

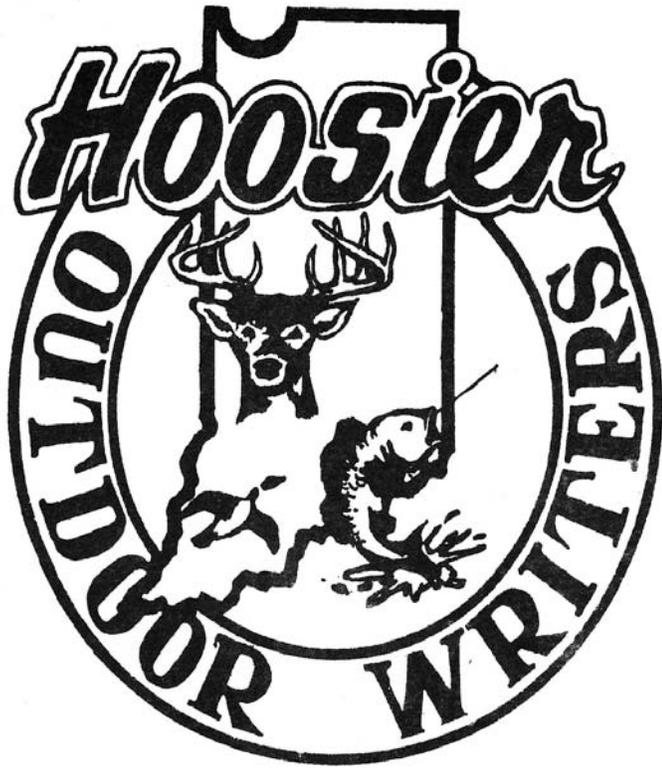
The Blade

September - October 2017

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Fall Monarch", 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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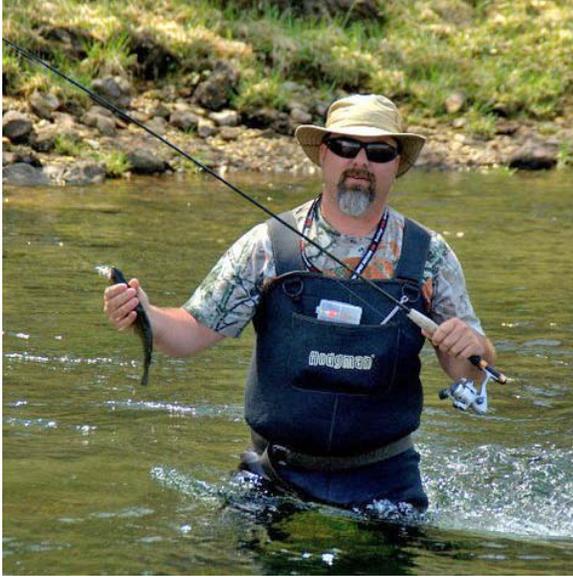
Region 1 – Mike Schoonveld
2019
Region 2 – Phil Seng
2018
Region 3 – Kenny Bayless
2019
Region 4 – Jack Spaulding
2018

At Large:

Josh Lantz – 2018
Louie Stout – 2018
Brent Wheat – 2018
Dianna Garbers – 2019
Vikki Trout – 2019
Terri Trowbridge – 2019

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On the cover: A monarch butterfly takes a short break from its fall migration to sample the nectar from one of the late-summer wildflowers at Indiana Dunes State Park. Photo by Tom Berg.



President's Message

by Don Cranfill

Dad's Version of Wax On, Wax Off

Greetings! This installment should reach you during the 2017 early archery deer season. Congratulations to those who have had successful hunts and good luck to those still in the field. All this crazy weather could make for an interesting rut this year.

With my job taking up more than its usual amount of time, I was not able to prepare enough for archery season so I will be sitting this year out. One thing my Dad drove into my head as a youth was that if you're not confident in your shot, don't take it. Some of my most nostalgic memories are of him and

me, and a few family friends who wandered in and out, shooting nightly in our back yard for several weeks before each season. I was not allowed to hunt until I could hit a five inch circle consistently from fifteen yards. I remember practicing all one summer to be able to meet his standard. When my skills were honed and I approached him to see if I earned his permission to hunt, he graciously allowed me to demonstrate my prowess. After a respectable flight of five arrows, I was met with a firm pat on the back – an attaboy I will never forget. Then, in his most Mr. Miyagi moment ever, I was handed a fine Nikon camera and told that I was half way there. You could only imagine my confusion. Dad told me that he had placed a stand within eyesight of his and that from there he could keep an eye on me, and, if I could hold steady enough, and be patient enough, to get a good picture of a deer, I would then be allowed to hunt. His thinking was that if I could hold steady enough to get a good picture then I could contain the buck fever long enough to make a quality shot. This was actually the birth of my love of photography, especially wildlife photography.

On our first venture out to those twin stands I was more than a little anxious as we quietly and quickly made our way through the woods. Dad stood below whispering last minute advice as I climbed the steps and got situated, then he slid over to his stand and was in it before I could catch my breath. In those days you rarely saw a coyote in our part of Indiana. As a matter of fact, Dad said he had hunted 18 years in Indiana only seeing one in all that time. I bring this up because it wasn't 20 minutes before one trotted right under my stand as I clicked away on that old Nikon camera. He milled around for a few minutes trying to place that unfamiliar odor in the air before he finally wandered off. He may have been spooked away, not by me, but by the beautiful, perfectly matched 10 point buck that moseyed in right behind him! This guy came in and stood like he was posing for a photo shoot. Success. I got my picture. I was thinking this hunting thing was going to be a breeze! He never did wander over by Dad's stand, coming from the other side of me and then exiting away at an angle from both of us. The old man took what I believe was this same deer the next year and the mount proudly hangs on my wall since Dad's passing. Oh, to be eleven again...

I encourage anyone who has the time to take a kid under their wing and teach them the skills and ethics of a good hunter. It not only builds character, it builds memories.

As I sat down at my desk to write this column (under that old 10-pointer on the wall) I knew I wanted to touch on deer season. Thanks for indulging my little trip down memory lane. I also want to congratulate Phil Bloom on his recent retirement. Phil has been a pleasure to work with in my adventures with www.WildIndiana.com. I would like to speak for all of us in the Hoosier Outdoor Writers and congratulate you, Phil, on a job well done and wish you a very happy retirement.

Since I'm not hunting archery this season I'll have time for some smallies on the creek. Who's coming with me?

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

**No new members for this issue.
See Member News Section
starting on page 16.**

Memorial to Deceased HOW Members

Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

Jack Alkire – HOW President 1979
Bill Beeman – Executive Director
Don Bickel
Ed Blann
Charlie Brown
Gary Carden
Jim “Moose” Carden – HOW President 1982/83
George Carey
John Case
Bill Church – HOW President 1972
Jack “Big Jake” Cooper
Mark Cottingham
Jerry Criss
Gary “Dox” Doxtater
Dick Forbes
Tom Glancy – HOW President 1977
Dale Griffith
Fred Heckman
Jack Kerins
Mike Lyle – HOW President 1981
Ralph “Cork” McHargue – HOW President 1976
Dick Mercier
Bob Nesbit
Hellen Ochs
Jack Parry
Harry Renfro
“Bayou” Bill Scifres – HOW President – **6 Terms**
George Seketa
Hal Shymkus
Al Spiers
Robert “Doc” Stunkard
Butch Tackett
John Trout, Jr.
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
Josh Lantz	2012
Ben Shadley	2013
Bob Sawtelle	2014
Alan Garbers	2015
Ken McBroom	2016

HOW Conference Announcement

2018 HOW Conference Site, Conference Dates Chosen

We are pleased to announce that the 2018 HOW Conference will be held in south-central Indiana at **Spring Mill State Park** near the town of Mitchell.

The annual meeting will take place at the conference center at the Spring Mill Inn, and we have reserved a block of rooms at the inn for members who would like to stay overnight (reservations info will appear in the next issue). The conference will take place on the weekend of April 13-15, 2018, with the main meeting occurring on Saturday, April 14.

The date of this conference was selected very carefully to minimize conflicts with Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day and the start of turkey season, so hopefully most HOW members will be able to plan their schedules in advance and attend. Be sure to **SAVE THE DATE!**



The Spring Mill Inn will welcome HOW members next April at the start of our 2018 conference. Make your plans to attend now!

We chose Spring Mill State Park as the conference site this year as part of our ongoing effort to move the conference around the state and give our members a chance to experience parts of Indiana that they have not yet seen. Also, Spring Mill Inn is the only one of Indiana's state park inns which has not hosted a HOW Conference yet. Spring Mill State Park is a very beautiful park with plenty to see and do. Whether you enjoy fishing, hiking, biking, photography, nature watching or just about any other outdoor activity, Spring Mill is the place for you. History buffs will also find plenty of interesting things to discover at the park's pioneer village. HOW members should definitely head for Mitchell next spring and join the fun!

As usual, we will have plenty of interesting seminars and speakers at this conference. We will also announce the winners of our annual awards-in-craft contests and elect new officers.

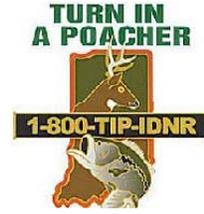
For everyone who has come to love the HOW Raffle over the past several years, we are planning to make it even bigger and better this year. It will be hard to top the quality and quantity of the last few years, but we will do our best! If you haven't attended a conference recently, come see what it's all about!

More details will be forthcoming in future editions of *The Blade*. Besides our annual Fun Shoot on Friday, April 13, we will have a Friday evening BBQ and we hope to have a fishing outing on Sunday, April 15. Whether you plan to attend the entire weekend or just the annual meeting on Saturday, the trip to Spring Mill State Park will definitely be worth it. **Don't miss the 2018 HOW conference!**

Save The Date!
Conference: April 13-15, 2018
Annual Meeting: April 14, 2018



Hoosier Outdoor Writers Turn in a Poacher/Polluter Writing Contest Official Contest Guidelines



Once again, the Turn in a Poacher/Polluter (TIP) Citizen's Advisory Board is sponsoring a \$300 writing contest (\$150 for first place; \$100 for second place; \$50 for third place) to encourage HOW members to promote the TIP mission, the hotline and support of the TIP Advisory Board.

Requirements are simple, and entering is easy! Article must be at least 400 words in length and must include:

1. Brief description of TIP (see below—does not have to be verbatim)
2. TIP Hotline (1-800-TIP-IDNR)
3. TIP membership/donation website (www.tip.wildindiana.com)
4. OPTIONAL: Indiana DNR TIP website (secure.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/2745.htm)

Although it is not required, preference will be given to stories that:

- Feature a "real-life story of TIP" or something similar.
- Are published in paid publications.

For leads and contacts on actual TIP story ideas, contact Captain Bill Browne, IN DNR Law Enforcement, at wbrowne@dnr.in.gov; 765-509-0207.

To enter, submit an electronic copy of an article published between **March 1, 2017** and **January 31, 2018**. We will supply the submission deadline and contact info towards the end of the year. The TIP Citizen's Advisory Board will review all entries and will select the entry that best promotes the mission of TIP and encourages citizens to get involved.

What is TIP?

Turn in a Poacher, Inc. (TIP) is a non-profit conservation organization that works hand-in-hand with Indiana DNR Law Enforcement to protect our fish and wildlife resources by increasing public support and involvement in bringing violators to justice.

A poacher is a thief who illegally steals wildlife that belongs to each Indiana citizen. Poachers rob licensed, ethical hunters and anglers from recreational opportunities they bought through license fees.

Citizens can help stop poachers in two ways:

- Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR if you see, hear or learn about a poacher or another fish and wildlife violation. If your "TIP" leads to an arrest, you may receive as much as a \$200 reward, and you can remain anonymous.
- Become an honorary member of the Turn in a Poacher Advisory Board (www.tip.wildindiana.com). Annual and lifetime memberships are available, and all proceeds from memberships go directly to assisting Indiana DNR Law Enforcement with catching poachers. (TIP hats and gear also available).

More information is available at www.secure.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/2745.htm.



Interesting Bird Sightings in the Great Outdoors

We have been asking HOW members to submit photos and reports about interesting or unusual birds that they have seen during their outdoor adventures. The sightings do not have to take place in Indiana; anywhere in the world is fair game. All photos on this page were submitted by those reporting.

We hope this page will not only interest bird enthusiasts, but all HOW members who enjoy spending time in the great outdoors (i.e. everybody). You may just learn something new, too!

Report from Tom Berg:

“While visiting Montana’s Glacier National Park last fall, my family and I did a lot of hiking,” said Berg. “We saw plenty of birds, but one of the most interesting was this small bird that was feeding along the edge of a cold mountain stream. Actually, he was feeding IN the stream. He was an **American dipper** (*Cinclus mexicanus*), and he was constantly diving off the shoreline rocks and disappearing underwater in his search for aquatic insect larvae like mayflies, dragonflies and mosquitoes.”



“The American dipper, like most dipper species, has an extra eyelid which is called the nictitating membrane. This membrane closes automatically when the bird’s head becomes submerged and it allows the bird to see clearly underwater.”

“Dippers are important because like many amphibian species, they are an indicator species for the health of western streams and rivers. They only live where fast-flowing streams are pollution-free and relatively silt-free.”

Another report from Tom Berg:

“Back in early May we had a new visitor to our back yard bird feeder in Dyer,” stated Berg. “It was a bright red bird, so at first glance my wife Lori and I thought it was an ordinary cardinal. But as soon as we looked a little closer we realized it was something different. After consulting our bird ID books, we identified it as a young male **summer tanager** (*Piranga rubra*).”

“This particular summer tanager must have been totally exhausted from his recent migration,” continued Berg, “because he sat at our sunflower seed feeder and ate seeds for hours at a time. He would eat for two or three hours straight, and then disappear for 20 or 30 minutes. But then he would be back, and sit there cracking sunflower seeds for the next couple of hours. This went on all day for several days. Finally, after two full weeks of resting and eating sunflower seeds, he disappeared for good, presumably to finish his spring migration.”



“Summer tanagers migrate north from Mexico, Central America and South America, so they are long-distance migrators. They also have an unusual diet, as some of their favorite foods are bees and wasps. Summer tanagers can catch bees, hornets and wasps in mid-flight, and then kill them by banging them against a tree branch. They also eat other insects, small fruits, and apparently – sunflower seeds.”

Two HOW Members Honored with Induction Into Separate Fishing Hall of Fame Organizations

Two long-time HOW members, Louie Stout and Mike Schoonveld, have recently been inducted into two different nationally-recognized fishing hall of fame organizations. Louie Stout is now a member of the

Bass Fishing Hall of Fame which is based in Springfield, MO and Captain Mike Schoonveld has been inducted into the **Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame** headquartered in Hayward, WI.

Read on to find out more about their honors.



Louie Stout Inducted into the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame

by John Martino

I have always reveled in the outdoor success of family, friends and even those I don't know. Maybe it was a child's first bluegill, a young lady's first deer or a seasoned hunter's trophy buck. Through the years I have used my column to recognize outdoor achievements. So it was especially pleasing when I learned that Kokomo native and lifelong friend Louie Stout will be forever enshrined in the **Bass Fishing Hall of Fame**. "Achieving something like this is very humbling," Stout said modestly, "not to mention overwhelming."

Growing up in Kokomo's north end, Stout always possessed a strong penchant for the outdoors. At the young age of 19 he was one of the original members of the Kokomo Bass Anglers fishing club. Even stronger was his passion for sharing those exploits with others. I can remember as a child listening in awe as he would tell others about his fishing trips to local rivers and streams. To date, he has achieved what others can only dream of, even eclipsing a torpedo size smallmouth bass dancing at the end of a taught line. For over five decades he has put pen to paper, or should I now say fingers to keyboard.

Stout, now age 67, began his writing career as a junior at Kokomo High School when he started with the Kokomo Tribune. He spent the next 17 years as a fulltime newspaper reporter covering outdoor topics. Since then his writings



HOW member and now Bass Fishing Hall of Fame member Louie Stout lifts a very nice pair of smallmouth bass from a successful autumn outing on the water. Photo courtesy of Louie Stout.

(continued next page)

have also appeared in the South Bend Tribune, Goshen News and Michigan City News Dispatch. His work also appeared in Outdoor Life, Field and Stream and Sports Afield. Adding to his credits are three successful books he authored with seven-time bass fishing Angler-of-the-Year and friend Kevin Van Dam. He sold his first article to Bassmaster Magazine, the bible of bass fishing, in 1980. Since 1987 he has been a freelance outdoor writer, specializing in bass fishing, covering every Bassmaster Classic since 1979.

The Kokomo native covers each event or topic with professionalism, respect and class, something that has not gone unnoticed. In 2005 he was inducted into the **National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame** receiving “Legendary Journalist” status. In 2013 he was awarded the coveted **Homer Circle Fishing Communicator Award**. He continues his senior writer status for Bassmaster Magazine as well as several newspapers.

Even though newspaper ink flows through his veins, the Indiana native and current Michigan resident created Michiana Outdoors News website as a hotspot for sportsmen to get up-to-date regional news and a place to learn more about their favorite pastimes. This website reaches across southern Michigan and northern Indiana (hence the name Michiana), covering fishing and hunting topics, regulation changes, record-breaking fish catches, big game kills and other outdoors topics that impact sportsmen living within that region. He uses his wealth of contacts and intimate knowledge to also monitor regulation changes and controversial topics that develop within the Indiana and Michigan DNR.

While all 62 current members of the Bass Fishing Hall of Fame have their own special place where others can honor their achievements, this year’s class of inductees are being afforded a special benefit. The four other new members joining Stout are Wade Bourne, Shaw Grigsby, Bob Sealy and Morris Sheehan. The group will be enshrined at the Hall’s new permanent home within Bass Pro Shop founder Johnny Morris’ Wonders of Wildlife Museum and Aquarium in Springfield, MO.

To say there are many in his hometown who hold him with the utmost respect, this outdoor scribe included, is an understatement. While scores have starved trying, Stout is one of a select few from across the United States who has made a full-time career as a freelance writer, an extremely challenging task for which he has mastered.

One thing I have always admired about my longtime friend, he has always remained easily approachable. He has graciously served as a mentor for many anglers and budding journalists, me included. When reminded of this he was quick to point out “I will never take credit for anyone’s success,” he added emphatically. “The only thing I have tried to do is make myself available for anyone seeking advice.”

Who would have ever guessed a young boy who loved to fish from Kokomo’s north end would achieve every conceivable national honor bestowed to any outdoor journalist. It’s only fitting the spotlight should shine long and bright on our native son. The national recognition of his long and storied writing career is not only well deserved, but hard earned. Congratulations, Louie!

Mike Schoonveld Inducted into the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame

by Tom Berg

I have known Hoosier Outdoor Writers’ past president and current board of directors member Mike Schoonveld for nearly 30 years. We fished together a few times in 1990 and became good friends. After several fishing trips I became one of his regular Lake Michigan fishing partners during the early 1990’s. Since then we have fished together hundreds of times throughout the country. So I was especially happy when the **Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame** recently announced its latest class of inductees. Included in this elite group is Captain Mike Schoonveld.

The Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame is the international headquarters for education, recognition and promotion of fresh water sportfishing. Based in Hayward, WI in its famous four-story tall musky-shaped museum, the FWFHOF

(continued next page)

annually selects for enshrinement persons, organizations and institutions who have made significant and lasting contributions to the sport and heritage of fresh water fishing.

Schoonveld, who has lived most of his life in rural northwest Indiana, is a life-long fisherman. In his younger years, nothing was as important to him as fishing and the outdoors, so he attended Purdue University to study Wildlife Science. This led to a 38-year career with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Most of his time at the DNR was spent at Willow Slough Fish & Wildlife Area in northwest Indiana, where he fished, hunted, trapped - and educated thousands of people on how to do the same. He had direct contact with the public there, providing information and advice every single day.

Probably nothing captured Schoonveld's love of fishing more than the introduction of salmon, steelhead and other trout into the Great Lakes. The bio on his blog-site (www.brothernature.info) reads, "I started fishing for Lake Michigan salmon in 1969 and finally caught one in 1972." He's caught many more since then, launching his first Lake Michigan boat in 1979, becoming a U.S. Coast Guard licensed captain in 1997, then starting a successful charter fishing business in 1998 which he still operates.

He has helped thousands of anglers of all ages experience the thrill of catching salmon and trout on his charterboat, and he has volunteered his services many times over the years to take groups of Boy Scouts and disabled children fishing on Lake Michigan for different events. Many of these kids had never even been on a boat before, let alone on a big lake like Lake Michigan. I helped him with many of these trips, so I saw first-hand the joy and amazement on the kids' faces.

Most inductees into the Hall of Fame have proven excellence in one facet of fishing. For instance, Curt Gowdy and Virgil Ward were pioneer TV fishermen. Hall of Famer Roland Martin is one of the most successful professional bass fishermen, ever. The Hall has inducted legendary fishing guides, noted fisheries biologists, fishing tackle innovators and others. Schoonveld drew the attention of the induction committee in numerous categories.

Already mentioned was his career as a biologist with the Indiana DNR and his nearly 20-year career as a fishing captain/guide on Lake Michigan. In 1986, Schoonveld started a career as an outdoor journalist. Since then, his by-line has appeared in more than 40 different state, regional and national publications. He's been on the editorial staff of several magazines and still pens regular columns and feature stories for a variety of print publications and on-line media outlets. He has written thousands of fishing articles which have reached millions of fishermen, young and old. His stories have undoubtedly influenced and inspired many young fishermen.

Besides Schoonveld's long association with HOW, he's also a past-president and current board of directors member of the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers (AGLOW), sits on the board of directors of the National Association of Charterboat Operators (NACO) and on the board of supervisors of the Newton County (Indiana) Soil and Water Conservation District.

Please join me in congratulating Mike Schoonveld on receiving this great honor.



HOW member and now Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame member Mike Schoonveld lifts a nice coho salmon that he caught from Lake Michigan. Photo by Tom Berg.

J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge Is a Mecca for Birders and Conservationists

by Tom Berg

On my last trip to Florida I had the good fortune to make a stop at the J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) on Sanibel Island. This 6,300 acre wetland nature preserve is home to more than 200 species of birds, so it attracts birders from all over the world. It is also home to an incredible variety of other wildlife species, including Florida manatees, American alligators, American crocodiles, bobcats, coyotes, raccoons, river otters, marsh rabbits, armadillos, opossums, many species of lizards, snakes and frogs, and several species of turtles. Many of the animal species living here are federally protected.

The Ding Darling NWR is located just over the Sanibel Causeway Bridge from nearby Cape Coral and Fort Myers, so it receives a lot of visitors. Luckily, the property is set up so that people can view the birds and other wildlife while remaining at a safe distance (both for the visitors and the wildlife).

There is a scenic four-mile driving loop which visitors may experience in their own cars, or they may opt for a guided tram ride with other visitors. My wife and I took the tram ride, and we were glad that we did. Our tour guide was an extremely knowledgeable naturalist who was quick to point out different species of birds, crabs, and even snakes. At one point everyone got out of the tram to get a better look at some pelicans across the bay, and our guide excitedly called to us to come over near the front of the tram to see a black racer snake moving through the branches of a mangrove tree along the trail. We never would have seen it on our own!

Guided kayak and canoe tours are also available, and they allow a better “up close and personal” view of the mangrove wetlands and the birds that live and hunt there. As we got ready to get back into the tram on our tour, an adult osprey suddenly flew overhead with a large saltwater catfish in its talons! It was exciting to see – too bad he disappeared before I could get my camera ready for a photo.



A northern mockingbird looks very intent as it hunts for insects on a palm. Tom Berg photo.



A sandwich tern dives for shallow water fish. Photo by Tom Berg.

We also saw plenty of other birds, including yellow-crowned night herons, anhingas, cormorants, magnificent frigatebirds, great blue herons, snowy egrets, green herons, mottled ducks and belted kingfishers, just to name a few.

Although Ding Darling has a great variety of resident birds all year long, it is particularly well-known for its migratory bird populations. Many migrating birds stop here on their way to and from their southern migratory homes in Cuba, Central America and South America. During the annual bird migrations, huge numbers and varieties of birds pass through the refuge. Some stay for a short while to rest and feed while others stop and are quickly gone again.

The J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge is a great destination for vacationers and other visitors. After viewing the birds and other wildlife outside, you can visit their Education Center to cool off and check out the interesting exhibits inside. There are also knowledgeable naturalists inside who can answer any questions you may have.

Ding Darling NWR is located at 1 Wildlife Drive, Sanibel, FL 33957. Their phone number is 239-472-1100. For more information about Ding Darling or

Sanibel Island, visit www.FortMyersSanibel.com.

DNR News

Division of Fish & Wildlife

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748

For immediate release: Aug. 10, 2017

State-Endangered Trumpeter Swans Reproduce in Northern Indiana

A pair of endangered trumpeter swans have successfully hatched an offspring in Indiana for the first time since modern birdwatching records have been kept. The swan family is in northeastern Indiana's Steuben County.

Before 2017, sightings of trumpeter swan families in Indiana had been limited to winter, with the birds breeding in other states.

Trumpeter swans have been successfully reintroduced in Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin, and in Ontario, Canada. With breeding birds in nearby states, the natural range expansion back into Indiana was expected, according to Adam Phelps, waterfowl biologist with the DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife.

"It's a great success story that we have habitat that trumpeter swans need to breed," Phelps said. "With any luck, this pair will return next year to successfully hatch more cygnets (young swans)."

Trumpeter swans lay an average of four or five eggs per clutch. The existence of only one cygnet may indicate that predators ate other eggs or other cygnets. "It may also be that this female only successfully hatched one egg this year," Phelps said.

Trumpeter swans tend to return to their territories each year, and females tend to return to the site where they were hatched. Trumpeter swans are one of two native swan species in North America. The other is the tundra swan.

The exotic and destructive mute swan is also present in Indiana. Trumpeter and tundra swans can be distinguished from mute swans because they have a mostly black or all-black bill, whereas adult mute swans have a bright orange bill. Also, mute swans have a large black knob at the base of the bill that native swans lack.

However, juvenile swans are more difficult to identify, because the orange coloration and black knob on the bill have not yet developed. By fall, juvenile mute swans have much lighter-colored bills than trumpeters of the same age.

Media contact: Adam Phelps, waterfowl biologist, DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife, phone: 812-334-1137, email: aphelps@dnr.IN.gov.

DNR News

Division of Fish & Wildlife

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
402 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748

For immediate release: Sept. 29, 2017

Hiking Trail Opens at Stoutsburg Savanna NP

A new trail awaits hikers in northwest Indiana, one that explores a globally rare habitat called sand savanna.

The 1.5-mile long Dune and Prairie Trail at Stoutsburg Savanna Nature Preserve officially opened to the public this month. Stoutsburg Savanna is a 440-acre property near Wheatfield, in Jasper County, owned and managed by the DNR Division of Nature Preserves.

Stoutsburg NP is an example of high-quality sand savanna, a habitat once common in the Great Lakes and Kankakee region, but now rare due to land development. Sand savannas occur on extensive areas of sand deposits. They are notable for widely spaced oak trees with prairie grasses and plants growing beneath, giving them a park-like appearance.

The trail also passes through restored prairies, oak savannas, and sand dunes deposited by wind at the close of the Ice Age.

Funding partners in the acquisition of Stoutsburg included The Nature Conservancy, Shirley Heinze Land Trust and the Bicentennial Nature Trust.

The development of a trail at Stoutsburg NP is one way the DNR Division of Nature Preserves is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The Indiana Legislature passed the Nature Preserves Act in 1967, creating the division. The division preserves areas of unusual natural significance for the benefit of present and future generations.

There are nature preserves in 70 of Indiana's 92 counties. There are 281 dedicated nature preserves in the state, protecting more than 52,000 acres. A dedicated nature preserve has the highest level of protection of any land in Indiana.

Ecologists with the DNR Division of Nature Preserves will manage the Stoutsburg habitat with prescribed fire.

To view all DNR news releases, please see www.dnr.IN.gov.

Media contact: Tom Swinford, assistant director, DNR Division of Nature Preserves, phone: 317-233-4849, email: tswinford@dnr.IN.gov.

HOW Membership Changes Allow Bloggers, Podcasters and Other Online Media Specialists

We are reprinting this notice from the last issue to draw more attention to it:

At a recent HOW Board of Directors meeting, the Executive Committee and Board of Directors voted on a proposed amendment to the HOW bylaws concerning Active membership requirements. The amendment would allow bloggers, podcasters and other online media specialists to become Active HOW members. The vote was unanimous in favor of accepting the proposed change. Active membership will now include those who are paid to publish electronic/online content. The amendment required that Article IV 1.a.ii. of the bylaws be changed to have two new line-items inserted. See below.

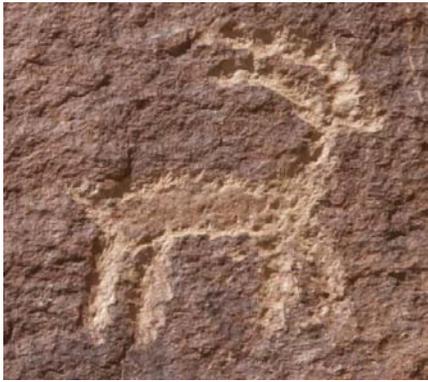
Here is the new language for internet/online requirements under Article IV 1.a. (changes in yellow):

a. **ACTIVE** members are those regularly engaged in the paid dissemination of outdoor-oriented information via newspapers, radio, television, internet/online, magazines, trade journals, books, photographs, art, lectures, or other fitting media. The legal adviser for the association shall be an active member without meeting the basic guidelines. Except as otherwise provided, to qualify for active membership, applicants and members must meet the following basic criteria:

- i. Radio and Television: One hundred twenty (120) minutes of broadcast time per year as the director, producer or host of the production;
- ii. All others:
 1. Publish twenty (20) newspaper articles or published photos per year;
 2. Publish twenty (20) online articles, blogs, vlogs or podcasts per year;
 3. Work as a full-time, paid editorial employee of an established web site or blog;
 4. Publish two (2) national or four (4) regional magazine articles per year;
 5. Publish four (4) specialty journal articles per year;
 6. Publish one (1) book per year;
 7. Present ten (10) lectures per year;
 8. Produce twenty (20) bona fide news releases per year; or
 9. Any combination of membership criteria which, in their sole discretion, the membership credentials committee deems one to qualify for active membership.

This is an important step for HOW as we moved forward in the digital age. As HOW President Don Cranfill said in his President's Report in the last issue of *The Blade*, "We are all very aware how much our field has changed in a generation's time. By aligning our membership requirements with that of other professional outdoor writing groups, we can be more inclusive of today's writers. We all know this serves one very important need, the recruitment of new members to ensure HOW's future."

Now every HOW member should think about their friends and acquaintances who write blogs and create content for the web (written/audio/video). Do they cover outdoors topics? Maybe they would be a good fit for HOW. There are many fishing and hunting bloggers, camping and backpacking bloggers – you name it, they are already out there creating content. Many of them are paid for their work, many are not. Each one could become a HOW member, either as an Active member or as an Associate member. Sometimes all it takes is for them to be asked. Once you describe HOW – who we are and what we do, they might be eager to join. Give it a try. As an added incentive, all HOW members who sponsor a new member will get their own membership dues waived the following year!



Exploring Colorado's Ancient Artwork

by Alan Garbers

Our trip to the Canyon Pintado National Historic District was a pleasant surprise. Dianna and I were doing a day trip north from the Grand Junction area, as we had heard the region was some of the best hunting in the state of Colorado. From Loma, an agricultural community on the Colorado River, we headed north on Highway 139 not really knowing what to expect.

The land quickly rose in elevation and we went from barren high desert to aspens and spruce at the top of Douglas Pass. From there the road dropped down slowly through ranch country until we were back into arid pinyon and juniper country.

As we followed the narrow valley towards the small town of Rangely, we started seeing BLM signs along the road. Curiosity got the better of us and we stopped to investigate what was so important to garner signs in the middle of nowhere. We were surprised to find that the area is rich in prehistoric rock art. Much of it was just a few yards off the highway. The BLM had installed parking areas and signage to direct visitors to where the artwork could be found.

Much of the artwork was made by what anthropologists call the Fremont Indians, who were loosely associated with the Anasazi that resided farther south in the Four Corners area. Some of the artwork was made by the Utes that resided in the area from around 1300 AD to the late 1800s.

In 1776 Spanish explorers, Dominguez and Escalante, passed through the canyon, searching for a route from Santa Fe, New Mexico to Monterey, California. On September 9, 1776 they noted the rock art in their journal and gave the canyon its name, Canyon Pintado, or Painted Canyon.

Anyone that knows me, knows that this is something I couldn't pass by without seeing for myself, and our leisurely road trip turned into a road rally. It didn't take long to realize that one day wasn't enough time to see all the sites.



Above: Ranch country. **Above left:** Bighorn sheep pecking. **Below:** More native American artwork. Photos by Alan Garbers.



We stopped in the hunting/ranching/oil field town of Rangely for lunch and a cell phone connection. While we were eating, I was able to download a guide to many of the sites so we could be more selective. As we headed back south we stopped at what sounded like the more interesting sites, hoping to see two in particular.

The first is a horse that was etched into the rock with enough detail that the brand on the horse was identified to a cavalry unit assigned to General Crook. The second was a panel covered with bighorn sheep peckings. While we didn't have time to locate either, we did see many wonderful panels of art from long ago.

One of particular interest didn't get a mention in any of the guides, yet it looked familiar. As a collector of Hopi Katsina dolls, I recognized a figure I had seen before. When I presented an image of it to my Hopi friends, they agreed. It is of Katsin Mana. Keep in mind that it is 430 rugged miles from the rock panel to the Hopi Mesas. I would say that the "Fremont" Indians were more closely associated to the Anasazi than they are given credit for.



While we didn't find all of the rock art we wanted to see, it was still a very interesting trip, and definitely someplace we want to explore more. If you plan on seeing the rock art for yourself, here is a link to a comprehensive guide that I wished we had during the visit: <http://siterepository.s3.amazonaws.com/00198200911171206553715.pdf>

HOW Member News

Troy McCormick Goes Digital With Cell Phone Trailcam App

HOW Vice-President Troy McCormick has recently become a little more high-tech than some of us (or most of us). He loves deer hunting and wanted to keep tabs on deer movements on his hunting grounds. Here is what he reported recently:

“I bought a cell phone trail camera this year and it texts me a photo whenever something walks past the camera. I jump every time my phone chimes, especially after seeing the deer in this photo!”

“I feel like a teenager grabbing my phone all the time to look at the incoming photos!”

We don't blame you, Troy. As a matter of fact, some of your fellow HOW members may be asking you about that app!



Mike Berg Catches Colorful Darters At NANFA Convention in Missouri

HOW member Mike Berg is always on the lookout for new fish species to catch and add to his Life List. So he makes a point of attending the annual NANFA (North American Native Fishes Association) conferences whenever he gets the opportunity. This year the conference was held in June at Meramec State Park near Sullivan, MO.



Berg brought his micro-fishing gear and caught several species of fish, including smallmouth bass, Ozark sculpin, northern hogsucker, Ozark shiner, plains topminnow, longear sunfish, golden redhorse, black redhorse and creek chubsucker.

However, the two most interesting fish for Berg were two new species for his Life List: Meramec saddled darters (**above left**) and Missouri saddled darters (**shown at right**). After adding these new species to his list and a few others later this summer, he just surpassed the 400-species mark. Quite an accomplishment, Mike!



Bob Sawtelle Revels in the Pursuit of Salmon Royalty

HOW past-president Bob Sawtelle from Corydon loves fly fishing, and casting flies for fall salmon in the streams is one of his favorite things to do. Here is the story from his most recent adventure:

“We are not the Paparazzi armed with cameras and zoom lenses,” said Sawtelle. “Instead, we are fly fishers armed with 8 wt. fly rods and flies in pursuit of the king of salmon: chinook salmon. The Pierre Marquette River (PM) of Baldwin, Michigan is our annual late September destination. A seven hour drive from Corydon, Indiana and only a three hour drive from the Michigan border. This is described as Alaskan fishing without the grizzly bears and it is within a day’s drive from anywhere in Indiana.”

“The social media continued blitz of the poor king salmon forecasted run of last year, the projected sharp decline for 2017 and future years has resulted in a dramatic reduction of anglers wading and floating the river. Less fish yes, but also less fisherman. My partner and I wade fish the nights for these beasts, and this year we had our fishing spots to ourselves. At 2:00 am with only moonlight illuminating the river’s dark waters and with salmon erupting through the current, it becomes a true wilderness-like experience.”

“During the day we rent canoes from Baldwin Canoes; \$50 will get you a canoe for two and a shuttle service for your vehicle to the take out point. The PM has current and good flow so you must pay attention, but it’s not an overly aggressive river. There are ample places to step out of the canoe and wade fish the deeper holes and runs. The salmon seemed more wary and difficult to hook during the day, but the river’s brown trout were rising to the surface throughout our float.”

“We stayed at the BB&T Motel, a perfect single hotel room for an angler. We also hired a guide out of the Baldwin Bait and Tackle (BB&T) shop. This year we got one of the shop owners, Steve R. Fraley, as our drift boat guide, fishing instructor and mentor. His easy personality and no-pressure approach makes learning pleasant and effective. A master at the oars and his years of experience on this river puts you on the kings - BIG KINGS!”

“We hooked up many times, but these aquatic monsters own the river. I was fortunate to have landed my 42” king salmon due to good luck, play-by-play instruction and a skilled net handled by our guide. What a fish fight and what a grand day!”



A Michigan king salmon measuring 42” – Sawtelle’s largest salmon ever! All fish caught on this trip were released since the PM supports natural reproduction for salmon. Photo courtesy of Bob Sawtelle (shown at right).

“The king salmon run remains an active fishery but also remember the PM also offers year around brown trout and seasonal steelhead fishing. The 2017 cost for a full day guided trip was \$395, plus our tip to the guide. Our boat lunch consisted of grilled steak, Louisiana red beans and rice, fresh broccoli and rich chocolate brownies for dessert.”

“Talk to the folks at Baldwin Bait and Tackle (231-745-4770). Steve, John, Jake and their entire staff are free with good advice and information. The Baldwin Canoe Livery (231-745-4669) is exceptionally friendly; Troy provides top-notch service with a smile.”

Bill Keaton is a Friend to Local Pileated Woodpeckers

HOW member Bill Keaton from Arlington, IN and his wife Rita love watching and feeding birds in the back yard. “I have been feeding birds of all kinds in the same location for 41 years,” stated Keaton. “I built my home along Little Blue River in Rush County (not to be confused with Blue River in Harrison County or Little Blue River in Perry County). We are surrounded by mature Ash, Sycamore, Walnut, and Oak trees. This is perfect habitat for the pileated woodpecker.”

“The pileated woodpecker is the second largest woodpecker in North America and the fourth largest in the world. In North America, only the critically-endangered ivory billed woodpecker is larger, and many experts believe it is extinct. By comparison, the pileated woodpecker is the size of a crow.”

“We have an abundance of birds of all kinds coming to our feeders. To give you an idea of how many birds we feed, we go through 40 pounds of sunflower seed and 16 suet cakes in a week!”

“When I first started feeding birds in 1976, I saw pileated woodpeckers at a distance, but they were very shy and retreated any time they saw me. As time went on, one would occasionally venture to a suet feeder, but the typical store-bought feeder was too small for them. To entice the pileateds to come where I could watch them better, I decided to make a feeder that was better-suited for them. I cut a small cedar tree and removed all the limbs. I bored 16 one-inch holes near one end and set the cedar post in the ground. Then I filled the holes with a homemade mixture of lard, peanut butter and cracked corn. The hairy woodpeckers and downy woodpeckers found the new feeder immediately and flocked to it. The vertical feeder gave them a natural feeding platform which they loved. It didn’t take long for a pileated woodpecker to find and use this feeder, too.”

“Over the years, the pileateds came more and more often until they were there off and on all day. A few years ago, the adult pileateds began bringing their fledglings to the post feeder to feed them and teach them how to use the feeder. It is now a regular annual occurrence. Because starlings became a nuisance at my first post feeder, I built several large upside-down suet feeders that are big enough for pileated woodpeckers but the starlings are unable to use them.”

“Although the pileated woodpeckers are by no means tame like many of the other birds we feed, they now provide daily joy and entertainment by showing up at our feeders.”



Membership Changes and New Contact Info

The following HOW member has updated contact information. Please make a note of it:

Phil Bloom: New email address: philbloom.OWAA@frontier.com, new cell: 260-804-6829.

If your email address, phone number or other contact info changes, please notify HOW Executive Director Tom Berg at thomas.berg@comcast.net or by mail at 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311.

Schoonveld Scores “Fishing Firsts” at AGLOW

“It was the most unbelievable gob of bait I’ve ever used,” said Captain Mike Schoonveld about the gob of nightcrawlers and dead rainbow shiners pinned to the circle hook. He was on a lake sturgeon fishing trip while at the Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers (AGLOW) annual conference at Lake of the Woods, near Baudette, Minnesota.

He used the almost tennis-ball-sized gobs to score two angling career “firsts.”

The first “first” was hooking and boating a 48-inch lake sturgeon in the Rainy River, just across from the conference’s host facility, Sportsman’s Lodge. “I’d caught a small lake sturgeon a few years ago at the AGLOW conference at Niagara Falls,” Schoonveld said. “But that one was an accidental catch



while we were fishing for salmon in the Devil’s Hole below the falls. It was small and only weighed five or six pounds.”

“I signed up for the sturgeon outing to see if I could hook a sturgeon on purpose and get one with some girth to it,” he continued.

It worked. He stuck the first sturgeon (of three caught on the trip) and at 48 inches (measured) and an estimated weight well over 30 pounds, Schoonveld said it was his largest ever freshwater fish.

Schoonveld attributed his second “first” to the large bait, as well.

“We were pestered by small fish nibbling on our bait and stealing the shiners all afternoon,” Schoonveld said. “I eventually caught one of the bait stealers, a small sauger. I’ve fished in places with saugers in the past, but I never specifically tried to catch one and hadn’t ever hooked into one. I still haven’t fished specifically for them, so that little guy was my first.”

The rest of the story is better. “I owe the catch to the large bait,” Schoonveld said. “Somehow, the sauger managed to inhale the entire bait gob and with a mouth rimmed with somewhat inward facing sharp teeth, it couldn’t spit it out as I reeled it up to the boat. The hook wasn’t even stuck in the fish!”

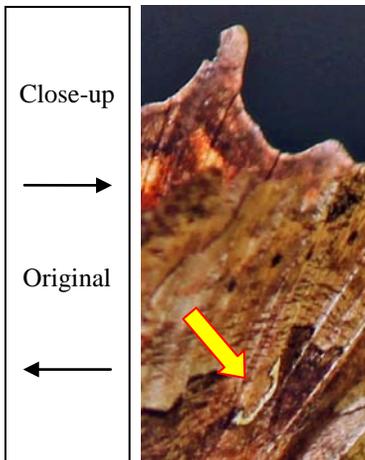
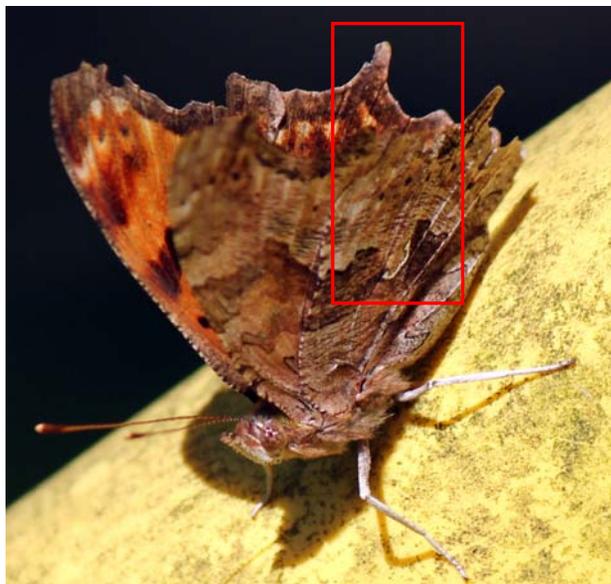
“I caught a sturgeon by accident, so I had to go catch one on purpose,” Schoonveld said. “Now, I’ve accidentally caught a sauger so I guess I’ll have to take a trip specifically to catch one of those. I know how to do it. Get a big circle hook and gob on two or three nightcrawlers....”



Unusual Nature Photos from the Hoosier Outdoors

Sponsored by W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery

The Eastern Comma Butterfly is a “Brushfoot” Butterfly



The “What is it?” photo from the last issue was fairly difficult, since only four (4) HOW members were able to identify it. John Maxwell, Troy McCormick, Doug Sikora and Scott Weaver each had the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the hunting apparel donated by **Mossy Oak**, John Maxwell was the winner. Congrats!

As you can see in the photo at left, the mystery creature for this issue was an eastern comma butterfly (*Polygonia comma*).

These small butterflies are usually found in wooded areas where water is nearby. Eastern commas are “brushfoot” butterflies, which means they have smaller forelegs which are often hairy and resemble brushes.



Comma butterflies get their name from the characteristic “comma” shaped marking in silver or gold on the underside of the hind wings. You can see the comma mark in the photo above where the yellow arrow is pointing to it. The comma butterfly looks very similar to the question mark butterfly (*Polygonia interrogationis*), but instead of a silver comma the question mark has (as the name implies) a silver “question mark” shaped marking.

For this issue, our friends at **W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery** have donated a great prize for the HOW member that guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. This time the prize is a beautiful fixed-blade hunting knife. See below for more information on the prize.



Another Nature Photo “What Is It?” Question

Tom Berg has posed another Nature Photo mystery. The photo shown at right is a close-up of part of a creature that can be found right here in Indiana. You probably won’t see it in your own back yard, and it is likely to be found only in the northern parts of the state. Have you ever seen this color pattern?

This creature may be slightly easier to identify than usual, but we’ll see. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? As usual, you must identify the exact species. If you think it’s a species of duck, for example, go ahead and guess “wood duck”. Of course, it’s not a wood duck, but if you think you know what it is, send the answer via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you’ll be eligible for this issue’s prize.



As mentioned above, **W.R. Case** has donated an awesome hunting knife as a prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. The winner will receive a fixed-blade Case Buffalo Horn Hunter knife (#17915), along with a leather sheath (see www.wrcase.com). 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 guessing! All nature photos on this page by Tom Berg.



The Blade

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.

Fisknat Landing Nets Offer Beauty and Function

Tacoma, WA: Fisknat Landing Nets was established in 2001, and is owned and operated by Tacoma native Bob Nelson. Bob has always loved fishing and woodworking, so he combined these two loves and started Fisknat Landing Nets. Since Bob has a Swedish ancestry, the name Fisknat was a natural for him. Fisknat is Swedish for “fishing net” (fisk = fish and nat = net).

Fisknat nets are hand-made with the finest hardwoods. The beautiful wood handles are laminated by hand with a variety of wood and color choices. Custom combinations of walnut, ash, purple heart, bubinga, padouk and zebra wood are used to make the distinctive net handles.

Fisknat was the first company to produce a wood-framed landing net with a mesh rubber bag. Quite a few years ago Bob started making nets with a mesh rubber bag for his flyfishing guide friends, and they have really taken off. Now the nets come with a special lightweight mesh rubber bag which weighs only a few ounces. These bags are extremely lightweight, durable and very fish-friendly.

HOW past-president Bob Sawtelle was the proud winner of a Fisknat net at the 2017 HOW Conference, and here’s what he had to say about them:

“I have at least a dozen fishing nets hanging on the exterior wall of my boatshed,” said Sawtelle. “I have many choices, but my overall favorite is my new Fisknat hand-made and hand-crafted wooden hoop and handle net. I was so fortunate to win this net at the HOW Raffle during the annual meeting.”



“With a total length of 31 inches and a width of 14 inches, my Fisknat net is small enough to fit comfortably into my 13-foot Old Town Canoe and large enough to scoop fish into my 18-foot Grizzly Jon Boat. It is also a very handy net to have in my driftboat.”

“This net successfully brings 20-inch smallmouth bass from Indiana’s Blue River to the canoe and 20-inch trout from the Cumberland River in Kentucky to the boat (see photo at left). The net is fish-sensitive and snag-free from dangling hooks. The large hoop makes a nice cradle for recovering fish at boat-side, and once revived they swim freely away from the net.”

“Even better yet, the Fisknat net truly is a piece of hand-crafted beauty and function. I take it with me on every guided freshwater fly-fishing river trip I provide, and every float I personally enjoy. Other flyfishers need to know about Fisknat, too, so I plan to take this net to every fishing club presentation I give. This net has every attribute I need and desire. I know other anglers will agree. It is my favorite!”

All Fisknat nets are proudly hand-made in America by Bob Nelson. HOW members may contact him by email: fisknats@aol.com or by phone: 253-538-1084. Check out the complete line of hand-crafted Fisknat landing nets at www.fisknat.com.

HOW Supporting Member News

Toyota Indiana Celebrates 5 Million Success Stories



Princeton, IN (Sept. 20, 2017): When long-time Toyota team members Sandra and Andres Chaparro saw the first vehicle roll off the line in 1998, they felt a sense of pride and accomplishment knowing they'd had a hand building it. Little did they know; their hands would be busy building 4,999,999 more vehicles over the next 20 years.

“It really seems like yesterday we opened the plant and started our journey with Toyota,” the Chaparros said. “After 20 years – and 5 million vehicles – Toyota has really become our second family. Having a reliable career with a company that cares about us as team members and offers opportunity for growth has been so important to us both and to our family. We’re so proud to have been a part of these five million cars and all of TMMI’s (Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana) successes.”



There’s no question, the 5-millionth vehicle – a Toyota Sequoia Platinum – is a direct result of the plant’s world-class workforce. Growing to more than 5,300 team members over the past 21 years, Toyota Indiana is driving into the future with a strong presence in the industry and in its local communities with a total plant investment of \$4.3 billion and new growth on the horizon.

“This milestone is a great testament to the men and women at Toyota Indiana,” said plant president Millie Marshall. “Our team members have met every challenge and continue to build incredible vehicles for our customers in a safe and efficient way.”

With five million vehicles in its repertoire, there has to be a secret of success, right? Aside from its

dedication to quality, safety and a solid commitment to its team members, Toyota Indiana also attributes its success to the support from various community partners and elected officials.

“For more than 20 years, we’ve watched Toyota grow in Indiana – providing good jobs for Hoosiers, training future leaders, and giving back to the community,” Gov. Eric J. Holcomb said. “Today we celebrate the company’s continued success, commitment to our state, and the five millionth vehicle produced by Hoosiers. We look forward to witnessing Toyota’s next milestone here in Indiana.”

And while building vehicles is the lifeblood for the plant, building partnerships in its communities is just as important. To commemorate the many years of success, Toyota Indiana awarded five local nonprofits with a surprise donation of \$15,000 each, promoting initiatives ranging from workforce development to youth safety, and several STEM education programs, all of which will help further the plant’s mission to build more than great cars.



For more information, HOW members may contact Curt McAllister at Toyota via email at curt_mcallister@toyota.com. Please check out the Toyota website, too: www.toyotanewsroom.com.

About Toyota: Toyota has been a part of the cultural fabric in the US and North America for 60 years, and is committed to advancing sustainable, next-generation mobility through our Toyota and Lexus brands. During that time, Toyota has created a tremendous value chain as our teams have contributed to world-class design, engineering, and assembly of more than 33 million cars and trucks in North America, where we operate 14 manufacturing plants (10 in the US) and directly employ more than 46,000 people (more than 36,000 in the US). Our 1,800 North American dealerships sold almost 2.7 million cars and trucks in 2016 – and about 85 percent of all Toyota vehicles sold over the past 15 years are still on the road today.

HOW Supporting Member News

Obsession Bows Now Offering Mossy Oak® Original Bottomland™

Introductory Special with Bonus Matching Accessories Available Through 10/31/17

Jeffersonville, GA: (September 18, 2017) Obsession Bows, the 2014 and 2016 Outdoor Life Editor's Choice winner and 2017 Field & Stream Hunting Gear of the Year bow maker, is excited to announce the first-ever availability of Mossy Oak's popular Original Bottomland pattern on an archery bow.

"This is a great looking pattern on a bow and we've put together something really special for dealers," says Jonathan Lené, VP Sales for Arcus Hunting LLC. "A discounted price for our popular hunting models plus a bonus matching quiver and stabilizer make this an attractive offering this fall." The introductory special runs



through October 31, 2017 and includes the Hemorrhage, DefCon M6Z, Defcon M7Z, Turmoil and Huntress. Every bow includes a bonus Trophy Taker quiver and stabilizer in matching Mossy Oak Original Bottomland, representing a \$185 value. Backed by Obsession's outstanding service commitment, orders will ship within 72 business hours.

"We were surprised to learn this pattern has never been featured on a bow and the team at Mossy Oak has been great to work with as we sought to make it happen," said Chip Hunnicutt, Director of Marketing for Arcus Hunting LLC. "Original Bottomland looks awesome on an Obsession bow and we can't wait for hunters to get their hands on one."

Obsession Bows is a Georgia-based high performance bow manufacturer with products for hunting, archery competition, youth and adults. Learn more at ObsessionBows.com.

Arcus Hunting is an acquisition and organic growth platform seeking to build a strong portfolio of leading brands in the bowhunting and archery category. Through its brands, Tink's, Dead Down Wind, Obsession Bows, Ramcat, Trophy Taker and Big Game Butter, Arcus markets and manufactures a range of leading deer lures, attractants, scent control products, premium bows, arrow rests, broadheads, replacement blades, quivers, and other archery accessories.



For more information about these brands or products, HOW members may contact Director of Marketing Chip Hunnicutt, Arcus Hunting Media Relations at 800-624-5988 or chunnicutt@arcushunting.com. HOW members may also visit www.arcushunting.com.

HOW Supporting Member News



Mossberg Wins “Innovator of the Year” and “Best New Overall Product”

North Haven, CT: For the third time since the inception of the NASGW (National Association of Sporting Goods Wholesalers) Leadership Awards, O.F. Mossberg & Sons was presented with the “Innovator of the Year” Award and the inaugural NASGW-POMA (Professional Outdoor Media Association) Caliber Award for the “Best New Overall Product” for the 590® Shockwave®. Mossberg was recognized with these honors at the recent NASGW Expo in San Antonio, Texas.

During the annual Awards Reception and Dinner, NASGW recognizes those manufacturers who contribute significantly to the successful business climate of its wholesale members with its Leadership Awards. Joining forces with POMA for the newly-minted Caliber Awards, NASGW acknowledged the best new products in six categories as well as top honors for the overall best new product. To qualify for these awards, manufacturers must be a NASGW member, the product must have been introduced within the last year and the product must be submitted for consideration through the NASGW Expo website.

Accepting both awards on behalf of Mossberg was John MacLellan, Vice President of Sales and Marketing. “It’s a tremendous honor to be recognized by our customers and the media in such a competitive environment. We are humbled at being honored for the third time as the recipient of the Innovator award and gratified that the 590 Shockwave was acknowledged for its success in the marketplace,” commented MacLellan. “Mossberg continues to remain focused on bringing the highest quality, industry-leading firearms to wholesalers and our end consumer.”



Introduced in January 2017, the 590 Shockwave overshadowed the competition with its originaive design and mass appeal, since purchase does not require additional paperwork or the payment of a tax stamp for

transfers. Based on the proven 590 pump-action design, the 590 Shockwave features a 14-inch barrel, “birds head” pistol grip and an overall length of 26 inches. Only Mossberg, a leader in the firearms industry and the world’s largest pump-action shotgun manufacturer, can offer a MilSpec 3443-approved pump-action platform (the only shotgun manufacturer to pass these endurance, accuracy and quality tests) in a 14-inch barreled non-NFA firearm. The 590 Shockwave is now available in 12 and 20 gauges.

The NASGW Expo & Annual Meeting provides educational, marketing and communications opportunities for hunting, sporting goods and shooting sports wholesalers and manufacturers. This year’s Expo was held at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio from October 18-20, 2017.

Media Contact:

Linda Powell, Director of Media Relations

Email: LPowell@mossberg.com

Phone: 336-441-2923 (press only)

HOW members may also visit www.mossberg.com for more info.



HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Al's Goldfish Lure Co. - www.alsgoldfish.com
Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
Alps Brands - www.alpsbrands.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arcus Hunting - www.arcushunting.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Backwoodsman Magazine - www.backwoodsmanmag.com
Bagley Bait Co. - www.bagleybait.com
Balsax Fishing Lines - www.balsax.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Battle Horse Knives - www.battlehorseknives.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Black River Tools - www.blackrivertools.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
BOLT Locks - www.boltlock.com
Bradley Smoker - www.bradleysmoker.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bucket Grip - www.bucketgrip.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Celox Medical - www.celoxmedical.com
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Cortland Line - www.cortlandline.com
Costa Sunglasses - www.costadelmar.com
Cotton Carrier - www.cottoncarrier.com
Danner Boots - www.danner.com
Dead Down Wind - www.deaddownwind.com
Deer Dummy - www.deerdummy.com
Ducks Unlimited - www.ducks.org
Eagle Claw - www.eagleclaw.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Eppinger Manufacturing - www.eppinger.net
Field & Stream Outdoor Life Deer & Turkey Expos - www.deerinfo.com
Fisherman's Handy Hook - www.thefishermanshandyhook.com
Fisknat Landing Nets - www.fisknat.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
FOXPRO - www.gofoxpro.com
Freedom Tackle Corp. - www.freedomlures.com
Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggs.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gamo USA - www.gamoussa.com
Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com
Gun Protect - www.mygunprotect.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Harvest Clean - www.harvestclean.com
Hawke Sport Optics - www.hawkeoptics.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryUSA.com
HHA Sports - www.HHAsports.com
Hodgdon Powder Co. - www.hodgdon.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - www.hmhco.com
HT Enterprises - www.htent.com
Hunter's Specialties - www.hunterspec.com
Indiana Department of Natural Resources - www.dnr.IN.gov
Indianapolis Zoo - www.indianapoliszoo.gov
Irish Setter Boots - www.irishsetterboots.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
LiveTarget Lures - www.livetargetlures.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Lurecraft Industries - www.lurecraft.com
Mathews Archery - www.mathewsinc.com
Midway USA - www.midwayUSA.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Marine Manufacturers Assn - www.nmma.org
National Muzzle Loading Rifle Assn - www.nmlra.org
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
National Wild Turkey Federation - www.nwtf.org
Nikon Sport Optics - www.nikonsportoptics.com
Nosler, Inc. - www.nosler.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Guide Magazine - www.outdoorguidemagazine.com
Outdoor Sportsman Group - www.outdoorsg.com
Paleo Meals To Go - www.paleomealstogo.com
Pheasants Forever - www.pheasantsforever.org
Plano Molding Company - www.planomolding.com
PowerPro Lines - www.powerpro.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pro-Cure Bait Scents - www.pro-cure.com
Quaker Boy Game Calls - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Ramcat Broadheads - www.ramcatbroadheads.com
Real Avid - www.realavid.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Remington Arms Company - www.remington.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
RIO Products - www.rioproducts.com
Secret Lures - www.secretlures.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Shurhold Industries - www.shurhold.com
Sierra Bullets - www.sierrabullets.com
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
SportDOG Brand - www.sportdog.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
SunSect - www.sunsect.com
Swab-Its - www.swab-its.com
Sweet Owen CVB - www.sweetowencvb.org
Tales End Tackle - www.talesendtackle.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Tink's - www.tinks.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
Traditions Media - www.traditionsmedia.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Unfair Lures - www.unfairlures.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
Vortex Optics - www.vortexoptics.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Widener's Reloading & Shooting Supply - www.wideners.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
W.R. Case - www.wrcase.com
Xtreme Hardcore Gear - www.extremehardcoregear.com
Yamaha Marine Group - www.yamahaoutboards.com
Yo-Zuri America, Inc. - www.yo-zuri.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
_____ Online	_____ Radio	_____ Lectures
_____ Books	_____ Artist	_____ Teaching
_____ Television	_____ 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, internet/online, 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; 20 online



articles, blogs, vlogs or podcasts 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; fishing guides and tournament anglers, 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

SEOPA 2017 Annual Conference: (www.seopa.org) Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park, KY	October 18-21, 2017
Chicago Boat, RV & Sail Show: (www.nmma.org) Chicago, IL	January 10-14, 2018
Cincinnati Travel, Sports & Boat Show: (www.hartproductions.com) Cincinnati, OH	January 12-14 & 17-21, 2018
SHOT Show 2018: (http://shotshow.org) Las Vegas, NV	January 23-26, 2018
Louisville Boat, RV & Sportshow: (www.nmma.org) Louisville, KY	January 24-28, 2018
Chicagoland Fishing, Travel & Outdoor Expo: (www.nmma.org) Schaumburg, IL	January 25-28, 2018
Louisville Deer & Turkey Expo: (www.deerinfo.com) Louisville, KY	January 26-28, 2018
Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show: (www.renfroproductions.com) Indianapolis, IN	February 16-25, 2018
HOW 2018 Annual Conference: (www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org) Spring Mill Inn, Spring Mill State Park Mitchell, IN	April 13-15, 2018

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*.