

# **The Blade**

**September - October 2011**

**The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers**



**"Sparring Spiders", 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.

## Hoosier Outdoor Writers Executive Council

### Board Chairman

John Maxwell  
1136 E. Banta Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46227  
[jmaxwell@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:jmaxwell@dnr.IN.gov)

### President

Brandon Butler  
129 Meadow Lake Lane  
Fayette, MO 65248  
[bbutler@driftwoodoutdoors.com](mailto:bbutler@driftwoodoutdoors.com)

### Vice President

Josh Lantz  
18738 Old Field Rd.  
New Buffalo, MI 49117  
[josh@sandcreek-media.com](mailto:josh@sandcreek-media.com)

### Executive Director

Tom Berg  
2142 Nondorf St.  
Dyer, IN 46311  
[director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org](mailto:director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org)

### Legal Counsel

Bill Keaton  
126 West Second St.  
Rushville, IN 46173  
[bill@bishophillguesthouse.com](mailto:bill@bishophillguesthouse.com)

### Newsletter Editor

Tom Berg  
2142 Nondorf St.  
Dyer, IN 46311  
[director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org](mailto:director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org)

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**On the cover:** *These two spiders approached each other very carefully and then started sparring. Was it a courtship ritual or a fight? We don't know, but the fangs were definitely out! Tom Berg Photo.*

# President's Message

*by Brandon Butler*

September somehow slipped by in the blink of an eye, and October days are dropping from the calendar like leaves from a hickory tree. If you have yet to make the most of the season, there is still time to enjoy the wonders of Indiana in Autumn.

As the glory of fall fades, and cold weather begins to creep in, we sportsmen are enjoying "prime-time" for our affairs. Hunting seasons are in for most wild game, and fishing is phenomenal. Begin at any point in Indiana, drive for an hour, and you will pass multiple opportunities for outdoor enjoyment. There's no end to destinations, and absolutely no excuse for not finding the time.



My pursuits of fall are varied and often. I'm fortunate to spend a lot of time in nature, but it's my priority. I hold no season tickets, but I do have an annual State Parks Pass. There is nowhere I'd rather be than within the confines of a Midwestern hardwood forest when the foliage of fall is at the peak of its grandeur.

The majority of my past fall excursions have blended into one giant panorama of appreciation for the season. A few trips stand out as special. A trip on which I frequently reminisce occurred twenty years ago at Tippecanoe State Park and a close-by piece of hunting property. It spanned only two days, yet was powerful enough to remain a memory for life.

It was mid-October. Fallen leaves covered the campsites. It wasn't a problem finding a prime site, as only a few tents and ratty old trailers were to be found. My Uncle Tom, cousin Derek and I quickly swept free a spot and popped up our own portable abode. We were bowhunting. This was our camp.

We shot arrows into bales of hay, waded waist deep in the Tippecanoe River and caught white bass on ultra-lights, cooked too much food and slept warm inside sleeping bags even though we could see our breath. Derek and I climbed the fire tower. Looking out over the canopy of golden yellow, burnt orange and plum red tree tops, I felt I was in a vast and game-filled wilderness. Yet, McDonald's was just down the road.

Under the canopy of predawn darkness, my uncle guided me down a long, sandy road to a maple tree sitting high upon a ridge. An agricultural ditch that bisects an ocean of crops leads just past the tree. Deer follow it, making the maple a perfect place to wait in ambush. I'll never forget the stand in that tree. It was a two-seater, so Tom and Derek could hunt together. We built it the summer before. I always hunted it alone, so I used one of the seats for a foot rest. Although the stand rotted away years ago, I remember it to be quite comfortable.

Just after the sun rose, blinding out all my youthful fears of sitting alone in the dark forest, a doe and her two yearlings entered the picked bean field. How she never saw me dancing around on that wooden platform, I have no idea, but eventually she worked her way right in front of me. I drew my bow, an old hand-me-down compound bought off a friend. I was shaking uncontrollably. The arrow flew. I missed her by more than a foot. With a powerful wheeze and quick flick of her tail, she was gone, guiding her young ones to safety.

Outdoor excursions need not be elegant, expensive or elaborate to make a lasting memory on a young person, or any person for that matter. Take advantage of what fall we have left. Get outdoors and make memories. You never know just how powerful one simple trip may be.

See you down the trail...

# The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

**Dale Bowman (Active)**  
St. Anne, IL  
Sponsor: Gene Clifford

**Memorial to Deceased  
HOW Members**  
Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

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

## 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

# Annual HOW Conference

## Make Plans Now To Attend The 2012 Annual Conference!

It's never too early to start thinking about attending the upcoming 2012 Annual HOW Conference. As a matter of fact, this is the perfect time to start making your plans!

Per our announcement in early September, the HOW Conference will take place at the Radisson Hotel and Star Plaza in Merrillville, IN. This promises to be another excellent conference, and you definitely won't want to miss it!

For those of you who are not familiar with the northwest corner of the state, the Star Plaza complex is conveniently located at the intersection of US Route 30 and Interstate 65, so it is extremely easy to find. The hotel and conference facilities are excellent, and the complex features four restaurants & lounges, a comedy club, the Star Plaza theatre, a full-service Starbucks, two pools and a fitness center.

The conference will take place on the weekend of May 4-6, 2012, with the main meeting occurring on Saturday, May 5th. We chose the date of the conference very carefully to minimize conflicts with Easter, Mother's Day, AGLOW events and Memorial Day weekend, so hopefully most HOW members will be able to plan their schedules ahead of time so they can attend. We will have plenty of interesting seminars and speakers at the conference, and the theme for the 2012 meeting will be **Explore Lake Michigan!** Details will be forthcoming in future editions of The Blade.

We have already reserved a block of discounted rooms at the Radisson Hotel for HOW members interested in staying overnight or for the entire weekend, so go ahead and make your reservations now. The details are below:

**RESERVATIONS:** [www.starplaza.com](http://www.starplaza.com) or 1-219-769-6311. **Group/Promotional Code: HOOS**  
Standard King (Friday 5/4/12 and/or Saturday 5/5/12): \$99.00 per night + tax.  
Standard Double Queen (Friday 5/4/12 and/or Saturday 5/5/12): \$99.00 per night + tax.



A view of the Radisson's beautiful indoor atrium waterfall.



Exterior view of the Radisson Hotel at Star Plaza near the intersection of US Route 30 and Interstate 65. The complex boasts first-rate conference facilities and excellent hotel accommodations. Photos courtesy of the Radisson.

# **HOW Awards-In-Craft Winner**

**(1st Place in the Writing Contest – Under 1000 Words)**  
**(General Outdoors category)**

## **“Backyard’s For The Birds” or “The Bird Whistler of Rush County”** **by Jack Spaulding**

The warmth of spring has done little to slow the constant comings and goings of the birds in our backyard. Our sunflower seed feeder has been a regular gathering spot and a “Who’s Who” location for a variety of Midwest bird species for several months. Most of our winged menagerie came with the winter and are now staying on through the warm weather. The sunflower seeds from the feeder continue to provide a rich source of protein for the rigors of the nesting seasons.

The onslaught at the feeder really began with late winter’s bitter temperatures and the snow laden weeks of January and February. The Arctic blast brought an untold number of birds to the backyard bird feeder. With snow covering the bird’s forage for weeks on end, the feeder wasn’t just a convenient food source, it was absolutely necessary for survival. Sometimes, there would be a dozen or more different species of birds in, on or under the feeder throughout the day. This year, we broke all kinds of records for variety and the sheer number of birds.

Several years ago, my wife and I thrilled at the sight of six male and female redbirds visiting the feeder at one time. Among the snow covered tree limbs of late February of this year, we witnessed an unbelievable 14 male cardinals and a similar number of females feeding and perched around the feeder at one time. Even with the balmy days of spring, many of the various birds are continuing to make daily stops to chow down on black sunflower seeds.

During the height of the winter assault on the feeder, I was using well over 30 pounds of sunflower seeds a week and going through about four suet cakes. Thinking things would really slow down with the warm weather, I’m surprised to find I’m still feeding over 20 pounds of sunflower seeds per week and the suet cakes are

going almost as fast.

Our most unusual and distinguished guest this year and a continuing diner at the suet cakes is a stunning Pileated Woodpecker. Seeing the huge, crow-size bird looking like a woodland version of Woody the Woodpecker pecking away at the suet cakes is impressive.

Slowly but surely, I am becoming a bird version of the Pied Piper. You can’t quite call me the Bird Whistler of Rush County just yet, but I’m getting closer. I started back in the winter. Every time I filled the feeder, I would step back a few feet and whistle “like a bird.” As a kid, I taught myself to whistle and mimic the lilting up-and-down songlike notes similar to some birds.

The continual combination of sound and the positive reinforcement of food began to have an effect. The birds responded slowly at first, but now they recognize the whistle and come running... err... flying. They won’t quite come to me, but when they hear the lilting whistle, they begin to gather in the trees surrounding the feeder. The least afraid are the chickadees, nuthatches and the downy woodpeckers. I’ve had downy woodpeckers come to the sound of the whistle and land on the feeder while I was only five feet away. The chickadees will approach and land on tree branches sometimes as close as ten feet while the nuthatches will peek around the tree trunk from about 15 feet away.

The bird feeder experiment has its downside. I have gotten some strange looks from neighbors taking their evening stroll. I’ve learned, a grown man standing like a statue by a bird feeder while holding a bucket of bird seed and whistling like a lunatic will get you noticed.

Just ask my wife.

## Can't Eat It, Can't Shoot It, But I Still Hunt It

by Rich Creason

The small herd of 30 or 40 duck-bill dinosaurs grazed along the riverbank not knowing in the not-so-distant future they would all be extinct. The *Edmontosaurus annectens* were around 30 feet long, weighed four metric tons, and walked on either two or four legs depending on their current activity.

Sixty-five million years ago they were plentiful, eating grasses and other plants with their huge mouths containing hundreds of teeth which were constantly being replaced. Now, the fossilized bones, teeth, and other parts of these giants can sometimes be found in the western part of the U.S. and Canada. Some of them can also be found on display in the Children's Museum in Indianapolis.

Each year, the Children's Museum takes a trip to the far northwest corner of South Dakota to the tiny town of Faith, population 500. Near this town, the *Tyrannosaurus Rex* skeleton named Sue was found. This is one of the most complete T. Rex skeletons ever found. Another T. Rex skeleton called Bucky, also found near this town, is now on exhibit in the Children's Museum. But we were going to this area to search for the remains of the duck-bill dinosaur.

Early last year, my wife, Susie, and I heard about the "dino dig" on one of our frequent visits to the Museum. Members (and also non-members) are invited to join staff members at the dig site in South Dakota. For a reasonable fee, we signed up for one day of dinosaur fossil hunting. We were taught how to dig the bones properly, do all the paperwork involved with documenting where each piece was found, and how to actually get each item out of the ground carefully and protect it for its long trip back to Indianapolis.

We enjoyed last year so much we signed up for a five day dig this year. We arrived in Faith on July 10th and checked into the Prairie Vista Inn, the same place we stayed last year. Shortly after we checked in, the Museum van loaded with our fellow dinosaur hunters who had flown into the Rapid City airport pulled in. Most were from the central Indiana area, but there was one lady from Boston and a couple from New Hampshire, too.

On Monday morning, we loaded our gear and coolers full of ice water, and headed for the dig site. About a block out of town, we left paved road. We then traveled a gravel road to the ranch cutoff which was mostly dirt, maneuvered around a washed out bridge, through several barbed wire gates, followed two-wheel tracks across pastures, jumped gullies and finally arrived at our destination.

It looked the same as last year. There was a long structure covered with tarp to give us some shade. Underneath was a dirt ledge with flagged-off sections so the finds could be accurately mapped.



This is how we must dig when we get down to the lower levels of our search area. The buckets are filled with the dirt we dig out to be hauled away. Photo courtesy of Rich Creason.

(continued next page)

Since all of us had been here before and knew what to do, we each grabbed a good looking spot and started digging. Our tools consisted of clam shuckers, a small, wide, dull blade used to open clams and dig dinosaur bones, Exacto knives for fine digging, paint brushes for dusting off bones, and bottles of a special super glue called paleobond. This was used to patch the numerous small cracks in the bones.

We dug carefully with our clam shuckers until we heard a “crunch”. This is the sound when the blade hits a bone. Then we had to clear all the dirt surrounding the find with the Exacto knife. We left the dirt under the bone intact to support it until it could be mapped and removed. When we reached this point, the scientific part began.

My first find was a four-inch piece of rib. These are common finds and are often short because they break easily. Before removing any bone from the ground, the fossil is given a number, pictures are taken, the one meter square grid where it was found is recorded, and the date, name of collector, body part (if known) and other pertinent info is written down. Then a one meter square grid divided into 10 square centimeter squares is placed over the find and its location is drawn on graph paper. When this is finished, the bone is carefully lifted from its multi-million year-old home, still on its dirt



This is a photo of a partially excavated three-foot long femur bone which weighs about 200 pounds. Photo by Rich Creason.

pedestal, and wrapped in several layers of paper towel to cushion and protect it. Then it is wrapped again in aluminum foil and taped shut. The tape is labeled with name, numbers, etc. to correspond with the paperwork. Finally, the package is placed in a large plastic bin for its journey back to the Children’s Museum.

In our five days of digging, Susie and I found, dug, and documented 22 bones including five rib pieces about four to eight inches long, several pieces of vertebra from the neck to the tail, a couple chevrons (the underside of the tail), three skull elements (pieces), two jugals (cheek bone), a toe bone, and a couple of yet unidentified pieces. My best find of the week was a 28-inch rib. It’s very unusual to find such a long rib bone.

Numerous other bones were found including two femurs (the large leg bone). These were both around three feet long and took many hours to dig out. A large humerus (upper arm bone) and a large jaw bone were

also found. The larger bones (including my rib piece) were wrapped in foil and then had a plaster cast applied to them before moving to help prevent breakage. These bones will all go back to Indiana to be cleaned, repaired, and put on display or be used for research.

If you think this sounds like something you would be interested in doing next year, contact the Children’s Museum of Indianapolis at 317-334-3322, or visit [www.childrensmuseum.org](http://www.childrensmuseum.org). You can find information on dino digs, memberships, events, exhibits, or anything else you need to know about the Museum and its programs.

We’ve been home from South Dakota for a week. Only 51 more weeks before our next dinosaur dig!

# Fishing Adventures North of the Arctic Circle!

by Dave Hoffman

Flickering black and white film clips of Virgil Ward fishing Canada's Northwest Territories have been etched in my fading memory for over a half-century. When I was younger, I couldn't afford to go. Later, I couldn't find the time. Now that I am retired I re-visited the idea of making the trip to Great Bear Lake, but I just wasn't sure. Would it be worth it? The ultimate deal-clincher was the *Field & Stream* quotation on the lodge's website: "The #1 Fishing Destination in North America." I was going, and it was to be an adventure full of surprises!



Dave Hoffman displays the trophy lake trout he caught from Great Bear Lake just before releasing it. Photo by John Heino.

Upon checking in at the lodge, just north of the Arctic Circle, we learned that our guide had not arrived yet. That was a surprise. Since we wanted to do some fishing right away, the Assistant Manager motored us around the first

afternoon yielding a total catch of one lake trout (foul-hooked) for our boat. Another major surprise - our boat was a basic, but leaky, Lund with a 35 HP Mercury on a lake slightly more than 12,000 square miles in size. That's larger than eight U.S. states! Then, when our real guide showed, we learned he'd never guided on the lake before. Heck, he'd never even seen Great Bear Lake before!

During dinner, a lodge staffer peddled daily fly-outs averaging a hefty \$525 per person/day, not counting the overnight trip for \$1000. Silly us! We'd figured that after forking over a king's ransom for "The #1 Fishing Destination in North America" we could catch fish without having to fly-out.

A surprise of the pleasant variety occurred one morning while trolling a deep-diving Worden's T-60 Flatfish, first designed in the 1930's. This magnum-sized bait requires both hands to manage a straining, heavy-weight rod while trolling. In only 6-8' of water we were banging them hard on top of a gravel reef adjacent to deep water when a large lake trout ambushed it. The battle commenced with my reel screeching in protest as the fish raced for the deep water. I held my breath and hung onto the doubled rod while our guide fumbled for the net. Once the fish was in the boat, I couldn't stop grinning although my knees felt like sponge rubber. After a quick photo, and with hands still slightly trembling, I released the 44-inch laker back into the icy water. But, it wasn't the last surprise.

Bottom line - our party of four only caught 100 lake trout for the entire week, which averaged to about 3.5 fish/person/day. Only two of the lakers were trophies, and we left with some pretty negative opinions.

The science guy in me was eager to examine the *Field & Stream* article to see what criteria the writer used to determine "The #1 Fishing Destination in North America." Consequently, my final surprise! The article's author describes his own ranking as "A biased, opinioned and infinitely debatable list - in order - of the fishingest places on the continent." It was extremely gratifying to see that the writer was completely honest in presenting his information. A good, ethical lesson in Outdoor Writing 101, and a good example for lodge owners to follow as well.

# THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

Hellen Wildey Ochs

September 3, 1911 – June 11, 2011

Columbus, IN – Hellen Wildey Ochs, age 99, passed away on Saturday, June 11, 2011 at Four Seasons Health and Rehabilitation Facility in Columbus. She would have been 100 years old in September.

Hellen was born on September 3, 1911, in Vernon, Indiana, the daughter of Morris and Lona Stevenson Wildey. She was a 1929 graduate of North Vernon High School in North Vernon, Indiana. She married Charles H. Ochs on December 8, 1932, in Charlestown, Indiana. He preceded her in death on December 19, 1982.

Hellen was an avid bird watcher and wrote a weekly article for The Republic newspaper in Columbus, Indiana, for over 40 years. She was a board member of the Columbus Animal Control, a member of the Indiana Conservation Council and Utopia Wildlife Rehab. She was still active in the Lovelace-Ochs Bird Club. Hellen was very proud of the fact that she was the first woman ever invited to join the Hoosier Outdoors Writers Association, and she was a HOW member for many years. Birds and writing were Hellen's life.

She also contributed articles to several publications including The "Purple Martin News" and "Hoosier Conservation." She did research on the migration habits of Monarch butterflies for the University of Toronto, Canada. She was assistant director of the Indiana University Writers Conference and taught workshops in journalism for many years. In 2006, Hellen's book *Backbreaking Beauty* was published. It included many of her own drawings and paintings.

She is survived by one son, Albert "Bert" (Carolyn) Ochs of Columbus, Indiana; one daughter, Charlona Long of Columbus, Indiana; five grandchildren, Carla (Jerrold) Ferguson, Charles Long and Alex (Julie) Long, all of Columbus, Indiana, Tony (Luann) Ochs of Pennsylvania and Joel (Marnie) Long, Jr. of Colorado. She is also survived by eight great-grandchildren.

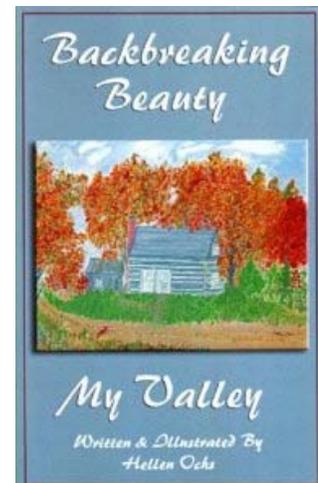
Hellen was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one son-in-law, Joel Long, Sr.; one sister, Flora Cumberworth; and two brothers, Earl and Murrell Wildey.

Visitation was held on Tuesday, June 14, 2011, at Dove-Sharp & Rudicel Funeral Home and Cremation Services in North Vernon,



Indiana. Hellen will be greatly missed by her fellow HOW members and by her many friends and other bird enthusiasts.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made through the funeral home for birdseed and maintenance at the Hellen Ochs Bird Sanctuary.



## Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame Inducts Bill Scifres And 7 Others

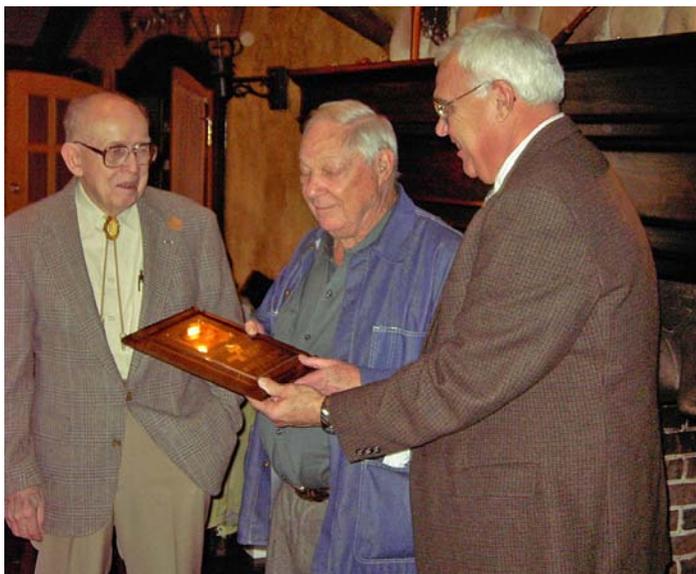
Two renowned researchers, a noted bird watcher, an outdoor writer, and four others active in preserving historic or natural resources make up the third class of inductees to the Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame.

The list includes Ian Rolland of Fort Wayne, Richard Ford of Wabash, and Kenn Kaufman of Rocky Ridge, Ohio. The other five – all deceased – are Durward Allen, William “Bill” Barnes, Louis H. Dunten, David Starr Jordan, and “Bayou” Bill Scifres.

The eight new members will be honored at a luncheon October 17 at the Indiana State Museum in Indianapolis.

The Indiana Conservation Hall of Fame is a joint project of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the Indiana Natural Resources Foundation. Previous inductees include Col. Richard Lieber, father of the Indiana state parks system; Charles C. Deam, Indiana’s first forester; author and naturalist Gene Stratton-Porter; and U.S. President Benjamin Harrison.

**Bill Scifres** (1925-2009) was known to readers of his “Lines and Shots” outdoor columns in The Indianapolis Star simply as “Bayou Bill,” a nickname adopted from his childhood days wandering the Muscatatuck River backwaters in southeastern Indiana. Shortly after he was hired as the Star’s police beat reporter in 1953, Scifres became the paper’s outdoor columnist and wrote thousands of columns and features over the next 45 years. In 2006, he was named a legendary communicator by the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame. He was the first president of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers and was elected an unprecedented six times.



Former HOW member Jack Kerins (left) looks on as Elmer Guerri (right) presents Bayou Bill Scifres a memorial plaque back in February, 2006, enshrining Bill as a Legendary Communicator in The Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame. Photo by Jack Spaulding.

I served with Bill as vice president of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers for four of the six years of his presidency. He brought a lot of personal interest to the group and was always willing to share a helpful tip and take the time to help others.

Jack Spaulding

# HOW Member News

## Nate Mullendore Explores Wildcat Creek For Finned Friends

Nathan Mullendore, a new HOW Member, went fishing for smallmouth bass on the North Fork of Wildcat Creek recently.

“I had a little luck with the smallies and a lot of luck with the by-catch,” he said. “I caught a walleye, a sauger, a freshwater drum (sheepshead), a spotted bass and a bowfin (dogfish), all on actively-retrieved ‘smallmouth’ baits.”



“The biggest surprise for me was the bowfin, which took a ¼ oz weighted tube jig. Unfortunately, that fish slithered out of my hands before I could snap a photo.”

Good job, Nate! The drum (left) and walleye (above) look great. You’ve gotta love creeks for their diversity of fish species! Photos courtesy of Nathan Mullendore.

## Don Bickel Loves Forests (and Squirrels)

Don Bickel from Crawfordsville is a retired forester, so trees are pretty special to him. Add to that the fact that he has also been a dedicated maple syrup maker for decades; he really knows his way around the woods.

So it should come as no surprise that he is a pretty good squirrel hunter, too. After all, he knows exactly where the best hickory trees and other bushytail hideouts are located! Don sent the above photo of one of his successful hunts this season where he used his new Benjamin air rifle. As you can see, it was deadly! Photo by Don Bickel.



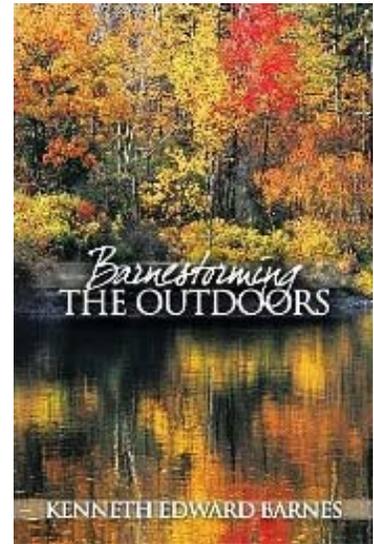
## HOW Members Publish More Books

HOW members Ken Barnes and Bob Jennings have recently added to their lists of published books:

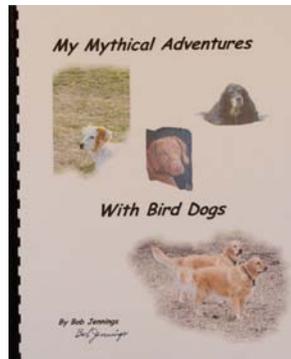
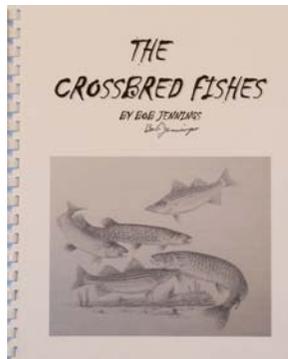
### Ken Barnes Releases Several Books, Led by *Barnestorming The Outdoors*

“I published these books myself,” said Barnes. “Some of the stories were published nationally and in my columns when I wrote for newspapers, but some have never been published before.”

“After I lost my wife Elizabeth last year I decided to publish all the books I have written since I began writing,” he said. “I have seven books that have just come out. *Life on Pigeon Creek* was the first one I ever wrote back in 1985. It's about my early life and all the unique people I knew. The book ends with words from Fess Parker, who wrote me a few years ago. Beside his words I have a photo of me when I was eight wearing a Davy Crockett shirt. I believe people will like the book and they can get a glimpse of how life was in the 50's. I also have a couple of children's books, a book of poems, an inspirational one and one of humor (under a pen name).”



Many of Ken's books, including *Barnestorming The Outdoors*, are available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



### Bob Jennings Publishes New Fictional Booklets

“*The Crossbred Fishes*: Find out just what could happen IF a Musky and Striped Bass were crossbred; or if a Northern Pike and a Striped Bass were crossbred,” said Jennings. “See what these crossbred fishes would look like...then join me, my good friends Rog, Keg, Kodie and a couple of other veteran fishermen on our adventures when we tie into some of these strange creatures. Hooked ‘em? You bet! Fought ‘em? You bet! Saw ‘em? You bet! Land ‘em???.....”

“*My Mythical Adventures with Bird Dogs*: If you've ever wondered what it would be like to meet and hunt with your departed companion hunting dogs, then join me on three hunting trips out West in North Dakota. We all have some unforgettable hunts together,” continued Jennings. “My first trip brings me face to face with my Llewellyn Setter in a Buffalo Berry Bush. On my second trip...” Well, you'll have to read the book to see what happens!

“I am offering an Author's Edition of one hundred each of these booklets, with each piece signed and numbered,” said Jennings. “I will offer them to HOW members for a special price of \$25.00 each postpaid.” Bob can be reached at 812-875-2801 (home) or 812-798-0783 (cell).

## Bill Keaton Catches Giant Gaspergoo!

In early September, HOW members Tom Berg, Mike Schoonveld and Bill Keaton headed out on Lake Michigan to do some serious fishing for bruiser-sized fall chinook salmon.

Well, the salmon were pretty cooperative and the trio caught quite a few big kings. But the real story of the day was the hot action for trophy-sized freshwater drum (10 pounds or more). These under-rated fish are also called sheepshead, white perch, grunts and gaspergoo (our favorite name).

Each of the anglers on board caught at least one big gaspergoo in-between the salmon attacks, but HOW Legal Counsel Bill Keaton was the big winner when he landed a very fat 31½ inch drum near the end of the trip. It was huge!

Ever the conservationist, Bill quickly released the big fish after a few photos. Congrats, Mr. Keaton!



Bill Keaton shows off his big gaspergoo before releasing it to fight again. Photo by Tom Berg.

## Schoonveld 'On The Road Again'



Mike Schoonveld has been on more road trips! Does he ever stay home? Mike went to the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers' annual conference in southeastern Iowa the third week of September along with several other HOW members. Brian Smith, Josh Lantz, Rich Creason, Bill Keaton and Brandon Butler were also at the meeting. The meeting set an all-time attendance record, and for the past several years the AGLOW conference has been larger than both OWAA and SEOPA. If you are interested in joining AGLOW or learning more about it, go to [www.aglowinfo.org](http://www.aglowinfo.org).

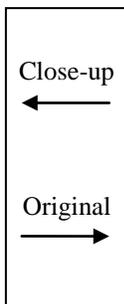
While at the meeting, Schoonveld chose the 'fishing' option on the association's 'Do It' day, and he caught several walleyes at Rathbun Lake. Check out Mike's blog at: [www.brothernature.info](http://www.brothernature.info) for this interesting fish story (photo courtesy of Mike Schoonveld).

The following week, Schoonveld attended a travel writer's outing at Table Rock Lake near Branson, MO. He boated, fished, rode ATVs, and even rode a Segway on the trip. Now that he's home, Schoonveld reports, "The trapping season opens soon and the coyotes are in trouble."

## Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Costa Del Mar

### Eastern Red Bat Eats Huge Numbers Of Mosquitoes!

The “What is it?” question from the last newsletter was obviously too easy, as 16 HOW members identified it. Brandon Butler, Nate Mullendore, John Maxwell, Mike Berg, Dave Hoffman, Ken McBroom, PJ Perea, Garry Burch, Bill Keaton, Mike Schoonveld, Alan Garbers, Bob Sawtelle, John Trout, Rich Creason, Ken Barnes & Gene Clifford guessed the right answer, and Alan Garbers was the winner when we drew names for the LaCrosse boots.



As you can see, the mystery creature was a bat. To be more precise, it was an Eastern Red Bat. Once you see the whole photo, you can tell it is a female red bat because the fur on her head is tipped with white (males usually don't have white-tipped fur and they're even brighter red).

For this contest, I accepted the generic answer of “bat”. I did not ask for the specific species of bat because I figured I couldn't show enough of the bat in the photo (without really giving it away that it was a bat) to expect most people to be able to identify the species. At least that's what I thought. Five HOW members actually guessed it was a Red Bat (Mullendore, Maxwell, Perea, Creason, Hoffman), and PJ Perea & Rich Creason pinpointed it as an Eastern Red Bat!

For this issue, our friends at **Costa Del Mar** have agreed to provide a very nice prize (valued up to \$250) to the HOW member that guesses the right answer to this issue's “What Is It?” question (see below). This time the prize will be a gift certificate for a pair of Costa Del Mar sunglasses that the winner can choose from the Costa website. See below.

### 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? **No hints this time!**



This creature may be easy to identify for some people, but we'll see. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? Take a guess! However, to be in the running for the prize you must be **very specific** in your identification. If you think it's a particular species of bird, for example, don't just guess “Bird”. Give the actual species, like “Goldfinch”. Of course, it's not a goldfinch! If you think you know what it is, send the answer to me via email at [thomas.berg@comcast.net](mailto:thomas.berg@comcast.net). If you're right, you will be in the running for the Costa sunglasses. For everyone who doesn't know, you'll just have to wait for the next issue of The Blade to find out!

As mentioned above, Costa Del Mar will be donating a gift certificate for a pair of Costa sunglasses as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue's “What Is It?” nature question. You will be able to choose from any of their top-of-the-line sunglasses, including customizing the frame and lens colors. If multiple people guess the right answer, we will draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck and have fun! All photos on this page (except the sunglasses photo) were taken by Tom Berg. **OK, here's a hint: It's not a comet and it's not a shooting star!**



## 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.



### Battenfeld Technologies Wins Telly Awards for Commercials



**Columbia, MO:** Caldwell Shooting Supplies and Tipton Gun Cleaning Supplies, two of Battenfeld Technologies' nine brands of shooting and hunting equipment, were each recently awarded Telly Awards honoring their new television commercials.

Caldwell Shooting Supplies was awarded a bronze Telly for the new Lead Sled Family 30-second television commercial. Live people demonstrating the shooting rests, and state of the art motion graphics were used in conjunction to convey the recoil reducing capabilities of Lead Sleds. The Lead Sled commercial may be viewed at: <http://www.battenfeldtechnologies.com/downloads/video.asp?Lead-Sled>

Tipton Gun Cleaning Supplies was also awarded a bronze Telly for the new Tipton brand commercial. Highlighting multiple Tipton products, the commercial uses a live person to demonstrate Tipton's extensive line of top quality, innovative cleaning supplies. The Tipton brand commercial may be viewed at: <http://www.battenfeldtechnologies.com/downloads/video.asp?Tipton-HD>

Telly Awards honor the very best local, regional, and cable television commercials and programs, as well as the finest video and film productions, and work created for the Web. Master Track Productions of Lincoln, Nebraska produced the winning television commercials.

For more information on Battenfeld Technologies and the outdoors products made by their different brands, please contact Brandon Butler at [bbutler@btibrands.com](mailto:bbutler@btibrands.com) or by phone at 573-445-9200. You may also check out their website at [www.battenfeldtechnologies.com](http://www.battenfeldtechnologies.com).

### Snag Proof Manufacturing Celebrates 50th Anniversary



**Cincinnati, OH:** Snag Proof Manufacturing Company has been making quality fishing lures that consistently catch big fish for 50 years now. Their soft, hollow-bodied weedless frog has been a best-seller for decades, and bass and pike literally explode out of the water coming after the frog. Its legs "kick" with every retrieve. Fish can't tell it from a real swimming frog. Twitch it across lily pads or moss beds and get ready for action. "The most natural feel frog lure ever made". Weedless and effective. Depend on it!

After 50 years, Snag Proof is still making frogs and other weedless lures. If you've ever had a frog lure fill up with water and sink, you know how frustrating it can be. Snag Proof has solved that problem with "ITT" inner tube technology. A separate channel or tube for the hook & line tie keeps water out and the frog won't sink! Also, all Snag Proof lures are made right here in the USA, and that's something we can all appreciate!



For more information, contact Connie Fuller ([connie@snagproof.com](mailto:connie@snagproof.com)) or see the website: [www.snagproof.com](http://www.snagproof.com).

## HOW Supporting Member News

### DeLorme inReach™ Earns Awards at 2011 Outdoor Retailer Trade Show

**Yarmouth, ME:** DeLorme, a leading innovator in mapping, GPS, and satellite communication technologies, has received an Outside Magazine Gear of the Show award and GearJunkie.com Best of Show honors for its soon-to-be-released inReach two-way satellite communicator. The awards stem from inReach's debut at the 2011 Outdoor Retailer Summer Market.

The annual Summer Market is the premier trade show for products aimed at activities such as hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, climbing, and kayaking. Outside and GearJunkie.com are among the most influential voices in product evaluation for outdoor activities.



The inReach offers users a number of unique advantages compared to other satellite communicators. Because it relies on the market-leading Iridium satellite network, inReach can deliver two-way text messaging with full-pole-to-pole global coverage and message delivery confirmation. It also provides remote tracking.

When paired with either an Android smartphone or a DeLorme Earthmate PN-60w handheld GPS, the inReach lets users send and receive 160-character messages to and from family and friends. Messages can also be posted to Facebook and Twitter. In case of emergency, inReach users can send messages describing their situation so that responders can come prepared.

The inReach can also be used as a solo device to send pre-loaded text messages or SOS alerts with delivery confirmation. Solo users can also enable remote tracking. Remote tracking is automatically triggered by any SOS message. The inReach is designed to prevent SOS false alarms, in compliance with the RTCM SC-128 standard for SENDs.

In addition to Outside, a number of influential websites and blogs have written about the inReach. The REI blog said, "Of the thousands of items being paraded down the new-product catwalk at the summer Outdoor Retailer trade show here in Salt Lake City, none may elicit a bigger wow this year than the DeLorme inReach satellite communicator."

"The core communications component of the inReach is the Iridium 9602 short-burst data (SBD) transceiver, which is a low-latency two-way data connection through the world's furthest-reaching communication network," said Patrick Shay, Iridium vice president and general manager for data services. "We believe the DeLorme inReach has the potential to be a 'game changer' in the growing market for personal satellite tracking, messaging and SOS alerting devices."



Both inReach models will be widely available at retail in the U.S. and Canada and from online resellers beginning in October, 2011. For more information, contact Charlie Conley by phone at 207-846-7022 or via email: [charlie.conley@delorme.com](mailto:charlie.conley@delorme.com). You may also visit [www.delorme.com/inreach](http://www.delorme.com/inreach).

## HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - [www.alpenoutdoor.com](http://www.alpenoutdoor.com)  
Aquateko International - [www.aquateko.com](http://www.aquateko.com)  
B'n'M Pole Company - [www.bnmpoles.com](http://www.bnmpoles.com)  
Back Mountain Outdoors - [www.bmoproducts.com](http://www.bmoproducts.com)  
Bass Pro Shops - [www.basspro.com](http://www.basspro.com)  
Battenfeld Technologies - [www.battenfeldtechnologies.com](http://www.battenfeldtechnologies.com)  
Bill Lewis Lures - [www.Rat-L-Trap.com](http://www.Rat-L-Trap.com)  
Birchwood Casey - [www.birchwoodcasey.com](http://www.birchwoodcasey.com)  
Blackpowder Products, Inc. - [www.bpiguns.com](http://www.bpiguns.com)  
BoatUS - [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com)  
Brownells, Inc. - [www.brownells.com](http://www.brownells.com)  
Buck Knives - [www.buckknives.com](http://www.buckknives.com)  
Bundy Ducks - [www.bundyducks.com](http://www.bundyducks.com)  
Cabela's, Inc. - [www.cabelas.com](http://www.cabelas.com)  
Camp Chef - [www.campchef.com](http://www.campchef.com)  
Carbon Express - [www.carbonexpressarrows.com](http://www.carbonexpressarrows.com)  
Castalia Outdoors - [www.castaliaoutdoors.com](http://www.castaliaoutdoors.com)  
Church Tackle Company - [www.churchtackle.com](http://www.churchtackle.com)  
Clam Corporation - [www.clamcorp.com](http://www.clamcorp.com)  
Coleman Company - [www.coleman.com](http://www.coleman.com)  
Costa Del Mar - [www.costadelmar.com](http://www.costadelmar.com)  
Creative Outdoor Products - [www.hunterdan.com](http://www.hunterdan.com)  
Crosman Corporation - [www.crosman.com](http://www.crosman.com)  
CTI Industries - [www.zipvac.net](http://www.zipvac.net)  
DeLorme, Inc. - [www.delorme.com](http://www.delorme.com)  
Dreamweaver Lures - [www.dreamweaverlures.com](http://www.dreamweaverlures.com)  
Eagle Claw - [www.eagleclaw.com](http://www.eagleclaw.com)  
Environ-Metal, Inc. - [www.hevishot.com](http://www.hevishot.com)  
Federal Premium Ammunition - [www.federalpremium.com](http://www.federalpremium.com)  
Flambeau Products Corp. - [www.flambeauoutdoors.com](http://www.flambeauoutdoors.com)  
Flatrock Hunting Preserve - [www.flatrockhunting.com](http://www.flatrockhunting.com)  
FLW Outdoors - [www.flwoutdoors.com](http://www.flwoutdoors.com)  
Flying Fisherman - [www.flyingfisherman.com](http://www.flyingfisherman.com)  
Frabill - [www.frabill.com](http://www.frabill.com)  
Freedom Group Companies - [www.freedom-group.com](http://www.freedom-group.com)  
Frogg Toggs - [www.froggtoggsraingear.com](http://www.froggtoggsraingear.com)  
G.Loomis - [www.gloomis.com](http://www.gloomis.com)  
Gamo USA - [www.gamoussa.com](http://www.gamoussa.com)  
Gerber Legendary Blades - [www.gerbergear.com](http://www.gerbergear.com)  
Hart Productions - [www.hartproductions.com](http://www.hartproductions.com)  
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - [www.henryrepeating.com](http://www.henryrepeating.com)  
Hoosier Trapper Supply - [www.hoosiertrappersupply.com](http://www.hoosiertrappersupply.com)  
Hoppe's - [www.hoppes.com](http://www.hoppes.com)  
Horton Archery - [www.crossbow.com](http://www.crossbow.com)  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - [www.hmhco.com](http://www.hmhco.com)  
Howard Communications - [www.howardcommunications.com](http://www.howardcommunications.com)  
HT Enterprises - [www.icefish.com](http://www.icefish.com)  
Hunt's Photo & Video - [www.huntsphotoandvideo.com](http://www.huntsphotoandvideo.com)  
Hunter's Specialties - [www.hunterspec.com](http://www.hunterspec.com)  
Indiana Conservation Officer Magazine - [www.icoo.com](http://www.icoo.com)  
Indiana Outdoor News - [www.indianaoutdoornews.net](http://www.indianaoutdoornews.net)  
Ind. Smallmouth Alliance - [www.indianasmallmouthalliance.org](http://www.indianasmallmouthalliance.org)  
Jewel Bait Company - [www.jewelbait.com](http://www.jewelbait.com)  
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - [www.johnsonoutdoors.com](http://www.johnsonoutdoors.com)  
KG Enterprise, Inc. - [www.kgenterprise.com](http://www.kgenterprise.com)  
Koppers Fishing & Tackle - [www.livetargetlures.com](http://www.livetargetlures.com)  
Kruger Optical - [www.krugeroptical.com](http://www.krugeroptical.com)  
Kwikee Kwiver Co. - [www.kwikeekwiver.com](http://www.kwikeekwiver.com)  
L&S Bait Co. - [www.mirrolure.com](http://www.mirrolure.com)  
LaCrosse Footwear - [www.lacrossefootwear.com](http://www.lacrossefootwear.com)  
Lamiglas, Inc. - [www.lamiglas.com](http://www.lamiglas.com)  
Leupold - [www.leupold.com](http://www.leupold.com)  
Lightfield Ammunition - [www.lightfieldslugs.com](http://www.lightfieldslugs.com)  
Lodge Manufacturing - [www.lodgemfg.com](http://www.lodgemfg.com)  
Mathews - [www.mathewsinc.com](http://www.mathewsinc.com)  
Mossy Oak - [www.mossyoak.com](http://www.mossyoak.com)  
Muzzy Products Corp. - [www.muzzy.com](http://www.muzzy.com)  
MyTopo - [www.mytopo.com](http://www.mytopo.com)  
National Shooting Sports Foundation - [www.nssf.org](http://www.nssf.org)  
Normark Corporation - [www.rapala.com](http://www.rapala.com)  
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - [www.mossberg.com](http://www.mossberg.com)  
Off Shore Tackle Co. - [www.offshoretackle.com](http://www.offshoretackle.com)  
Okuma Fishing Tackle - [www.okumafishingteam.com](http://www.okumafishingteam.com)  
Ono's Trading Co. - [www.onostradingcompany.com](http://www.onostradingcompany.com)  
Orange County CVB - [www.historicsouthernindiana.com](http://www.historicsouthernindiana.com)  
Otis Technology - [www.otistec.com](http://www.otistec.com)  
Outdoor Promotions - [www.crappieusa.com](http://www.crappieusa.com)  
Plano Molding Company - [www.planomolding.com](http://www.planomolding.com)  
Poor Boy's Baits/Lurecraft - [www.lurecraft.com](http://www.lurecraft.com)  
Pradco Fishing - [www.lurenet.com](http://www.lurenet.com)  
Predator Innovations - [www.hanganbuddy.com](http://www.hanganbuddy.com)  
Primos Hunting Calls - [www.primos.com](http://www.primos.com)  
Princeton University Press - [www.press.princeton.edu](http://www.press.princeton.edu)  
Proline Fishing, Inc. - [www.prolinefishing.com](http://www.prolinefishing.com)  
Pure Fishing - [www.purefishing.com](http://www.purefishing.com)  
Quaker Boy, Inc. - [www.quakerboygamecalls.com](http://www.quakerboygamecalls.com)  
Reef Runner Lures - [www.reefrunner.com](http://www.reefrunner.com)  
Renfro Productions - [www.renfroproductions.com](http://www.renfroproductions.com)  
Rocky Brands - [www.rockyboots.com](http://www.rockyboots.com)  
Savage Arms - [www.savagearms.com](http://www.savagearms.com)  
SHE Outdoor Apparel - [www.shesafari.com](http://www.shesafari.com)  
Shimano American Corp. - [www.shimano.com](http://www.shimano.com)  
Slammer Hunting Innovations - [www.slammerhi.com](http://www.slammerhi.com)  
Snag Proof Manufacturing - [www.snagproof.com](http://www.snagproof.com)  
Solar Bat Sunglasses - [www.solarbat.com](http://www.solarbat.com)  
South Shore CVA - [www.southshorecva.com](http://www.southshorecva.com)  
Sportsman Channel - [www.thesportsmanchannel.com](http://www.thesportsmanchannel.com)  
Sportsman's Connection - [www.sportsmansconnection.com](http://www.sportsmansconnection.com)  
Star Brite Distributing - [www.starbrite.com](http://www.starbrite.com)  
Strikemaster Corporation - [www.strikemaster.com](http://www.strikemaster.com)  
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - [www.ruger.com](http://www.ruger.com)  
Taylor Brands - [www.taylorbrandsllc.com](http://www.taylorbrandsllc.com)  
ThermaCELL - [www.thermacell.com](http://www.thermacell.com)  
Thundermist Lure Co. - [www.thundermistlures.com](http://www.thundermistlures.com)  
TomBob Outdoors - [www.tomboboutdoors.com](http://www.tomboboutdoors.com)  
Toyota Motor Sales - [www.toyotanewsroom.com](http://www.toyotanewsroom.com)  
Tri-Tronics, Inc. - [www.tritronics.com](http://www.tritronics.com)  
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - [www.ttiblakemore.com](http://www.ttiblakemore.com)  
Uncle Josh Bait Co. - [www.unclejosh.com](http://www.unclejosh.com)  
Vexilar, Inc. - [www.vexilar.com](http://www.vexilar.com)  
W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - [www.wrcase.com](http://www.wrcase.com)  
WaveSpin Reels - [www.wavespinreel.com](http://www.wavespinreel.com)  
Winchester Ammunition - [www.winchester.com](http://www.winchester.com)  
Wrangler Rugged Wear - [www.wrangleruggedwear.com](http://www.wrangleruggedwear.com)  
Yakima Bait Co. - [www.yakimabait.com](http://www.yakimabait.com)  
Z-Man Fishing Products - [www.zmanfishing.com](http://www.zmanfishing.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

- AGLOW 2011 Annual Conference:** September 19-22, 2011  
([www.aglowinfo.org](http://www.aglowinfo.org))  
Honey Creek Resort State Park  
Rathbun Lake, IA
- Fur Takers Chapter 7B Fall Rendezvous:** September 24, 2011  
([www.hoosiertrappersupply.com](http://www.hoosiertrappersupply.com))  
Held at Hoosier Trapper Supply  
Greenwood, IN
- SEOPA 2011 Annual Conference:** October 5-8, 2011  
([www.seopa.org](http://www.seopa.org))  
Branson, MO
- Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Boat Show:** January 20-22 & 25-29, 2012  
([www.hartproductions.com](http://www.hartproductions.com))  
Cincinnati, OH
- Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show:** February 17-26, 2012  
([www.renfroproductions.com](http://www.renfroproductions.com))  
Indianapolis, IN
- NRA 2012 Annual Meeting:** April 13-15, 2012  
([www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org))  
St. Louis, MO
- HOW 2012 Annual Conference:** May 4-6, 2012  
([www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org](http://www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org))  
The Star Plaza  
Merrillville, IN
- AGLOW 2012 Spring Cast & Blast Event:** May 14-17, 2012  
([www.aglowinfo.org](http://www.aglowinfo.org))  
Niagara County, NY
- OWAA 2012 Annual Conference:** September 4-6, 2012  
([www.owaa.org](http://www.owaa.org))  
Fairbanks, AK

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