

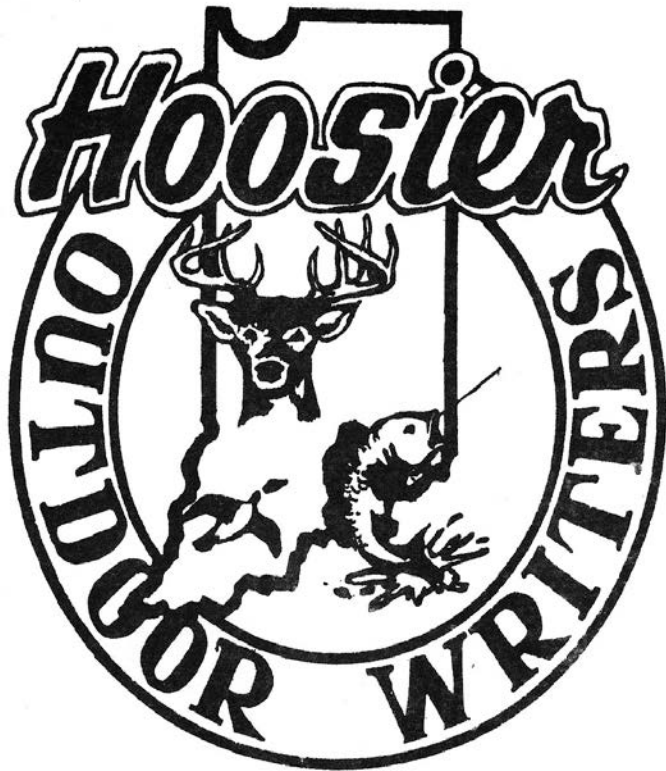
# The Blade

November - December 2021

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Young Buck on a Frosty Morning", 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 2 – Rick Bramwell  
2022  
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Bob Sawtelle – 2021  
Marilyn Culler – 2022  
John Maxwell – 2022  
Troy McCormick – 2022

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

**On the cover:** A young buck looks back over the frosty picked bean field that he just walked through. He either heard something unusual or he caught the scent of something that was out of place. Or maybe he was just on the lookout for a group of friendly does. Photo by Tom Berg.

# President's Message

by Kenny Bayless (*The Redneck Quaker*)

## Fishing with Jim West



My son Seth and I were very fortunate to go on another adventure recently. Jim West asked us to come to Alaska to go fishing with him. Jim is the star of the popular Animal Planet TV show, Wild West Alaska.

Jim has a hunting and fishing lodge, called Klutina, 200 miles east of Anchorage, Alaska that is second to none! The lodge is near the Klutina River that flows into the Copper River. It's fed by glaciers, so it has a milky color. It's a class 4 white water and the Coast Guard considers it not navigable. Jim has a jet boat and he is a master at navigating such dangerous waters.

There are five species of salmon up here. They are pinks, kings, silvers, sockeyes and chum salmon. After the salmon leave salt water they stop feeding and they are slowly dying. That is why it's such a rush for them to get upstream to lay their eggs.

When you enter the lodge, you must take your shoes off or Jim's wife Kristy will get the broom after you. You better not set down at the head of the dinner table, either, because that's Jim's spot. You become one of the family because they live in the lodge in the summer months.

The living room has a 12-foot grizzly bear standing up with a mean look on his face. If you look down you will see a small coon trap on one of his toes. A lynx is laying on a beam looking down at you and trophy king and silver salmon have their place over the picture windows. I thought I had died and gone to heaven.

Kristy is a delightful lady! After she picked us up at the airport, we helped her shop for groceries. She drove us the 200 miles to the lodge and we were ready to hit the sack from starting our travels at 3:00am that morning.

The king fishing was closed while we were there, so we fished for red salmon (sockeyes), grayling, and a trout called a dolly varden. Dolly varden look a little like a grayling, but of course the grayling have the large tell-tail fin on their back that comes up much higher. The dolly varden spawn like salmon, but they don't die after spawning. They are able to return to the ocean. A trophy in this area may weigh two pounds and be 16 inches long.

Grayling stay year round in fresh water. Everyone thinks the salmon are so thick in the streams during the spawn that you can walk across the creek on their backs. Not true; you earn every one that you catch.

The salmon must be hooked in the mouth to be legally taken – not snagged or grab hooked. The grayling and the dolly varden will actually bite on salmon eggs. The most effective method is to place salmon eggs in a plastic mesh sack to attach to a small #6 hook.

Danny Wayland and Aksel Falk are two of my new fishing buddies from Virginia and they are good down-to-earth guys. On the third day of our fishing trip, an amazing thing happened with them. Three years ago a raft capsized on the Klutina River and not all of the folks made it out alive. They also lost all their fishing and hunting gear. As we were fishing in that general area, Aksel thought he finally hooked into a trophy salmon. Jarad, our helper, came running to help and after a few minutes the "fish" started to come their way towards shore. They both got squinty-eyed and looked like a bird dog on point. As the butt of a gun came up, Aksel knew what he had hooked – a 12 gauge shotgun! The hook had caught the elastic shell holder that had two extra shells in it. Afterwards as they came walking down the sand bar, Jim asked, "Where in the world did you find a gun out here?"

Jim and Kristy showed us a great time. We caught lots of fish, enjoyed 5-Star food and stayed in a beautiful lodge. For more info call the lodge at 907-822-4570 or call Jim in person on his cell at 907-244-1810.

# The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents and 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 23.

## 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  
Gene Clifford  
Jack “Big Jake” Cooper  
Mark Cottingham  
Jerry Criss  
Gary “Dox” Doxtater  
Dick Forbes  
Tom Glancy – HOW President 1977  
Dale Griffith  
Fred Heckman  
Marty Jaranowski – HOW President 1996  
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
Don Cranfill	2017
Troy McCormick	2018
Mike Schoonveld	2019
Kenny Bayless	2020

# The 2022 HOW Conference

## Make Plans Now for the 2022 HOW Conference

As was previously announced in the *The Blade*, the 2022 HOW Conference is scheduled to be held in west-central Indiana at **Turkey Run State Park** in Parke County. Of course, everything depends on what happens in the coming months concerning Covid-19, but we hope the group can meet and socialize as usual.

As everyone knows, the 2021 conference was cancelled due to restrictions and lockdowns caused by Covid-19. Things are looking better now, and we have confirmed the new dates with personnel at Turkey Run. The 2022 HOW conference will take place on the weekend of April 1-3, with the main meeting taking place at the Turkey Run Inn on Saturday, April 2.

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. And as we have all learned (painfully), everything still depends on what is happening at the time with Covid-19. But think positive! And be sure to **SAVE THE DATE!**

Of course, Turkey Run State Park is a very beautiful park with plenty to see and do. Whether you enjoy canoeing, hiking, fishing, bird-watching, photography, nature watching or just about any other outdoor activity, Turkey Run can fit the bill. HOW members should definitely head for Parke County 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!

[In fact, we are planning to auction-off another African safari/hunting trip for two at this year's conference, similar to what we did two years ago. See the next page for a sneak peek.](#)

More details will be forthcoming in the next issue of *The Blade*. Besides our annual Fun Shoot on Friday, April 1, we will have a Friday evening BBQ and we hope to have a fishing/canoeing outing on Sunday, April 3.

Whether you plan to attend the entire weekend or just the annual meeting on Saturday, the trip to Turkey Run State Park will definitely be worth it. **Don't miss the 2022 HOW conference!**



The Turkey Run Inn will welcome HOW members next April at the start of our 2022 conference. Make your plans to attend now! Photo by Tom Berg.

**Save The Date!**  
**Conference: April 1-3, 2022**  
**Annual Meeting: April 2, 2022**

# Special Auction Announcement

## At the 2022 HOW Conference

### A Fabulous South African Hunting Safari!

At the upcoming 2022 HOW Conference at Turkey Run State Park, the Hoosier Outdoor Writers will be auctioning-off a fabulous South African Hunting Safari. This trip-of-a-lifetime to the dark continent was donated to HOW by **Van Vuuren African Safaris** of South Africa, and includes hunting for a variety of African plains game for two hunters. The trip will include accommodations in luxurious chalets with on-suite bathrooms, a hunting vehicle with trackers and skimmers, three meals per day, an open bar, daily laundry, field prep and delivery of trophies to the local taxidermist, the services of a Professional Hunter, and trophy tags for up to two animals.



We offered this trip at the HOW conference in 2019 and Mike Berg was the winner of the auction. Because of Covid, he was forced to postpone his safari until the spring of 2021, but he said he had a wonderful time. The trophy tags included with his safari were for one impala and one warthog for each hunter (additional tags for other animals were purchased separately by him and his hunting partner).

We are still gathering the details on this year's safari, so we are not sure yet which trophy tags will be included in the hunt. Local animal populations likely dictate what is available, but rest assured it will be good. The trip will likely take place in the spring of 2023, which will leave plenty of time for arranging good airfare rates and planning other trip details. (Zebra photo by Troy McCormick.)

More info will be forthcoming in the coming weeks and will also appear in the upcoming January/February issue of *The Blade*. So keep an eye on your email inbox and start thinking about whether it is time to plan your bucket list trip to South Africa!

Be sure to check out the **Van Vuuren African Safaris** website at [www.vvasafaris.com](http://www.vvasafaris.com) for additional details and other trip information.





# Hoosier Outdoor Writers

## Awards-in-Craft Contests and TIP Writing Contest



## Calling all HOW members!

This is the time of year that we look back upon the previous 12 months and reflect on our best efforts in the world of outdoor media. Whether it be newspaper or magazine articles, photography, radio or TV broadcasts, or a video broadcast, it is time to gather your best work and consider entering it in the annual HOW Awards-in-Craft contests.

As has been the case for the past several years, our friends at **Toyota Motor Sales** will be sponsoring the HOW Awards-in-Craft contests again this year. So there will be cash prizes for all of the winners (first place, second place and third place). Our sincere thanks goes to Curt McAllister at Toyota for once again providing to the sponsorship.

While we are talking about contests, don't forget that this year's **TIP Writing Contest** is still underway. The Indiana Turn in a Poacher (TIP) Citizen's Advisory Board is again sponsoring a writing contest to encourage HOW members to promote the TIP mission, the TIP hotline and support of the TIP Advisory Board.

Articles for the TIP contest must be published between February 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022. The good news is that the contest is still open and you can still write an article and get it published before the deadline at the end of January. The bad news is that you only have until the end of January to get your TIP article published! If you have already written a qualifying article, be sure to submit it for the contest. You can't win if you don't enter!

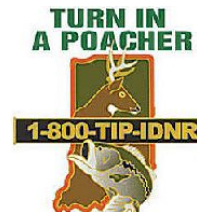
For more information about the TIP writing contest, please see page 8 which details all of the rules. For more info and specific rules for the annual HOW AIC contests, see pages 10+11.

Good luck to everyone and be sure to send in your entries on time.





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



Once again, the Indiana Turn in a Poacher (TIP) Citizen's Advisory Board is sponsoring a writing contest to encourage HOW members to promote the TIP mission, the hotline and support of the TIP Advisory Board. **This year the prizes are \$300 for first place; \$200 for second place; \$100 for third place.** Fall/winter hunting seasons are here, so write your TIP article right away!

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)

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.

To enter, submit an electronic copy of an article published between **February 1, 2021** and **January 31, 2022**. The TIP Citizen's Advisory Board will review all entries and will select the entries that best promote the mission of TIP and encourage citizens to get involved.

**Entries should be marked as "TIP" entries and sent to TIP Contest Coordinator Phil Seng. They must be emailed or postmarked by February 26, 2022.** Send TIP Contest Entries to:

**Phil Seng**, email: [phil@djcase.com](mailto:phil@djcase.com) ← Preferred

U.S. Mail: 317 E. Jefferson Blvd, Mishawaka, IN 46545

### 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. If you see, hear or learn about a poacher or any other fish and wildlife violation:

- Call 1-800-TIP-IDNR
- Submit a TIP online at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/7608.htm>.

If your TIP leads to an arrest, you may receive as much as a \$200 reward, and you can remain anonymous. More information is available at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/lawenfor/2745.htm>.



# **The 2022 HOW Awards-In-Craft Contest**

**The Hoosier Outdoor Writers  
would like to thank:**

**TOYOTA MOTOR SALES**

**For sponsoring the 2022  
HOW Awards-In-Craft Contests**



# The 2022 HOW Awards-In-Craft Contest

## HOW CRAFTS AWARD CONTEST RULES

The contest year shall be for material published or aired from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. All submissions, including photography, must have been printed, aired, published or electronically posted during the contest year (entrant must have been a HOW member when the work was published).

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

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

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

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

### **RULES FOR SUBMISSION**

- 1) Contest entries must be in an electronic form. Entries must be emailed (or postmarked if mailing a CD or DVD) no later than midnight on February 15, 2022. Entries emailed or postmarked after that date will be disqualified. Send all entries to the proper contest coordinator (to be announced later).
- 2) An official HOW contest entry form must accompany each entry. The entry form must also be sent electronically. Please type entry details into the form (an electronic copy of the form will be provided).
- 3) Send no material that needs to be returned. No original material is required. As mentioned above, print contest entries and photo contest entries must be sent in an electronic form. In the broadcast contest, tapes, recordings and DVDs are welcome.
- 4) All submissions of print entries (either from traditional paper or electronic media) must consist of one electronic copy of each article with bylines removed. This file must be text only – do not scan tearsheets or newspaper/magazine pages. Do not include photos or photo captions. This electronic copy must be submitted as a Microsoft Word Document (.doc) or as a PDF file (.pdf). Entries not following these rules will be disqualified. As mentioned, print entry files must be emailed (or filed on a CD or DVD and mailed) by the deadline.
- 5) Entries into the broadcast category require only one tape or recording and may be sent by tape cassette, CD, VHS or DVD formats. Radio and television entries may carry the broadcast station's name and call letters if they are on "as aired" dubbed tapes. TV entries should be dubbed minus commercials if possible to facilitate judging.
- 6) Entries in the photography division must consist of one electronic (digital) copy of each photo. This electronic copy must be saved as a JPEG file (.jpg or .jpeg). Prints, slides and paper copies of photos will not be accepted. Please include a title for each photo entry. Digitally produced photos should not be substantially manipulated. Allowable photo enhancement is limited to standard shooting/darkroom techniques, such as color correction, contrast control and image cropping.
- 7) An individual article, photo or broadcast may only be entered in one category/division. Entering the same piece in multiple categories/divisions will result in the disqualification of duplicate entries.
- 8) There is a limit of two entries per category.

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

Troy McCormick, Email: [contest@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org](mailto:contest@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org)

US Mail: 3604 Sea Pine, Jeffersonville, IN 47130

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

John Martino, Email: [jmartinooutdoors@att.net](mailto:jmartinooutdoors@att.net)

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

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

Tom Berg, Email: [thomas.berg@comcast.net](mailto:thomas.berg@comcast.net)

US Mail: 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311

**CONTEST DIVISIONS**

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

**WRITING ARTICLE CATEGORIES**

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

**BROADCAST CATEGORIES**

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

**PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORIES**

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

**2022 HOW AWARDS-IN-CRAFT CONTEST ENTRY FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Category \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Where published/aired: \_\_\_\_\_

Publication/air date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Entries and forms must be emailed or postmarked no later than February 15, 2022**

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

**For immediate release:** December 11, 2021

## Two Hunters Survive After Boat Sinks on Webster Lake (Kosciusko County)

A hunter is hospitalized after his boat sank on Webster Lake this morning.

At approximately 11:16 a.m., Kosciusko County Dispatch Center was contacted by a residential alarm company after they were alerted to an unauthorized residential entry to a home on Webster Lake.

Despite frigid temperatures and wind gusts forecast to reach up to 50 miles per hour, Trenton Stackhouse, 27, of Milford and Darick Stiles, 27, of Warsaw, set out to waterfowl hunt on Webster Lake near Epworth Forest.

After getting underway, the men quickly realized the conditions were too difficult to overcome. The men attempted to gather their decoys and return to the boat ramp, when large waves overtook their jon boat and it began to sink.

Moments before their boat became fully submerged, Stackhouse and Stiles unsuccessfully attempted to don their lifejackets and were forced to grab several waterfowl decoys and a floating gun case for buoyancy to swim the several hundred yards to shore.

Once on shore, Stackhouse became unresponsive due to severe hypothermia. Stiles then entered an unoccupied home to find shelter to save Stackhouse. Stackhouse was transported to Kosciusko Community Hospital with severe hypothermia.

The incident is still under investigation.

Indiana Conservation Officers remind the public that Indiana law requires life jackets to be readily accessible and in good condition for all boat occupants while underway. Hunters utilizing watercraft should also plan for severe environmental conditions associated with strong winds and storms.

Responding agencies include North Webster Police Department, North Webster Fire Department, North Webster EMS, and Indiana Conservation Officers.

**Media contact:** ICO Matt Maher, DNR Law Enforcement,  
phone: 317-914-2989, email: [mmaher@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:mmaher@dnr.IN.gov)



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

**For immediate release:** December 13, 2021

## Ice Hikes Return to Turkey Run State Park in 2022

Turkey Run State Park is bringing back its ice hikes in 2022. They will be offered each Saturday and Sunday in January and February beginning Jan. 8 except Jan. 29 and 30, which are the dates of the park's *Eagles in Flight* weekend. All hikes will begin at 11:00am and last until approximately 12:30pm.

Hikers will have four options. Naturalists will lead participants through Rocky Hollow and the Punchbowl, Box Canyon and Gypsy Gulch, the Ice Box and Bear Hollow, or Turkey Run Hollow and the canyon along Trail 7. Advance registration for the popular hikes can be completed online at [turkeyrunicehike.eventbrite.com](https://turkeyrunicehike.eventbrite.com).

Boot spikes will be available for free during the hikes if needed. Participants need to be able to lift both legs to a 90-degree angle. The spikes are also available to rent throughout the winter from the Nature Center for \$3.00 for two hours, and adult and youth sizes are available. A naturalist will be available to help hikers put the spikes on if necessary.

The hikes and routes are subject to change due to weather.

Standard park entrance fees of \$7.00 per in-state vehicle and \$9.00 per out-of-state vehicle will apply.



Turkey Run State Park is located at 8121 East Park Rd. Marshall, 47859 ([on.IN.gov/turkeyrunsp](https://on.IN.gov/turkeyrunsp)).

**Media contact:** Aaron Douglass, interpretive naturalist at Turkey Run State Park.  
Phone: 765-597-2654.

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

**For immediate release:** December 17, 2021

## Hunting, Fishing, Trapping License Fees Set to Increase

For the first time since 2006, Indiana DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) has increased fees for hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses. Commercial license fees also increase, some for the first time since the 1980s.

The increases will be applied to personal licenses starting with the 2022-2023 license year (April 1, 2022 – March 31, 2023) that will go on sale in January. The fee increase does not affect licenses for the remainder of the 2021-2022 license year (April 1, 2021 – March 31, 2022), even if those licenses are purchased after January 1.

The new fees allow DFW to maintain core programs including habitat restoration, maintenance of public lands, scientific research and education, and expansion of other services to manage Indiana's fish and wildlife for everyone to enjoy.

Funds will also go to the DNR Division of Law Enforcement to ensure it is equipped to provide public safety and enforce the laws governing natural resources.

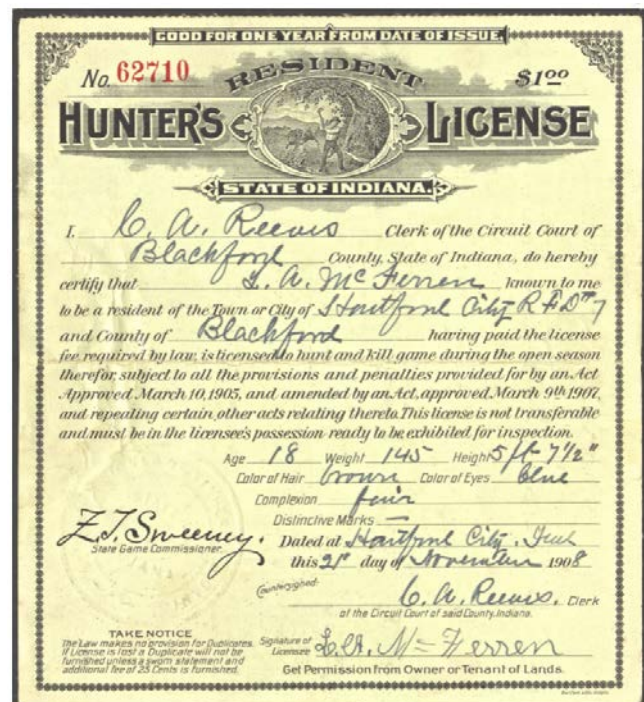
The new license prices were determined by comparing license fees among other Midwestern states and balancing the rising costs of resource management.

More information on these changes, including a full list of the new fees, can be found here: [dnr.IN.gov/fish-and-wildlife/licenses-and-permits/fee-changes](https://dnr.IN.gov/fish-and-wildlife/licenses-and-permits/fee-changes).

Learn more about how DFW is funded: <https://bit.ly/3xdQTAU>.

### Media contact:

Linnea Petercheff, licensing and permit supervisor, DNR Fish & Wildlife.  
Email: [LPetercheff@dnr.IN.gov](mailto:LPetercheff@dnr.IN.gov).  
Phone: 317-233-6527.



Here's a sobering step back in history. Way back in 1908, Indiana hunting licenses cost just \$1.00.



## 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 these pages 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 Mike Lunsford:

HOW Region 3 Board Member Mike Lunsford is a serious birder, although he does not limit his birding outings to searching for rare birds only. He also appreciates some of the smaller birds which always seem to be around and are fun to watch.



“There are a few birds that I can always rely upon to show up near my home and always seem to be curious,” said Lunsford. “One of those is the **Carolina Chickadee** (*Poecile carolinensis*). It is one of the most curious birds I see.”

“The Carolina Chickadee in this photo (at left),” he continued, “returned over and over to a redbud tree near our house late last month.” It was probably looking for some of the last insects of fall, prior to the onset of cold winter weather.

“Carolina Chickadees were given their name by James J. Audubon, who first saw them in South Carolina. These birds rarely sit still very long, and they have great longevity. Believe it or not, one chickadee that was banded in 1963 in West Virginia, was recaptured in 1974 during a banding operation in the same state.”

“Another bird that I like to see,” said Lunsford, “is the **American Goldfinch** (*Spinus tristis*). These finches change from their brilliant summer gold plumage to the more drab olive for the winter. The goldfinch shown here (at right) is sitting in a tulip poplar tree near one of my feeders.”

“Goldfinches are considered ‘acrobatic’ because they effortlessly balance themselves on delicate seed heads, such as thistles and coneflowers. They even hang upside down.”

“Unlike so many other birds, goldfinches do not nest until mid-summer when drying seed heads, including sunflowers, are ready to give them an easy supply of food.”

**HOW members** are encouraged to send their interesting bird photos to newsletter editor and bird enthusiast Tom Berg via email ([thomas.berg@comcast.net](mailto:thomas.berg@comcast.net)) for use in future



**Did you take a cool bird photo while exploring afield recently? Did you see the bird in your back yard? While traveling far from home? Send the photo in for others to enjoy!**

editions of the “Interesting Bird Sightings” page.

Don’t worry, it does not need to be a rare bird. Common birds are welcome as well. Your fellow HOW members would love to see your cool bird pictures.

# The Off Season: Walking the ‘Sea of Grass’

by Mike Lunsford

There is a bigness to the Kansas prairie that I can’t experience here at home, even in the longest and widest cornfield I can find. It is an uninterrupted openness where even a solitary fence post or rock wall, a narrow dirt road or a single tree, stands out against the sky to make its presence known and the horizon marked. The prairie, as Conrad Richter called it, is “a sea of grass.”

We discovered that, and much more – my hiking mate and I – a few weeks ago when we took most of a day to explore a tiny portion of the nearly 11,000 acre Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, located just north of Strong City, Kansas.



A regal fritillary sips nectar from one of the many butterfly weed plants among the prairie grass. Mike Lunsford photos.

Had I not been overconfident in my own mental road mapping skills, consulted our atlas, and turned west out of Emporia – where we had spent the night – onto U.S. Highway 50, we would have been at the Preserve earlier than we were that day. Instead, I ventured onto Interstate 35, the toll road known as the Kansas Turnpike, and drove 30 miles or so to the southwest toward Wichita before we could exit and head north toward our intended destination.

It proved to be a fortuitous mistake, however; wonderful two-lane Kansas 177, took us from Matfield Green to Cottonwood Falls to Strong City on a beautiful drive through endless grassy pastures and the stone outcroppings of the rolling Flint Hills. Along the way, we enjoyed as many rock walls as we had seen on our last trip to New England, a pair of friendly horses that came to the roadside fence to visit a while, and a mostly two-toned landscape painting of green and

blue, broken only by the black herds of cattle as they gathered in the countless stock pools to escape the building heat and the ever-present plagues of flies.

It was already a toasty 90 degrees – the early afternoon sun was high in the sky – by the time we pulled into the Preserve’s parking lot. After a change into hiking boots – for rattlesnakes aren’t uncommon along the prairie’s paths – we visited the cool visitor’s center operated by the National Park Service, which shares responsibilities for the property with the Land Conservancy.

Legislation introduced in 1991 eventually created the Preserve, which is maintained in a unique private/public partnership that grew out of the one-time Spring Hill Ranch, first fenced by cattleman Stephen Jones in 1878. Jones sold the ranch in 1888, and through several owners, it first grew to 13,000 acres, and was then subdivided into smaller sections. The huge property was reunited under George Davis in 1935 and by 1955 was called the Z-Bar Ranch and placed in a trust. Public interest in the land grew, and after overtures from the National Audubon Society waned, and a movement for the preservation of the Lower



A collared lizard rests in the shade while waiting for insects.

Fox School prospered, the prairie was eventually named a National Historic Landmark. Not long afterward, the Preserve – originally the traditional land of the Kaw, Pawnee, Osage, and Wichita peoples – was born.

I knew I wanted to see the old schoolhouse and photograph birds before I ever got there that day, but a cheerful and informative NPS guide spotted my camera and told me that above all the other paths on the Preserve, I’d want

(continued next page)



to walk the two-mile Southwind Nature Trail. After all, she said, the longer trails that combined to encircle the big Windmill Pasture would probably not offer us even a distant view of the always-popular bison herds, which hunker down in the summer as the heat builds. The heat was, indeed, building; by the time we walked out onto the trail, deceptively first hidden in a grove of trees, it was nearing the day's high of 96 degrees.

We ambled more than hiked, although a startled jump got things underway. I almost immediately heard a hawk, and while I stared into the tree line, I turned just in time to see Joanie reverse and head my way; she had nearly stepped on, not a rattler, but a sunning gopher snake, probably. Gopher snakes, named for their primary dietary target, are the largest snakes in Kansas, sometimes reaching eight feet in length; I saw only its slithering tail disappear into the brush, but neither of us was interested in taking a closer look.

Entering the loop behind the big house, we descended onto a ridge that overlooked much of the mown path that constitutes the trail. Within just a few minutes, we were rewarded for our slow going by spotting an Eastern Collared Lizard as it lay in the dappled shade of a stone outcropping. I apparently found a very patient subject, for the lizard, a colorful male, sat still while I took its picture. Collared lizards are quite fast, using powerful hind legs for propulsion. Nearly exclusively insectivorous, the lizards actually prefer basking temperatures of over 100 degrees.

Although the early portion of the trail afforded us magnificent views of the still-short and growing prairie grass to the south and west – which by fall could reach six or seven feet in height – most of our walk involved a more subtle landscape of native wildflowers, songbirds, butterflies, and dragonflies. Below ground, however, the prairie is a dynamic mass of aggressive and competitive roots, some reaching depths of up to 12 feet. In fact, much of what we saw will soon be hidden by the deepening grasses, but on that day we were provided with a beautiful vista dotted by orange butterfly weed, pink wild coneflower, prickly harsh tall thistle, and the subtler low-growing colors of the bottomland prairie – white primrose, catclaw briar, and common milkweed among them.

At one time, the tall grasses – some 40-60 species – constituted 170 million acres in North America; less than four percent of it remains. What we witnessed on that warm afternoon emphasized our smallness, for despite a full parking lot, we saw only two other people on the trails we walked, even after we left the loop and jumped the barely-running trickle of a branch that runs toward Fox Creek to the east, and headed up-hill to the solitary schoolhouse. There, alone in the silent heat, we sat in blessed darkness out of the blistering sun for just a few minutes, read informative placards, and wondered what teaching in that one-room building, which closed its doors in 1930, would have been like.

We were pretty well sapped by the time we had covered the rocky ground back to the original trail and ascended it to where we had started. But, we had seen colorful meadowlarks and dicksissels, the brilliant flashes of great spangled fritillary and orange sulfur butterflies, spied a huge leopard moth as it lay camouflaged on a flat slab of limestone, saw sprigs of plains larkspur pushing themselves up through the already shadowing spires of tallgrass. Soaked and a bit hungry, we decided to spend what energy we had left looking through the house, then heading north to our next stop.



Nearly 30 years ago, Paul Gruchow, who wistfully celebrated the prairie in books like “The Necessity of Empty Places,” wrote, “The prairie is one of those plainly visible things that you can’t photograph. No camera lens can take in a big enough piece of it. The prairie landscape embraces the whole of the sky. Any undistorted image is too flat to represent the impression of immersion that is central to being on the prairie.”

# Fall is Mushroom Season

by Mike Schoonveld

There are plenty of things to do in the fall. Most of them are usually done with friends, like duck hunting or a late season fishing trip. Some are often solo, like deer hunting. My wife doesn't particularly like cool or cold weather fishing. She duck hunted with me once, then we got married and that stopped. But there's one fall activity we participate in as a couple every year – harvesting hen of the woods mushrooms.



Mike Schoonveld displays a big hen that he picked in mid-October at the base of an old oak tree in Newton County. Hen photos courtesy of Mike Schoonveld.

Hens go by many names – sheephead, cauliflower, maitake or one I find quite descriptive, hen and chicks. This last name comes from how trees with “older” hen of the woods mushrooms have one “mother” or hen that grows large, but nearby around the base of the same tree one or more smaller versions, or “chicks”, can be found.

I have no idea how long a hen mushroom will grow. As with other mushrooms, the above ground portion is just the “flower” that produces the spores that spread to sprout and grow additional mushrooms. I’ve been picking both hen and chicks off one tree not far from my house for more than 25 years.

That’s why I call it harvesting more than hunting. The hunting for my “mushroom” trees has been ongoing for almost 50 years. I still keep my eye out for “new” trees with mushrooms growing on them as I hunt, trap, travel and hike through woodlands in my area and I have a mental map of where my trees are found. I usually find one or two new trees each year and give up on one or two that no longer produce.

From mid-September to mid-November, my wife and I hit the “mushroom” trail once or twice a week. Some trips result in one or none, while others result in a big haul. Each one is welcome since many mushroom-savvy chefs regard maitakes second only to truffles for flavor. We eat most of the mushrooms we harvest more or less fresh, since they’ll store in a ‘fridge for weeks. We’ve canned them in Mason jars, frozen them and dried them, as well.

All of the hen of the woods I’ve ever found were on black, white or burr oak trees. Those are the only oaks in my area. I’ve discovered that finding one on a tree less than two feet in diameter is rare, and bigger (older) trees are definitely the best.



**At right:** An impressive pile of Hen of the Woods mushrooms. This was a big haul day, resulting in a dozen hen and chicks.



# Indiana Invasives Initiative

**Contact 1:** Will Drows (SICIM Chair)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### SICIM Gets Rebranded

#### *SICIM's Statewide Efforts Fuel Need for Name Change.*

November 18, 2021 - The Southern Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management (SICIM) is undergoing a rebranding effort. With success of the state-wide Indiana Invasives Initiative (III), SICIM will change its name to the State of Indiana Cooperative Invasives Management.

Will Drows, SICIM Board Chair, is excited with the change. Drows noted, "We have been moving in this direction since 2017 with the start of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Contribution Agreement. We did not know how successful the III would end up being; we just knew it was an important project that fit our organization's mission." He adds that there has been some confusion with the NRCS agreement and III in the northern part of the state with SICIM being a "Southern Indiana" organization, but this name change should make it clear that SICIM is working statewide.

SICIM is a 501-c3 non-profit organization established in 2008. The organization is overseen by a Board of Directors. The organization's mission is to protect Indiana lands and waters by coordinating efforts to identify, prevent, and control problematic invasive species. In 2017, SICIM undertook a statewide role, in partnership with the NRCS, to develop CISMAs (Cooperative Invasive Species Management Areas) to represent all counties in Indiana. Under this new statewide role, SICIM currently employs 5 Regional Specialists and an Executive Director across Indiana.

The new SICIM logo is shown at right. For more information about SICIM and the III, visit <https://www.sicim.info/>.

SICIM's goal is to protect Indiana lands and waters by coordinating efforts to identify, prevent, and control problematic invasive species.



# The Fish Art Contest Breaks the Winter Blues

For Immediate Release

Contact: [info@wildlife-forever.org](mailto:info@wildlife-forever.org)

**White Bear Lake, MN** – Wildlife Forever is proud to offer the **Art of Conservation Fish Art Contest**, as a fun and exciting way to connect youth with the great outdoors. When the temperature drops and snow starts to fall, the Fish Art Contest is the perfect opportunity for youth to learn about the joys of fishing and the importance of aquatic conservation.

The Fish Art Contest is a free K-12 art and creative writing competition supported by *Bass Pro Shops, The International Game Fish Association, The Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation, the USDA Forest Service, the National Fish Habitat Partnership and Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center.*



To enter, contestants create an original illustration of any fish species of their choice. Students are also required to write an essay about their chosen fish and its conservation needs. Winners are awarded in each state and country, where the top contestants win prizes and world-wide recognition. **The contest deadline is always March 31st**, so don't wait. Have your kids or grandkids start today!

For details on contest rules, entry forms, and to view past winners, visit [www.FishArt.org](http://www.FishArt.org).

“Winter break is an amazing time to encourage youth to get creative, learn about conservation and ultimately have fun! The Fish Art Contest is a perfect at-home activity, where students can stay warm while getting creative and learning something new,” said Pat Conzemius, President and CEO of Wildlife Forever.

The 2022 Fish Art Contest is open and accepting entries! Participants can also compete for many specialty awards. Educators can also compete for the 2022 Richard M. Hart Educator of the Year Award. For more information about the Fish Art Contest and 2022 specialty awards, visit [www.FishArt.org](http://www.FishArt.org).

**The Art of Conservation®:** The Art of Conservation is an internationally recognized suite of programs connecting youth to nature and science through art and self-discovery. The Fish Art Contest® and Songbird Art Contest™ divisions are extension programs that empower conservation, education and youth participation through the arts. The award-winning Fish Art Contest has been inspiring youth and teaching aquatic conservation education for 24 years. As an international art and writing competition, support comes from sponsors, state hosts and partners from around the world.



**About Wildlife Forever:** Our mission is to conserve America's wildlife heritage through conservation, education, preservation of habitat and scientific management of fish and wildlife. Wildlife Forever is a 501c3 non-profit dedicated to investing resources on the ground. Recent audits reveal that 96% of every dollar supports our award-winning conservation programs. Join today and learn more about the Art of Conservation® programs, Clean Drain Dry Initiative™ and Prairie City USA®. Be sure to check out [www.WildlifeForever.org](http://www.WildlifeForever.org).



## THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US



**Dan Gapen – Age 89**

Fishing Industry Icon and Founder of Gapen Tackle

Daniel Dean Gapen, Sr., age 89, of Becker, MN, passed away on Nov. 20, 2021. He was born on April 9, 1932 in Duluth, MN. He grew up in Minnesota’s Arrowhead country on the Gunflint Trail and at the Chalet Bungalow Lodge on the Nipigon River in Nipigon, Ontario.

Dan was preceded in death by his parents, Betsey and Don Gapen; sister, Vaughn Thompson; daughter, Danette Gapen; sons, Daniel Gapen, Jr. and Walter Scott Gapen. He is survived by his children, Deborah Gapen, Mitchell Gapen, and Sandra Gapen-Dahl; 19 grandchildren and 38 great grandchildren.

In his younger years, Dan worked as a fishing and hunting guide. At age 14, he was already guiding clients to the big fish on the Nipigon River and other area waterways. He was guiding moose hunters by age 15. In the 1950s Dan was in the US Army and was stationed at Fort Benning, GA. One of his jobs was to guide military officials on fishing and hunting excursions!

In the late 1960s, he formed the Gapen Tackle Company and created fishing tackle like the Ugly Bug® Jig and Bait Walker® Sinker. Dan loved to work sport shows and visit with his fishing friends and customers, and he often gave fishing seminars. He was a fixture at the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show every year for decades, where he manned the Gapen Tackle booth.

Dan was the author of many books, both on “How To” catch fish and legends/stories. He was a contributing writer for many national outdoor magazines and syndicated columns for many years. Dan co-hosted and was a guest on numerous TV shows through the years, and filmed and aired The Sportsman’s Channel’s “Fishing the World With the Ol’ Man and ‘Bobber’ Anne” along with Anne Orth, the 30-year employee of the Gapen Company and best friend to Dan.

He was strongly involved in conservation, working closely with Congress and Senate members to pass legislation to protect waterways and get the National Wild and Scenic River Bill enacted. Dan Gapen was a legend in the fishing community and will never be forgotten.



Above left, Dan Gapen in a photo of yester-year holding one of his beloved brook trout from the Nipigon River. Above right, Dan signs his latest book for E.D. Tom Berg at the 2020 BST Show in Indianapolis.

## THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US

### Eugene P. Clifford

October 5, 1936 ~ December 19, 2021

Valparaiso, IN – Eugene P. Clifford, age 85, passed away on Sunday, 19, 2021. He was an avid outdoorsman and was an Active member of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers since 2003. He attended as many HOW conferences and HOW shooting outings as he could for many years.



Gene was born on October 5, 1936 to George and Audrey (McAuliffe) Clifford, the youngest of six children. He graduated from the original four-room St. Paul's Catholic School in 1950 and from Valparaiso High School in 1954.

He was preceded in death by his wife Amanda in Sept. 2015, and great granddaughter Clara Pell in March 2017. He was the loving father of daughter Christina (Mark) Wilkerson of Merrillville, IN, grandfather to Chelsea (Blake) Pell of Bloomington, IN, and Christiana Wilkerson of Indianapolis, IN, and great grandfather to Lucy Pell of Bloomington, IN. His special companion was Dorothy Peterson of Portage, IN. He was the brother of Joseph Clifford and Francis Lansdowne, and was preceded in death by sisters Ruth Vet (2012), Helen Sellars (1993), and brother Paul Clifford (2016).

He was a member of St. Paul's Church, Knights of Columbus Council #738, past treasurer of Porter County Conservation Club (and member since the early 1960's), and Life Member of the National Rifle Association. He was a member of Ducks Unlimited, Waterfowl USA, National Wild Turkey Federation, and the Izaak Walton League.

He was a retired journeyman bricklayer of 43 years from Local #6, the Local #4 INKY, a certified welder and stone mason. He was a Past President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Valparaiso Men's Bowling Association (1971-1986), Director of Lakeshore Bowling Association, USBC Silver Level Bowling Coach/Instructor, Volunteer Head Coach VHS Bowling team (1999-2010) and participated in National Bowling tournaments for 35 years.

In 1991, one week after turning 55, he earned his private pilot's license. He was a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, President of the Porter County Pilots Association (PCPA) 2009-2012 and a recipient of the DaVinci award twice from the PCPA.

He was a man of many, many talents and will be greatly missed by all the lives he touched. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that monetary donations be made in Gene's name to the **Indiana Bluebird Society**, P.O. Box 134, Rensselaer, IN 47978-0134.

A visitation was held on Sunday, December 26, 2021 at Bartholomew Funeral Home in Valparaiso. A funeral mass was held at St. Paul Catholic Church on Monday, December 27, 2021, with Rev. Leonardo Gajardo officiating. Burial is at St. Paul Cemetery in Valparaiso.

# HOW Member News

## HOW Members Enjoy The 2021 Deer Season

**Troy McCormick (Jeffersonville, IN)**

Here is a report from dedicated deer hunter and HOW Past President Troy McCormick:

“I was more excited than usual when this nice 10-point buck walked into my field of view on the opening morning of Indiana’s gun season,” recalled McCormick, “mainly because it was the only deer that I had seen all morning. I wasn’t expecting to see anything, either, with all of the noise in the woods around me.”

“I was hunting in Parke County, and beginning 15 minutes before daylight the neighbors to our hunting property began racing ATVs and dirt bikes up and down the hollers and creek bottom a mere 100 yards over the hill from my hunting blind. The engines revving and the racing noise was extremely frustrating and echoed throughout the woods like crazy. The cacophony of engine noises lasted for four hours when they finally took a break, presumably for lunch.”

“Less than an hour after they left the woods I saw this buck casually walking down the trail in front of me as if all was right in the world. I used my Henry lever-action .308 rifle to put him down in one shot at just over 60 yards.”

“I walked down the hill to admire my trophy and ten minutes later the racing ATVs were back. However, it no longer seemed to bother me. In fact, I laughed to myself while field dressing the buck as I realized I had made the right decision to stick it out for an all-day hunt despite the opening day Indy 500 racing going on in the woods nearby.”

“Parke County, Indiana has been very good to me over the years. Out of the last five years, this is my third buck on the opening day of gun season. And each buck was from a different property. I am already looking forward to next year’s opening day in Parke County. Although I’ll probably be hunting a quieter property if at all possible!”

Way to go, Troy!



Troy McCormick poses with the beautiful deer he harvested on opening day this year. It just proves that the patient hunter is usually the successful hunter – especially when deer hunting. Photo courtesy of Troy McCormick.

## 2021 Deer Season Continued

### Garry Burch (Valparaiso, IN)

HOW Region 1 Board Member Garry Burch loves deer hunting, but with the health issues he was facing this year he didn't know if he would even get out hunting. Here is his story.

"I got a nice 8-point buck this fall," said Burch. "On November 20th my friend Dennis called and we decided to give an afternoon hunt a try. Because of my recent surgery, afternoons work for me. I decided to try a spot by some railroad tracks where I had previously seen deer travel. I took my folding stool to sit on and I got ready. Dennis was in a row of trees to the south of me. I really didn't expect much action."

"My wait wasn't as long as I thought. I looked down the treeline and saw movement. I couldn't make out what it was at first. Then I saw a deer's head moving, and that's when I saw the antlers. The buck seemed to be working a scrape. Then he started in my direction, feeding as he went."

"At about 50 yards I had my shot and took it. My gun was a Winchester 30-30. I acquired it through a friend that had another friend who no longer wanted the rifle. For me, it was a dream come true. It was a Teddy Roosevelt commemorative rifle. Very fitting for my hunt."



"At my shot the deer dropped. It was a shot I was happy about, but I was surprised he fell so quickly. Dennis got his truck and we loaded him up. I was so happy. I lost my brother in February and I had surgery after that so it was a rough year for me. Luckily there was a happy ending to my hunting season."



### Joe Martino (Kokomo, IN)

HOW Joe Martino is what we call a "bow hunting nut". But we mean that in the nicest way possible. Joe often harvests large bucks, and this year was no exception.

"Any deer with archery equipment is a true trophy," Martino mused. "Every time I'm fortunate enough to get a mature deer with a bow, I always feel like even if I were to never get another, I've been blessed. I'm grateful again this year for another great deer with my bow."

Garry Burch's great buck (**top**) and Joe Martino (**left**) with his trophy whitetail. Photos by Burch and Martino.



## 2021 Deer Season Continued

### Bill Keaton (Spencer, IN)

HOW Legal Advisor Bill Keaton was not planning to do any deer hunting this year, but he ended up harvesting a large buck anyway. It's just not your typical deer hunting story. Read on.

"In March, we sold our home of 45 years," reported Keaton, "and we moved to our property in Owen County at the end of May. We were building a new home which was not completed until December 22<sup>nd</sup>. While building, we were living in a 24' X 24' mini house that we built on the end of our barn where all our furniture and belongings are stored in boxes and stacked together. Due to these circumstances, I decided that I would not hunt deer this year despite the fact that I had seen a couple of monster bucks on my game cameras. I simply did not have a place to process a deer, and I couldn't get to my processing equipment. The deer processors near me had stopped taking deer, too."

"Well, I ended up shooting a buck anyway. He was a big 6-point, but both brow tines were broken off and the tip of the right main beam was broken off. This buck was apparently a brawler. I shot him at 20 yards with my crossbow."

"On December 16, my wife Rita and I had been in Madison, and when we pulled into our driveway in Owen County, I saw him laying with his head up about 30 yards away. Rita checked the mail and put trash in the receptacle, making a lot of noise. He didn't move. I thought he had probably been shot, so I went to the house and got my crossbow. When I got back outside, the buck had moved a little but was still laying with his head up. I walked up to about 20 yards and shot him to put him out of his pain. He jumped up and ran about 40 yards before he crashed."

"When I looked him over, I could find no sign that he had been shot. He did have a scuff mark on his upper left shoulder, so I thought that he might have been hit by a vehicle. One of my new neighbors was there to help me. Because I had no place to dress a deer, I gave the deer to my neighbor. When he butchered the deer, everything looked normal until he cut into the right hind quarter. It was then that we knew what the problem was. There was a massive infection that had capsulized in the right rear leg. We suspected that someone had taken a very poor shot during early archery season and hit him in the rear leg with an arrow resulting in the infection."

"The poor deer had not eaten for a while because both his stomach and intestines were completely empty. Despite not eating, he weighed 210 pounds on the hoof and field dressed at 170 pounds. I estimated that he was two and half years old."

"I was glad that I was able to put an end to his pain and suffering."



## 2021 Deer Season Continued

### John Martino (Kokomo, IN)

HOW Nominating Chairman John Martino really enjoys spring turkey hunting, but he also loves deer hunting – especially bowhunting for deer. This fall he was able to spend some time in the woods, and we think he was pretty successful. But archery season was in doubt when October 1st appeared on the calendar.



“While in Alaska in August on a caribou hunt,” said Martino, “I suffered an eye injury which required emergency surgery immediately upon my return. After the surgery, I was told I could not bowhunt this fall due to medical restrictions, which included an eight-pound weight limit on lifting. However, by mid-October I could not take it any longer and I began shooting my bow to see if I could handle it.”

“I started hunting the last week of October and had many close encounters with nice bucks, but I decided to let each of them walk by. On several occasions my wife Peg was sitting with me.”

“In the final week of the early archery season I had an opportunity at a nice buck, which I decided to take. At the end of every hunt, successful or not, I pause to appreciate the blessings of the day.”

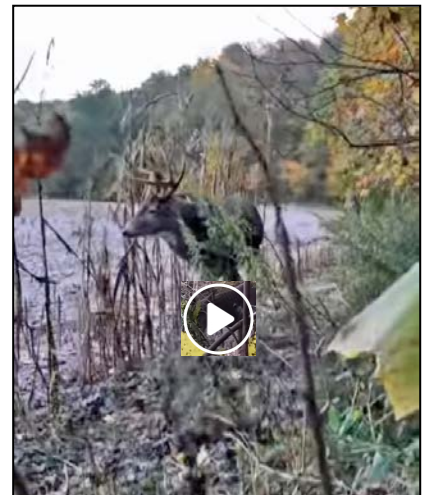
### Editor’s Note:

As John mentioned above, he had some close encounters with bucks before he actually harvested his deer, and on one of those occasions he shot some video of the encounter. Check it out on the link below.

“One of my most memorable outings this fall was a day when my wife was with me,” recalled Martino. “I woke her up that morning to see if she wanted to share a morning hunt with me. Although she is not a hunter, she sometimes enjoys going and watching the break of day.”

“That morning we had a really nice buck come in and tear up the saplings and brush right near us. We were sitting on the ground, and when it got within eight feet of us I intentionally spooked it. That buck was all amped up and I didn’t want to take a chance of a freak accident happening, especially with her sitting next to me. As soon as the buck saw me it quickly ran off.”

“I’m glad she got to experience this close-up-and-personal encounter. She thought it was one of the coolest things she’d ever seen.”



Here’s the link to the video: <https://www.facebook.com/john.martino.100/videos/218848183643172>

## Troy McCormick Likes Red-Shouldered Hawks

HOW past-president Troy McCormick witnessed an interesting “life and death drama” in early December. It’s not something that everyone gets to see these days, but it is a reminder that in the great outdoors, the death of one creature means life to another. Here’s what Troy’s had to say about it:



“While re-filling my coffee cup one morning,” said McCormick, “I glanced out the window into the backyard and spotted an immature red-shouldered hawk on the ground eating a grey squirrel that it had captured. After a mad dash down the stairs to grab my Nikon Z7 and 140mm zoom lens I was able to snap a few photos of the unusual event. The hawk caught my movement in the window and gracefully took wing, with its dinner still clutched in its talons.”

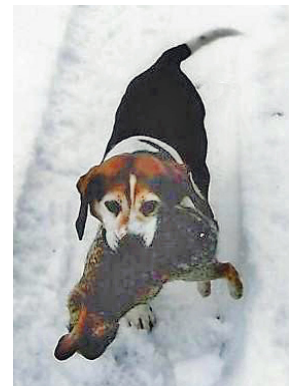
“It wasn’t until I examined my photos that I noticed the juvenile raptor was apparently undergoing its first prebasic molt and was transitioning to adult head feathers. I’ll never be able to watch the squirrels at my bird feeders again without also glancing to the sky in anticipation of another aerial attack and backyard picnic.”



## Gene Clifford Loved His Beagles

As you can see in the obituary for Gene Clifford (page 22), he passed away on December 19. Less than a week before, Gene had sent me (Tom Berg) an email asking if I’d print the photo of his beloved beagle Zeke. I said I would.

“This is a picture of Zeke, my last beagle,” said Clifford. “I taught him to fetch tennis balls in the summer and he went on his own fetching rabbits out of the briars. Luckily, I snapped this picture one time when he was bringing a rabbit back to me in the fresh snow.” Gene loved all of his beagles, but Zeke held a special place in his heart.



## Brian Waldman Sets Soft Plastic Fishing World Record

HOW member Brian Waldman is a confirmed bass fishing addict, and he heads for the nearest lake or pond whenever he gets a chance. He recently took his diehard fishing to the next level. Read on to find out more.

In October 2015, upon releasing another bass and clicking his 'fish counter' for the 238th time, legendary angler Ned Kehde paused to inspect the Finesse WormZ™ at the end of his line. Little did he know it, but his performance had effectually established what would soon become known as the ElaZtech® World Record: 238 bass on a single, very broken-in soft plastic bait.

It appears Kehde may have started something. This past September, HOW member Brian Waldman of Brownsburg took the record to another level, once again validating the durability of Z-Man's radical softbait material, ElaZtech. Nineteen outings and 32 hours of fishing between August 19 and September 16, 2021 produced an amazing 245 bass, 5 pumpkinseed sunfish, 2 bluegills, 2 green sunfish and 1 bullhead – all on a single Z-Man TRD TicklerZ.

An inveterate angler and longtime member of Kehde's revered Midwest Finesse News Network, Waldman maintains a meticulous fishing journal that captured the trials and tribulations of his prodigious, occasionally tense mission.

"I'd recently purchased a couple bags of TRD TicklerZ – a 2.75-inch tentacle bait," recalled Waldman. "Fishing a local pond on August 19, I caught 50 bass on a single jig and green pumpkin-pattern TicklerZ. I couldn't believe how well the bait held up. I realized the design of the TicklerZ might be amenable to making a go at taking down the record. So began my quest."

"For the next month, every bass trip I took was with just this single bait, along with a tiny pack of jigheads to use and adapt as needed. As it turned out, the bait is more durable than many jig heads, as I had to discard several over the course of the challenge."

On August 27, Waldman cracked the 100-fish barrier. By September 1, Waldman's magic TicklerZ had allured 135 bass. "The bait was still in good shape; it had all its tentacles with no big rips or tears in the material." One week later, he had landed 175 fish, yet the TRD TicklerZ was exhibiting only minor signs of wear. "I was still feeling pretty good about my chances, but I had over 70 fish to go."

On September 16 and 11 fish in – now sitting at 255 total – disaster struck. "I cut the bait off and slid a bunch of moss off the line. Not thinking, I flicked the moss off my fingers and at the same time, the bait went flying with it, right over the side of the boat and into the drink. I'm sure the look of horror on my face had to have been priceless."

"Though I had been hoping to exceed the record by 20 fish or so, I realized this was all mostly for fun, a really enjoyable quest that kept me entertained and ready to go out fishing again the next day."

"The record now stands at 255 fish. Maybe next spring, when the bass are really chomping, we'll issue a 300 Bass Challenge. I'm pretty sure the right ElaZtech bait could get it done."



## John Martino Inducted into the Howard County Sports Hall of Fame

HOW past president John Martino was recently honored as an inductee into the Howard County Sports Hall of Fame. The ceremony was conducted on Saturday, October 30, at the Creative Financial Centre in Kokomo. This much-deserved honor was due, in part, to Martino's service and hard work with the annual Kokomo Jim "Moose" Carden Kids Fishing Clinic. The 2021 Hall of Fame class features athletes, coaches and contributors who have made an impact in the community through their deeds, accomplishments and leadership.



Local outdoorsman John Martino was inducted as this year's contributor. Martino has led the Jim "Moose" Carden Kids Fishing Clinic for most of its 37 years. With Martino at the helm, the fishing clinic has allowed thousands of kids to enjoy firsthand the experience of learning to fish and catching fish. Always humble, Martino dedicated the award to all those who have supported his efforts through the years.

The Howard County Sports Hall of Fame was founded with the goal of recognizing the rich history of athletics in Kokomo and the surrounding community. Since the first class was inducted in 2003, over 110 men and women have been enshrined into its hallowed halls. The plaques for each inductee can be found at the Kokomo Event & Conference Center.



Congrats, John!

## Alan Garbers Weathers Email Woes

OK, we have all had our share of email and computer woes, right? That just goes with the territory in the digital age. But it seems like HOW past president Alan Garbers has recently had more trouble with his email than most. So don't complain as much the next time your email goes on the fritz!

"I just got Microsoft Outlook to start working again after five years of not working," grumbled Garbers. "My internet provider (Yahoo) keeps changing security measures, so Outlook 2013 quit working in 2016 and Live Mail stopped working a few months ago. I was using the mail feature in Windows 10, but it doesn't keep my saved emails resident on my computer, so they vanish and reappear with a change in the wind direction."

"I finally got Outlook to work again by updating it and getting a one-time password from Yahoo," he continued. "Unfortunately, they changed my name from Garbers to Grabers and that's how it now appears on all my emails! I tried to correct the name and the program started freaking out, so I told it to cancel. I honestly think it would be easier to legally change my name to Grabers!"

## Mike Lunsford Always Keeps An Eye on the Night Sky

HOW Region 3 Board Member Mike Lunsford sent us this cool photo of the moon in mid-December, and suggested that HOW members keep their eyes open when venturing out at night. That's never a bad idea!

"The months of November, and December for that matter, are both great months for HOW members who like to keep their eyes to the sky," said Lunsford. "The shot I have here is of the partial eclipse of the "Beaver" or "Frost" moon that occurred on November 19, 2021. I took the photo at about 5:10 in the morning."

"December is also the month of the Geminid meteor shower, and, of course, the planets Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn have all been showing off in the southern/eastern skies."

The Geminid meteor shower typically peaks on the night of December 13 through the morning of December 14. As many as 100 visible meteors per hour can be seen during the Geminid meteor shower, and many are extremely bright. The best viewing is usually late at night and just before dawn.



There is another reason this is the perfect time of year for night-time 'sky observing'. There are no mosquitoes around!



## There's Something Stinky in the Grass

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg took this photo of a strange mushroom back in October. He had not seen one before, so he had to do some research to identify it. Other HOW members could probably tell right away that it was a **stinkhorn** mushroom!

These unusual fungi get their name from the fact that they are indeed very stinky! They just plain smell bad – like rotten meat or dung. Like all mushrooms and related fungi, their job is to help break down plant matter into usable nutrients for the soil. We just wish they could do their job without the offensive smell.

Stickhorn mushrooms have many names (some are definitely worse than others), but one interesting one is Devil's Lipstick!

## Bob Jennings Loves Antique Fishing Tackle and Selling Books




HOW member Bob Jennings is a real aficionado of antique fishing tackle, whether it be old bamboo or steel fishing rods, ancient level-wind reels or vintage wooden fishing plugs. So it was only natural for him to join the National Fishing Lure Collectors Club. Don't let the club's name fool you, though. Members don't just collect fishing lures. They collect all sorts of fishing tackle!

Shortly after joining the club, Jennings discovered that the club might be a good place to market some of the books he has written, especially the ones that prominently feature vintage fishing tackle in them.

"When I received the Winter Issue of the *Gazette* from the National Fishing Lure Collectors Club," he said, "the Secretary - Treasurer announced that in January they will be offering a Members Spotlight on the front page of the NFLCC Website for member's books, lures, etc. I emailed and sent some info on my first two tales from my book *The Tales from Lonesome Lodge, Revised* for consideration for this Member's Spotlight."


"I just received a response that I would be the first one to be featured in the new Member's Spotlight. This may be a good outlet for selling some of my books!"

As of late-December, Jennings' book was already listed on the NFLCC website. Take a look at: [www.nflcc.org](http://www.nflcc.org) and scroll down until you see *The Tales from Lonesome Lodge, Revised*.




**\$30.00 plus \$5.00 mailing to lower 48**


The Tales from Lonesome Lodge, Revised - by Bob Jennings  
Lonesome Lodge is a place I went to for a Muskie Hunt; but after I arrived I found I had gone back in time to the early 1950's.





The Musky tackle I purchased from a Special Sport Shop was from this era. The Proprietor of this Shop took me on a Muskie Hunt where I tangled with a Mighty Muskie losing my lure, leader and about six inches off the tip of my new Musky Rod; I then learned the Secret of Chin Whiskered Charlie's Kin at Charlie's Point.



Lots of fictional and immortalized characters arrive in their vintage vehicles bringing intriguing adventures and situations.



Fall times bring Ruffed Grouse Hunting with Mythical Bird Dogs.

Join me now on a journey that takes us to a simpler time in our history; meeting a host of fine people and visitors, hilarious adventures and situations, Wild Bird and Musky Sketches, Vintage Vehicle photos, Fishing Tackle and Firearms photos....all at a place called Lonesome Lodge on Beautiful Lake NISATO.....somewhere.....Up North.....Book is 8 1/2 X 11, 83 Tales, 376 pages, 231 photos and 46 sketches with Textured Covers

**To order—I'll autograph to suit—812-798-0783 Email: Jenningsr500@gmail.com**

We hope you sell a boatload of books, Bob!

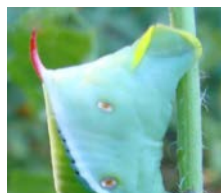
# Unusual Nature Photos from the Hoosier Outdoors

Sponsored by HHA Sports

## The Tobacco Hornworm – Bane of the Tomato Garden



Close-up  
→  
Original  
←



The “What is it?” photo from the last issue was a bit tricky, but it was still correctly identified by a total of nine (9) HOW members. Mike Lunsford, Troy McCormick, Phil Cox, Mike Schoonveld, Gary Redmon, Brian Waldman, Alan Garbers, Phil Seng and John Maxwell were all able to identify it. When we drew a name at random for the **Quaker Boy** turkey calls, Gary Redmon was the lucky winner. Congratulations, Gary! Our friends at **Quaker Boy** will send the prize directly to you.

As you can see in the photo (at left), the mystery creature for this issue was a Tobacco Hornworm (*Manduca sexta*). Tobacco hornworms are the larvae of the Carolina sphinx moth (also called the tobacco hawkmoth). Since the adult moths typically only fly at night, they are seldom seen.

The tobacco hornworm is a relatively common garden pest and it is often confused with the very similar Tomato Hornworm. Both are large, green caterpillars that can grow to 3-4 inches in length, with a distinctive spike or horn at their posterior. The difference is that tobacco hornworms have white diagonal lines on their bodies and a red horn, while tomato hornworms have white V-shaped markings and a black or dark blue horn.

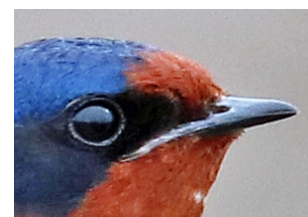
Both species of hornworm feed on tomato plants, often stripping individual branches of leaves almost overnight. Tobacco hornworms sometimes even eat the unripe green tomatoes, leaving large holes or gashes in the fruit. Although tomato plants seem to be the main targets of these pesky hornworms, they also feed on tobacco, pepper, eggplant and potato plants. Some weeds are also on the menu.

For this issue, our friends at **HHA Sports** have donated a very nice prize for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. This time the prize will be an **HHA Tetra LT-5519** bow sight. See below for more info on the prize and this issue’s nature question.



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

Tom Berg has posed another Nature Photo mystery. The photo shown at right is part of a close-up of a creature that can be found throughout the state of Indiana. Some people even see them in their back yard. Does it look familiar? Have you ever seen this color pattern?



This creature may be easy for some people to identify, and harder for others. But we’ll see. Do you know of any creatures that look like this? As usual, you will have to identify the exact species. If you think it’s a species of snake, for example, go ahead and guess “Milk Snake” (of course, it’s not a snake). If you think you know the answer, send an email to me at [thomas.berg@comcast.net](mailto:thomas.berg@comcast.net). If you’re right, you will be entered in this issue’s prize drawing!



As mentioned, **HHA Sports** ([www.HHASports.com](http://www.HHASports.com)) has donated an excellent bow sight for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. This issue’s winner will receive an **HHA Tetra LT-5519** slider bow sight with an MSRP of more than \$200. Check out all of HHA’s innovative archery products on their website above. If multiple people guess correctly, we’ll draw a winner at random from the correct entries. All nature photos on this page were taken by Tom Berg.



## 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.

### Next-Generation Electronic Earmuffs: Improving on a Legend

**Westwood, MA** – November 29, 2021 – Launched over a decade ago, the lightweight, slim and comfortable Howard Leight™ Impact™ Sport electronic earmuff has delivered consistent and reliable performance, great value, and proven longevity, earning the trust and loyalty of legions of shooting sports enthusiasts from around the globe.

For 2021, engineers in the Honeywell product development team have taken this legendary performer and applied additional technologies to produce the next generation of Howard Leight over-the-ear electronic hearing protection. Building on over 30 years of continuous technological innovation, the **NEW Howard Leight Impact Sport Bluetooth®** electronic earmuff retains everything customers love about Impact Sport Classic, while offering new levels of performance and functionality.



The magic starts inside with the addition of Bluetooth 5.0 technology – the latest version of the Bluetooth wireless communication standard. Bluetooth 5.0 allows wearers to stream music or other audio content into Impact Sport Bluetooth from their Bluetooth-enabled devices, such as smartphones, tablets and computers. Bluetooth 5.0 incorporates Bluetooth Low Energy, which translates to reduced power usage and longer battery life.

Easy-to-use Bluetooth controls are integrated right into the headset, and there are separate volume controls for both Bluetooth audio and the ambient sound entering the headphone via the external omni-directional microphones. That means wearers can stream Bluetooth audio into the headphones while also being able to hear what's going on around them; both adjustable audio signals are controlled independently.

Wearers of the new Impact Sport Bluetooth will enjoy the same comfortable fit, slim-profile earcups, four-hour auto shutoff feature, automatic attenuation of potentially dangerous noise over 82dB, and up to 4X amplification of ambient sound delivered by Impact Sport Classic. But the advantages don't end with Bluetooth technology. Impact Sport Bluetooth also delivers faster Sound-Activated Compression. A 0.5 millisecond reaction time means a more natural acoustic experience at the shooting range, or anytime attenuation of loud sounds over 82dB occurs.

Impact Sport Bluetooth features a powerful new, rechargeable Lithium Ion battery, which can be recharged in two hours and offers excellent life for a Bluetooth device – up to 20 hours of operation per charge, depending on the use of the headset's features. Like all Howard Leight electronic earmuffs, Impact Sport Bluetooth comes with a four-hour auto-shutoff feature that remembers to turn your muffs off to preserve battery life when you forget.

Individuality has always been a big part of the original Impact Sport's appeal, and new Impact Sport Bluetooth recognizes this with a variety of all-new colors, a highly favored existing color, and two size options to serve the varying needs and



(continued next page)

by Honeywell

## HOW Supporting Member News

tastes of any shooting sports enthusiast. “Growth within the shooting sports is increasingly diverse,” says Nancy Kufferman, Senior Offering Manager at Howard Leight. “We’re offering additional sizes and color choices across many of our lines to better serve the needs and preferences of these new participants, while also expanding options for seasoned participants,” Kufferman continues. “From women and youth to more specific applications such as hunting and tactical, Howard Leight is delivering more styles, sizes, and more aesthetic choices in reliable, high-quality hearing protection.”

Medium/Large size Impact Sport Bluetooth electronic earmuffs are available in four colors, including an all-new [Brushed Bronze](#) earcup color with a unique, distressed brown headband; an all-new highly patriotic [2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment](#) pattern; a stealthy new [Flat Dark Earth](#) color; and Howard Leight customer-favorite [OD Green](#).



Designed for an improved fit on youth, most women, and men with smaller heads, the new Youth/Adult Small size Impact Sport Bluetooth electronic earmuff is available in [2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment](#), plus an all-new [Metallic Rose Gold](#) color.

John Jenkins, Senior Manager Quality Engineering at Howard Leight, says wearers of new Impact Sport Bluetooth electronic earmuffs can expect to experience trusted Howard Leight reliability, comfort and performance, with increased levels of functionality. “These new Impact Sport Bluetooth models retain or improve upon everything shooting sports enthusiasts, hunters and professional users expect from a comfortable and reliable Impact Sport electronic muff, then further enhance functionality with wireless connectivity via the latest Bluetooth V.5.0 technology,” says Jenkins. “And our Product Leadership Team has done an excellent job making sure these benefits can be enjoyed by more people than ever by introducing a new Youth/Adult Small size and rolling out even more colors and styles to meet individual tastes and applications. We couldn’t be more excited to deliver these exceptional new muffs to the shooting sports industry.”

NEW Impact Sport Bluetooth Electronic Earmuffs are available now at Howard Leight Shooting Sports dealers and online at [howardleightshootingssports.com](http://howardleightshootingssports.com). For specific model features and available colors, check the website.

**Media Contact:** Please contact Josh Lantz at Traditions Media for more info. He can be reached by phone at: 219-728-8996 or via email: [josh@traditionsmedia.com](mailto:josh@traditionsmedia.com).

# HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Aquateko International - [www.aquateko.com](http://www.aquateko.com)  
Artrip Float Company - [www.artripfloatcompany.com](http://www.artripfloatcompany.com)  
B'n'M Pole Company - [www.bnmpoles.com](http://www.bnmpoles.com)  
Bass Pro Shops - [www.basspro.com](http://www.basspro.com)  
Black River Tools - [www.blackrivertools.com](http://www.blackrivertools.com)  
BoatUS - [www.boatus.com](http://www.boatus.com)  
BOLT Locks - [www.boltlock.com](http://www.boltlock.com)  
Brella Rainwear - [www.brellabrella.com](http://www.brellabrella.com)  
Buck Knives - [www.buckknives.com](http://www.buckknives.com)  
Bucket Grip - [www.bucketgrip.com](http://www.bucketgrip.com)  
Celox Medical - [www.stopbleedingkits.org](http://www.stopbleedingkits.org)  
Church Tackle Company - [www.churchtackle.com](http://www.churchtackle.com)  
Cocoons Eyewear - [www.cocoonseyewear.com](http://www.cocoonseyewear.com)  
Costa Sunglasses - [www.costadelmar.com](http://www.costadelmar.com)  
Daisy Outdoor Products - [www.daisy.com](http://www.daisy.com)  
Danner Boots - [www.danner.com](http://www.danner.com)  
Dardevle by Eppinger - [www.dardevle.com](http://www.dardevle.com)  
DJ Illinois River Valley Calls - [www.djcalls.com](http://www.djcalls.com)  
Ducks Unlimited - [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org)  
Egret Baits - [www.egretbaits.com](http://www.egretbaits.com)  
Environ-Metal, Inc. - [www.hevishot.com](http://www.hevishot.com)  
Falcon Guides - [www.falcon.com](http://www.falcon.com)  
Finn Tackle Company - [www.finnspoons.com](http://www.finnspoons.com)  
Fish Monkey Gloves - [www.fishmonkeygloves.com](http://www.fishmonkeygloves.com)  
Flying Fisherman - [www.flyingfisherman.com](http://www.flyingfisherman.com)  
G.Loomis - [www.gloomis.com](http://www.gloomis.com)  
Glacier Glove - [www.glacierglove.com](http://www.glacierglove.com)  
Grizzly Fishing - [www.grizzlyfishing.com](http://www.grizzlyfishing.com)  
Hawke Sport Optics - [www.hawkeoptics.com](http://www.hawkeoptics.com)  
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - [www.henryUSA.com](http://www.henryUSA.com)  
HHA Sports - [www.HHAsports.com](http://www.HHAsports.com)  
Hoosier Trapper Supply - [www.hoosiertrappersupply.com](http://www.hoosiertrappersupply.com)  
Howard Leight Shooting Sports - [www.howardleight.com](http://www.howardleight.com)  
HT Enterprises - [www.htent.com](http://www.htent.com)  
Indiana Destination Development Corporation - [www.visitindiana.com](http://www.visitindiana.com)  
Indiana Dunes Tourism - [www.indianadunes.com](http://www.indianadunes.com)  
Jackall Lures - [www.jackall-lures.com](http://www.jackall-lures.com)  
LaCrosse Footwear - [www.lacrossefootwear.com](http://www.lacrossefootwear.com)  
Lawrence County Tourism - [www.limestonecountry.com](http://www.limestonecountry.com)  
LensPen - [www.lenspen.com](http://www.lenspen.com)  
Lodge Manufacturing - [www.lodgemfg.com](http://www.lodgemfg.com)  
Mathews Archery - [www.mathewsinc.com](http://www.mathewsinc.com)  
Mossy Oak - [www.mossyoak.com](http://www.mossyoak.com)  
Mongo Attachments - [www.mongoattachments.com](http://www.mongoattachments.com)  
National Shooting Sports Foundation - [www.nssf.org](http://www.nssf.org)  
National Wild Turkey Federation - [www.nwtf.org](http://www.nwtf.org)  
Norsemen Outdoors - [www.norsemenoutdoors.com](http://www.norsemenoutdoors.com)  
Nosler, Inc. - [www.nosler.com](http://www.nosler.com)  
Nothead Tackle - [www.notheadtackle.com](http://www.notheadtackle.com)  
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - [www.mossberg.com](http://www.mossberg.com)  
Off Shore Tackle - [www.offshoretackle.com](http://www.offshoretackle.com)  
Otis Technology - [www.otistec.com](http://www.otistec.com)  
Outdoor Sportsman Group - [www.outdoorsg.com](http://www.outdoorsg.com)  
PowerPro Lines - [www.powerpro.com](http://www.powerpro.com)  
Princeton University Press - [www.press.princeton.edu](http://www.press.princeton.edu)  
Pro-Cure Bait Scents - [www.pro-cure.com](http://www.pro-cure.com)  
Quaker Boy Game Calls - [www.quakerboygamecalls.com](http://www.quakerboygamecalls.com)  
RAM Trucks - [www.ramtrucks.com](http://www.ramtrucks.com)  
Reef Runner Lures - [www.reefrunner.com](http://www.reefrunner.com)  
Renfro Productions - [www.renfroproductions.com](http://www.renfroproductions.com)  
RIO Products - [www.rioproducts.com](http://www.rioproducts.com)  
Roeslein Alternative Energy - [www.roeslein.com](http://www.roeslein.com)  
Seaguar Fishing Lines - [www.seaguar.com](http://www.seaguar.com)  
Shimano American Corp. - [www.shimano.com](http://www.shimano.com)  
Sierra Bullets - [www.sierrabullets.com](http://www.sierrabullets.com)  
Snag Proof Lures - [www.snagproof.com](http://www.snagproof.com)  
South Shore CVA - [www.southshorecva.com](http://www.southshorecva.com)  
Sporting Classics - [www.sportingclassics.com](http://www.sportingclassics.com)  
Sportsman Magazine - [www.sportsman-mag.com](http://www.sportsman-mag.com)  
St. Croix Rods - [www.stcroixrods.com](http://www.stcroixrods.com)  
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - [www.ruger.com](http://www.ruger.com)  
Swab-Its - [www.swab-its.com](http://www.swab-its.com)  
Sweet Owen CVB - [www.sweetowencvb.org](http://www.sweetowencvb.org)  
Tales End Tackle - [www.talesendtackle.com](http://www.talesendtackle.com)  
Target Communications Outdoor Books - [www.targetcommbooks.com](http://www.targetcommbooks.com)  
Toyota Motor Sales - [www.toyotanewsroom.com](http://www.toyotanewsroom.com)  
Traditions Media - [www.traditionsmedia.com](http://www.traditionsmedia.com)  
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - [www.ttiblakemore.com](http://www.ttiblakemore.com)  
Van Vuuren African Safaris - [www.vvasafaris.com](http://www.vvasafaris.com)  
Vexilar, Inc. - [www.vexilar.com](http://www.vexilar.com)  
Whitetails Unlimited - [www.whitetailsunlimited.com](http://www.whitetailsunlimited.com)  
Winchester Ammunition - [www.winchester.com](http://www.winchester.com)  
W.R. Case - [www.wrcase.com](http://www.wrcase.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	_____ Radio	_____ Artist
_____ Books	_____ Photography	_____ Lectures	
_____ Television	_____ Teaching	_____ Trade Journals	
_____ Blog/Online Work	_____ 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:

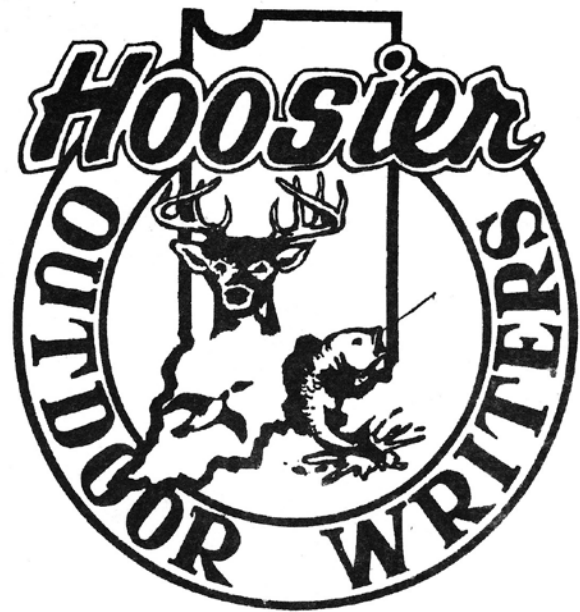
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor 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; nature lovers; sportsmen; outdoorsmen; public employees in outdoor fields; educators teaching related subjects; fishing guides and tournament anglers, 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 fishing, hunting, boating, hiking, nature, ecology, or in preserving the environment in general.

# Calendar of Events

**Ford Cincinnati Boat, Sport & Travel Show:** January 14-16 & 19-23, 2022  
([www.CincySportShow.com](http://www.CincySportShow.com))  
Cincinnati, OH

**Cincinnati Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl Expo:** January 21-23, 2022  
([www.CincySportShow.com](http://www.CincySportShow.com))  
Indianapolis, IN

**Ford Indianapolis Boat, Sport & Travel Show:** February 18-27, 2022  
([www.IndySportShow.com](http://www.IndySportShow.com))  
Indianapolis, IN

**Indiana Deer, Turkey & Waterfowl Expo:** February 24-27, 2022  
([www.IndySportShow.com](http://www.IndySportShow.com))  
Indianapolis, IN

**HOW 2022 Annual Conference:** April 1-3, 2022  
([www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org](http://www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org))  
Turkey Run State Park  
Parke County, IN  
(Annual meeting on April 2)

**NRA 2022 Annual Meeting and Exhibits:** May 27-29, 2022  
([www.nraam.org](http://www.nraam.org))  
Houston, TX

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