest conveniences and gear. Bottom Left: The 23rd Annual Indiana Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl Expo has all the latest gear, don't miss the ever popular Hoosier Record Book Trophy Deer Display and so much more. Bottom Right: A big plus for Sherry and I at this show is meeting up with ole' friends - Joe, Frank, ? and Bud.

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by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

Photos Provided by Renfro Productions.

## “THE SHOW” IS THE PLACE TO MAKE “THE PLAN”

Planning ahead is more important than ever for outdoor enthusiasts. The recession which cast an economic dark cloud over middle America for much of the past decade affected both outdoor enthusiasts as well as businesses relying on outdoor enthusiasts. The number of fishing guides plummeted. Independent tackle shops and gun stores catering to hunters and anglers closed their doors - I could go on. Without pointing fingers at any group or policies, the fact remains - a significant number of outdoor consumers didn't have the money or were reluctant to spend during the tough economic times.

Nearly all aspects of the outdoor industry were diminished to some extent, but that's changed. The economy is now booming, many people have more money, jobs are more secure, leisure time is increasing and people are again seeking things to do and places to do them.

They are finding, however, that the need to plan ahead is greater than ever. A decade ago, it was possible to look at a favorable weekend forecast and decide the weather would be perfect for a camping trip, a fishing trip or weekend outing. The next step would be to call around, reserve a day on a charter boat, arrange a cabin or maybe just a rental canoe to complete those plans.

That's just about impossible in this post-recession economy. People who wait to the last minute or act on spur of the moment whims usually learn quickly, the fishing guides and charter boats are already booked. There are no campsites available, no canoes to rent. People who made advanced reservations scooped up the available cabins, boats or slots for popular outdoor activities weeks or months earlier.

For ten days in February at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show provides a winter escape as well as the perfect venue to plan ahead for spring days, weekends outdoors as well as places to go and things to do on summer vacations.

There's no place in Indiana a person can go to find a more encompassing array of places to go and things to do, whether your goal is a day trip, not that far from home; a weekend outing or a vacation elsewhere in the Midwest or mid-south. There are people at the show to help you out - and more!

### MAJOR INVESTMENTS

The bustling economy has many Hoosiers making plans for a whole new lifestyle. The Montesayer family from Bloomington were one such family I met at last year's show. They are "nearly" newlyweds, married less than two years. The husband enjoyed hiking and backpacking, having trekked parts of the Appalachian Trail and even spent some time on wilderness adventures in Colorado and other areas.

His bride was not so adventurous. She grew up in a travel and outdoor oriented family, but those trips were mostly to family resorts, where fishing, watersports and other group activities were planned. Most of all, the meals weren't freeze dried portions and the facilities included indoor plumbing and electric lights.

Both have good jobs, Cheri works at IU, Ed commutes to Columbus everyday. Together, they make good money. By the weekend, both agreed they need a change of pace.

Their compromise - indeed, the reason they were at the show - was to spend some serious time in the Progressive Insurance RV Pavilion to shop for a camper or motorhome which would become the base for their weekend activities and more. Ed told me, "I know there are many opportunities at State Parks and other places suitable for us to hike together, as well as opportunities for me to head out on my own while Cheri stays back at the camper or engages in group activities which are available."

Cheri said, "We don't know exactly what we want. I'm sure the perfect RV I see in my mind isn't much like what Ed is thinking he'd like. But look around, there's every type, style and size on display here. We can walk through them, see which ones or which features fit both of our wants and desires, check prices and even comparison shop at different dealers. We couldn't see this many options in a month of Saturdays going to dealer showrooms near Bloomington or even here in Indianapolis."

### TIME TO 'TOON UP

I've owned a boat (or more than one boat) since shortly after I got out of college. A trip to the "boat-show" part of the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show isn't complete for me without spending time in the boating portion of the show; whether I'm seriously shopping or just window shopping.

I talked with a father of three who was just walking away from what appeared to be a "serious-shopping" discussion with one of the sales staff from Denny's Marine, one of the many Indianapolis-area boat dealers who display at the "boat show" every year.

After quick introductions were made I asked, "So, did you sign on the bottom line?"

"Not quite yet," he told me, "but I'll be buying something in the near future, most likely right here at the show."

He explained, "My parents have a home up near Syracuse on the Barbee Chain of Lakes. My family, my brother, two sisters and all our kids, spend nearly every weekend up there. There's an old creaky pontoon we use to putt around on tied to our dock. My mother just loves a morning boat ride before the heat of the day kicks in and the lake gets crowded. We have another boat, a Regal, with an inboard/outboard motor we use for skiing and

tubing. It's far from new, either. I'm looking at one of these new pontoons with three tubes under the deck with big outboards on them. It will be perfect for taking mom out with the kids for mid-morning rides around the lake and fast enough to pull the water skiers and tube riders."

### DNR PLANNING

Whether your main reason to head for the Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show is to shop for a boat in the Boat Pavilion, a vacation location in the Travel & Tourism Pavilion or a camper in the Progressive Insurance RV Pavilion, there's one other stop you need to schedule on your visit. Dubbed, "TackleTown" by the show promoters, the Blue Ribbon Pavilion is also the home of the Indiana DNR during the show.

Few activities in the outdoors here in Indiana aren't touched in one form or another by the DNR. In some cases, those activities are at DNR owned parks, reservoirs or wildlife areas. In others the touch is simply a license or permit.

Here's where you can find experts and answers to help you with nearly any aspect of the outdoor experience you are planning - and more. DNR biologists and State Parks staff will be on hand at the main DNR location in TackleTown throughout the show to answer questions about fish or wildlife habitat management; camping, fishing, hunting, boating and trapping opportunities.

Want to know where to go with your new boat? Here's your answer. Want to know where to take that new RV for a weekend trip and make sure there's a space waiting for you when you get there? Want to know about rental cabins at Brown County or rooms for rent at the Spring Mill Inn? How about the best times to fish on the Ohio River, or Lake Michigan or anywhere in-between. Here's your answers - and more!

The DNR booth is a one-stop shopping location to purchase the licenses, permits and passes you will need the rest of the year. Buy a fishing license for yourself, launching and lake permits for your boat and an Annual Entrance Pass good for all Indiana State Parks. They even have bundles - license bundles for deer, park bundles including passes, camping and other essentials.

### MAKE THOSE PLANS

Attending the "boat" show is on the February calendar of thousands of outdoor adventure-seeking Hoosiers every year. It's more than just something to do in late winter. It's a way to fulfill wishes and build dreams for places to go, activities to do and seek out items to use.

The first plan you need to make is setting aside a day or more between February 14th and the 23rd to attend the 2020 Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show. As the show dates get closer, check out [www.indysportshow.com](http://www.indysportshow.com) for the latest news and to pre-purchase show tickets. Check out the special activities planned by the DNR at: [www.calendar.dnr.IN.gov](http://www.calendar.dnr.IN.gov).

When you come to the show plan to come home with more - more information; perhaps, like the Montsayers, a new RV; or like thousands of other show attendees, a new fishing license. Most importantly come home with a plan which will get you and your family outdoors for the rest of 2020.

You save money when you buy your tickets online at [IndySportShow.com](http://IndySportShow.com)

THE END

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## Bert "Sunny" McQueen

by Ray Dickerson

Bert McQueen called me a week or so ago about the book he wrote, "A Civil War Family." He was interested in my helping him get the word out to my readers who might be interested in reading it.

I went to Greens Fork where he now lives to talk to him about his book.

I remember traveling past Bert McQueen's home just west of Brownsville, Indiana in years gone past when I worked for Union County. Back then he had a full size artificial horse mounted up on top of a pole at the end of his driveway. He told me his dad had one at the end of his driveway too.

Then we talked about his book

"A Civil War Family" A True Story by Bert McQueen Jr. He wrote, had it published and Copyrighted in 2018 by Page Publishing Inc. New York, N.Y.

*"This book is about the Indiana Majors family and especially John S. Majors, Civil War soldier. In this book, published for the very first time, are letters written by John to his wife, Carrie, telling about the battles, food, life around the camp. He speaks of Abe Lincoln, Grant, Old Lee, John Brown, and many more."*

He has dedicated his book to his mother, Mildred Fern (Major) McQueen. He says she has been a devoted wife and a super mother. *"When growing up, she taught me to be honest and proud of what I do and who I am. My mother has never let me down. When my going got rough, she was always there to lend a helping hand. Mom this is your book."*

Bert acknowledged the following people for their help in making the book become a reality:

- Mildred Fern (Major) McQueen, Brownsville, IN
- Bertha (Major) Russel, Brookville, IN
- Don Russel, Brookville, IN
- George Bussburg, artist, Williamsburg, IN
- Jerry Metcalf, photographer, Brookville, IN
- Sylvia Schibley, photographer, Brownsville, IN
- Butler County Historical Society, Hamilton, OH
- Martinsville Library, Martinsville, IN

You can purchase Bert's book at most of the major book stores such as Barnes and Noble etc for \$13.95. It is also listed on line at Amazon.com and other internet book sales websites.

Interesting information beginning at the end of the Revolutionary War when the Majors family traveled from Lancaster, PA into Ohio.

The Majors were breeders of fine horses settling finally in Morgan County, Indiana.



Bert "Sunny" McQueen Jr. at home in Greens Fork, Indiana. Standing in front of mementos from the past. 1. Texas Longhorn Steer Mount. 2. Artist painting of Indian Chief by Maria Volborth who lives in Searchlight, Nevada. 3. "Buffalo Bill himself salutes you from the saddle at each performance" SELLS-FLOTO CIRCUS Poster. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

When the Civil War broke out John Majors felt it was his duty to fight for his country so he traveled to Brookville, IN where he became a member of the 13th Regiment Indiana Infantry volunteers in Indianapolis May 1861. He was mustered out at Indianapolis on September 5, 1865.

In Bert's book from page 15 to 90 are letters John sent to his wife, Carrie, published here for the first time in his book. On page 91 he mentions Oliver P. Morton followed by the Civil War ending April 12, 1865.

Carrie and John Majors passed in 1919.

From Page 96 to 147 timely songs followed by lots of interesting photos of the life of the Major family.

On page 148 is about the author, Bert McQueen Jr. Bert graduated from Talawanda High School in

Oxford, Ohio. He then went to study acting at the American Theatre Wing, a theatrical college in New York City. After graduation, he played summer theater at the Moonglow Playhouse in Jefferson City, Missouri. From there he went on the road with a touring company called the Sauline Players. They gave shows throughout the South. He then went to Hollywood, California, where he did bit parts. After giving ten years of his life to showbiz, he headed for Brownsville, Indiana where his parents lived. There he started breeding Appaloosa horses. He also attended and graduated from the International Broadcast School in Dayton, Ohio.

He has four children: Alyssa, Bert McQueen III, Jessica and Glen Majors McQueen. ■



At left Bert's sister Sylvia Schibley and Bert holding the book "A Civil War Family." Buy your copy at Amazon.com.



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Signed Autographs For Bert "Sunny" McQueen. 1. To Sunny McQueen - Best Wishes - Clint Walker (Cheyenne) 2. James Drury - To Sunny - Best Wishes - (The Virginian) 3. To Sunny from Dan Haggerty - (The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams) 4. To Sunny from Don Shanks - (Nakoma in The Life and Times of Grizzly Adams) 5. Sunny McQueen and Oscar Goodman - Mayor of Las Vegas, Nevada 6. To Sunny Foreverly Yours Little Anthony (Bottom Left in photo) and The Imperials. 7. Sunny and Pete Rose. Pete always called Bert "Home Boy". 8. To Sunny Happy Trails from Cynthia Pepper who co-starred with Elvis Presley in Kissing Cousins in 1964. 9. Aloha Sunny from Darlene Tompkins who co-starred with Elvis Presley in Blue Hawaii in 1961. 10. For Sunny, Best Wishes Always James Drury (The Virginian) Standing next to Appaloosa Horse - Berts favorite horse. 11. Sauline Players. Bert toured with them performing on stage. (He is the one with the circle around his head).



Bert Sunny McQueen riding his Appaloosa Shavatriat in the 1986 Liberty, IN. Sesquicentennial 1836-1986 Parade. (Shavatriat is the grandson of both Shavano and Secretariat). Secretariat was a Triple Crown Winner! Secretariat also still holds the record at the Kentucky Derby for running the race under two minutes. (Bert McQueen's Photo)



Bert Sunny McQueen riding his Appaloosa Shavano at his Lazy M Ranch near Brownsville, Indiana. Shavano raced all over Indiana, he was the greatest Appaloosa race and show horse of his time. He is listed in the Appaloosa Hall of Fame in Moscow, Idaho and he has a Brick with his name on it on the Appaloosa Walk of Fame. (Bert McQueen's Photo)

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Dave Dennison giving safety briefing to youth before hunt. (Terri Dennison Photo)



Garnet Dennison talking about habitat to group. (Terri Dennison Photo)

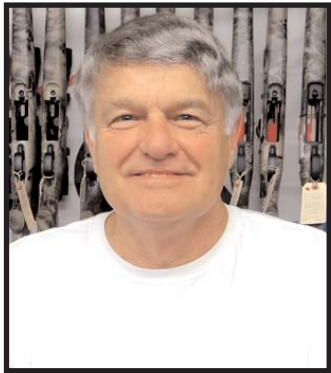


Youth shooting clay birds. (Terri Dennison Photo)



Some of youth that hunted that day. (Terri Dennison Photo)

## Blue River Outdoors



by Steve Dake

### Shelby County Quail Forever Hosted Youth Pheasant Hunt

Big Blue River Chapter 3049 of Quail Forever in Shelby County hosted their youth pheasant hunt Nov. 9. Dave Dennison chapter

president said there was a great turnout for the event. Dave said all officers and committee members make the event very successful. Dave would like to thank all sponsors The Gun Den, Kurt Layer, Terri Dennison, Bill Richie Sr. & Jr., Dennison Barber Shop, Buck Pro Mounts, Freeman Family Funeral Homes, D&N Farms, Foster Wilson and all officers and committee members for all there hard work and dedication.

The chapter furnishes pheasants, dog handlers and safety personal with each group of youth that hunts. The morning starts off with a large breakfast of eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, biscuit & gravy, juice, and milk. After breakfast a safety meeting and then to shoot clay birds. Big Blue River Chapter furnishes 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 a few birds. Big Blue River Chapter picks up the bill for the entire event. No youth pays for anything.

Anyone 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. Next year events will be in July for the Youth Shoot, August for the banquet and November for the Youth Hunt. Check with Dave or The Gun Den for the dates when they are confirmed.

The Gun Den would like to thank all of our loyal customers who came in to tell us how well they liked the Rodney deer burgers recipe.

Another one of our favorites is Amanda's deer roll ups. Amanda my daughter gave me the recipe. This is a big hit with everyone who eat them.

Chop up a package of bacon into pieces and cook, chop up an onion, green pepper, green onions, jalapeños and add 2 lbs. of deer burger cook till brown. Drain. Add some garlic salt, 2 cans of Rotel diced tomatoes with Serrano pepper, and a small box of Velveeta cheese. Cook

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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Equipment is ready to go.



The turkeys are prepped and ready.

## Speaking of Turkeys

Article & Photos by Mike Mentz

It only took 2,700,00 BTUs to finish cooking the turkey. Actually, 51 turkeys. Each year, Mike Mentz (owner of Guns & Tackle of Greensburg) gathers a group of friends the Wednesday before Thanksgiving to benefit a local food pantry, Greensburg Community Bread of Life.

2019 was the 16th year the group has given up their day to help those less fortunate by preparing turkeys for their Thanksgiving dinners. What started with only 12 turkeys the first year has grown to as high as 65 birds over the last few years. This year's 51 was down a bit – good news as the need was less in 2019. "When we started this adventure, it was to take a load off the volunteers who had to cook the turkeys one at a time in their ovens at home, starting a week or two before Thanksgiving" Mentz said. "We got our 4 fryers together, injected the turkeys and after 3 hours had all 12 done and delivered."

Each year, Bread of Life receives donated frozen turkeys of various sizes. The group picks up the mostly thawed turkeys the day ahead of the cook. The birds are placed in large 180 gallon water troughs and covered in brine water (1/2 cup kosher salt to 1 gallon) and ice, both to make sure they are thawed and to help the turkeys remain moist for the finished product. The floors are covered with cardboard to soak up any splattering oil then everyone heads home for a good night's rest.

Wednesday morning comes and the group gathers for breakfast at the Midtown Diner in Newpoint, IN. Well fed it's time to start the fires. This year we used 13 fryers for cooking and one to keep spare oil hot and ready. There were still 4 other fryers in reserve (our collection has grown over the years). A member of our group donated the oil, we used 52.5 gallons for this year's cook. The first fryer was lit at 9:00am and the last one



The cooking process has begun.



This turkey is hot out of the Cooker.

turned off at 12:35pm. We deep fried 572.5 pounds of turkey. Each turkey is cooked 3 minutes per pound, with extra time allowed for birds over 12 pounds. After 15 years, we've got this down to a science. We have one guy dedicated to "fire control" with a laser temp gauge making sure the oil temp keeps around 350-360F and well below the 400F smoke/flash point.

We have a crew that dries each turkey thoroughly, making sure they are completely thawed (explosions are no fun). The turkeys are racked and weighed and once a fryer is up to 360F, the bird gets a hot bath. The timekeeper records the weight and time started, calculates the approximate time to finish and records it on a note pad and on the floor in front of the fryer. Fire control keeps track of the oil temps and adjusts the fire up or down as needed. Two more guys handle the temp checks of the turkeys. Birds are cooked to 160F, then pulled and put on a draining rack. Another member of the group then triple wraps the turkey in foil and puts it in a hot cooler. The turkeys will continue to cook in the cooler reach-

ing 170F.

Once the cooler is filled (12-13 birds) it is delivered so that the volunteers with Bread of Life can begin the process of preparing the boxed dinners for distribution. By 2:00pm, the pots are cleaned, the oil recycled and everyone is headed home to prepare for their own Thanksgiving Holiday. "We served 246 Thanksgiving dinners", according to Melissa Foist, Director, "and had leftovers for Turkey Manhattans for our Monday meal service. Our hope is that someday we won't need to feed anyone, but until that day, we really appreciate the good work all our volunteers do."

**Editors Note:** Mike Mentz is the owner of Guns & Tackle located at 1207 N. Lincoln Street in Greensburg, IN 47240. His phone number is 812-663-2030. I have been trying to get Mike to write some articles for the Gad-a-bout and was very happy when I received the above article. It is heart warming to learn about his efforts to provide Thanksgiving dinners for the less fortunate and has done so for 16 years. Thanks for the article Mike.

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Left Photo: The gun is a S&W Combat Master 586. Notice how the yoke fits to the frame smoothly and evenly. So much so it is hard to define the yoke from the frame. This is how every new and used revolver yoke should fit. Middle Photo: Same gun S&W 586 viewed from the muzzle end. The curvature of the yoke and frame blend smoothly together. This 586 was carried for 14 years on the Police Department. It has had roughly eight or nine thousand rounds fired through it and it still looks and functions like brand new. Well there's a little holster wear on the muzzle and cylinder. Right Photo: The gun shown here is a S&W Model 19-3. It was jammed up and the cylinder wouldn't turn except by hand. Parts, that is the ejector, had apparently been replaced in the the gun and had not been fitted. It also appears the yoke may have been replaced also. The fit of the frame (white line) can be seen standing proud of the yoke and the large gap between the frame and top of the yoke all signs of parts replaced. (Author Photos)

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



**by Marshall Smith**

Gunsmith, NRA Life Member, Retired LEO

**Shopping the Gun Shows**

After having worked on several guns purchased at gun shows and later found to not operate or function as advertised, I thought I'd go over a few things when looking for a gun show buy. Inspecting the gun is of the utmost importance. Taking the word of the seller is a NO-NO. Most of the time the gun show seller probably doesn't know anything about the gun other than it is laying on the table to be sold. Guns being sold as new may look new and yet be used. As you can see, I don't trust that gun shows are a really good place to buy a gun that you may be thinking of carrying for self-defense. Here are a few things to be on the watch for that may indicate the piece isn't in top condition.

If the gun appears to be new and in an original box, check to see that it also has a trigger lock provided with the gun, a warranty card, an owner's manual, and usually, a factory fired case, or two, to show it was tested at the factory. If it missing any of these components, ask the dealer where these components are. Also ask the dealer that if you decide to return the gun to the dealer for whatever reason, how to do it if at all. If he says you have to return it to the manufacturer they you will be out your money. Most gun sales at gun shows are final and returns are not allowed. Look the gun over carefully, sniff the barrel, has it been fired lately, or cleaned? A brand new gun should not have a burnt powder or cleaning fluid, if any, odor coming from the barrel. Check the alignment of the yoke to the frame, is it smooth and

well fitted? It should be. Check the screws, new guns use phillips head screws or newer star head screws, some use hex head screws. Of course, check for scratches in the finish.

Looking at used guns can be fun and a bit exciting. Sometimes you'll stumble onto a real find or antique. Your first couple of questions to yourself should be "Do I really need this?" or "Is this really a collector's item?". I'm going to limit this discussion to the purchase of used revolvers. Revolvers are coming back for many self-defense gun buyers. They are dependable, don't jam, and always fire if not broken. The revolvers of today are safe and easily cleaned. Most even come with an externally applied safety and an internally applied safety in order to disable the gun from firing at all. All Smith & Wesson revolvers since around 1905 have a hammer block safety which blocks the hammer from striking the primer unless the trigger is fully to the rear. The revolver also incorporates a safety that blocks the hammer from being cocked if the cylinder is not fully closed. Since revolvers have been around since the Civil War era, they have become very dependable.

Some items to look for when choosing a used revolver is to look at the screw heads. Are there signs the screw slot is bugged up from improper use of a screw driver or over tightening of the screw? Does the yoke line up with the frame of the gun? If not then the yoke may have been replaced at some point and is not the original. Keep in mind that the older guns made before the advent of CNC machining were hand fitted and parts may be exchanged but the replacement parts must be hand fitted. Newer gun parts made using the CNC machining process are more likely to fit properly from one gun to another of the same model and caliber. Check the grips, are the grips original, or are they an aftermarket replacement? Could indicate the original grips were damaged and replaced. Are the sights original and if not are the replacement sights of better quality? Take a small pocket flashlight with to look down the barrel and into any dark recesses of the frame. Has the bore been cleaned? Is it dirty or dusty? Does it appear to have rust or pitting? Gun shops take guns in on trade and most often don't bother with cleaning the gun. Even if they do clean the gun up for display, dust and other debris may indicate the revolver has been laying around for some time. The gun shows rules require the sellers to have the guns safely strapped or pad locked to avoid any possibility of an unintentional discharge. It is hard to check the trig-



Front view of the 19-3 showing another sign of a replaced yoke. The yoke doesn't blend smoothly into the frame.

ger or hammer action with the straps or chains on the gun. You can ask the seller to remove the straps and at some gun shows they will. Usually they won't and that's the time to ask about returns. If your not satisfied with the seller's return policy and you still want the gun, expect to pay a gunsmith to inspect and repair the gun. Cut your offer in half or more and see what happens. Good luck.


I hope these few tips and the accompanying photos may help at the next gun show you go to. There are many other warning signs to look for but these seem to be the most prevalent. Remember the phrase "Buyer Beware" and be skeptical of everything you see and hear. Skepticism is good self-protection.

**Quote of the Month**

*"Socialism is a philosophy of failure, the creed of ignorance, and the gospel of envy, its inherent virtue is the equal sharing of misery."* ~ Winston Churchill

The quote by Winston Churchill has been proven true throughout history and is still being proven daily in countries around the globe. Let's not let that happen here or else we to will be repeating the same failed policies as so many other countries, including

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 23**



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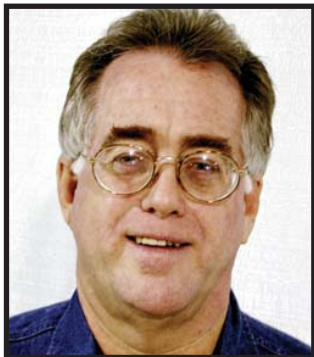


My flagpole Christmas tree. (Author Photo)



This is a corn feeder for the squirrels and sometimes raccoons. (Author Photo)

## Outdoors



With Rich Creason

### Fall is not just Hunting Season

For most of my 70 plus decades, fall meant hunting season. As soon as I was old enough to tromp through the bushes, dad took me hunting. I was the dog. Kicking brier patches, brush piles, etc. trying to chase out bunnies was my job. Then, picking them up and carrying them. I also went to the woodlots and waited patiently (?) until dad dropped a squirrel from the tree. Then, I had to find it in the undergrowth.

It wasn't until we started spending a week every fall in South Dakota that I actually got to try my hand at bagging a wild critter. Pheasant was on the agenda. Mom was born and raised in South Dakota and she was one of few female hunters back in the 50's. She taught me how to shoot a Savage .410 single shot and I was soon able to drop a flying rooster which she had kicked up for me. I was through being the dog.

For the next 20 years, I bagged many rabbits, squirrels, pheasants, and a few deer. Then, we started going to northwest Ontario hunting bear, moose, deer, ruffed grouse, and wolf. I went to Montana, Colorado, and Wyoming, chasing elk, pronghorn, and sage and sharptail grouse. A few years ago, I finally quit hunting because of age, health, and lack of places to go.

I have different activities in the fall now. Instead of eating rabbit, squirrels, and assorted birds, I am feeding them. I have about 12 or 13 different bird feeders hanging around my yard. I have suet feeders for the woodpeckers, ground platform feeders for

cardinals and mourning doves, thistle feeders for the finches, assorted seed feeders for the chickadees, nuthatches, and other small birds. Then, I have one special open tray filled with grey striped sunflower seed. These are for the blue jays. Most of the other birds enjoy black sunflower, but usually just the jays eat the striped.

Since the blue jays are one of my favorite birds, I also have two circular feeders made of spring wire similar to a child's slinky toy. I fill these with whole peanuts in the shell. The jays will land on these, and pull on a peanut until it comes loose from the wire. They are the only bird which will take a whole nut. Woodpeckers feed on these also, but they peck on the peanut until they get a nut out and then leave the empty shell. A nuthatch will do the same thing, but the peanut is not their food of choice.

I like the woodpeckers and have downy, hairy, and flickers come to my suet feeders. I have four or five of those in various locations around my yard. Once or twice a winter, a pilated woodpecker will visit. When he starts pecking on the suet, the food starts flying off the block like someone is cutting it with a chainsaw. A lot of the suet gets wasted, but it really is a neat sight to see.

Besides feeding the birds, I decorate my front porch with a couple bales of straw which I buy, and pumpkins, gourds, decorative corn, and corn stalks from my garden. I can put these out before Halloween and they usually stay good until after Thanksgiving. This year, many of my gourds rotted early as did one of my two large pumpkins. Most of these had not matured before I picked them and didn't last as long as usual. I will take the decorations down soon and wheelbarrow them around to my garden to dispose of them. I pile up the corn stalks, and a lot of limbs which have fallen off my trees to form brush piles and shelters for the rabbits, birds, and other critters.

While the weather was still nice in November, I put up the outdoor lights to form a Christmas tree in the front yard. I have a collapsible flagpole which I let down to about five feet tall. Then, I fasten eight separate strings of colored light to the top, raise the pole to about ten feet tall and fasten the bottom of the light string to the ground. I have a wreath made of round, colored lights which I hang on the front porch to put some color there at night. I finished all of my outdoor projects just before having surgery on November 12. I didn't have time to put up my gutter lights this year. Maybe next year.

Instead of sitting in a tree getting cold and wet this



I will tap my big maple tree in February for maple syrup. (Author Photo)

year waiting for a buck which might not come, I will stand in a warm house, looking out the windows, and watching the wild critters come to the food and shelter I have provided.

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

#### CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

the Roman empire. Remember performing the same failed action and expecting a different result is the true definition of stupidity. There is no fix for socialism just more suffering.

That's all for this month. These notes are mine alone and do not represent the opinion or position of anyone, just me. If you have a question or a comment on guns, gunsmithing, gun rights, or, would like to just make a comment email me with your comments at [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 not asked.

Remember, BSAR  
(Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Responsible)

Marshall Smith  
Prairie Wolf Gun Repair

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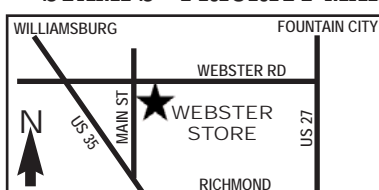
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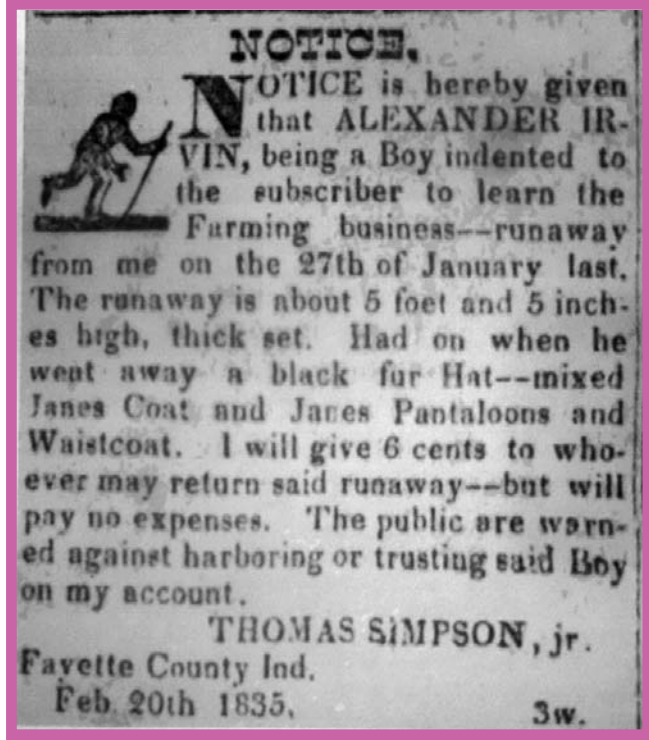
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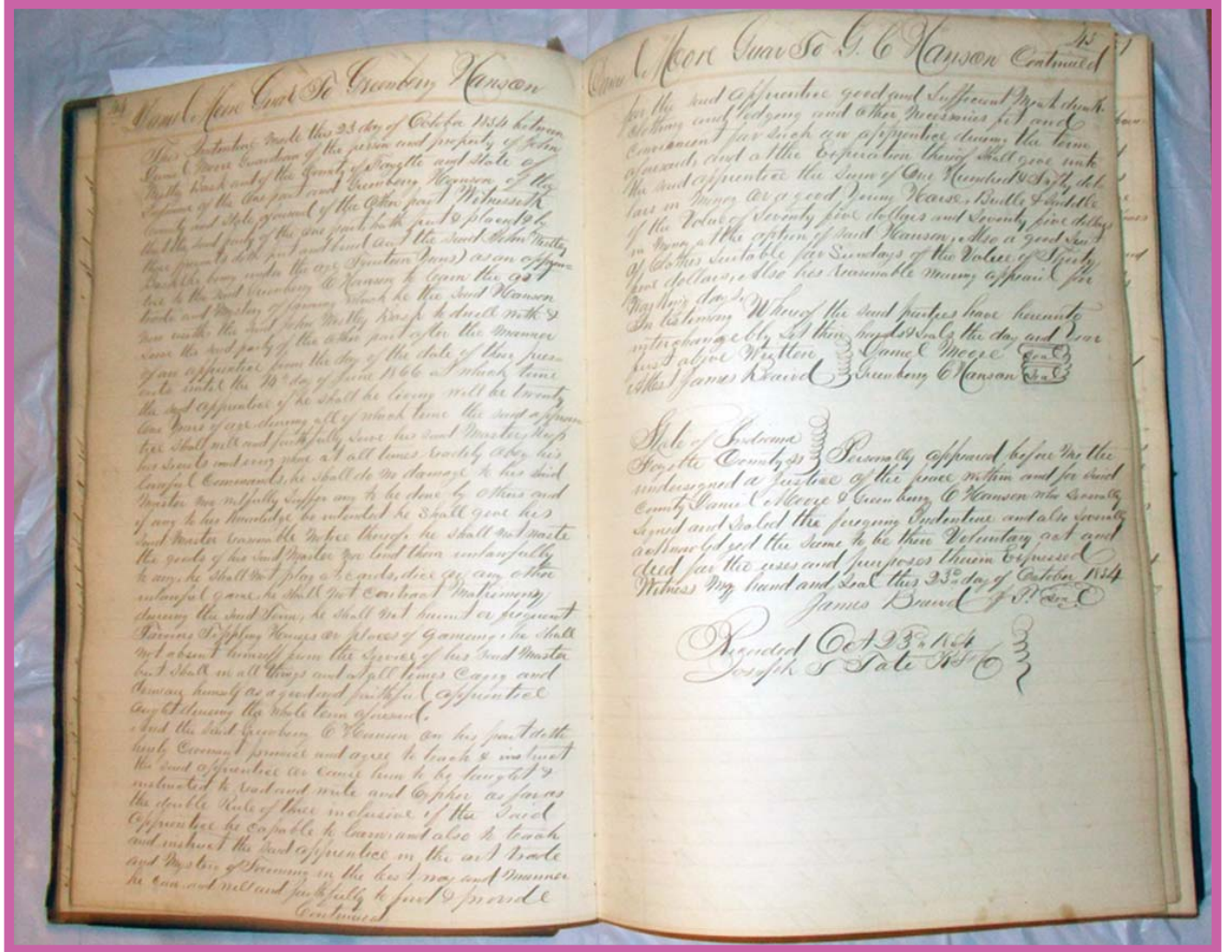
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Indenture Book B. (Author Photo)



Inside Indenture Book B. (Author Photo)

## Whitewater Valley History



by **Donna Schroeder**  
Fayette County Historical Museum

## And Then What Happened?

Photos by **Donna Schroeder**

As County Historian, I have been concentrating on Fayette County's pioneer cemeteries. It's tedious work, but I take it very seriously, and I love it. I use the old cemetery records, old newspaper accounts of deaths and burials, and the new discoveries of our dedicated cemetery volunteers. I try to match people to their spouses, parents, and children, as well as finding where they lived and where they were from originally. I use the census records and the marriage, death, and birth records kept by the county and state.

I recently ran across a book in the vault at the Canal House in Connersville that made me go off on a tangent. It is called Indenture Book B, and the dates and names span the decades between the 1830s to the 1870s. It is a record of the children in Fayette County who were indentured to others until they reached adulthood. I have indexed the book with the names of the children, the person who surrendered them, the person who took them, and the dates the transaction took place. I'm not sure how we came to have this book, but it will be returned to the courthouse. I think it belongs in the state archives, but I wanted the information to be available in our family history section at the museum, as well.

This came to mind when I saw an article about William Clark, brother of George Rogers Clark, who released Ben McGee from enslavement in 1802. The following day, he entered Ben into indenture for the next thirty years. He did this because Indiana Territorial law prohibited slavery but not indenturement. This happened near the Falls of the Ohio where the Clark's had a cabin. The Indiana Supreme Court outlawed the practice in 1821.

Evidently, the practice of indenturement didn't end where children were concerned. Up until the 1830s, the poor of Indiana were taken in by the townships. Each township had an Overseer of the Poor who would contract with an individual who would house the indigent, orphaned, and disabled. Around 1834, the legislature determined that counties should take the responsibility. Fayette County made an agreement with the adjacent counties of Union and Franklin to place all those folks in one location in

Jackson Township in Fayette County.

Some of the children who were indentured came from this home, as evidenced by the signatures of the superintendent or board of the institution. Others were signed over by a parent. In most cases the wording is almost identical.

Males were signed over with the promise that they would be given a common school education, if they were able to learn. They were to be taught a trade, usually the "art and mystery of agriculture". At the age of twenty one, they would receive a horse, saddle, and a set amount of money - anywhere from fifty to one hundred dollars. They would also receive a set of everyday clothing and a set suitable for Sunday. These were called "Freedom Clothes". During the indenture period, boys were not to drink or play cards, enter gaming or drinking establishments, or enter into a marriage contract. There are a few exceptions. A few of the boys were to learn cabinet making or carriage, harness, or saddle making. One was to receive a Bible.

Females were indentured to the age of eighteen and were to receive the two sets of clothing, a set of bedding, and a bed. Many of them were to receive a milk cow. I found none who were to receive any money. They were to receive an education and were to learn the art of housekeeping. There was no mention of not entering into a marriage contract, so I believe they were sometimes given their freedom if they married before age eighteen.

In all cases, the child was not to steal or allow anyone else to steal from the family that took them, as well as to not bring any shame or disgrace to the family. Most of the children ranged from three to ten years of age.

One lucky young lady was to receive what amounted to the furnishings for a kitchen, including dishes and a table and chairs, parlor furniture, and a bed and bureau.

One father of two sons profited from the inden-

ture, as he was to receive a payment of a hundred dollars for one son and seventy five for the other. A few teenage boys who were orphaned were allowed by a judge to enter into an agreement and learn a trade. Most of the entries tell that the child was given by a pauper parent. Others are listed as orphans.

It's common to find advertisements in the old newspapers from people who were looking for runaways, usually boys, with rewards offered for their return.

I offer this information as another tool for tracing your ancestors. Some of the children were given to families in adjacent counties. If you don't find the child in the household of a parent, check the census records in other localities or look for indenture records. Some counties also had orphanages and have retained the records.

While these indentures almost seem to be a form of slavery, I think it may have been a better outcome for the child than being kept in the county's poor asylum until they were of age. I've been able to trace what happened to some of the children while others are lost to time. Some parents were able to void the contracts and take the children back to their homes shortly after having surrendered them.

As always, I invite you to visit our county. We have resources at our beautiful museum to help you, and our public library and county clerk are there to assist, too.

Hoping you all have the best of holidays and a happy 2020! Come visit us soon! ■



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 Mary Gray Bird Sanctuary \* Historic Elmhurst  
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# Blue River Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

per, and a small box of Velveeta cheese. Cook till cheese is melted. Take Nasoya egg roll wraps, dampen with water and add 2 tablespoons of mixer. Don't over stuff. Roll up and cook it in grease till golden brown. Let it cool and enjoy.

Now is a good time to give your personal and hunting firearm a good cleaning and inspection. We here at The Gun Den will clean and inspect it for you to keep it in top working order. Price vary on what needs to be done to it.

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The Gun Den also does hydro dipping which is putting a pattern on an object like gun stocks, 4-wheeler & auto parts, and anything that can be submerged in water. Price vary on size and what type of object.

The Gun Den has a Shoot now Pay Later program. We have financing for our firearms and accessories. Come in and check it out.

Till next month we at The Gun Den would like to thank everyone for their business and support. ■

## Gad's Corner

# News of Native American Indians in Indiana



by Shirley Willard  
Fulton County Historian, Rochester, Indiana

## Chief Aubbeenaubbee's True Story

Aubbeenaubbee is a long word and I wonder why the early officials of Fulton County chose that way to spell it when they named a township for him. The name is also spelled Obenabe, which is much shorter.

Aubbeenaubbee was a Potawatomi chief, part of whose life is told in the 1883 "Historical Atlas of Fulton County, Indiana." He had several wives – the recorded number varies from five to nine, each in a different village. He had several children but the only one recorded was his son Paukooshuck.

At the 1832 Treaty, signed on the banks of the Tippecanoe River north of Rochester on the Michigan Road (Old 31), Aubbeenaubbee was prominent is getting other Potawatomi to sign it. He was given 36 sections of land (that is 36 square miles) in Fulton and Marshall counties. During the debate among the Indians before signing the treaty, Aubbeenaubbee stood up, pulled out a knife with 15 inch blade, and told them why they should shut up

and sign it. They did.

From this we may conclude that Aubbeenaubbee was a powerful man and that he had ambition. He became the most powerful chief and owned the most land of any of the Potawatomi in this area.

Naturally he wanted to keep this land, so he refused to sell it to the white men in the Treaty of 1836. To get Aubbeenaubbee's land, his son Paukooshuck killed him by sticking a knife in his back at Blodgett's Tavern in Richland Center. Then as owner of the land, Paukooshuck signed the 1836 Treaty agreeing to move west in two years.

How come Paukooshuck got away with murder and was never charged? The excuse given in white man's history is that Paukooshuck killed his father because Aubbeenaubbee, in a fit of drunken rage, had killed Paukooshuck's mother.

I have heard Indians talk about this. They surmise that Paukooshuck was either paid by white men to kill his father, or he wanted to get the land to sell to white men. Or that Aubbeenaubbee was actually killed by a white man who was paid to kill him. Either way, Chief Aubbeenaubbee was murdered.

Paukooshuck went west with Chief Kee-wau-ay in 1837 but came back to Indiana. He went to Kansas in 1838 on the forced removal known as the Trail of Death. His name is recorded as Pawk-shuk on the muster roll taken by William Polke, the federal conductor in charge of the Trail of Death. Polke was Fulton County's first white settler, meaning he was first to own land here.

Several years ago (before I retired in 2001) I received a notice that Chief Aubbeenaubbee's skull was in the Smithsonian Museum and they were trying to return it to the Potawatomi tribe. But it was turned down by the Pokagons because Aubbeenaubbee was not a member of their band. They offered it to the Citizen Band in Oklahoma but they turned it down because Aubbeenaubbee did not go there. They offered it to our museum but Fulton County Historical Society does not accept human remains. ■



Creek Plemons caught this 17 inch Largemouth Bass in a farm pond. (Photo Submitted by Dennis Plemmons via e-mail on November 15, 2019)



Charlotte Plemons caught this 17 inch Largemouth Bass in Brookville Lake. (Photo Submitted by Dennis Plemmons via e-mail on November 15, 2019)



William Jester took this 8 point buck on November 18, 2019 in Jefferson County. Photo submitted by William Jester via e-mail on November 30, 2019.

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# Gad's Corner

MAIL PHOTOGRAPHS TO:  
105 E. SOUTH ST., CENTERVILLE, IN 47330



Stefen Hastings took this 7 point buck on 11-7-2019 with a bow in Wayne County, Indiana. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Bowi Frame took her first deer, a buck on 11-24-2019 with a 243 in Union County, Indiana. A long time friend of Bowi and the Frame family at right is Joe Elleman. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Griffin Chambers took this 8 point buck on 11-16-19. It happened to be the same day as his birthday! Congrats Griffin! (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)



This is Chase Eneyart he took this 10 Point buck in Wabash County Indiana in 2019. (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)



Isle Royale National Park, which is located in Lake Superior. It is 70 miles north of Houghton, Michigan and approximately 22 miles east of Duluth, Minnesota. Our Explorer Scout Troop 16 Scout Master chartered a boat in August 1958 for the seven of us to travel from Houghton, MI to Isle Royale National Park and back. We spent six days hiking on the island from our landing at Malone Bay Trail Head west to Crow Point, north to Ishpeming Point, east to just past Angleworm Lake, then south to Daisy Farm dock to board our boat for the trip back to Houghton, IM. I've always thought about visiting Isle Royale again, but haven't. It's a great place to visit. (Ray Dickerson 1958 Map)

**GAD-A-BOUT PICK-UP LOCATIONS IN INDIANA**

**(NON-ADVERTISER LOCATIONS)**

- BROOKVILLE**  
Franklin County Tourism & C of C  
BROOKVILLE LAKE  
DNR Mounds Office  
Quakertown Gate House
- CAMBRIDGE CITY**  
Cutshaw's Market
- CENTERVILLE**  
Bryan's Glass & Bakery  
Centerville City Building  
Centerville Library  
Centerville Senior Center  
Gillman Home Center
- COMMISKEY**  
Commiskey Corner Store
- CONNERSVILLE**  
Shell Service Station - Vine St  
EVERTON  
Pavey Foodland  
FOUNTAIN CITY  
Martins Country Mart
- GREENS FORK**  
Greens Fork Restaurant
- HAGERSTOWN**  
IGA Grocery  
Willow's Restaurant
- HARTFORD CITY**  
Richard's Restaurant South SR 3  
LYNN  
Sauser's Truck Stop
- MILROY**  
Tri-County Outdoor Power Equip
- NEW CASTLE**  
Wilbur Wright Fish & Wildlife Area
- OLDENBURG**  
Obermeyer Marathon Station
- REDKEY**  
Marathon Pak a Sak
- RIDGEVILLE**  
Tharp's Service Station
- RICHMOND**  
Dunham's Discount Sports  
JoAnn's Cafe
- Tractor Supply Company (TSC)  
Wayne County Courthouse Annex  
Wayne County Welcome Center
- SALAMONIE RESERVOIR**  
DNR Welcome Center
- SUMMIT LAKE**  
DNR Welcome Center
- UNION COUNTY**  
Whitewater State Park Office
- WESTPORT**  
Guns & Ammo (Near Sardinia)  
Pavey Foodland
- WINCHESTER**  
Hair Crafters Barber Shop



Haley Hastings (fourth from left holding onto antlers) took this 8 point buck on 11-17-2019 with a 308 in Wayne County Indiana. Girls in photo Left to Right: Marcia Frame, Mika Frame, Bowi Frame (giving thumbs up gesture), Haley Hastings, Whitney Frame and Ellis Niessen. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



This is Aiden Selig and his sister, Carsyn, showing off this monster 10 point buck that weighed 225 pounds. Congrats to Aiden! (Bozarth Country Store Ryan's Photo, Lagro, IN)

**Roaming The Outdoors**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Lincoln State Park (on.IN.gov/lincolnsp) is on State Road 162, Lincoln City, 47552.

**SALAMONIE LAKE TO HOST TWO EAGLE WATCHES, FEBRUARY 8 AND 15, 2020**

Salamonie Lake is giving people a chance to see bald eagles in the wild with its two eagle watches on Feb. 8 and 15. Eagle

Participants will meet at Salamonie Interpretive Center at 3 p.m. on both days, listen to a brief overview of Indiana's bald eagles, then caravan to the largest documented bald eagle roost in Indiana.

Participants should dress for the weather, bring binoculars, cameras and spotting scopes. Shared

visual aid will also be available onsite.

There will be some walking on a paved road. Those who need accessible parking should request it upon registration. Participants may choose to leave the site at any time.

Participants will be able to warm up with hot food and drink items available for freewill donation at the roost site through the Friends of Upper Wabash Interpretive Services.

For the safety of all citizens, Frances Slocum Road between S.R. 124 and County Road 550 E., Miami County, will be closed for this event.

For more information and to register, call **260-468-2127**.

Upper Wabash Interpretive Services ([dnr.IN.gov/uwis](http://dnr.IN.gov/uwis)) is at 3691 S. New Holland Road, Andrews, 46702.

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