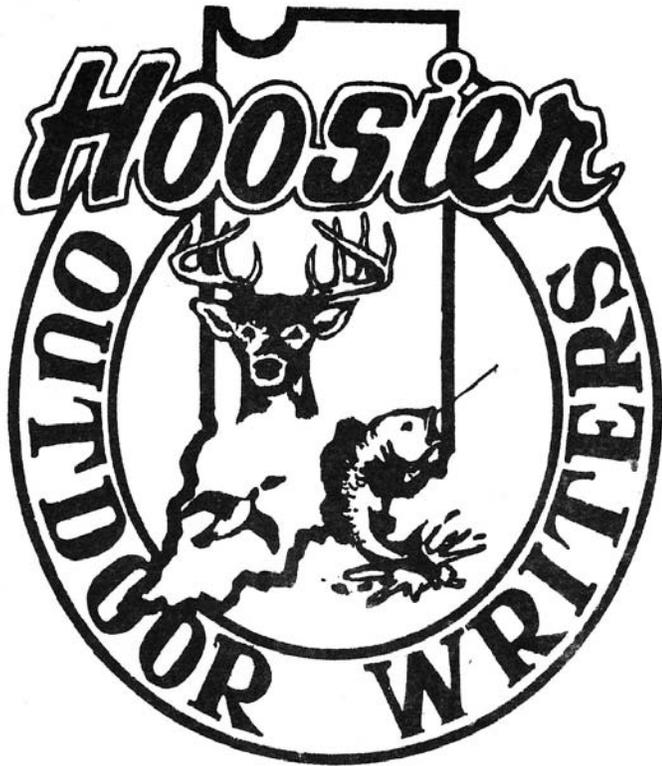


The Blade

September - October 2012

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers

"Fiery Sunset", 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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On the cover: *As the sun sets over a small lake, you can just imagine how many lunker-sized largemouth bass are prowling in search of their next meal. This is the time of year that they put on the feedbag in preparation for the long winter ahead! Photo by Tom Berg.*



President's Message

by Josh Lantz

Farm Bill: Conservation Needs Your Voice

Much of our audience understands the critical role sportsmen play in wildlife conservation. But it never hurts to remind them of how wildlife management and conservation work – both here in Indiana and throughout our great nation.

The Farm Bill is one specific area that never seems to receive enough attention. Next to the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, the Farm Bill is the most important piece of wildlife conservation legislation we have.

Programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) are authorized in the Farm Bill. They have allowed state and federal wildlife management agencies and other non-governmental conservation groups like Ducks Unlimited and the National Wildlife Federation to work hand in hand with farmers and landowners to restore and conserve millions of acres of wetlands, woodlots and native grasslands over the past couple decades.

Take a look across Indiana and you'll notice that CRP, restored wetland areas, shelterbelts and other wildlife habitats make up a greater percentage of our available rural landscape than ever before. This increased habitat benefits game and nongame species alike, but also serves to prevent soil erosion and keep our rivers, lakes and streams cleaner and healthier too. Again, these are storylines that never see enough media coverage.

We can make a difference.

Left to its own devices, Congress will likely try to delay action on the Farm Bill until well after the election. With all the uncertainty over the economy and lawmakers feeling pressed to do more with less, I'm concerned about the threat of our conservation dollars being spent elsewhere. Therefore, I believe Indiana's sportsmen and conservationists should be pushing as firmly on our legislators for a vote on a new Farm Bill as our agricultural community is.

Ducks Unlimited CEO Dale Hall agrees. "Congressional inaction (on the Farm Bill) is jeopardizing millions of acres of habitat and the wildlife that relies on it", Hall recently wrote in an op-ed piece distributed to members of the outdoor media. He urges hunters, anglers and conservationists to call on their legislators to support three primary components in a new Farm Bill: maintaining and strengthening effective wetland protections; including a national Sodsaver provision to protect native prairie; and preserving existing conservation programs.

For the sake of our wildlife and cherished outdoor traditions, perhaps we can call on our readers, listeners and viewers to do the same.

To learn more about issues of concern to sportsmen and conservationists with respect to the current Farm Bill before you write, go to <http://www.ducks.org/farmbill/>, or <http://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/Policy/Farm-Bill.aspx>.

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

**Wally Pritz (Active)
Michigan City, IN
Sponsor: Bill Keaton**

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
Brandon Butler	2011

HOW Awards-In-Craft Winner

(1st Place in the Writing Contest – Over 1000 Words)
(Hunting/Trapping category)

“SELLING YOUR FURS” **by Mike Schoonveld**

Once European explorers realized gold, silver, exotic spices and gemstones were not particularly abundant in the New World, the search expanded to find more mundane and less lucrative treasures. One of the most important resources turned out to be the abundance of fur bearing animals in North America.

Trappers and purveyors of furs such as Hudson Bay Company, American Fur Company and others spread across North America to gather and sell the abundant mink, beaver, muskrat and other wild furs. The fur trade quickly became one of the most important industries in the U.S. and Canada as well as one of the world's first “global” enterprises.

Historically, hunting and trapping was strictly utilitarian. Hunters killed primarily for the food value of the game; trappers caught animals for the value of the pelts. Now, hunting and trapping have become recreational activities, in part, celebrating the traditional uses of our renewable wildlife resources.

Few families today would go hungry without the wild game harvested by family members, but eating the game meat is a vital part of the hunting experience. Few families would be destitute if deprived of the money earned by selling furs caught by family trappers. Still, selling the pelts from the furbearers caught by trappers is a vital part of the trapping experience.

So what determines the value of the pelt of a wild mink, muskrat or other fur bearing animal? The answer is, “lots of things.”

Size matters in many instances. A big raccoon is worth more than a little raccoon. A mink is worth more than a weasel. But size isn't the only factor.

Quality of the fur matters, as well, and quality is determined by both color and primeness. A fur is judged to be in “prime” condition when the underfur and guard hair are fully grown, which in Wisconsin occurs from mid-fall to early winter. By mid-winter, the pelts on many fur-bearing animals are becoming winter-worn. The fur on beavers and muskrats stay in good condition on into early spring but they can become damaged from fighting during the breeding season.

Some animals such as muskrats and red fox show very little difference in colors. One looks just like the next. In coyotes and raccoons the pelts can vary from very dark to nearly blond. There are more than a few “red-headed” coyotes caught each year, as well. In general, the closer to “ordinary-looking” the pelt is, the higher the price. It takes several animals to make a fur garment and furriers pay more for uniformity.

How the animal is sold also determines the value of the fur. If there is a fur-buyer near where you live (a list of licensed buyers is available on-line from the DNR), there's the option of selling “in-the-round,” meaning you sell the animal just as it is when you remove it from the trap, carcass and all. These may be fresh or frozen.

To save on freezer space, you can sell the animal “green,” which means it's been pelted out, but the pelt is either sold within a

few days or frozen. Your freezer will hold many more pelts than whole animals. It's best to freeze the skins, fur side out, laying flat with a sheet of newspaper between each pelt to keep them from sticking together. Thaw the pelts before you take them to the buyer.

You can also sell the pelts as "put-up." That means you have skinned the animal, removed most of the fat and flesh from the inside of the skin and then stretched the pelt onto a suitable wooden or wire form and allowed it to dry.

The more work you do yourself, the more you will get from the buyer. A skinned, fleshed and dried raccoon worth \$20 may only command a price of \$15 as a green pelt and only \$10 in the round. The buyer has to skin, scrape, stretch and dry the pelt—or hire someone to do it—before he can sell it into the fur trade.

Many trappers consider putting up their fur as much a part of the sport and tradition of the activity as setting the traps and catching the animals. Putting-up their fur also gives them other options besides selling to a local fur buyer.

Only the largest buyers (handling multiple thousands of pelts) sell direct to furriers. The rest of the wild caught fur in North America is sold through either the Fur Harvesters Auction or North American Fur Auctions.

The auction houses collect put-up fur from individual trappers or from local fur buyers. Once they grade the pelts to size, color and quality, they hold auctions several times per year which are attended by furriers from around the world.

A trapper selling to a local buyer walks out with a check in hand, or if not satisfied with the offer, he can decline the sale and deal elsewhere. A trapper selling to an auction house won't get paid until the end of the

auction, perhaps a few weeks or months later, and there's no chance to accept or reject the bid price. He or she will get the going rate established at the time of the sale.

Predicting the price of furs trappers are likely to receive this year is like predicting the price of gasoline two or three months from now. Buyers are speculating what they will be able to sell for and offer prices they think are profitable to them. Recent auctions sold Wisconsin muskrats at \$10 each, the average price for raccoons and beavers were in the upper teens, per pelt and foxes and coyotes averaged around \$20.

As one trapper told me, "I don't trap for the money. I don't need high prices to get me enthused for the season. I don't stop trapping if the prices are predicted to be low. If I get a fair price for my fur, I'm happy, because high prices or low, I'm never going to get rich from it."



Mike Schoonveld works in his fur shed to get the pelts he harvested ready for sale. Several large coyote pelts hang from the ceiling behind him as they dry. Photo by Tom Berg.

Invasive Plants Kill Bats and Birds

by Tom Berg

Earlier this summer, my wife and I were sitting in the garden in our back yard, enjoying the evening breeze and watching different birds flit among the branches of our pine trees. The sun had just disappeared behind the western horizon, but the sky was still fairly bright. Darkness would be falling very soon.

A quick movement in the sky overhead caught our attention, and we looked up to see the first bat of the evening appear as it wheeled and flitted across the yard. Soon another bat joined it, and then another. Within a few minutes, there were seven bats flying around over our yard and our neighbor's yard, catching mosquitoes and other insects with ease.

We had discovered that there was a colony of Eastern red bats living somewhere in or near our yard a couple of weeks earlier when we were watering the gardens just before dark. A bat swooped in at eye level just as I finished watering our tomato plants, and since it wasn't dark yet I could easily see his black wings and the reddish fur on his body. It was definitely an Eastern red bat.

That's when my wife and I decided to spend a few minutes each evening sitting on the bench in our garden to watch the bats before darkness fell. We enjoyed watching the small creatures patrolling the skies over our yard, and I was particularly happy to see them catching mosquitoes. They were fun to watch, too!

As we sat watching, we saw one bat fly low through the yard and suddenly land on a tall plant about four feet off the ground. I was surprised, because I had never seen a bat land while it was hunting insects. I wondered if he had caught a particularly large bug and needed to land to eat it!

I expected the bat to take flight again within seconds, but he never did. I walked over to see what he was doing, and it looked like he was eating or chewing on the flowers of the weed. I quickly ran inside the house to get my camera to see if I could get a photo before he took off.

When I came back with the camera, my wife said he was still there. I got fairly close and took some photos, but I still expected him to fly away at any moment. He never did. The weed that he had landed on was the noxious burr-producing weed called common burdock (*Arctium Minus*), and it looked like he was hugging the flowering burrs and chewing on them.

I did not know it, but he was actually stuck to the burrs like Velcro! When darkness fell we went inside, and I figured he would be gone by morning. The next morning when I left for work, I checked to see if he was gone. Unfortunately, he was still there and he was dead! I was very surprised!



An Eastern Red Bat trapped by the flowering burrs of a burdock plant. Photo by Tom Berg.

(continued next page)

I did some research online that evening and I found that the burdock plant, along with the related cocklebur plant, has been known to trap bats and small birds if the creatures accidentally get caught in the sticky burrs. Bats and birds that become entangled usually die from exposure or starvation since they cannot free themselves to find food and shelter.

I felt bad for the poor bat, especially since I had not realized he was stuck. I always try to remove the invasive burdock plants from my gardens when I see them, simply because they tend to take over open areas if allowed to spread. The burrs also stick to almost everything (including clothes), and they can be difficult to remove. This particular plant had eluded my sight until the bat landed on it.



Common Burdock in the flowering stage.

Burdock burrs have curved hooks or barbs that hook into the fibers of our clothing, but they also hook and hold animal fur and feathers, too. As a matter of fact, these burrs were the inspiration for the invention of the Velcro fasteners that we use in our everyday lives today. The spines of burdock burrs are even sharp enough to penetrate the thin layer of dead skin on your fingers, so they can stick to your bare skin, too.

I was surprised to learn that small birds like hummingbirds, finches, wrens, warblers and others can be trapped and die if they become entangled in burdock plants. Bats of all species are vulnerable, too, because the burrs stick to their fur even better than it does to feathers.

Burdock is only spread by seed, so the best way to control the plant is to destroy the seeds before they can be dispersed.

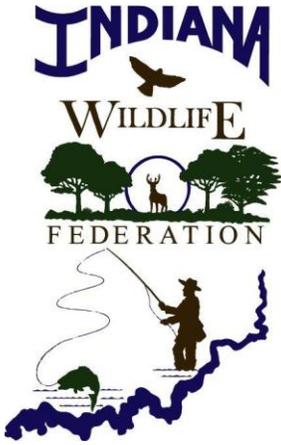
Flowers appear in mid-summer and slowly dry out to become burrs. The seeds are inside the round burrs. Those burrs should be cut off and bagged in your garbage. Do not try to compost them because the seeds may not be killed by composting.

Luckily, burdock plants are biennial, so it takes them a full two years to mature and produce flowers and burrs. During the first year, the plant develops a deep tap root and displays leaves only. It is during the second year that the tall stalk grows and produces flowers. Attempting to pull up or dig up a burdock plant is not easy, because the root is very deep and it breaks off easily when pulled. Like a dandelion, it simply re-grows another plant if the entire root is not removed.

Please do the bats and birds in your neighborhood a favor and remove every burdock and cocklebur plant that you find. If you control the plants on your property, you will help reduce the spread of this invasive weed. We should all be concerned with threats to the environment and the creatures that call it home, and controlling burdock is an easy way to help.



Dry burdock burrs are ready to stick to **everything**. Photos by Tom Berg.



Landowner Conservation Programs in October

*Find \$\$ to Enhance Wildlife Habitat on Your Land
Two **FREE Workshops and Dinner near You!***

*Attend one or both workshops to learn more about
programs to create and maintain wildlife habitat and the
financial incentives available.*

Thursday, October 25, 4:30-7:30pm CST

*LaPorte County SWCD Office
2857 West State Road 2, Suite B
LaPorte, IN 46350*

Tuesday, October 30, 4:30-7:30pm CST

*Porter County Conservation Club
320 N 150 W
Valparaiso, IN 46385*

**These are FREE WORKSHOPS but
PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**

RSVP by email: info@indianawildlife.org

or phone: (800) 347-3445



Please join us for one or both workshops. Conservation and wildlife professionals will discuss the cost-share programs available to assist private landowners to enhance wildlife habitat, improve water quality, and combat invasive species on their lands.

- **Importance of Private Landowner in Protecting Indiana Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat**
 - Indiana Wildlife Federation
- **Planning, Funding, and Implementation of Federal NRCS Programs**
 - Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist
- **State Land Protection Programs**
 - Indiana Department of Natural Resources-Private Lands Wildlife Biologist
- **“Partners for Fish and Wildlife” Program**
 - US Fish and Wildlife Service Private Lands Biologist
- **Invasive Plant Species Identification and Control**
 - Indiana Department of Natural Resources Forester
- **Panel Discussion: Managing Restored Wetlands and Prairies for Wildlife**

The October 25th LaPorte County workshop will feature a walking tour of the Community Conservation Walk which includes a rain garden, prairie plants, rain barrels, and pollinators outdoor demonstration plots.

The October 30th Porter County workshop will include more in-depth coverage of the identification and control of invasive plant species and management of restored wetlands and prairies.

Chasing The Duckbill Dinosaur

by Rich Creason

July 4th finally arrived and we were looking forward to spending eight hours a day for the next five days working outdoors in 90+ degree weather. It was just a few days short of a year since we were last in South Dakota searching for 65 million year-old dinosaur bones.



Susie Creason works on excavating the large Duckbill dinosaur femur bone that she discovered in South Dakota. Photo by Rich Creason.

We were just arriving in the small town of Faith, population 500, in the far northwest corner of the state. It was our third visit

to this area in the last three years. While *Tyrannosaurus Rex* was once king of this part of the country, and at least three *T. Rex* skeletons have been found here, we would again be digging for the remains of *Edmontosaurus Annectens*, the duckbill dinosaur.

How did we end up traveling 1100 miles from central Indiana to the Badlands of South Dakota to search for the remains of a long extinct creature? Well, I guess we owe it all to the Children's Museum of Indianapolis and our grandson, Benjamin.

About four years ago, Benjamin was visiting from Fort Wayne with his mom and dad. We decided to take him to the Children's Museum to see the exhibits and attractions they have there. We had never been before so we weren't sure what to expect. We parked in the parking garage (free!), walked to the entrance, paid our entry fee, and proceeded to spend the rest of the day being amazed.

This place is NOT just for kids! While I don't remember the exact displays we saw way back then, we have seen temporary attractions such as the Barbie and Lego exhibits, a friendly Haunted House, Star Wars, Etch-A-Sketch, frogs from around the world and numerous others. They also offer permanent exhibits and activities like the Science Central, antique carousel rides, a huge locomotive which was actually brought into the museum and the walls built in behind it, and, our favorite, the Dinosphere.

This area actually has dinosaur skeletons (with real bones), informative displays to teach you about various dinosaurs, how they lived, what they ate, and what happened when they were injured. In one corner of the Dinosphere is a pit where youngsters can dig for artificial bones. In an area off to one side is a glassed-in room where paleontologists and volunteers work at rebuilding, cleaning, and getting the actual bones which have been found at sites in South Dakota ready for public display. The glass panels are open so kids (and adults) can talk to the workers and see how their projects are progressing. This is where we found out about going out west on a Dino Dig.

(continued next page)

After several more visits and long discussions, we signed up for a one day dinosaur dig. That was two years ago and we thoroughly enjoyed our trip. Last year, we went on the five day teacher dig. Susie and I dug 22 dinosaur bones which went back to the Children's Museum. These included a toe bone, several vertebrae, numerous rib segments including one 28" rib, two jugals (jaw bones), and other various bones. We returned recently from our third trip – another five day adult dig.

We arrived on Thursday night, following a fire truck from the nearest town (40 miles away) to Faith. There was fire equipment from all the nearby areas fighting a large field fire north of town which had been started by farm equipment and extremely dry grass. We could see and smell the smoke. Later that night the fire was finally extinguished with the help of some rain. Our dig site was about 200 yards from where the fire stopped.

The next day found us at the dig site getting the tools (clam shuckers, exacto knives, brushes, and bottles of paleo bond to glue cracked bones) out of the storage shed. We started digging in adjacent sections and found several small bones. On day two, Susie found the end of something large. William, one of the Museum staff, came over to look at what she had found and told me to join her in that area because she would need help digging this one out. After several hours, we had enough of the end uncovered to identify a huge femur. These are usually three to four feet long, about six to eight inches in diameter, and around 200 pounds. We continued digging on this one bone for three and a half days and we had it exposed but not out of the ground. It takes about five to six days to uncover a femur and ready it for transport back to Indianapolis. We would be back in Indiana before the next group of diggers completely unearthed it.

The area I had vacated also contained a femur, several other large bones, and Jayne, a Museum volunteer found a nanotooth in this spot. This is a large tooth from a predator like a *T. Rex*, a very



Here is the large nanotooth from one of South Dakota's oversized prehistoric predators. Photo by Rich Creason.

rare find for our particular dig site. Altogether, our group of 14 people found a total of five femurs this year in four days, plus probably over 100 other bones. William and Dallas, the other Museum staff member with us, would have to drive all of these bones to their new home.

Next year, Benjamin will be old enough (eight years old) to go to the dig site with us. I'm sure his mother will bring him for a day or two and we will stay for the five day dig. If you would like to join us next July on this highly unusual vacation, go to their website at www.childrensmuseum.org or call 317-334-3322. You can get more information on all of their programs, activities and exhibits. Or better yet, load up the family and drive to Indianapolis to spend a day exploring everything the Children's Museum has to offer.

HOW Member News

Brandon Butler Looks To The Future

HOW Chairman of the Board Brandon Butler is close to a dream come true. He's always dreamed of owning a Jeep, and after a test drive during the AGLOW conference, he's pretty sure a purchase is in the near future! Maybe an orange one!



Besides the wish for a new car, Butler also has a new job. "Today is my last day at Battenfeld Technologies," he said on October 9th. "I'm so grateful for the opportunity I had here to grow in the outdoor industry. I've met and worked with so many incredible people, and can now call a number of my heroes "friends." I am headed to Callis & Associates (<http://ecallis.com/>) as Director of Outdoor Markets. In this role, I'll be striving to develop an outstanding portfolio of clients. I am very excited and ready to hit the ground running." Good luck, Brandon!

Musky Lures By Bob Jennings

Bob Jennings loves everything about muskies. He has written books about muskies and dreams about them at night. He makes musky lures in his spare time, too, and some of his favorites are made out of axe handles. Here is an excerpt from one of his writings about Lonesome Lodge where he discusses the hand-made musky lures:

Grandfather Bob, King of Musky Hunters at Lonesome Lodge helped Albert make some of these Ax Handle Lures but when he got them finished, found that he had sawed them at a 45 degree turn of the original design lures. When he compared them to the originals, he said, "Whoops! I sawed 'em wrong!" Grandfather Bob has made a few of these lures but he does not put eyes on them. *He says he doesn't want the lures to see the Musky coming....."*

Bob sells the lures and even includes a hand-made wooden lure box with each lure. HOW members who might be interested in more information about the lures or who want to buy one can contact him at: 812-798-0783. He will even engrave your name on the lure box if you like.



Phil Hawkins Remembers Fred Bear And Early Bowhunting

Phil Hawkins is certainly a long-time HOW member. As a matter of fact, he has been a member since HOW was formed back in 1969! He recently sent me a letter recalling his archery shop and a meeting with archery icon Fred Bear in early 1964, and I thought it would be an interesting addition to this issue of The Blade. Enjoy!

“I opened a small sporting goods shop off of the back of my house in the 50’s,” said Hawkins, “and it was just as the new fiberglass recurve bows were coming out. Bowhunting was changing from the old days to the new days. I changed my shop from sporting goods to strictly an archery shop, and I was the Bear Archery dealer for several years. I did my selling in the evenings and weekends.”

“Around that time the local Johnson County archers started the Hawkeye Bowmen club, and I and others who were interested enjoyed archery and bowhunting for years.”



A young Phil Hawkins (right) presented archery legend Fred Bear (left) with an honorary Hawkeye Bowmen club membership card back in 1964. Hawkins holds a Kodiak bow in the photo. Vintage image courtesy of Phil Hawkins.

“One day the Bear Archery salesman called and asked me if I would like to meet Fred Bear. Fred was in town attending the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show, so he visited us one evening at the shop. He talked about some of his big game hunts, and it was just after he had either killed a polar bear or a Kodiak brown bear with his bow. I’ll always remember that he said: ‘Anybody who can kill a whitetail deer with a bow and arrow can kill anything.’ At the time, bowhunting for deer was just becoming popular in Indiana and nonresidents were not allowed to hunt deer. I had a half-dozen guys over at the house that evening and Fred spent a couple of hours talking to us. He was just as nice as he seemed to be in any of his archery and bowhunting movies.”

“I sold my shop to a good friend of mine in the mid-1960’s. It was at this time that the compound bows just started to appear, but I never stocked or sold them. I was happy to have enjoyed the archery business in the early days when bowhunting boomed. I have a crossbow now, but nothing can replace the longbow for pure archery fun and sport.”

Even though Phil’s meeting with Fred Bear was nearly 50 years ago, he still remembers it well. Fred Bear was a legend during his own lifetime and he remains one today (he passed away in 1988). Phil is now 81 years old, but he still enjoys fishing and hunting and gets out more than most people. He had several successful dove hunts in September and is planning to hunt deer again this fall.

Keaton And Schoonveld Find Trout And Peanuts At AGLOW Conference



Mike Schoonveld (left) and Bill Keaton (right) display two of the Missouri rainbow trout they caught on flyrods.

Mike Schoonveld and Bill Keaton were among the HOW members who attended the recent AGLOW conference in Branson, MO, and they found plenty to see and do. As you can see from the photos above, they had a good time sampling the excellent fishing for rainbow trout in the area. But that wasn't all. After their fishing trip they made a stop at a local store to buy peanuts. Read Mike's story on the next page to find out more.



HOW E.D. Loves Bird Photos

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg really enjoys taking photos of birds in the wild, and at the end of August he and his wife Lori made their annual trip to northwest Wisconsin to do some fishing and bird watching. The birds were very cooperative, too.

They saw lots of bald eagles, ospreys, loons, mergansers, mallard ducks, downy and pileated woodpeckers, hummingbirds and many others.

The photo above shows a juvenile bald eagle perched in a tree along the lakeshore. At right, a merganser prepares to swallow one of several crayfish that he caught by diving to the lake's bottom in a shallow bay. It was fun to watch!



BOILED PEANUTS?

by Mike Schoonveld

On the way to our morning fishing trip near Branson, MO, my fishing partner Bill Keaton and I passed a country store advertising "BOILED PEANUTS." That got me thinking.

Were it not so common, easy to find and even easier to use, peanut butter would rank above French truffles and Russian caviar as one of the world's most flavorful food. Luckily, it's something us commoners can afford and enjoy.

I love peanuts other ways, as well. Peanuts in the shell were a fall staple at the hunter check-in station where I used to work. A jar of dry roasted Planters is as good a snack as I can imagine. But boiled? I couldn't imagine. Neither could Bill so we vowed we'd stop at Whisker's Country Corner on the way back from fishing to investigate.

What we found was an eclectic mix of tourist stop, local corner store, antique boutique and just a fun place to be. You could tell it wasn't built. It evolved. It probably started as a roadside stand selling fresh produce and perhaps boiled peanuts. Then it just grew and took over the sturdy but somewhat ramshackle buildings, nearby. You can even get a haircut there! But this is a story about peanuts.

Store owner and chief peanut "boiler," Peggy Stevenson didn't share the exact recipe, but it involved raw peanuts in-the-shell, plenty of water a pinch or two of salt and, no doubt, a few secret herbs. Put it in a large roasting pan and let it stew for several hours - or all day, I suppose.

"Some people eat shell and all," said Peggy. "They cook, but are stringy like celery. Most people peel off the shell, just as you would with roasted peanuts."

So with those instructions, Bill and I set off with our first sampling of this southern snack.

How were they? I agree with most people.

Peel off the shell. I didn't on the first one I sampled and it was indeed stringy. More than stringy, actually. Don't do it. The rest I peeled. I say "peeled" because the process is a bit harder than cracking open a roasted peanut - more like peeling a cooked shrimp.

Inside, the peanuts were done perfectly. But no peanut flavor! Their texture was more that of a navy or lima bean cooked "al dente." (Peanuts are a legume.) The flavor was more bean-like than anything. If you like navy beans, ham'n beans, black eyed peas and the like, you could easily become a boiled peanut fan. I do and I now am a fan. Unfortunately, until I get back to the Ozarks, I'll have to make do with peanut butter.



Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors

Sponsored by W.R. Case

The Freshwater Drum is a Fish of Many Names



Close-up
→
Original
←



The “What is it?” question from the last newsletter was difficult for some, but easier for our fishing diehards. Seven HOW members did identify it: Jack Spaulding, PJ Perea, Mike Berg, John Maxwell,

Phil Seng, Brandon Butler and Bill Keaton all guessed the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the Power Stow landing net from **Frabill**, Jack Spaulding was the big winner. Congratulations, Jack!

As you can see in the photo to the left, this time the mystery creature was a big freshwater drum, or *Aplodinotus grunniens*. These common fish are known by many names: drum, white perch, silver bass, gray bass, sheepshead, gaspergoo, grunt, grinder, croaker – even thunderpumper!

An interesting fact about the freshwater drum is that they have large otoliths (bony, stonelike objects) in their inner ears, which are sometimes kept as good luck charms. These otoliths can also be used to make earrings or other types of jewelry.

For this issue, our friends at **W.R. Case** have agreed to provide a very nice prize for 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 rugged **W.R. Case** Sportsman Series Trapper knife that any outdoorsman would love. 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 might be easier to identify than the last one, but we’ll see. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? Take a guess! This time you **must** identify the exact species. If you believe it’s some kind of fish, for example, be specific and guess “Green Sunfish”. If you think you know what it is, send the answer to me via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you’ll be in the running for this issue’s prize. For everyone who doesn’t know, you will just have to wait for the next issue of The Blade to find out!



As mentioned above, **W.R. Case** will be donating a Sportsman Series Trapper knife as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. The winner can choose from several images on the knife handle: quail, pheasant, deer, grouse, duck, turkey or dove. Check out <http://www.wrcase.com/knives/family/sportsman-series/> for images. If multiple people guess the right answer, we’ll draw one winner at random from the group of correct entries. Good luck! Photos on this page (except the Case knife) by Tom Berg.



HOW Supporting Members Win Awards At 2012 ICAST Show



Orlando, FL: The 2012 ICAST show (International Convention of Allied Sportfishing Trades) in July showcased the products of some of the premier companies in the fishing tackle industry, and just like last year, many of the top new product awards were won by our innovative HOW Supporting Members. Here is the list of winners from our corporate members:

Electronics

Johnson Outdoors, Inc.
Humminbird 360 Imaging

Eyewear

Costa
Costa 580 P Sunrise Lenses

Fishing Line

Pure Fishing, Inc.
Berkley Trilene XL/XT

Fly Fishing Reel

Eagle Claw Fishing Tackle
Sabalos Saltwater Fly Reel

Fly Fishing Rod

G. Loomis
NRX Fly Rod

Freshwater Reel

Pure Fishing, Inc.
Abu Garcia Revo

Hard Lure

Koppers Fishing & Tackle Corporation
LIVE TARGET Frog Popper

Kids' Tackle

Pure Fishing, Inc.
Shakespeare Hide-A-Hook Bobber Kit

Rod & Reel Combo

Pure Fishing, Inc.
Penn Battle Combo

Saltwater Reel

Pure Fishing, Inc.
Penn Spinfisher V

Terminal Tackle

Pure Fishing, Inc.
Berkley Gulp! Jig Heads

Congratulations to all of the winners!

For more info on ICAST, check their website: www.icastfishing.org.



Above: Koppers LIVE TARGET Frog Popper

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.



HT Enterprises' New "POLAR MAG HD" Magnetic Tip-Up Changes Everything!

Campbellsport, WI: HT Enterprises, Inc., industry leaders in modern progressive tip-up design and manufacturers of the original Polar Tip-Up, continue to drive the industry by introducing the revolutionary **POLAR MAG HD MAGNETIC HOLE COVER TIP-UP!** This ingenious design features an elongated signal shaft featuring a spring and magnet at the base enclosed within a sealed tube. A 1500' underwater spool with a magnet molded into the rim is mounted on the underside of this sealed tube. To fish, simply turn the spool and align these two magnets. When a fish bites and rotates the spool, magnetic tension between the spring-loaded, brightly-colored signal shaft and spool is broken, and the shaft pops from the tube, indicating the strike.

Best of all, the POLAR MAG HD MAGNETIC HOLE COVER TIP-UP is loaded with additional features. Since the signal flag is entirely enclosed within the sealed tube, it's completely windproof. There's no lubricant to leak or replace and no working mechanism to foul or freeze, making it a simple, efficient, weatherproof system. The wide arbor, 1500' spool is great for deep water or hard running fish, plus it features

an adjustment bracket that allows you to slide the spool upward to draw the magnets closer for slightly increased magnetic tension – creating a heavier setting when fishing harder striking fish or using larger baits – or slid down and away for lighter tension when fishing finicky, light biting species or smaller baits. Once tension is released following a strike, the spool spins freely, feeding line smoothly toward running fish.

Other features include a multi-tension, fully adjustable drag, deluxe hook holder to secure rigs and keep leaders straight, an easy in/out line guide to make set-up and line winding a cinch, reflector tip for excellent low-light or night fishing visibility and a thermal sheath mounted around the tripod base to eliminate hole freeze up and blowing snow and light from entering the hole. Plus, the POLAR MAG HD MAGNETIC HOLE COVER TIP-UP features a lightweight and compact design, so it stores and transports to all your hotspots easily!

HT Enterprises, Inc. has been designing revolutionary ice fishing products and been established as the world's undisputed ice fishing leader, providing trusted, proven ice tackle designs for over 40 years. HT also offers the world's largest selection of innovative tip-ups and ice rods and combos, plus a huge variety of ice augers, shelters, sleds, buckets, bucket seats, chairs, rod and tip-up cases, reels, lines, skimmers, rod holders, gaffs, cleats, spring bobbers, floats, tackle boxes, rigs, lures, safety items and more! For more information, please visit our website, www.icefish.com.

For more information, please contact Tom Gruenwald, 800-216-5184 (ext 224), tom@htent.com. You may also write: HT Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 909, Campbellsport, WI, 53010.



HOW Supporting Member News

G.Loomis Takes Next Step With GLX Bass Rods

Woodland, WA: Known as the graphite material that put G.Loomis at the forefront in fishing rod design and development in 1993, and the first graphite made strictly to build rod blanks, the Washington state USA-based manufacturer introduces the next era in GLX with its new crankbait and flipping rods. The line-up includes 12 crankbait rods (CBR) in 6'6", 7', 7'1" and 7'11" lengths, and six flipping rods (FPR) in 7'5" and 7'11" lengths.



According to Justin Poe, global brand manager for G.Loomis, the new GLX rods are all about better balance and better fishability. "With this new proprietary GLX graphite, we're able to make the blanks anywhere from 23- to 35-percent stronger than our previous GLX rods," Poe said, "and most important, anglers still have that 'you can feel the fish breath' sensitivity expected from G.Loomis GLX rods."

Along with the stronger, extremely sensitive GLX graphite, these new rods feature an all-new G.Loomis-designed custom reel seat. "We looked at all options available, but knowing our GLX rods are what really put G.Loomis on the map, we took an extra step for the reel seat," said David Brinkerhoff, G.Loomis' rod design engineer and resident bass fishing expert. "The blank-through-handle design takes that whole GLX sensitivity to that next level, plus we added even more with lightweight Fuji Titanium SIC guides – the best performing guides available for the best in rod balance."

With the GLX CBR rods, G.Loomis is able to design rods that offer the dynamic features of graphite – lighter and more sensitive than fiberglass – and still with a soft, moderate action that will fish crankbaits effectively.

With the GLX FPR rods, G.Loomis is able to provide both finesse and brute strength. "It's extremely important to be able to present your jig or worm as accurately and quietly as possible," Brinkerhoff notes, "and then rely on your rod and its guts to yank away a big fish from those brush pilings, rocks or timber. And after a long day on the water flipping – and catching – anglers will appreciate how light these rods are."



Poe notes that G.Loomis – and the new GLX rods – is all about performance, quality and craftsmanship. "Knowing the expectations anglers have for our rods after 30 years in the business," said Poe, "fortunately we have the combined experience of a manufacturing staff that has true pride and passion in their work to meet those expectations."

As with all G.Loomis rods, the new GLX series is manufactured in the USA. For complete details and suggested uses for each of the 12 new GLX crankbait rods and six new GLX flipping rods, visit www.gloomis.com.

Media contacts:

*John Mazurkiewicz at Catalyst Marketing: 574/289-1331, jpmazurk@ameritech.net
Bruce Holt at G.Loomis: 800/662-8818, ext. 231, holt@gloomis.com*

HOW Supporting Member News



LIVE EYEWEAR

Cocoons Eyewear Showcases Polarized Photochromic Lenses

San Luis Obispo, CA: Live Eyewear, Inc., a prominent manufacturer of OveRx eyewear, announces the addition of polarized photochromic lenses to the company's world renowned Cocoons® brand. The UV activated polarized Polaré® lenses will be available in a choice of gray or amber tints. The company showcased the patented Cocoons OveRx® collection featuring gray or amber photochromic lens options at the world's largest sport fishing trade show, ICAST 2012 in Orlando, Florida, in July.



Dave Dean, Vice President of Marketing, explains, “We receive thousands of comments from Cocoons fans around the world that are evaluated by our product development team to determine how we can better meet our customers’ needs. Cocoons are well known for delivering convenience and superior protection to those that wear glasses. Our new photochromic lens options take it to the next level. These lenses change with varying levels of UV, giving the wearer just the right amount of tint from dawn until dusk. It is very common for avid outdoors enthusiasts to have multiple pairs of sunglasses with varying light and dark lens tints. Our new photochromic lenses adapt to the light conditions so you don’t need to worry about changing your sunglasses as light levels change.”

Dean continues, “Our new photochromic lenses are based on the optical grade Polaré® lens system that is renowned for its clarity, durability, polarization efficiency and 100% UVA&B protection. The new photochromic gray and amber tints are the ideal addition to our already diverse selection of tints.”

Cocoons featuring the new photochromic lens options are available in all six patented frame styles and include a custom neoprene Cocoons case, a large lens cloth and a limited lifetime warranty.

Live Eyewear’s headquarters is located on the central coast of California in San Luis Obispo. You can find the company’s patented sunwear collections at eye care professionals and better quality sporting goods locations worldwide. Live Eyewear’s focus on quality, unsurpassed customer service, and creative innovation has made them a leader in the over prescription sunglass and low vision aids category. For further information contact Live Eyewear at 800.834.2563 or visit www.liveeyewear.com.

Media Contact: Dave Dean
Phone: 805.782.5070
Email: DDean@liveeyewear.com

ADAPT TO CHANGING LIGHT LEVELS WITH
PHOTOCHROMIC

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
DeLorme, Inc. - www.delorme.com
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.froggtoggsraingear.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.mossyoak.com
Muzzy Products Corp. - www.muzzy.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
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.southshorecva.com
Sportsman Channel - www.thesportsmanchannel.com
Sportsman's Connection - www.sportsmansconnection.com
Star Brite Distributing - www.starbrite.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Thundermist Lure Co. - www.thundermistlures.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotaneewsroom.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:

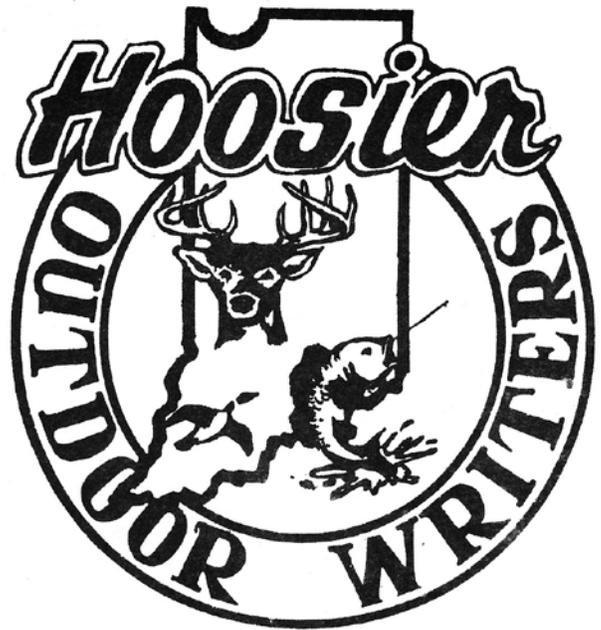
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor 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
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
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 16-19, 2013
SEOPA 2013 Annual Conference: (www.seopa.org) Lake Charles, LA	October 9-12, 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.