

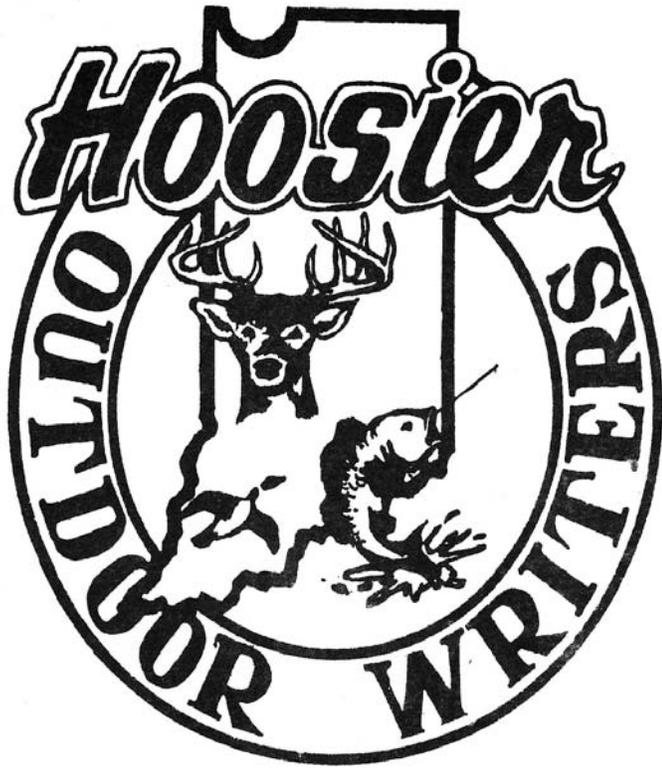
The Blade

January - February 2013

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Wile E. Coyote", photo by Tom Berg



Hoosier Outdoor Writers

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers was formed in 1969 and has brought together many diverse groups and individuals with shared interests. The Hoosier Outdoor Writers, known among its members as HOW, is a group of dedicated media professionals who are keenly interested in the wise use of natural resources in the Hoosier State.

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All submissions and correspondence in regards to the newsletter should be directed to: Tom Berg (e-mail: director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org), or to Tom Berg, 2142 Nondorf St., Dyer, IN 46311. Portions of this newsletter may be reproduced only with the permission of the Hoosier Outdoor Writer's Executive Board and/or the permission of the original author or authors submitting the material. HOW website: www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org.

On the cover: Coyotes have become increasingly numerous throughout Indiana in recent years, but since they are very wary and secretive, most Hoosiers never see them. This coyote was photographed in Newton County at the edge of a picked cornfield. Photo by Tom Berg.



President's Message

by Josh Lantz

Video adds value to your communications: Shoot it better

Not too long ago, video production and editing within the field of outdoor communications were skills practiced by a handful of professional videographers and editors making DVDs and 30-minute television shows. How quickly things have changed.

Video is still used for these purposes today, but the medium is now more widely used in web-based communications. With the advent of QR codes, smartphones and tablets, video is even used in print – in stories and articles, advertisements and even on T-shirts.

Small, high quality “tapeless” cameras are more affordable than ever. In addition, many smartphones, tablets and digital SLR cameras now shoot broadcast quality 1080x1920 HD video. Are you using video to add value to your communications? If not, you should be.

I've been shooting and editing video professionally for over ten years. I have edited over 200 episodes of national outdoor television and put together dozens of promotional and instructional video assets. I've learned a lot about what makes for more appealing and, ultimately, more effective video. Regardless of your equipment, here are a few guidelines you can follow to obtain a better product.

Compose your shots. Follow the rule of thirds (you likely know about this concept from still photography) when framing your subjects. Divide your scene into thirds with imaginary vertical and horizontal lines and try to keep your focal points or subject placed on the intersections of these lines. This results in better-balanced, more interesting video.

Watch your lighting. As with still photography, try to shoot your subjects so they are lit from the front or side, not behind.

Follow the two-minute rule. This is especially important for web-based video. It recognizes that human beings have short attention spans. Try to limit the duration of individual videos to two-minutes. If you post a ten-minute video, very few people are going to sit all the way through it – regardless of how well shot or interesting it may be. If you have ten minutes of edited content, consider breaking it down into five individual clips. While people are unlikely to watch a ten-minute video, they will likely watch all five separate chapters or clips if your content is good. Breaking your videos apart into distinct chapters or segments with separate links and thumbnail images for each also gives the appearance of increased content and improved visual interest to the site where they are displayed.

Shoot believable cutaways. Cutaways are separate video shots you edit into or lay down over your primary video. For example, if your human subject is demonstrating and speaking about how to load shells into an autoloading shotgun, you can shoot a close up of the loading process and cut to that video as he or she loads the gun on the primary video while keeping the primary audio rolling. Cutaways add a great deal of interest and production value and should be used whenever possible. But be cautious. That production value goes away quickly if the cutaway scene is not believable. In other words, your cutaway should be shot from the same angle and in the same lighting conditions as your primary video.

Film a narrative. Narratives, or “talking head” shots as they are sometimes called, provide for maximum editing flexibility and will add greatly to the production value of your video. If you are producing a segment on crankbait fishing, write an overall narrative for the segment that tells people what you want them to know about the topic. Then sit down in front of the camera – or have your host sit down – and deliver that message. You can deliver the message using notes or cue cards or simply speak from memory using your own expertise. In my opinion, it is easier for the speaker and more comfortable for the viewer if the speaker is positioned so he or she is not looking directly into the camera. In other words, place a coach or the person holding the script just to the side of the camera and instruct your subject to speak directly to that person. The results will surprise you and may make a more interesting and compelling video segment.

Of course, I am always happy to speak with HOW members who may have additional questions about video acquisition or editing. Feel free to shoot me an email at josh@sandcreek-media.com.

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

Memorial to Deceased HOW Members

Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

Jack Alkire – HOW President 1979
Bill Beeman – Executive Director
Ed Blann
Charlie Brown
Gary Carden
Jim “Moose” Carden – HOW President 1982/83
George Carey
John Case
Bill Church – HOW President 1972
Jack “Big Jake” Cooper
Mark Cottingham
Jerry Criss
Gary “Dox” Doxtater
Dick Forbes
Tom Glancy – HOW President 1977
Dale Griffith
Fred Heckman
Jack Kerins
Mike Lyle – HOW President 1981
Ralph “Cork” McHargue – HOW President 1976
Dick Mercier
Bob Nesbit
Hellen Ochs
Jack Parry
Harry Renfro
“Bayou” Bill Scifres – HOW President – 6 terms
George Seketa
Hal Shymkus
Al Spiers
Robert “Doc” Stunkard
Butch Tackett
Joe West

**HOW extends a
warm welcome
to our growing
ranks of outdoor
communicators**

Past Presidents of HOW

“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1969
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1970
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1971
Bill Church	1972
Rick Bramwell	1973
Jack Ennis	1974
Phil Junker	1975
Ralph McHargue	1976
Tom Glancy	1977
Bob Rubin	1978
Jack Alkire	1979
Louie Stout	1980
Mike Lyle	1981
Jim “Moose” Carden	1982
Jim “Moose” Carden	1983
John Davis	1984
John Davis	1985
Ray Harper	1986
Ray Harper	1987
Ray Dickerson	1988
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1989
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1990
“Bayou” Bill Scifres	1991
Jack Spaulding	1992
Jack Spaulding	1993
John Rawlings	1994
Phil Bloom	1995
Marty Jaranowski	1996
John Martino	1997
Mike Schoonveld	1998
Jack Spaulding	1999
Jack Spaulding	2000
Sharon Wiggins	2001
Phil Junker	2002
Larry Crecelius	2003
Bryan Poynter	2004
Phil Bloom	2005
Brian Smith	2006
Brian Smith	2007
Brent Wheat	2008
Bryan Poynter	2009
John Maxwell	2010
Brandon Butler	2011
Josh Lantz	2012

Annual HOW Conference



Clifty Falls State Park is one of southern Indiana's jewels. If you have never visited the park, this year will be a great time to do it! Photos on this page by Tom Berg.

Clifty Falls State Park Beckons HOW Members To The 2013 Annual Conference!

The 44th meeting of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers will take place on the weekend of April 19-21, 2013 at Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, IN. Have you sent in your registration form yet? This is shaping-up to be another great conference, so make your plans to attend now! You won't want to miss it!

The weekend conference activities will begin with the annual HOW Fun Shoot on Friday, April 19th. All HOW members who enjoy the shooting sports should consider joining us this year! The start time has not been announced yet by shoot coordinator Mike Schoonveld, but it will probably be late morning or around noon. This year we may be shooting skeet rather than sporting clays, depending on the range where we meet.

Everyone who arrives in Madison on Friday evening will be invited to a special barbecue dinner that we are planning with the help of the Madison Visitor's Center. They have recruited one of the local Madison BBQ teams to prepare an outstanding barbecue dinner for us, and it will be held at the Clifty Shelter House near the north end of the state park.

There will be plenty to eat and drink, and it will be a great opportunity to see old friends and make some new ones. The sign-up sheet is printed on page 8 of this newsletter.

BBQ!

The main meeting will occur on Saturday, April 20th. As usual, you don't have to attend any of the events on Friday if your schedule only allows you to be present at the Saturday meeting. See page 7 for a copy of this year's conference registration form. We will have plenty of interesting speakers at the conference, featuring the following topics:

- **Digital Photography – Tips You Can Use**

We will have an expert on digital photography present to help us better understand our digital cameras and provide us with helpful tips. At the end of the presentation, you may ask questions about problems you have experienced and hopefully get a few answers!

- **Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge**

Joe Robb, the Refuge Manager for Big Oaks NWR, will talk to us about this 50,000 acre wildlife sanctuary located just five miles north of Madison. Its diverse habitats provide homes for an amazing variety of wildlife.

- **Indiana's Statewide Bass Tournament Monitoring**

Dan Carnahan, the District 6 Fisheries Biologist for the DNR, will discuss Indiana's statewide bass tournament monitoring program and provide details that he has collected recently. You may be surprised at some of the results.

- **Fishing For The Ohio River's Giant Catfish**

We are planning to have an expert on fishing for trophy-sized catfish in the Ohio River, and he will be able to shed some light on the river's main catfish species: blue catfish, flathead catfish and channel catfish.



The HOW Board of Directors will be meeting during the course of the day to discuss the business of the association, and new officers will be elected later in the day. Of course, we are planning another excellent HOW Raffle this year, too! The raffle at the 2012 meeting in Merrillville was absolutely great, and we are hoping it will be even better in Madison! We have already received a great variety of exceptional outdoors products for this year's raffle, including icefishing tackle, fishing rods and other fishing gear, rainwear, knives, optics, and even firearms and a compound bow for the hunters in the crowd. More items are coming in every day, too, so start saving your money for tickets now. You must be present to win, so don't miss it!

HOW Raffle!

There will also be opportunities to visit Clifty Falls State Park throughout the conference weekend, where HOW members and spouses can do a little hiking, bird watching, nature photography or simply spend some quality time outdoors. The park's 1500 acres offers spectacular scenery, including beautiful waterfalls and lots of rocky cliffs and bluffs – all surrounded by dense forest. The waterfalls should be very impressive while we are there, too, especially if we get a normal amount of spring rain this year.

Feel free to explore the town of Madison, either before or after the main HOW meeting. Besides the quaint downtown shopping district, there are also numerous national landmarks and historic buildings that will grab your interest. As a matter of fact, Madison is home to Indiana's largest historic district. Lanier Mansion State Historic Site (built in 1844), the Schroeder Saddletree Factory and the historic Eleutherian College (established in 1848) are just a few of the notable attractions nearby. Spending a couple of extra days in Madison will definitely be worthwhile.



The spectacular Lanier Mansion and its formal gardens overlooks the Ohio River. Photos by Tom Berg.

We have already reserved a block of discounted rooms at the Clifty Inn for HOW members interested in staying overnight or for the entire weekend, so go ahead and make your reservations now.



Madison's Broadway Fountain.

Don't wait too long, either – **our block of rooms will be released on March 1, 2013.** The details are below, but our Group Code will not be printed here. It was already sent out via email. Contact HOW Executive Director Tom Berg if you missed it. If you prefer to camp or stay at another hotel instead of the Clifty Inn, there are several choices nearby if you look online or in the phone book.

FOR ROOM RESERVATIONS:
<https://cliftyinn.dnr.state.in.us> or 1-877-LODGES-1.

Group/Promotional Code: Send email to Tom Berg if you need the code.

Parkside Double Queen Rooms:
 (Friday 4/19/13 and/or Saturday 4/20/13): \$99.00 per night + tax.

Clifty Inn
 P.O. Box 387
 Madison, IN 47250
 812-265-4135
Reservations:
 1-877-LODGES-1
 1-877-563-4371

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Annual Conference Registration



Clifty Inn near Madison, IN (Jefferson County) – April 19-21, 2013

This registration form is for the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 20th
(8:00am – 4:30pm)

Information to appear on name badge:

Name: _____ Spouse's name (if attending): _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Are you a first-time HOW conference attendee? _____

Conference Registration Fee per person:

HOW Members (and spouses): \$25.00 each (on or before April 1st) = _____

\$30.00 each (after April 1st) = _____

Non-HOW Members: \$30.00 each (on or before April 1st) = _____

\$35.00 each (after April 1st) = _____

TOTAL = _____

Conference fee includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch on April 20th.

Please print this application and mail it along with your check for each person attending (make check payable to "Hoosier Outdoor Writers") to:

**Tom Berg
HOW Conference
2142 Nondorf Street
Dyer, IN 46311-1829**

Questions? Email all conference questions to Tom Berg: thomas.berg@comcast.net

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Conference Activities Registration

Please register for the Pre-Conference and Post-Conference activities listed below (Friday, April 19, 2013 and Sunday, April 21, 2013). The only activity that requires an advance payment is the Sunday fishing trip, but please indicate the number of people planning to attend each activity so we can plan accordingly. Note that activities are reserved for registered conference attendees only.

Contact information:

Name: _____ **Spouse's name (if attending):** _____

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Activity Registration Fees for HOW members and their spouses (per person):

		Number Attending			
Friday Fun Shoot *:		X	_____	=	\$ N/A
Friday evening Barbecue:	FREE!	X	_____	=	\$ N/A
Sunday Fishing Outing **:	\$25.00 each	X	_____	=	\$ _____
TOTAL:					\$ _____

* If there is a fee for the Fun Shoot it will be payable at the shoot.

* Ammunition will be supplied free of charge to HOW members.

**** For Sunday fishing, please specify your choice of the following:**

Ohio River catfishing _____ Local stream flyfishing _____

Please print this registration form and mail it along with your check (if you are fishing) for each person attending (make checks payable to "Hoosier Outdoor Writers") to:

**Tom Berg
HOW Conference
2142 Nondorf Street
Dyer, IN 46311-1829**

Registration forms and payment must be received by April 1st at the LATEST.

Questions? Email all conference questions to Tom Berg: thomas.berg@comcast.net

Craft Improvement

ORGANIZE THOSE BUSINESS CARDS
(Tips for the technically-challenged)
by Mike Schoonveld

I'll be the first to admit my office doesn't look very organized. It may not look that way, but if I need a document, old receipt, a business card, phone number or almost anything else stored somewhere in my "stacks-o-stuff", I can probably lay my hand on it just as fast as someone who has their stuff neatly filed, computerized and Roladexed.

But recently, my business card stack swelled to the point it kept tipping over in the drawer and co-mingling with my stack of membership cards to HOW, AGLOW, NRA, Salmon Unlimited and the various other groups that send out annual membership cards. Something had to be done.

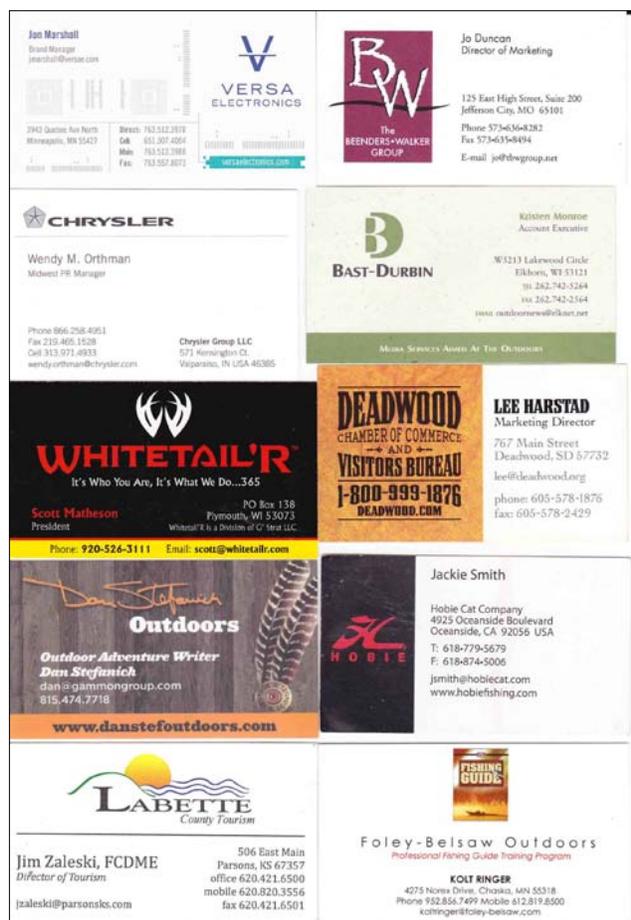
For those of you who have, understand, and love your smart phones, I learned there are apps available to allow you to simply take a picture of a business card, poke and stroke the phone a few times and the phone will do numerous magical things with the card inside. I'm not wedded

to my phone. In fact, I don't even trust it. I certainly don't trust it to spew out a specific business card as quickly as I can sort it out of my stack, co-mingled or not.

My solution was to sort the cards as needed into groups of cards from HOW, groups of cards I use for my charter fishing business, miscellaneous cards, etc. You get the picture. Then I put them neatly on my scanner and turned them into one picture - literally. I saved them as a jpg file. I could have done the same thing with my phone camera, but I don't trust it.

A few cards are two-sided, but I found using the Microsoft Paint program, it's simple enough to leave a space for side two, scan the back separately and slide it into position under side one. Try that on your smart phone!

I now have a folder on my computer called BizCards. In it are jpg files that show all my contacts. The folder is backed up by Carbonite.com and I have room in my desk drawer to start a whole new stack of stuff. I wonder what will sprout there next?



Editor's note: For those of you who don't know Mike personally, he is relatively famous for being technologically-challenged. We are sure that there are lots of HOW members who can do exactly what Mike is talking about with their smartphone apps. But have you ever heard the expression "You can't teach an old dog new tricks? We are just happy that he knows how to use a computer and scanner!

The 2013 HOW Awards-In-Craft Contest

**The Hoosier Outdoor Writers
would like to announce that:**

TOYOTA MOTOR SALES

**Will once again be sponsoring the 2013
HOW Awards-In-Craft Contests**



The 2013 HOW Awards-In-Craft Contest

HOW CRAFTS AWARD CONTEST RULES

The contest year shall be for material published or aired from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012. All submissions, including photography, must have been printed, aired, published or electronically posted during the contest year.

The author, photographer or broadcaster must be an Active or Associate member of HOW.

The author, photographer or broadcaster must have been paid a standard rate for any work entered in the contest. Photos or articles published on a private Website or a not-for-hire Website will not be accepted. Photos/articles that are published, or radio/TV programs that are broadcast in trade for advertising or other non-monetary remuneration or for gratuitous fees (such as \$1) are not permitted.

At this time, blogs will not be accepted as an article. Photo essays (where the only writing is in the captions) will also not be accepted as an article. These types of entries will be disqualified.

This year we will continue the format that was started two years ago by allowing electronic submissions only. We no longer accept paper entries. This has resulted in much less work for entrants, contest coordinators and judges. It also conserves valuable natural resources, which is something of which we can all be proud. Entries must be submitted via email or filed on a CD/DVD and mailed. The only exception is the broadcast division, where tapes are also allowed. See the rules below for more details.

RULES FOR SUBMISSION

- 1) Contest entries must be in an electronic form. Entries must be emailed (or postmarked if mailing a CD or DVD) no later than February 23, 2013. Entries emailed or postmarked after that date will be disqualified. Send all entries to the proper contest coordinator.
- 2) An official HOW contest entry form must accompany each entry. The entry form must also be sent electronically (after typing the entry details into the form).
- 3) Send no material that needs to be returned. No original material is required. As mentioned above, print contest entries and photo contest entries must be sent in an electronic form. In the broadcast contest, tapes, recordings and DVDs are welcome.
- 4) All submissions of print entries (either from traditional paper or electronic media) must consist of one electronic copy of each article with bylines removed. This file must be text only – do not scan tearsheets or newspaper/magazine pages. This electronic copy must be submitted as a Microsoft Word 97-2003 Document (.doc) or as a PDF file (.pdf). Entries not following these rules will be disqualified. As mentioned, print entry files must be emailed (or filed on a CD or DVD and mailed) by the deadline.
- 5) Entries into the broadcast category require only one tape or recording and may be sent by tape cassette, CD, VHS or DVD formats. Radio and television entries may carry the broadcast station's name and call letters if they are on "as aired" dubbed tapes. TV entries should be dubbed minus commercials if possible to facilitate judging.
- 6) Entries in the photography division must consist of one electronic (digital) copy of each photo. This electronic copy must be saved as a JPEG file (.jpg or .jpeg). Prints, slides and paper copies of photos will not be accepted. Please include a title for each photo entry. Digitally produced photos should not be substantially manipulated. Allowable photo enhancement is limited to standard shooting/darkroom techniques, such as color correction, contrast control and image cropping.
- 7) An individual article, photo or broadcast may only be entered in one category/division. Entering the same piece in multiple categories/divisions will result in the disqualification of duplicate entries.
- 8) There is a limit of two entries per category.

For all Article entries, send submissions to the Writing Contest Coordinator:

Eric Stallsmith, Email: contest@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org

US Mail: 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311

For all Photography entries, send submissions to the Photo Contest Coordinator:

John Martino, Email: jmartino@cityofkokomo.org

US Mail: 12825 W 100 N, Kokomo, IN 46901

For all Broadcast entries, send submissions to the Broadcast Contest Coordinator:

Tom Berg, Email: thomas.berg@comcast.net

US Mail: 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311

CONTEST DIVISIONS

- 1) Writing articles published as 1,000 words or less (Magazine, Newspaper, E-zine).
- 2) Writing articles published as more than 1,000 words (Magazine, Newspaper, E-zine).
- 3) Photography
- 4) Broadcast (Radio-TV-Video)

WRITING ARTICLE CATEGORIES

- 1) Hunting/Trapping
- 2) Fishing
- 3) Conservation
- 4) General Outdoors (other than hunting, fishing, trapping)

BROADCAST CATEGORIES

- 9) Best Radio Broadcast
- 10) Best TV Broadcast
- 11) Best Video

PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORIES

- 5) Hunting/Trapping
- 6) Fishing
- 7) Outdoor Scenic
- 8) Outdoor Recreation (other than hunting, fishing, trapping)

2013 HOW AWARDS-IN-CRAFT CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

Category _____ Division _____

Title: _____

Where published/aired: _____

Publication/air date: _____

Entries and forms must be emailed or postmarked no later than February 23, 2013

The All-Around Dog – The Beagle

Story and photos by Gene Clifford

More shotgun shells are spent on rabbit hunting than any other game animal in the Midwest. Along with this statistic goes the most popular dog for this sport: the beagle. They are excellent pheasant dogs and are willing retrievers, too.

I once had a beagle that would bay on rabbits but would yip on pheasants, telling me that I'd better catch up with the dog, as he was either going to catch that pheasant or put it up in the air. The beagle I have now is a rabbit retriever of his own choosing, as I have not taught him this trait. It all started once when I shot a rabbit in some extremely thick briars which would have needed a dog to retrieve it. He came to my rescue, kinda, with a look on his face telling me to pick my shots a little more in the open from now on.

Maybe their sound is not as glamorous as an elk bugling in the Rocky Mountains, but the excited baying of a pack of beagles on the hot trail of a rabbit is one of the classic sounds of the fall hunting season.

Having been a beagle owner for over 50 years, and I can attest to the fact that although beagle hounds are often strong-willed, they are very affectionate, and with diligent training and handling, they may serve quite well as both field dogs, and family pets.

The present beagle I have now, Zeke, is 6½ years old, and undoubtedly the best beagle I've had and trained, mainly, no doubt, because I've had more time to work with him since I retired in 1999. I've had five males over those 50+ years, some as long as 14 years and some for less than 10 years.

Zeke was born on March 17th, my wife's birthday. "Happy birthday Honey, I got you a beagle pup." And on my next birthday I received a mink stole.

I'm a lifelong rabbit hunter, but some of my past beagles just weren't up to snuff, and I should have left them home in the kennel. One was a good rabbit runner; as long as he could see it he could sight run it. If he lost sight of it he would wander around until he sighted me and return to follow me. Another one was a silent runner and never opened up when running a rabbit, so I never knew just where the dog was. One of the pups I was training had the same tendencies, and

at his annual checkup at the vet, I mentioned it, and the vet advised me that when a rabbit was jumped to get down on my hands and knees and bay like a mother beagle. Surprisingly, he caught on to what I was doing, and started to open up when he got on a fresh trail.

All my beagles have been family pets, in addition to being an occasional good hunter. Regardless of whether they were good hunters or trailers, they sure took a lot of the effort out of kicking all the brush piles and fencerows myself, and seemed to be eager to do what comes naturally to them.

Most of my past beagle pups were purchased for \$50 or less, from people that had beagle pups for sale. Whereas my present beagle, Zeke, cost me \$200; I bought him from a beagle breeder who just happened to be the President of a beagle hunters club. It proved to be a worthwhile investment, with many happy returns.

When looking for likely places to hunt rabbits, remember that if there are few briars, there will be few rabbits. When I say briars, I mean blackberry, raspberry, and multi-flora rose. In the winter, this is what the bunnies primarily feed on, regardless of the depth of snow. Bunnies will stick to the thickest cover that will provide them protection from the wind and precipitation. Briar patches are classic types of cold weather cover.

If you jump a rabbit in this thick cover and don't have a clear shot, take a position where you do, and just wait for the dogs to bring the rabbit back. They seldom run more than 50 to 80 yards from where they were jumped. They often circle back to return to their point of origin.

If you are serious about owning and training a great rabbit dog, then consider joining a local field-training club. Beagles have lots of desire to hunt and please their owners. So despite what some people say, a great field dog can also be a wonderful family pet.



Fond Remembrances – A Letter To Dox

Editor's note: It was with great sadness that we said goodbye to our friend Gary "Dox" Doxtater in the previous issue of The Blade. After that issue was published, long-time HOW member and Past-President Jack Spaulding shared one of his letters to Dox while he was trying to recuperate. Dox enjoyed reading about the resources he loved, and he always appreciated letters from his friends. Thanks for sharing, Jack.

Dox,

I wanted to take the time and send you a report on our wildlife standings here in Southern Rush County. I know you have worked for years and dedicated a large portion of your life to preserving and expanding our wildlife heritage... you should know of some of the great successes you helped bring.

As you know, Rush County is almost entirely agricultural with the exception of habitat strips and breaks in the cropland fields created by the rivers. The late Conservation Officer Glenn Conners once told fledgling field officer Dean Shadley, "If a rabbit went to cross one of these farm fields in the fall, it would have to pack a lunch." The flat barren fields are broken only by the wooded strips along Big Flatrock, Little Flatrock and Little Blue River. I have the privilege to live on the banks of the Big Flatrock and watch much of our wildlife resource return.

In my lifetime, I have witnessed a lot of wildlife related returns:

It started back when I was in high school in 1967, as news circulated that one of the school bus drivers saw a buck deer in the Hurricane Valley west of Milroy. I watched those deer reports grow until years later, I witnessed 17 in our side yard and herds numbering over 50 animals congregating in the open fields during the hard winter months.

Years later came the less-than-enamored coyotes. Even though they are top line predators and not thought highly of by many, these nighttime yodelers have a place here in Indiana as well. It is awesome to hear the packs yelp and howl as they call back and forth. These are the same sounds I first heard when I traveled to New Mexico back in 1968.

To the south at the Decatur County line for both Big Flatrock and Little Flatrock, the bottom land fields boast a healthy turkey population that continues to expand. Here in southern Rush County was the site of the last reintroductions of Indiana's wild turkey program. They were released only a 1/8th of a mile from our house at the time. It is wonderful to hear the sound of a boss tom challenging a barred owl, berating a crow or telling his fellow toms this is his turf. Even though my father grew up on a farm on the river in the very area, I am sure he never heard the sound of a wild turkey. He was born in 1910 and passed away in 1978. He would be thrilled.

Several years ago, I got a call from my new son-in-law who was opening a guitar repair shop in Greensburg. He told me excitedly, he had taken a picture of a bird that killed a pigeon in the alley. Sure enough, he had taken the picture of a peregrine falcon from only a few feet away. Greensburg, Indiana got something else of great note to go with the tree on their courthouse, thanks to the peregrine reintroduction program.

I was driving on one of the roads running along the Ohio River three years ago, when I saw the oddest thing. A large critter crossed the road not far in front of me, looking altogether like a kangaroo with stubby legs. Its front end was much smaller than its south end, and I laughed out loud when I realized I was looking at a river otter, very much a female and very pregnant. I watched her waddle through the ditch, slip under a fence and slide into a backwater area. The back water held clear water, perfect for hunting fish. I think she found the place to raise her pups.

Two years ago, my neighbors who live on the edge of what was once my Grandfather's farm, called to say they had a strange bird "fishing" in the river. I grabbed my binoculars and settled in on their deck overlooking Big Flatrock and spent the majority of the afternoon watching an osprey. Perched in a Sycamore snag, it would watch until it thought the time right and then plunge into and under the water. It took several tries, but it was soon successful. I actually called Dean Shadley to tell him I'd witnessed undersize smallmouth bass being taken below Moscow. I had him going for a little bit, especially since one of his favorite pastimes is pursuing the larger ones with a fly rod.

This year, those same neighbors called to say they had the osprey back and he has an occasional rival in the area. No... not another osprey, but a beautiful maturing bald eagle. I had the thrill of seeing this magnificent bird at our cabin on the north side of Moscow just a few days ago. It was close to the small pond we have that is always clear and full of fish. Apparently, we have been sharing our bluegill with the eagle, and we are glad to do so.

Just a note to say "Hi" and thanks for all you have done. I hope you get to feeling better. God Bless !!

HOW Member News

“Ranger Bob” Targets Michigan Stream Salmon

Late September and early October provide those with a lust for hooking up big fish on fly rods an excellent opportunity on the Pierre Marquette River in Baldwin, MI. “During the last weekend of September in 2012, I spent three days catching and releasing many king salmon on an 8-weight rod,” said “Ranger” Bob Sawtelle from Corydon. “Egg-sucking leech patterns were the primary fly patterns, along with glow-in-the-dark streamers. Members of the Derby City Fly Fishers club and I fished late into the darkness, with camp lanterns parked on the riverbank. The lanterns provided just enough light for us to target and cast to pods of gathered salmon.”

Anyone interested in learning more about regional fishing opportunities should visit the Derby City Fly Fishers (www.derbycityflyfishers.com) website. You can also meet our club members at fly fishing shows – we were at the 8th annual Kentuckiana Fly Fishing Show at the end of January (www.Kyflyshow.com).



“Ranger Bob” smiles as he lifts a nice female stream-run chinook salmon he caught. Photo courtesy of Bob Sawtelle.



Redmon Enjoys Bear Camp and Bowhunting For Bruins

Gary Redmon from Greencastle, IN has hunted many big game animals in North America, but one of his favorites is the black bear. Where is his favorite place for bear? Ontario!

“The black bear season in Ontario, Canada, opens annually on August 15th,” said Redmon. “Two days prior to that I found my way back for the ninth consecutive year with outfitter Rick Dickson from the Wawa, Ontario area (www.nlmotel.com/dicksonsbear.htm). After nine years with the same outfitter, you get to know him well, along with the area, people and the ins-and-outs of baiting for black bear.”

“Rick has permitted me and a small group of men, who make an annual rendezvous for opening week of bear season, to arrive early to set up our own stands, trail cameras and bait (which he provides). Rick starts baiting several weeks prior to opening day. Trail cameras will hopefully give some indication of what is coming into the bait sites prior to opening day.”

“I keep a file of trail camera photos on each bait site for future reference so I know the potential. As mentioned in Alan Garber’s article, *Garbers Hunts and Fishes Canada*, in the last edition of The Blade, ‘it is possible to go bear hunting in Ontario over bait and NOT get a bear’. Unfavorable weather conditions and seasons with an abundance of natural foods (blueberries, mountain ash and hazelnuts), often means baiting will be unproductive. I had a couple of those seasons. This can vary within the province of Ontario, which has numerous large wildlife management areas. Even in a good season, some bait sites will be more productive than others. Depending on the number of hunters in our group we try to keep a couple bait sites reserved just for this reason.”

“After four days on one of my most productive bait sites in the past, I arrowed a nice 250-pounder. Nothing like some of my prior bruisers, but it was a good hunt and another year’s experience. It was still a great experience as I watched a sow and cub and other bears of various sizes come in and out; I also watched a wolf poke his head out of the bush and make a quick retreat. The cry of the loons at dark made for an eerie hike out. It is tough to get those 300 to 400 pounders every season even with the best bait. Rick reported the largest bear weighed 702 pounds for the 2012 season. At the close of my 2012 hunt, our group of six had 100% success and lots of good stories and camaraderie at camp.”

HOW Members Should Prepare For Awards-In-Crafts Contests

All Active and Associate HOW members should be gathering their articles, photos and broadcasts for the annual Awards-In-Crafts contests. The deadline for sending entries is February 23rd. All entries must be emailed or postmarked by that date. See pages 11-12 for more details.

Keaton Relishes Grouse Encounters



“I no longer hunt deer from tree stands,” said HOW Legal Counsel Bill Keaton. “The ground where I hunt has very steep hills, so in recent years I have just used the top section of my ladder stands against a tree on a hillside above a trail. During archery season while I was sitting at about five feet above ground level, a grouse came along feeding and passed about five feet in front of me. I saw it coming and remained motionless so I would not scare it away. Grouse are typically very skittish and very uncommon in the area where I was hunting. It moved past me and turned and

went around me on the left side. I was sitting at the base of an oak tree, and it circled me three times getting a little closer each time.”

“It finally moved up the hill behind me. I had been sitting motionless for about 10 minutes, so after I heard it move away I began to move a little. Suddenly, I heard the grouse fly. Surprisingly, it flew to a limb on a tree three feet to my left and a foot above my head. I froze again. After another five minutes, it flew back down behind me.”

“I had to leave about 10:30 a.m. that day, and when I was ready to leave I slowly turned and looked behind me. To my surprise, the grouse was sitting on the ground about 10 feet behind my tree. I got out of my stand and slowly moved to the back of my tree where I had placed a pack. I moved closer to the grouse as I retrieved my pack, and to my surprise it did not fly away.”

“I turned and walked up the hill about 30 yards to the trail where I had hidden my 4-wheeler at the edge of a brush pile. When I got to my 4-wheeler, I stored the crossbow bolt in the quiver and put my crossbow on the carrying rack on the front of my quad. As I finished and started to get on the 4-wheeler, to my shock, the grouse jumped up on the brush pile where I had parked. It was no more than five feet from me now, and must have followed me up the hill.”

“I did not want to start the quad and frighten the grouse, so I walked about 10 feet back up the trail and sat down. The grouse flew off the brush pile to the edge of the trail and started walking toward me. On the way, it scared-up a grasshopper, and there was a little circle-chase before the grouse caught and ate the grasshopper. The grouse walked to within a few feet of me and sat down. I sat and chirped at it for a while, and finally got up, walked back to my quad and left.”



“I don’t think I have ever had an encounter with a wild creature that was anything like it. I can only surmise that the grouse became aware of my presence gradually, did not perceive me as a threat and became curious.”

Editor’s note: Bill did not get any photos of his curious grouse, but we thought it would be nice to include some grouse shots. These photos are courtesy of grouse hunting guide Mark Nissen from Glendale, WI (www.classicbirdhunts.com). HOW member Alan Garbers hunted with Mark and said he runs a great service.

Seng Family Will Eat Venison Again This Year!



Phil Seng from South Bend, IN enjoys deer hunting, and this year marked another successful season for him and his family.

“Here are a couple photos from my deer season,” said Seng. “I shot a decent buck (at right) during bow season, and then doubled with my daughter Jenny during the firearm season. We have enjoyed three straight successful seasons together. You just can't beat hunting shoulder to shoulder with your kids!”



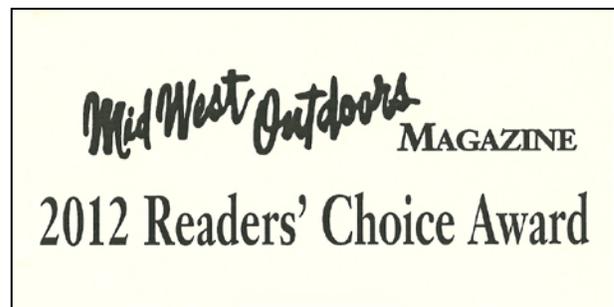
“This doe and fawn (above) stepped out together and we shot them within seconds of each other; she with a .44 mag rifle and me with muzzleloader. Great morning!”

HOW Members Win Reader's Choice Awards

Five HOW Members were recently presented with a “Reader's Choice Award” from *Midwest Outdoors Magazine*. Based in Burr Ridge, Illinois, *Midwest Outdoors* has been “Helping People Enjoy The Outdoors” for more than 45 years now.

Here are the names of the HOW Members who were among the 2012 winners from *Midwest Outdoors*' Indiana and Illinois editions:

Tom Berg
Gene Clifford
Mike Ratter
Jack Spaulding
Bill Takacs



According to the short biographies printed in the current issue of *Midwest Outdoors*, Bill Takacs has been writing for the magazine longer than any of the other HOW winners. Bill has been penning his articles for the publication since 1975. Congrats, Bill! And congratulations to all of the winners!



Sawtelle and Friends Hunt Mississippi Delta Ducks

HOW member Bob Sawtelle from Corydon, IN is not only a serious fisherman, he is also an accomplished hunter and traveler. “I am the luckiest fellow around! Every December, I get invited to waterfowl hunt the flooded rice fields and flooded timber of the Cutoff Lake of Tunica, Mississippi,” he said excitedly.



“The hallowed cypress-filled waters of the Beaver Dam are little more than a shotgun’s distance from our hunting blinds,” he continued. “The Beaver Dam and this northern reach of the Mississippi Delta were made famous through the writings and stories of one of our greatest early 20th century hunting authors, Nash Buckingham. The rich, rewarding and entrenched traditions of the southern hunt clubs live on! I always feel like I am living an episode of the *“American Sportsman”*. I have the best friends a fellow could have!”

“I can’t wait to have our southern hunt club members and friends up to southern Indiana for our annual Blue River spring turkey camp. If you want to build and increase your outdoor adventure hunting and fishing opportunities, I have two words for you: TRIP TRADE!”



Berg Is A Friend To Foxes

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg is hooked on trapping, but that certainly doesn’t mean he has no compassion for animals. A good example was what happened on his trapline in early January.

He caught a beautiful red fox in a live cage trap that he had set in a friend’s yard for rogue raccoons.

Imagine his surprise when he found the fox waiting in the trap the next day! The bait? Scraps of leftover Kentucky Fried Chicken!

Native red fox populations have declined in this area since coyotes have moved in and taken over, so Berg decided to release the fox unharmed right where he was caught. The photo to the right shows the fox trotting away from the cage in the foreground. Berg’s explanation for the release was simple: “I like foxes!”



Over-Bagging On The Trapline

by Mike Schoonveld

There's no limit on the number of coyotes a trapper can catch in Indiana, either on a daily basis or seasonally. Many trappers are happy if they only catch a few; others aren't happy unless they catch hundreds each year. Me? During the first month of trapping season when only coyotes are legal, I have a goal of catching one and one-half coyotes each day.

I realize it's impossible to catch half a coyote, so my actual threshold for success is to catch one or two each day. Why not more? Because of the work involved after the catch.

I'm a recreational trapper. If I have one or two coyotes in the truck at the end of my check, I haul them into my shed and open a beer while I remove the pelts, clean up the fur and slide the hide onto the stretchers to dry. Depending on my mood, some tunes or talk radio makes for a pleasant end of the afternoon. Need be, I'll crack open a second beer. More than that, the work takes precedence and time disallows any casual quaffing of beers. It's drudgery!



A few years ago my goal of one or two coyotes per day worked out almost perfectly. I had one day with zero catches, two days with three catches and all the rest were one or two. I've come close to perfection the last couple years and was on track this year, as well. That is, until today.

After finding my bait dug up and coyote tracks all over my first set, but no coyote, then nothing in the next few places I'd placed traps, I caught number one in the corner of a corn field. Then I caught another on the next farm I checked. Then three traps later, at the end of a row of pine trees, number three for the day was encountered.

"Oh Molly," I told my dog who rides along in the truck with me as I check my traps, "We've over-bagged."

The next spot had only been set two days ago and since it has a good history, I'd installed two traps there. Both traps were clamped solidly to coyote feet. One was a youngster, the other a mature male. With only one last field and two traps to check, I thought the five animals in my truck was it.

Wrong! The next to last trap had a small blonde coyote nailed down; probably a litter mate to the one I caught in the other set yesterday. Six coyotes in one day far exceeds my wants, expectations or the amount of work I want to do.

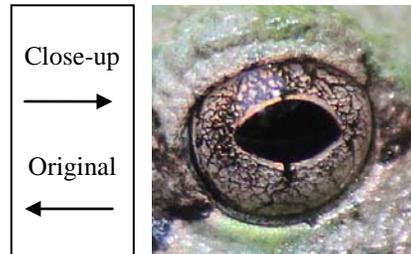
But I did it. Maybe tomorrow I'll get a day off. Or at least time to enjoy a beer while I work.

*Editor's note: This story was originally published online in Mike Schoonveld's blog: **Mike's Outdoor World**. Visit www.bronature.com to read some of his other blog entries. Photo courtesy of Mike Schoonveld.*

Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors

Sponsored by Frogg Toggs

The Gray Tree Frog Is Hard To Spot In The Wild



The “What is it?” question from the last newsletter was pretty tough! Only four HOW members correctly identified it this time. Bill Keaton, PJ Perea, John Maxwell and Don Bickel all guessed the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the **Cocoons** sunglasses, Bill Keaton

was the winner. Bill said this question was easy for him because these frogs like to climb on his windows at home!

As you can see in the photo above, the mystery creature for this issue was a common Gray Tree Frog (*Hyla versicolor*). Gray Tree Frogs can vary in color depending on their surroundings. They camouflage themselves with splotches of gray, green and brown to hide from predators. They are often only seen when they move. After metamorphosis from tadpole into froglet, they usually turn bright green for a day or two before changing to mottled gray.

Gray Tree Frogs are small, typically measuring 1.5 to 2 inches long. They have large, sticky, specially-adapted toe pads which allow them to climb vertically or horizontally, even across smooth surfaces. As Bill Keaton knows, they can be seen clinging to windows of houses at night, feeding on insects attracted to the lights.

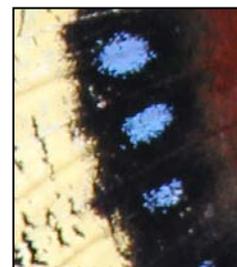
This time, our friends at **Frogg Toggs** have offered to provide a very nice prize for the HOW member that guesses the right answer to the new “What Is It?” question (see below). The prize will be a gift certificate for a special Frogg Toggs rainwear package. See the bottom of the page for more info.



Berg Poses Another Nature Photo “What Is It?” Question

Here’s another Nature Photo mystery. The photograph shown to the right is a close-up of part of a common creature that lives right here in Indiana. It might live in your back yard, and it can be found throughout the state. Have you ever seen it? Can you guess what it is?

This creature should be quite a bit easier to identify than the last one, but we’ll see. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? This time you **must** identify the exact species. If you know what it is, send the answer via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you’ll be eligible for this issue’s prize. If not, you will just have to wait for the next issue to find out!



As mentioned, **Frogg Toggs** will donate a nice rainwear package to the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. The winner will receive a Toad Rage jacket and Toad Skinz pants as their prize (they can choose the size/color, see www.froggtoggs.com). If multiple people guess correctly, we’ll draw one winner at random from the group. Good luck! Photos on this page by Tom Berg.

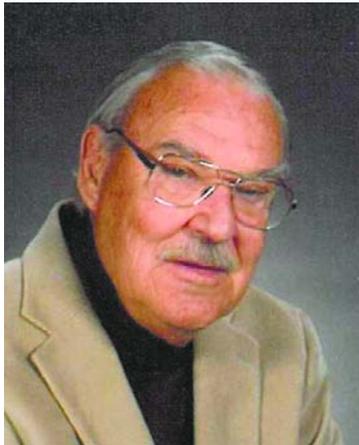


THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US



HOW Member Harold "Hal" Shymkus – Age 86
May 6, 1926 – December 13, 2012

Española, New Mexico – Harold "Hal" Shymkus, 86, passed away on Thursday, December 13, 2012 following a brief illness. He was a 20 year resident of Española. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Hazel Macleod Shymkus. His surviving brother, Robert M. Shymkus resides in Bowling Green, KY.



Hal was born in the Chicago area on May 6, 1926. He graduated from Thornton high School, followed immediately by entering the armed forces in World War II in the Army Air Corps. He served in Italy during the occupation as an MP.

After mustering out of the service he attended Thornton Junior College for two years. He then enrolled at Franklin College, Franklin Indiana, majoring in journalism. He was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. While there, he met his future wife, Mary Beth Newsom of Columbus, Indiana.

After graduating with a degree in journalism, he took a job as Editor of the Homewood-Flossmoor Star. Hal and Mary Beth were married September 16, 1951 in Columbus, Indiana. They moved to Columbus to pursue his career with Cummins, where he served in parts-sales and later in the area of marketing and advertising.

He retired from Cummins and he and Mary Beth moved to Española in 1993. Surviving are his wife, Mary Beth; son, David Shymkus (Pamela) of Columbus, Lisa Shymkus (Randall Jones) of Santa Fe; grandchildren, Nick and Emily Jones of Wellington, New Zealand, Lauren Turner (Brian) of Charleston, SC, Jenna Voelz (Grant) of Columbus; great-grandchild, Vivian Faith Voelz; numerous nieces and nephews in Bowling Green & other loving relatives & friends; sister-in-law, Martha May Newsom of Columbus.

Hal was a man of many talents and interests. He was an avid golfer, die-hard fisherman, writer of books and short stories, oil painter, potter, and a long-time member of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers and the New Mexico Outdoor Writers and Photographers.

A Memorial Service was held on Friday, December 28, 2012 at Valley View United Methodist Church in Española. An additional service will be held in Columbus in early January at the First Presbyterian Church where he will be interred in the Columbarium. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Valley View United Methodist Church or Ghost Ranch Conference Center in Abiquiu or Franklin College – Franklin, Indiana. The Shymkus family has entrusted the care of their loved one to DeVargas Funeral Home & Crematory of the Española Valley.

HOW Supporting Member News

These pages are devoted to the loyal supporting members of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers. Brief descriptions of new products, award-winning products and press releases are listed here. HOW members interested in reading more can visit the supporting member websites or call or email the company contact for more information.

New Reel From Castalia Outdoors Wins Awards At Fishing Shows

Frostproof, FL: The new Magic Flight reel from Castalia Outdoors has been turning heads recently – and winning industry awards. In 2012, it was named “Best New Reel – Commended” at the international EFTTEX (European Fishing Tackle Trade Exhibition) show in Paris. Also in 2012, it won the “Best New Reel” category in the China Fish international trade show in Beijing, China.

The new “dimpled” spool design increases casting distance - and fish catches. Have you ever wondered why golf balls have dimples? One reason is they reduce the friction along the surface of the ball to increase driving distance. The new Magic Flight spinning reel features a patented spool design with a dimpled edge, much like



the dimples on the surface of a golf ball. This unique edge reduces friction as the line is quickly released during a normal cast. The line only touches the “peak” of each dimple to reduce friction on the outgoing line – thus increasing both distance of the cast and “cover area” fished, thereby improving the chances to catch more fish!

The Castalia Magic Flight spinning reels are available in Angler Series 2000/4000, Pro Series 2000/4000, a Free-drag Series 3500/5500 and Surfcasting model 9000. More technical details for this reel are available at www.castaliaoutdoors.com.

Magic Flight Reel. Cast Farther. Catch More Fish.

For more information, contact Pam Richards by phone 800-558-5541 or email: pam@castaliaoutdoors.com.

Barnes Awarded 2012 American Hunter “Ammunition Product of the Year”

Mona, UT: Barnes Bullets, LLC is proud to announce that its VOR-TX precision ammunition won the 2012 American Hunter Ammunition Product of the Year Golden Bullseye Award from National Rifle Association (NRA) Publications.



“At Barnes, we continually strive to make better products that outperform the competition. We now not only have the best performing bullet out there today, we offer hunters the ultimate in accuracy, terminal performance and handloaded precision in a factory loaded round,” said Randy Brooks, president of Barnes Bullets. “Having VOR-TX acknowledged by American Hunter as ammunition product of the year is an honor that everyone at Barnes is extremely proud of.”

The NRA Publications Golden Bullseye Awards acknowledges the finest products available for shooting sports. The awards are given to winners selected by a seven-member committee comprised of editors, graphic designers and veteran NRA Publications staff who, collectively, represent more than a century of shooting and hunting experience.

BARNES
OPTIMIZED FOR YOUR TARGET™

HOW Supporting Member News

Henry Repeating Arms Company Recovers From Hurricane Sandy

Bayonne, NJ: Near the end of October, 2012, Hurricane Sandy smashed into the New Jersey coast and caused incredible damage and devastation. Countless people and businesses were affected, and one of those businesses was HOW Supporting Member Henry Repeating Arms Company.

As the storm surged, saltwater entered the Henry plant and damaged much of the equipment inside. Up to three feet (or more) of saltwater flooded sections of the factory, and part of the roof was destroyed as well. Immediately after the storm, the phones were out and the plant was without electricity.

Employees got to work cleaning up the destruction right away and crews began repair work. According to Anthony Imperato, President of Henry Repeating Arms, it was a tremendous amount of work. "This is a painstaking process," he said. "We've had to replace motors, circuit boards, pumps, coolant tanks, and more.



Some of our most expensive and sophisticated machinery was damaged beyond repair and had to be replaced outright. We are getting through this with the help of some very talented people, including our own staff, and we're on track to emerge stronger with increased manufacturing capacity."

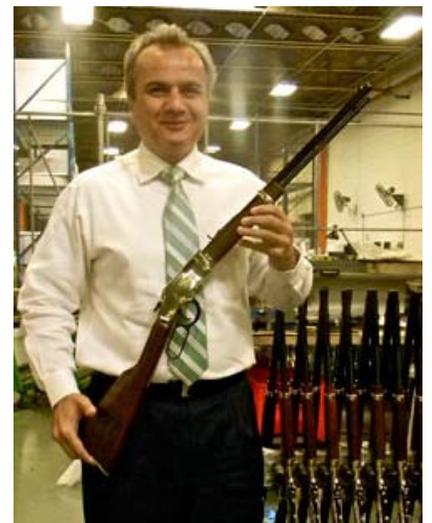
By late November, work was progressing quite well. "We are pleased to report that we are well on our way to a full recovery," stated Imperato.

"More than 100 pieces of manufacturing machinery that were damaged by saltwater are on track to be repaired or replaced by December 1st. We expect to be fully operational by the beginning of December and have already begun shipping Henry rifles to our distributors."

On January 31st, Mr. Imperato confirmed that Henry Repeating Arms Company was again fully operational. "We will have a record-breaking January," he said. "We'll have shipped more guns than ever before." That's great news, both for your customers and for your employees!



Mr. Anthony Imperato, President of Henry Repeating Arms, views the devastation in front of the company pier which was destroyed by the storm. Photos courtesy of Henry Repeating Arms.



HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
Alpine Archery - www.alpinearchery.com
Altus Brands - www.altusbrands.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arizona Rim Country - www.ezfletch.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Back Mountain Outdoor Products - www.bmoproducts.com
Barnes Bullets - www.barnesbullets.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Bill Lewis Lures - www.Rat-L-Trap.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Blackpowder Products, Inc. - www.bpiguns.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
Brownells, Inc. - www.brownells.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bundy Ducks - www.bundyducks.com
Bushnell - www.bushnell.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Carbon Express - www.carbonexpressarrows.com
Carolina North, Mfg. - www.roperatchet.com
Castalia Outdoors - www.castaliaoutdoors.com
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Clam Outdoors - www.clamoutdoors.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Coleman Company - www.coleman.com
Costa Del Mar - www.costadelmar.com
Creative Outdoor Products - www.hunterdan.com
Crosman Corporation - www.crosman.com
CTI Industries - www.zipvac.net
Dreamweaver Lures - www.dreamweaverlures.com
Eagle Claw - www.eagleclaw.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Federal Premium Ammunition - www.federalpremium.com
Flambeau Products Corp. - www.flambeauoutdoors.com
FLW Outdoors - www.flwoutdoors.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
Frabill - www.frabill.com
Freedom Group Companies - www.freedom-group.com
Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggs.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gamo USA - www.gamousa.com
Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com
Goat Tuff Products - www.goattuffproducts.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryrepeating.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Hoppe's - www.hoppes.com
Horton Archery - www.crossbow.com
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - www.hmhco.com
Howard Communications - www.howardcommunications.com
HT Enterprises - www.icefish.com
Human Energy Concealment Systems - www.hecsllc.com
Hunt's Photo & Video - www.huntsphotoandvideo.com
Hunter's Specialties - www.hunterspec.com
Indiana Conservation Officer Magazine - www.icoo.com
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - www.johnsonoutdoors.com
Koppers Fishing & Tackle - www.livetargetlures.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
Kwikee Kwiver Co. - www.kwikeekwiver.com
L&S Bait Co. - www.mirrolure.com
LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com
Lamiglas, Inc. - www.lamiglas.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
Lightfield Ammunition - www.lightfieldslugs.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossoak.com
Muzzy Products Corp. - www.muzzy.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
Nikon Sport Optics - www.nikonssportoptics.com
Normark Corporation - www.rapala.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com
Okuma Fishing Tackle - www.okumafishingteam.com
Ono's Trading Co. - www.onostradingcompany.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Promotions - www.crappieusa.com
Plano Molding Company - www.planomolding.com
Poor Boy's Baits/Lurecraft - www.lurecraft.com
Pradco Fishing - www.lurenet.com
Predator Innovations - www.hanganbuddy.com
Primos Hunting Calls - www.primos.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pure Fishing - www.purefishing.com
Quaker Boy, Inc. - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
Rocky Brands - www.rockyboots.com
Savage Arms - www.savagearms.com
SHE Outdoor Apparel - www.shesafari.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Slammer Hunting Innovations - www.slammerhi.com
Snag Proof Manufacturing - www.snagproof.com
Solar Bat Sunglasses - www.solarbat.com
South Shore CVA - www.southshorcva.com
Sportsman Channel - www.thesportsmanchannel.com
Sportsman's Connection - www.sportsmansconnection.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Thundermist Lure Co. - www.thundermistlures.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Uncle Josh Bait Co. - www.unclejosh.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
Victory Archery - www.victoryarchery.com
W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - www.wrcase.com
WaveSpin Reels - www.wavespinreel.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
Wrangler Rugged Wear - www.wrangleruggedwear.com
Yakima Bait Co. - www.yakimabait.com

HOW members are encouraged to check these websites for general info and answers to product and service questions.

Hoosier Outdoor Writers

Application For New Membership

(Check Desired Classification below)

- \$30 _____ Active
- \$25 _____ Associate
- \$50 _____ Supporting
- \$15 _____ Active Student
- \$10 _____ Associate Student

Personal Information:

Name: _____
Company (Supporting members only): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Professional Information:

Employer (if outdoor-related): _____ Position: _____
Business Address: _____
Business Phone: _____

1. Describe your work in the outdoor field: Full Time _____ Part Time _____

2. Check your field(s) of outdoor work:

_____ Newspapers	_____ Magazine	_____ Photography
_____ Books	_____ Radio	_____ Lectures
_____ Television	_____ Teaching	_____ Trade Journals
_____ Artist	_____ Public relations	_____ Government Info - Ed
_____ Other (Specify): _____		

3. Are you paid for your outdoor work? Yes _____ No _____

4. Your work is published or disseminated: Daily ____; Weekly ____; Monthly ____; ____ times a year

Attach samples or other proof of your work in the outdoor field: newspaper clips, letters from station managers attesting to frequency of radio or TV broadcasts, lecture schedule or publicity clips, photo clips or artistic prints, title of latest book, masthead of trade journal showing your position, etc.

Send completed application and article copies to: **Tom Berg, 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311.**

I have read the principles and membership requirements of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers and would like to enroll in the classification checked above.

Signature: _____

Sponsor: _____

Who We Are

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers was formed in 1969 and has brought together many diverse groups and individuals with shared interests. The Hoosier Outdoor Writers, known among its members as HOW, is a group of dedicated media professionals who are keenly interested in the wise use of natural resources in the Hoosier State.

What We Do

These are the purposes of HOW:

1. To improve ourselves in the art, skill and effectiveness of our craft, and to increase knowledge and understanding of the whole state.
2. To help ensure the wisest and best conservation of Indiana's resources, and the most wide-spread fair use of Indiana's recreational potential.
3. To provide a vehicle for bringing together and joining in common cause all Hoosiers who by profession, hobby or interest are devoted to the outdoors.
4. Conduct an annual Awards-In-Craft Contest among its members. The award winners are announced each year at HOW's annual conference.

What We Stand For

These are what we strive to accomplish:

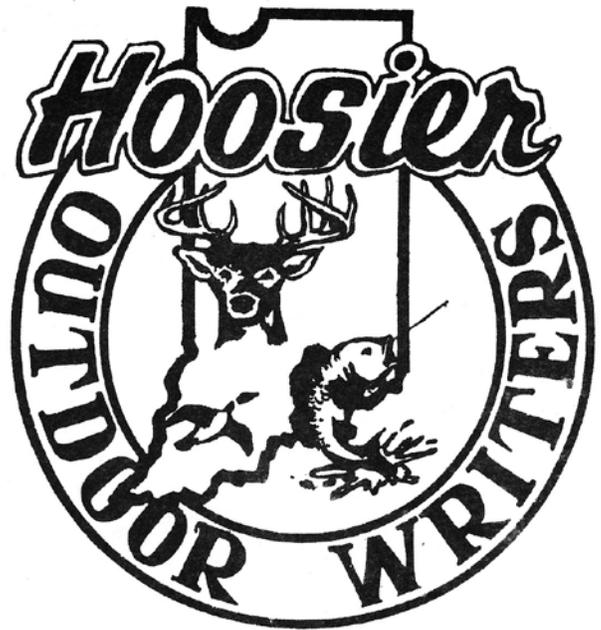
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor information.
4. To help friends and fight the foes of wisely conserved Indiana resources.

Membership Requirements

Membership is open to anyone who meets one of the following:

1. Active

Members are those regularly engaged in the paid dissemination of outdoor-oriented information via newspapers, radio, television, magazines, trade journals, books, photographs, art, lectures, or other fitting media. (Basic guidelines of "regularity" of dissemination are: 20 newspaper articles, photos or broadcasts a year; two national or four regional



magazines or specialty journal articles a year, or one book, 10 lectures, or 20 bona fide outdoor news releases a year.)

The legal advisor for the association shall be an active member without meeting the basic guidelines.

2. Associate

Members are those who have a strong direct interest in the outdoors, either professional or personal, such as conservationists of all kinds; public employees in outdoor fields; educators teaching related subjects; certain sportsmen and retail-level dealers in outdoor goods, equipment or facilities.

3. Supporting

Members are those engaged in major commercial efforts directly related to the outdoors, such as manufacturers, distributors, service providers, manufacturers' representatives, or advertising agencies serving any of these.

4. Active Student

Members are those between the ages of 18 and 24 years who are bona fide college students with a major in journalism, communications, or natural resources sciences.

5. Associate Student

Members are those who are students who have an active interest in the outdoors in the areas of hunting, fishing, ecology, or in preserving the environment in general.

Calendar of Events

SHOT Show 2013: (http://shotshow.org) Las Vegas, NV	January 15-18, 2013
Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Boat Show: (www.hartproductions.com) Cincinnati, OH	January 18-20 & 23-27, 2013
Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show: (www.renfroproductions.com) Indianapolis, IN	February 15-24, 2013
POMA 2013 Annual Conference: (www.professionalooutdoormedia.org) Columbia, SC	March 6-9, 2013
HOW 2013 Annual Conference: (www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org) Clifty Inn, Clifty Falls State Park Madison, IN	April 19-21, 2013
NRA 2013 Annual Meeting: (www.nra.org) Houston, TX	May 3-5, 2013
AGLOW 2013 Cast & Blast: (www.aglowinfo.org) Deadwood, SD	May 7-9, 2013
ICAST Show 2013: (www.ICASTfishing.org) Las Vegas, NV	July 10-12, 2013
OWAA 2013 Annual Conference: (www.owaa.org) Lake Placid, NY	September 14-16, 2013
AGLOW 2013 Annual Conference: (www.aglowinfo.org) Fond du Lac, WI	September 23-26, 2013

HOW members may submit upcoming events, along with dates, locations and other details to the newsletter editor at: director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org for possible inclusion in future issues of The Blade.