

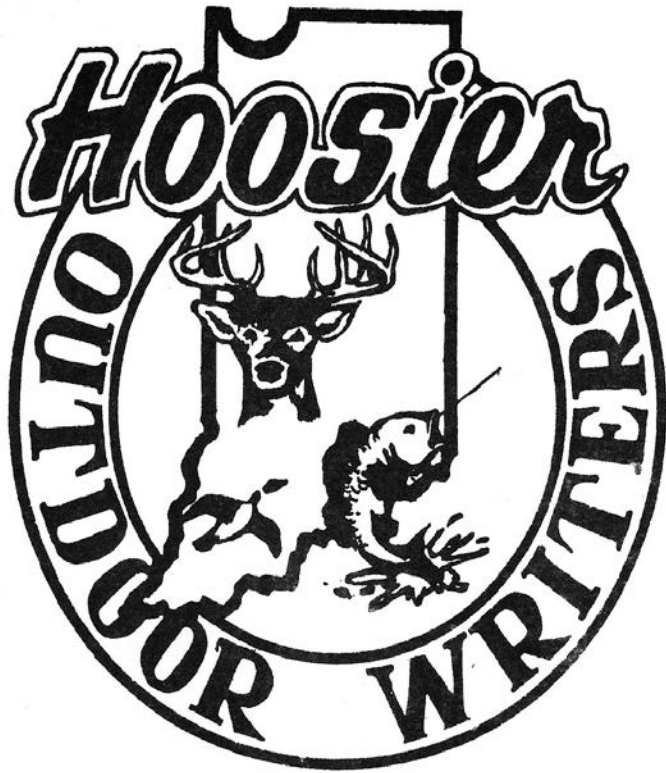
The Blade

January - February 2022

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"Mallard Ducks Enjoying Open Water in January", photo by Tom Berg



Hoosier Outdoor Writers

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

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On the cover: A local creek provides a safe haven for a large gathering of mallard ducks in mid-January. Although several mallards are happily paddling in the creek, most are content to sit on the shelf ice and rest. Luckily, they are well-insulated against the cold. Photo by Tom Berg.

President's Message

by Kenny Bayless (The Redneck Quaker)

Hunting Black Death in Africa

As you all can see on pages 10-11 in this issue, we will be auctioning-off a great African safari at the HOW conference this year. I hope everyone is contemplating taking that Bucket List trip to the Dark Continent! Maybe the story below about one of my trips to Africa will whet your appetite!

While hunting the Black Death (Cape buffalo) in Africa, your mind is racing with everything that can go wrong. As we stood watching, the Cape buffalo was starting his stalk on the hunters at 30 yards.

Three days before, a father and son team (me and my son Seth) decided a Cape Buffalo would be the challenge of a lifetime, so the hunt was on!

Word came to us of an old bull that was spotted, running with a female cow buffalo in the Limpopo Province. They were aware of the pair because the cow was even more dangerous than the bull; she was charging at people for no reason. Cobus Van Vuuren, the owner of Van Vuuren African Safaris, had great concern for his clients on this hunt. Cape buffalo are extremely dangerous, and they practiced every likely scenario to take that buffalo down as soon as possible. As Cobus always said, everything will happen in a matter of minutes or seconds.

I took the top of the shooting sticks while Seth would kneel and use one leg of the sticks to steady his shot. It is critical that the first shot counts, and don't stop throwing lead until he's down.

The first day was fruitless, even though we drove and scouted for miles looking for this pair's tracks. Word came the next morning that a tracker had followed the pair of buffalo up into the hill country for miles and had gone into an extremely thick section of bush. Evidently the animals were taking a break from grazing under the hot African sun.

We followed. Tajaart, the assistant, yelled "Get your guns", and at the same time grabbed the shooting sticks. Zack, the PH (professional hunter), was loading his rifle. We had two PH's to back us up because of the crazy cow's reputation. The shooting sticks stood less than 30 yards from the huge animals while I set my rifle in the sticks. Unfortunately, Seth couldn't set up because of the thick brush. The big bull slowly started his stalk on the intruders.

At 22 yards, the bull had his head down and was starting his charge when he felt the bullet from the .375 caliber rifle enter the center of his chest. He dropped to his knees, but he was not done yet. In a split second he stood up and retreated, going about 50 yards. Then he went down with brush all around him.

The PH's, with father and son, approached the beast only 20 feet in front of them. At this moment, they were in the most danger in their entire lives. Seth automatically fired his weapon to keep the bull down forever. They all stood guard for what seemed like an eternity, waiting for the crazy cow to return to avenge her mate's death bellow. Luckily, she did not return. The father/son/PH team effort produced a 36-inch Cape buffalo bull that weighed over 2,000 pounds. It was a major trophy.

Besides the Cape buffalo, a Kudu bull was on Seth's wish, and he scouted for one for days. Kudu, the grey ghost of Africa, is one of the most elusive animals in the country. They blend into the African bush so well the best trackers often overlook them. After spotting several female Kudu in groups, a trophy-sized bull, keeping to himself in thick bush was spotted and the stalk was on.

The PH and young man stalked to within 50 yards, and when the perfect shot was placed, it stood for a few seconds and went straight down, not taking another step. The horns measured up to 50 inches long. Seth glowed with pride. Words can't describe the pride a father has for his son at a time like this. Seth Bayless, I'm proud you're 'My Boy!'



The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents and Memorial Section

HOW Extends a Warm Welcome to our Growing Ranks of Outdoor Communicators:

Suzanne Thomson (Associate)
Indianapolis, IN
Sponsor: Tom Berg

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
Kenny Bayless	2021

It's Time to Renew Your HOW Membership

This is a friendly reminder that dues renewal notices were sent out to HOW members at the beginning of January. They are due in early February, so don't forget to update your Directory listing and send it in with your dues check. If you did not get a renewal notice, please contact me ASAP (thomas.berg@comcast.net).

We all hope 2022 will be a great year, and certainly better than last year when we had to cancel the HOW conference. Everything is still full steam ahead for the 2022 HOW conference at Turkey Run State Park, and we hope everyone can attend. There is more information about this year's conference and meeting inside this issue of *The Blade*, so keep reading.

Membership in the Hoosier Outdoor Writers provides a long list of benefits, including this full-color bi-monthly newsletter, *The Blade*. It is sent out via email and is also posted online. Other benefits include our annual Awards-in-Craft contests, the HOW Facebook page, a special "Nature Photo" contest inside each issue of the newsletter, our annual conference (including seminars and guest speakers), our annual HOW Fun Shoot (usually sporting clays or skeet), an official HOW membership card which provides product discounts and allows entry to outdoor shows and similar functions, a membership directory which lists all Individual members and Supporting members, and members-only access to the HOW website.

Of course, HOW membership also provides the opportunity for networking, the chance to learn new things, improve your craft and make new friends. Friendships formed at HOW functions can last a lifetime!

Dues for Active members is still \$30 and dues for Associate members remains \$25. We are happy to accept personal checks or money orders. Please make all checks payable to HOW. We also accept credit cards and paypal on the HOW website – simply click on the Dues & Donations tab on our home page (www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org). Then you can click on the proper membership level and pay right there. We prefer that payment be made by check, though, because paypal does charge us a fee for the service.

The officers and executive committee at the Hoosier Outdoor Writers are looking forward to a fun-filled 2022 and we hope you will join us. Thank you for your continued support – we could not do what we do without you!

Don't forget to send in your 2022 HOW membership renewal!

**RENEWAL
REMINDER**

The 2022 HOW Conference

Make Plans Now to Attend the 2022 Annual 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. The Covid Omicron surge appears to be dying down as of the first week in February, so that's good and 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!**



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.

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 in April and join the fun!

The HOW conference will be here before you know it, so it's time for you to start making plans to attend! See page 12 for a copy of the conference registration form and check page 13 for a copy of the conference activities registration form. If you register for the conference by **March 7**, you will get the **Early Bird** pricing and save a few bucks.

As usual, HOW members and guests may attend as much or as little of the conference as their schedules allow. Many members come only for the Annual Meeting on Saturday, and that's fine. For those who are interested in arriving early for the conference, we will have our annual HOW Fun Shoot on Friday afternoon (April 1). That will be followed by a Friday evening BBQ at one of the pavilions inside Turkey Run on April 1.

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

For the main meeting on Saturday, we will have plenty of interesting seminars and speakers which can provide material for several articles and stories. We will also announce the winners of our annual HOW Awards-in-Craft contests and the TIP writing contest, and elect new officers. We hope to have a fishing/canoeing outing on Sugar Creek on Sunday, April 3, too.

For everyone who has come to love the HOW Raffle over the past several years, we are hoping 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 HOW conference recently, come see what it's all about!

(continued next page)

Speaking of the HOW Raffle, we are planning to auction-off another fabulous **African Safari/Hunting Trip** for two at this year's conference, similar to what we did two years ago. See Kenny Bayless' President's Report on page 3 and the info on pages 10-11 for more details on this South African safari!

Whether you plan to attend the entire conference 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!**

Here is a brief preview of the speakers already lined-up to make presentations at the conference:

- **The Cool Technology Behind Today's Cellular Trail Cameras**

Trent Marsh, the editorial manager for SPYPOINT cellular trail cameras, will describe how these trail cameras work and how they continue to grow in popularity. He will also explain that even though the userbase is continually expanding, there are still major misconceptions about how the technology actually functions and what the cameras can and cannot do.

He will take us through the latest advanced trail cameras from SPYPOINT, and lay out the details of cellular trail cameras – including best practices, misconceptions and benefits. From advanced AI species filters to things like dual-sim configurations, the lowdown on what trigger speed really means, and how you've probably been using trail cameras all wrong for the last decade, Trent is going to be covering a lot of ground.

Any HOW member who uses trail cameras for scouting before, during and/or after Indiana's hunting seasons – or even those who use trail cameras for security or other reasons – should be sure to sit in on Trent's presentation. It will certainly be worth your time and attention.



Trent Marsh from SPYPOINT is a true expert when it comes to advanced cellular trail cameras.

- **Indiana's Raptors – Live Birds of Prey**

Teresa Rody, the Interpretive Manager for the IDNR's Upper Wabash Interpretive Services and the Salamonie Raptor Center, will be bringing several live birds of prey for a special demonstration at the HOW meeting. Raptors, or birds of prey, include several species of birds that mainly hunt and feed on animals that are relatively large when compared to themselves. Eagles, hawks, owls and falcons are some of the birds that quickly come to mind when the term raptor is mentioned.



Teresa Rody from the Salamonie Interpretive and Nature Center with one of the resident great horned owls.

Teresa Rody will bring a variety of hawks and owls from the Salamonie Raptor Center to show HOW members just how large (or small) some of these birds of prey really are, and describe how they live and hunt and other interesting facts about them. She may even bring a bald eagle if it is available. In the photo at left, she holds a great horned owl during a recent demonstration.

Birds at the Salamonie Raptor Center are used during educational programs for young people, families and other members of the community. Whether it is a red-tailed hawk, a barred owl or a peregrine falcon, it is always impressive to see these majestic birds “up close and personal”. Even the smaller raptors like the American kestrel, the eastern screech owl and the sharp-shinned hawk are exciting to see for most people.

- **A Look at Indiana’s Wetlands and Their Conservation**

Ducks Unlimited’s External Affairs Manager for the Great Lakes and Atlantic Region, Chris Sebastian, knows a thing or two about wetlands and wetlands conservation. It’s a big part of his job! After all, Ducks Unlimited is the leader in wetlands conservation. He will discuss how wetlands and marshlands fuel our outdoors adventures in Indiana, and why keeping these habitats healthy requires plenty of time, money and expertise.

During Sebastian’s presentation, he will give us a multimedia tour across the state, from the northeast potholes region all the way south to Hovey Lake Fish and Wildlife Area near the Ohio River. He will show how a multitude of partnerships have conserved more than 30,000 acres of wetlands for the benefit of Hoosier hunters, anglers and trappers – and the wide variety of wildlife that lives there.

Members of the outdoors media play a crucial role in wetlands conservation, and this interactive conversation will get you familiar with some of the biggest the issues facing our marshes.



Chris Sebastian from Ducks Unlimited will talk about the importance of wetlands for ducks and a multitude of other wildlife species.

- **Sportsmen’s Benevolence Fund and Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry**

Two great programs that provide help to needy families in Indiana are the Sportsmen’s Benevolence Fund and Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry. The Sportsmen’s Benevolence Fund is administered by the DNR Division of Law Enforcement, which provides grants to Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry, the Dubois County Sportsmen Club, and Hunters and Farmers Feeding the Hungry



As Public Relations Captain, Capt. Jet Quillen is responsible for statewide public relations programs and for overseeing Law Enforcement Division’s public spokesperson team.

to pay for processing fees when hunters donate legally harvested deer. Capt. Jet Quillen, the Public Relations Captain for the IDNR, Law Enforcement Division, oversees the Sportsmen’s Benevolence Fund in addition to his many other duties (he is also a board member for the Turn in a Poacher (TIP) Program).

Capt. Quillen will lead a presentation about these groups and he will be assisted by Deb Treesh, the Executive Director of Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry. The Hoosiers Feeding the Hungry organization encourages hunters and farmers to donate large game (like deer) and livestock to the *“Meat” the Need* program through participating meat processors (85 statewide), raises financial support to pay processing fees on these donations, and gives this nutritious meat/protein to hunger relief agencies. The individuals and families served are reached through food banks and other hunger relief agencies whose services are strictly for low income and poor populations within each county in Indiana.

The participating organizations notify food banks throughout Indiana when venison is ready to be collected from certified Sportsmen’s Benevolence Fund butchers. The food banks distribute venison to soup kitchens and food pantries. The process to donate is simple and the IDNR, Law Enforcement Division is making it a point to promote and advertise this very unique and beneficial program.

Planning to Stay Overnight at the Turkey Run Inn?

If you would like to stay overnight inside Turkey Run State Park, you are in luck. We have a block of rooms reserved at the **Turkey Run Inn** at a discounted price for HOW Conference attendees and their guests who wish to stay overnight or for the entire weekend. Our block of rooms is not extremely large, so don't wait to make your reservation. When you are ready to book your room, check out the details below. If you prefer to be closer to nature and camp, the Turkey Run State Park campground is also available. The campground features 213 electric (Class A) campsites with electric hookup, picnic table, fire ring, drinking water supply nearby and modern restrooms/showers in the area.

TURKEY RUN INN ROOM RESERVATIONS

Group/Promotional Code:

Our special HOW group code was sent previously via email (we don't print it on the website). If you lost it or if you need assistance making your reservations, contact Tom Berg (see below).

Turkey Run Inn
Turkey Run State Park

8102 Park Rd
Marshall, IN 47859
877-500-6151

Turkey Run Inn, room with **Two Double** beds:

(Friday night 4/1/22 and/or Saturday night 4/2/22): \$112.49 per night + tax (\$125.98 total).

Turkey Run Inn, room with **One Queen** bed:

(Friday night 4/1/22 and/or Saturday night 4/2/22): \$112.49 per night + tax (\$125.98 total).

Turkey Run Inn, room with **Two Queen** beds:

(Friday night 4/1/22 and/or Saturday night 4/2/22): \$184.49 per night + tax (\$206.62 total).

Don't wait to make your room reservation if you will be staying overnight at the Turkey Run Inn. Our block of discounted rooms will only be available until **March 1, 2022** or until they are all reserved. If you have any questions, please contact Tom Berg (thomas.berg@comcast.net).

Note that the online reservations form defaults to reserving your room for two nights (Friday and Saturday night). If you only want to stay for one night, you need to manually change it before booking. Or you can call and talk to a live person (877-500-6151) and they can help you once you give them our group code.

Rest assured that we'll be working hard to make sure this conference is worth the trip. It will definitely be one that you won't want to miss, so be sure to mark your calendars now, and **REGISTER TODAY!**



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 generously 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 skinners, 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). Kudu photo (left) and Impala (next page) by Troy McCormick.

The trophy tags for this year's safari (per hunter) will include one **Baboon**, and a choice of either one **Impala** or one **Warthog**. 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. Note that the South African hunting season starts April 1st and ends October 31st.

The two animals included in this hunt can really be just the tip of the iceberg for your hunt if you are interested in more or other trophy animals. Kudu, Nyala, Zebra, Wildebeest, Blesbuck, Eland, Gemsbuck and Springbuck are just a few of the other plains game animals that are available for hunters. Cobus van Vuuren can provide trophy tag costs for these and other animals for the winner of the auction. Start thinking about whether it is time for your bucket list trip to South Africa!

Be sure to check out the next page and the **Van Vuuren African Safaris** website for costs and additional details and other trip information (www.vvasafaris.com).





VAN VUUREN

— AFRICAN SAFARIS —

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cobus@vvasafaris.com, cobusjvv@mweb.co.za

Post Net Suite #114, Private Bag X6625, Thabazimbi, 0380, Limpopo, South Africa
American Representative; Mr. Justin Tinsley, mobile 502-680-1022, email: jtinsley2172@yahoo.com

Auction/ Donation Hunt Certificate

Date: Jan 21, 2022

Hunting Outfitter (Permit nr. ZA/LP/95623): Cobus van Vuuren

Professional Hunter (Permit no. ZA/LP/95622): Cobus van Vuuren

Van Vuuren African Safaris is pleased to hereby donate the following hunt to **Hoosier Outdoor Writers** group under management of Mr. Tom Berg to be used at his discretion. The hunt will consist of the following:

Accommodation

- **5 Hunting days** accommodation for two (2) hunters or one hunter, one observer.

Trophy animals (two animals included per hunter)

The following animals are included in the package:

- A choice of either one **Impala** (seen at right) or one **Warthog** per hunter.
- One **Baboon** per hunter.

The hunt is fully upgradeable and extra days, hunters and animals can be added as per price list of the year the hunt takes place. The hunt will be valid for the **2022/2023** seasons only. Our hunting season starts April 1st and ends October 31st. The hunting days included are enough to cover for the animals donated (rifle hunting).

For bow hunting, we require a minimum of 8 hunting days.



The hunt is valued at \$4,700. This is a 60% donation towards the **Hoosier Outdoor Writers** group. The other 40% will go to Van Vuuren African Safaris to cover basic costs.

Central Kentucky Taxidermy (www.centrankytaxidermy.com) offers free USDA clearance on trophy shipments sent to their shop. This offer does not include broker or dip and ship fees. Contact Mr. Justin Tinsley (see above).

Included in package:

- Luxurious chalets with on-suite bathrooms
- Full catering and open bar
- Daily laundry
- Services of Professional Hunter (two on one)
- Hunting vehicle, trackers & skimmers
- Field prep and delivery of trophies to taxidermist

Excluded from Package:

- Airfare
- Accommodation before and after hunt
- Taxidermy costs and shipping
- **\$400** Pickup and return from and to JHB international airport, per hunter/observer, also includes first and last night's accommodation, meals and beverages on day of arrival/departure which are **NON HUNTING DAYS**.
- Gratitude tips for staff
- Anything else not mentioned

The "Terms and conditions" of **Van Vuuren African Safaris** apply and is available on our website: www.vvasafaris.com.

No credit will be given on animals not harvested, days not used and/or trophy fees that were included in this auction/donation hunt. No animals or day fees as described above can be exchanged for credit or other animals not included in this auction/donation hunt. For any further information, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Cobus van Vuuren

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Annual Conference Registration



Turkey Run Inn at Turkey Run State Park, Parke County – April 1-3, 2022

This registration form is for the Annual HOW Meeting on Saturday, April 2nd
(8:00am – 4:30pm)

Information to appear on meeting badge:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Spouse's Name (if attending): _____

Contact information:

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Are you a first-time HOW conference attendee? _____

Early Bird Conference Registration Fees:

(Early Bird pricing good until March 7, 2022 only. After March 7, add \$5.00 each to register)

HOW Members (and spouses): \$35.00 each (\$35 X number attending) = _____

Non-HOW Members: \$40.00 each (\$40 X number attending) = _____

The conference fee at the door will be \$50.00 (so be sure to register before the conference!)

Conference fee includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch on April 2, 2022.

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

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

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

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Conference Activities Registration

Please register for the Pre-Conference and Post-Conference activities listed below which will take place on Friday, April 1, 2022 and Sunday, April 3, 2022. We are trying to get an idea of how many people are planning to attend each event so we can make preparations in advance. Please send in your registration form to the postal address or email address below. Note that activities are reserved for registered conference attendees only.

Contact information:

Name: _____

Spouse's Name (if attending): _____

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Activity registration info for HOW members and their spouses (per person):

	Number Attending	Shotgun Gauge (20ga or 12ga)
Friday's HOW Fun Shoot*:	X _____	_____
Friday Evening Barbecue: _____ FREE!	X _____	
Sunday Canoe Trip**:	X _____	

* HOW members participating in the Fun Shoot will receive complimentary ammunition from Winchester, our Fun Shoot sponsor. The fee for the Fun Shoot will be payable at the Gun Club on the day of the event.

** The Sunday canoe trip on Sugar Creek (weather dependent) may require a fee (to be determined later). If considering this trip, please sign up so we can see level of interest. HOW members would need to bring their own fishing license, tackle, jacket, rain gear, camera, etc.

If you are planning to attend any of the activities listed above, please complete this form and either mail it or email it to Tom Berg at:

Tom Berg
2142 Nondorf Street
Dyer, IN 46311-1829
thomas.berg@comcast.net

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



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 the Indiana Turn in a Poacher (TIP) Citizen's Advisory Board is again sponsoring a **TIP Writing Contest**. The purpose of this writing contest is to encourage HOW members to promote the TIP mission, the TIP hotline and support of the TIP Advisory Board. There will be cash prizes for all of the winners in this contest, also (first place, second place and third place). A big thank-you goes to the TIP Citizen's Advisory Board for once again sponsoring this year's contest.

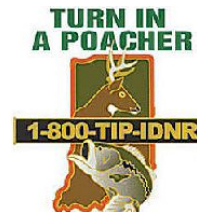
Articles for the HOW Awards-in-Craft contests must have been published between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021. Articles for the TIP contest must have been published between February 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022. If you have written a qualifying article for either of these contests, be sure to submit it. You can't win if you don't enter!

For more information about the TIP writing contest, please see page 15 which details all of the rules and the submission deadline. For more info and specific rules for the annual HOW AIC contests (including the submission deadline), see pages 17-18. 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 ← 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

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

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

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

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

US Mail: 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311

CONTEST DIVISIONS

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

WRITING ARTICLE CATEGORIES

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

BROADCAST CATEGORIES

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

PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORIES

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

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 28, 2021

Public’s Help Requested on Campsite Reservation Scam

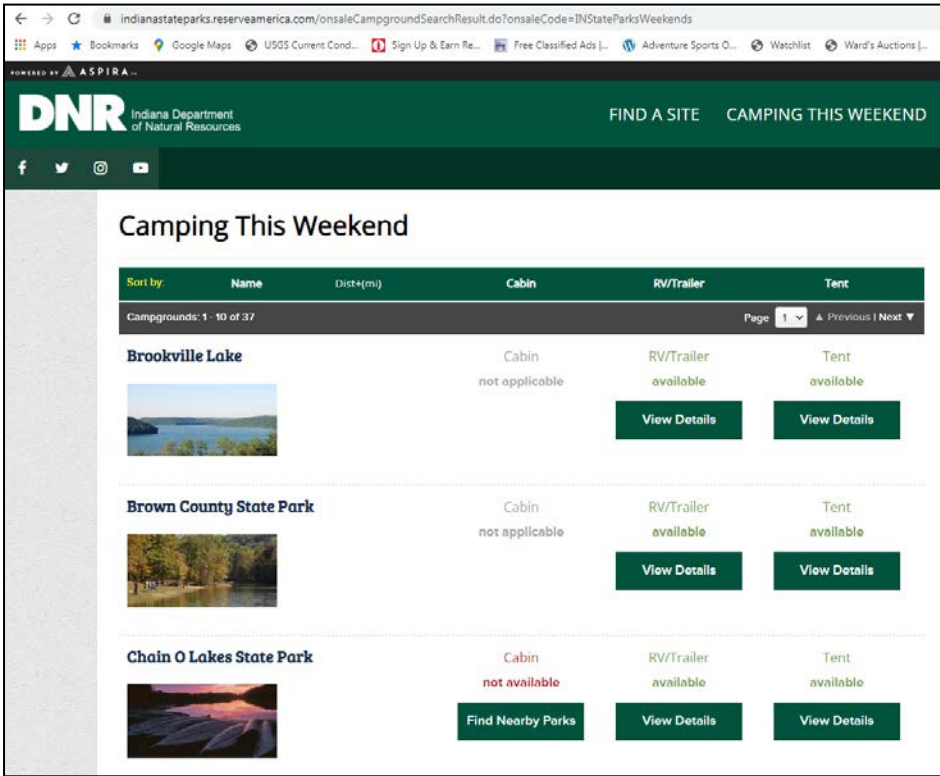
Indiana Conservation Officers are investigating a potential scam where unsuspecting Hoosiers are being duped when booking campsites.

The public’s assistance is being sought in the investigation where a third party fraudulently advertises and rents campsites to Hoosiers, who then upon arrival, find the site they paid for not available. Instances of this scam could date back as far as July 2021.

If you have utilized a third party on social media for reserving a site for this upcoming year, you may be a victim of this scam.

State properties of interest include Trine State Recreation Area, Spring Mill State Park, Morgan-Monroe State Forest, Greene Sullivan State Forest, and McCormick’s Creek State Park.

If you believe you have been or are currently a victim of this scam, please contact our Indiana Conservation Officer Central Dispatch at 812-837-9536.



Hoosiers are reminded to only make reservations for DNR properties via the official DNR website at Camp.IN.gov or the DNR Reservation Line at 866-622-6746.

Media Contact: Capt. Jet Quillen, DNR Law Enforcement, email: jquillen@dnr.IN.gov, phone: 317-903-1671.



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 Tom Berg:

HOW Executive Director Tom Berg is always on the lookout for interesting bird photos. One day this past summer he was watching a pair of **Northern Cardinals** (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) in his back yard when he observed something amiss. “I suddenly noticed there was a **Brown Cowbird** (*Molothrus ater*) sitting in the grass nearby,” recalled Berg, “and within a few seconds the male cardinal hopped over to it and gave it a sunflower seed that had fallen to the ground from our bird feeder. This happened over and over again, and I realized I was witnessing the results of nest ‘brood parasitism’. A brown cowbird had laid an egg in the cardinal’s nest and the cardinal parents were raising the young cowbird as their own.”

Brown cowbirds are well-known as brood parasites. Female brown cowbirds never make their own nests and always lay their eggs in the nests of other birds. Some bird species fight back by pushing the cowbird eggs out of their nests or puncturing the alien eggs, but other species (such as the northern cardinal) never seem to notice.



HOW members are encouraged to send their interesting bird photos to newsletter editor and bird enthusiast Tom Berg via email (thomas.berg@comcast.net) for use in future editions of the “Interesting Bird Sightings” page.

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!

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 intriguing bird pictures.

Product Review: Cold-Weather Fish Monkey Glove Test

by John Maxwell

When operating a camera in cold weather, an outdoor photographer needs gloves that are flexible and thin enough to allow fiddling with small camera-setting knobs and switches, while also providing enough high-quality insulation to keep fingers operational and warm for many hours.



A bald eagle extends eight talons toward a Mississinewa River fish last January. John Maxwell photos.

Not long ago I tried a pair of Fish Monkey Task Fleece fishing gloves during a recent bald eagle photography outing along the Mississinewa River. The photo excursion began before sunrise and the truck thermometer read a very cold 10 degrees. Thankfully, the Fish Monkey gloves worked well.



Fish Monkey Task Fleece Gloves under glove-mittens allow cold-weather camera adjustments.

I usually wear wool-blend thick glove-mittens (sometimes called glomitts) as an outer glove with a thinner light-weight glove underneath, so I can keep fingers under both the mittens and gloves until individual fingers are needed. At the right time, I can flip the mitten tips off when shooting or for camera adjustments. The downside to that arrangement was that my thinner inside gloves lacked insulation, until now.

As a bonus, the Task Fleece glove index-finger tips were phone and camera touch-screen compatible, so the gloves could stay on when operating a smart phone or smart camera screen. The gloves were a little pricy at \$29, but they enabled the creation of some fantastic wildlife photo products, images that couldn't have been created sitting in a truck warming my hands.

Getting lost in the Limberlost

by Mike Lunsford

The last thing my hiking mate and I wanted from the time we spent walking the trails of Loblolly Marsh and Rainbow Bottom in late September was to become as legendary as Jim McDowell, the agile young woodsman known for getting himself hopelessly disoriented in the mucky wilderness made famous through the writings of Gene Stratton-Porter.

After all, it was Stratton-Porter who we were really in search of when we drove east and north across the state in mid-September to see the home she and her husband, Charles, built in 1895 on the edge of what was known as the Limberlost Swamp. Although the naming of the place might well be the stuff of tall tales — “Limber Jim” was actually found after a 3-day search — Porter’s books live on, as does her reputation as a self-taught naturalist, photographer and novelist who was nearly unmatched in her day as a best-selling author.

In 1912, Stratton-Porter, already internationally known for “Freckles” (1904) and “A Girl of the Limberlost” (1909), published her “Moths of the Limberlost,” a unique mixture of personal narrative, scientific observation, colorful prints, and incredible photographs, the latter the result of her skillful patience and bulky camera equipment. Among the fascinating and detailed descriptions of the moths she found in the seemingly endless tract of swamps and woodlands and river banks, she took the time to describe the landscape before it was consumed by competing interests that logged, tapped and cultivated its 13,000 acres.



“To me,” Stratton-Porter wrote at the beginning of the book, “the Limberlost is a word with which to conjure; a spot wherein to revel ...”

Beginning in 1888, and taking only until about 1910, the Limberlost was dredged, drilled and drained so completely that Stratton-Porter eventually decided to leave the 13-room “cabin” she and Charles had built on the southern edge of this small Adams County town to head about 80 miles north. There, they (mostly Gene) built yet another log home on the shores of Sylvan Lake, near Rome City, and Stratton-Porter continued to write at her “Million Dollar Window,” work at her photography, and invest countless hours in planting nearly 3,000 trees, shrubs, and vines, including a remarkable wisteria bower; the house was completed in 1913. It is at “Wildflower Woods” that she is buried, moved there from a Hollywood cemetery over 70 years after her death in an automobile accident.

In all fairness, it must be said that some of the wealth that enabled Stratton-Porter and her banker-hotelier-druggist husband to live so well in Geneva came from oil interests in the Limberlost, yet she grew increasingly alarmed that a great natural resource, one of incredibly rich biodiversity and wonder, was being destroyed in a great grab for riches. It became a mission, of sorts, for her to write about and photograph it before it was gone. “Now the Limberlost exists only in ragged spots and patches, but so rich was it in the beginning that there is yet a wealth of work for a lifetime remaining to me in these, and river thickets,” she added in her book about moths.

Our trip to the Limberlost began in earnest with an overnight stay in Bluffton, a pleasant place of about 10,000 just to the north in Wells County; it has a nicely preserved downtown district, a wonderful walking path along the banks of a narrow green Wabash, and offered us a great late-evening meal at Billy Ann’s Supper Pub. It was from Bluffton that we made our way in the very late afternoon 17 miles down Indiana 116 and a few country roads to

(continued next page)

Loblolly Marsh Nature Preserve.

At one time the heart of the Limberlost, Loblolly — an area the Native American Miami called “stinking river” for its decaying vegetation — and a word attributed to the old English for a thick gruel that was likened to mud – now consists of about 475 acres of prairie, upland forest, meadows and wetlands that were purchased from five individual owners; it has been lovingly and slowly restored to resemble the land Stratton-Porter would have seen as she tromped about in her breeches and tall, laced boots over a century ago.

It had been a dry summer at Loblolly so the small bridge that led us down “Veronica’s Trail” toward the west from the parking lot spanned nothing more than a muddy wash where water usually stood, but I soon spied a dark red autumn meadowhawk, a dragonfly that brightened the scene, and we knew that our three hours or so there before dusk would be time well spent. We emerged into a meadow that provided a nice view across land that years ago was tiled and drained; that has changed now.



A soft warm evening breeze moved the big bluestem tall grass of the Loblolly prairie, the goldenrod and locust and oak trees of the uplands, and even the fat-leaved prairie dock after we crossed the road to walk east toward the wetlands, which is the bullseye of an active pond that teams with turtles and fish and is spiked with gray standing deadwood. We spied dickcissels and Tennessee warblers in the fading light as they searched for insects among the briars and weeds, caught sight of monarch butterflies as they floated like kites among the early fall blooms of bull thistle and obedient plant, and heard nothing but the light wind and the caws of crows, for there was no traffic and no voices. We walked alone to inspect leopard frogs, cattails, feathery Indian grass, and near dark a rising crescent

moon that began to show along the horizon before we made our way reluctantly back.

The next day, after a tour of Stratton-Porter’s gorgeous house led by entertaining and knowledgeable naturalist Curt Burnette — who at one time was a zookeeper, alligator handler, and Louisiana swamp educator — we headed up Indiana 27 and another curved county road just a few miles north of Geneva to Rainbow Bottom, a 231-acre tract of land that the author regularly visited with her cameras and notebooks. Burnette told us that the Limberlost Stratton-Porter herself saw is probably most evidenced at Rainbow Bottom, including a stand of massive sycamore trees — several perhaps 300 years old — that are a must-see. They stood together near an even more narrow Wabash, reduced to a sluggish trickle that day by the lack of rainfall.

Mosquitoes, still humid air, and poor navigation on my part made for a considerably more uncomfortable walk that day; Joanie and I trudged much farther than what was required to find the trees, which sat no more than a few hundred yards off the more beaten path amid a sea of green that would have made Stratton-Porter feel at home. It was here, however, that she probably contracted typhoid fever in the summer of 1902, an experience that gave her the time to pen her first successful book, “The Song of the Cardinal,” published in 1904. What began as a short story turned out to become the first widely-read statement Stratton-Porter published about the morality and ethic of using the natural world as if it could never be exhausted.

Trying to beat sundown back to the parking lot at Rainbow Bottom — not far from a restored covered bridge that spanned the mud flats of the channel the river once followed, was a chore for the two of us, particularly when we both wanted to stop to see the light purple blooms of gentian plant, the swamp sparrows that hesitated in the brush, and the blue heron that fished in the shallows of the nearby river.

The Limberlost Gene Stratton-Porter braved no longer exists. “When I arrived,” she wrote, “there were miles of unbroken forest, lakes provided with boats for navigation, streams of running water, the road around its edges corduroy made by felling and sinking large trees in the muck.”

But a sense of the place remains. Unlike Limber Jim McDowell, visitors now have maps and trails to serve as their guide, and along with standing in its verdant green wilds, we can go there again and again in the pages of Gene Stratton-Porter’s books.

HOW Member News

Garbers Discovers Awesome Crested Saguaro Cactus

HOW past president Alan Garbers travels through the Arizona desert every day, either on his way to/from work or while he is on some other mission. He often gets spectacular views of sunrises and sunsets, and he usually sees some pretty cool wildlife, too. And different species of cactus? He sees tons of cacti every day. Luckily, he likes all kinds of cactus plants. Here's what he recently had to say about the majestic saguaro cactus:

“The massive saguaro is an iconic feature of southern Arizona,” stated Garbers. “They can take hundreds of years to attain their enormous size, with some reaching 60 feet tall. Conditions may cause their heavy arms to dip and twist into comical shapes as if they are trying to dance with or even hug neighboring cacti.”

“Not every place in Arizona is saguaro territory, though. Here at our home, it is a mile high and too cold for them to survive the winter. But an hour's drive to the south brings us into the Sonoran Desert and perfect saguaro habitat. My wife Dianna and I never get tired of seeing it.”

“But of all the hundreds of thousands of giant saguaros that rise into the sky, few ever become a



crested saguaro. In fact, these unusual saguaros are so rare that there are clubs that search the desert and document those that they find. Scientists still don't fully understand what causes the mutation that creates a crested saguaro.”

“This crested saguaro is near the copper mining town of Bagdad in west-central Arizona. The location makes it hard to notice this interesting saguaro as drivers negotiate the curvy mountain road, but enough visitors pay tribute to have worn a trail to it. It's easy to understand why.”

Schoonveld Celebrates Anniversary with a Fishing Trip

Most people that know HOW past-president Mike Schoonveld are aware he is a fishaholic. In fact, he likes fishing so much that he got his Coast Guard Captain's license and started a charter fishing business many years ago. Why? So he could go fishing more often! So what does he do while on vacation? He goes fishing. Holidays? He goes fishing. His wedding anniversary? You guessed it. Here's what he had to say about it recently:

"On a 38-degree-below-zero day in January of 1972, I married Peggy Huber in Turton, South Dakota," said Schoonveld. "Do the math. That's 50 years ago."

"A little over a year ago, with our golden anniversary coming up," he continued, "Peggy asked what sort of plans we should make for this noteworthy event. I said I didn't want to go back to South Dakota for the party. It was not likely to be negative 38 again – that was abnormal, even for the Dakotas. But it certainly could be a more normal 20-below or 25-below. It could also be nearly that cold in January here in Indiana."

"These days, lots of people have destination weddings (especially in the winter), so why not a destination anniversary? We've done it in the past. We spent our 20th and 25th in Jamaica, and our 30th in Cancun. So I announced to friends and family on our 49th anniversary we would be celebrating our 50th on Sanibel Island in Florida to give them time to plan to attend."



Mike and Peggy Schoonveld celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in January on Sanibel Island in sunny (and warm) southwest Florida.



"We did it! Several of my friends and family headed south with us, and, as I did on all of our destination anniversaries, I scheduled a day of fishing as long as I was going to be hanging around the ocean. These other trips were usually just Peggy and me or with one other couple. This one was going to be a large group."

"So I looked for a large boat. *Captain Tony's Fishing Adventures* filled the bill. Ten of my friends, brothers and nephews boarded the boat for a trip offshore into

(continued next page)

Mike Schoonveld's son-in-law Jeff Erdman displays a small red grouper that he caught aboard the party boat. This one was released, but he caught plenty of other fish!

the Gulf of Mexico. These craft are often called ‘party boats’, and we had the fishing part of my party on Capt. Tony’s 90-footer. So how was the fishing that day?”

“It was very good for saltwater ‘panfish’ of several species. My first fish was a red grouper which had to be returned due to being undersized, but after that, keeper-sized lane snappers, sand perch and various grunts came aboard and went into our communal bucket. The goal was to catch enough fish to feed all of us anglers, as well as all of the non-fisherpeople in the group who stayed on the beaches that day. Mission accomplished!”

“Several restaurants on Sanibel will cook your catch as long as the fish are brought in ready to cook. Since fish cleaning is included in the price of the fishing trip, we were all set. The boat also furnished all of our tackle and bait.”

“If you want more information about travel options for Sanibel Island or nearby areas, check out: www.visitfortmyers.com. If you want a fun and rewarding fishing trip, visit: www.capttonys.com.



There’s Mike Schoonveld standing in the background (center), ‘supervising’ the deckhands as they fillet the day’s catch of fish. He is probably thinking “Get out of the way, I can clean those fish faster than you can!”

South Africa Calls Hunters and Photographers

On pages 10-11 of this issue you can find a lot of information about the African safari that we will be auctioning-off at the HOW conference this year. Most of that info is related to hunters and hunting. Besides hunting, South Africa is rich in wildlife and the opportunities for photographers are nearly endless. Here are a couple great photos taken by HOW past president Troy McCormick from the trip he took a few years ago. Enjoy.



Michael Ellis Monitors Florida Wildlife

When long-time HOW member Michael Ellis retired to Florida, he knew he would see a variety of wildlife there. He just didn't think there would be so many interesting creatures walking through his own yard!

"Over the past year," said Ellis, "our security cameras have taken images of human visitors, delivery drivers, utility workers, squirrels, hawks, raccoons, armadillos, a cat, sandhill cranes, etc. Our neighbor even captured an image of a bobcat along Little Lake Harris on his security camera."

"But here are photos of two animals I didn't expect," he remarked. "One was a flock of wild turkeys (right) and the other was a young black bear!" (below)



"Here is a link to an 8-second video (<https://ring.com/share/aa8c7ab4-b753-45fd-86b6-9e151fa35258>) of the young bear coming into and out of camera range in our driveway one night." Surprise, surprise!



"I've also attached an image of three sandhill cranes (right) casually walking down the street in front of our home." Who says sandhill cranes are shy?

Membership Changes and Member Contact Info

The following name represent our newest HOW member. Please make a note of her contact info:

Suzanne Thomson: 6312 Bergeson Way, Indianapolis, IN 46278, phone: 317-402-7701,
Email: ZanThomson2018@gmail.com

The following HOW members have updated contact information:

Jay Butler: New address: 8014 Acorn Hill Cove, Ft. Wayne, IN 46804.
Troy McCormick: New phone: 502-494-4866.
Jack Spaulding: New phone: 765-570-6701.

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

Unusual Nature Photos from the Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Caldwell

Barn Swallows Easily Catch Flying Insects on the Wing



Close-up
→
Original
←



The “What is it?” photo from the last issue was fairly easy, since it was correctly identified by a total of ten (10) HOW members. Mike Schoonveld, Michael Ellis, Bill Keaton, Mike Lunsford, Troy McCormick, Bob Jennings, Richard Hines, Jarrett Manek, Phil Cox and Brandon Butler were all able to identify it. When we drew a name at random for the **HHA** archery sight, Jarrett Manek

was the lucky winner. Congratulations, Jarrett! Our friends at **HHA** will send the prize directly to you.

As you can see in the photo (above), the mystery creature for this issue was a Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*). Barn swallows are actually pretty colorful birds, as the males are a deep blue on the top of their head and their backs, and they are a dark orange color on their throat and just above their beak. They also have a lighter orange belly. One of their most striking features, though, is their deeply forked tail.

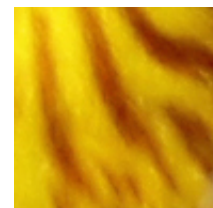
Barn swallows are insect eaters, and they catch almost all of their food on the wing. Small flies are always on the menu, but they also eat lots of other flying insects like mosquitos, mayflies, moths, bees, flying ants, flying beetles, and just about any other insect they encounter while flying above fields or the open water of lakes and ponds.

For this issue, our friends at **Caldwell** 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 a **Caldwell Portable Range Kit**. 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 at certain times. Some people even see it 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 moth, for example, go ahead and guess “Luna moth” (of course, it’s not a moth). If you think you know the answer, send an email to me at thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you will be entered in this issue’s prize drawing!



As mentioned, **Caldwell** (www.caldwellshooting.com) has donated a nice shooting accessory for the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” nature question. This issue’s winner will receive a **Caldwell Portable Range Kit** with an MSRP of more than \$100. Check out all of Caldwell’s innovative shooting 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.

Standing Tall: All-New 2023 Toyota Sequoia Full-Size SUV is Ready to Make its Mark

Plano, TX – January 25, 2022 – Much like the coastal redwoods after which it is named, the all-new 2023 Sequoia makes an immediate, indelible impression. The three-row SUV is all new from the ground up, and it aims to elevate the full-size segment with luxurious comfort, impressive technology and breath-taking performance from an efficient new hybrid powertrain.

On the surface, the “Sequoia” name is befitting of this large SUV because of its size. Peeling back the symbolism a bit more, the species of tree is not only the largest in the world but it’s also one of the strongest and most stout, known for its longevity with some being nearly 2,000 years old. Seeing the forest for the trees, the “Sequoia” name for Toyota’s largest SUV represents its stature in addition to its long-lasting quality, durability and reliability. The all-new 2023 Toyota Sequoia is projected to be available in summer of 2022.

“Toyota has just revealed the all-new 2023 Sequoia, which hasn’t had a major update in over a decade,” announced Curt McAllister, the Midwest Public Relations Manager for Toyota Motor North America. “Our big SUV is now upgraded in every department. We swapped out our 5.7 liter V8 for a new 3.4 liter twin turbo V6.



It comes in a hybrid and produces 437 horsepower, a big improvement over the 381 ponies the previous generation offered. There is also a big leap in our towing quotient. The new Sequoia will be able to tow in excess of 9,000 pounds, which is a 22 percent improvement over the previous model. The Sequoia will be built in San Antonio, TX and hits dealerships later this summer.”

To read the full Toyota press release, including images and videos, please check out the following link:

<https://pressroom.toyota.com/standing-tall-all-new-2023-sequoia-full-size-suv-is-ready-to-make-its-mark/>

Media Contact: Please contact Curt McAllister for more info. He can be reached by phone at: 313-259-4598 (office–direct), 313-318-3906 (cell), or via email: curt.mcallister@toyota.com.

HOW Supporting Member News

Hawke Optics' New-For-2022 Frontier 34 is the Ultimate Long-Range Rifle Scope

Premium Scopes Designed Specifically for Extreme Long-Range Shooting

January 17, 2022. Hawke® Optics, a worldwide leader in quality sporting optics that perform outstanding in the field while maintaining optimum value for the consumer, adds a new option to its premium Frontier rifle scope line with 34mm main tubes. The new Frontier 34 FFP scopes are built with Extreme Long Range (ELR) and King of 2 Miles (KO2M) shooters in mind.

Like the other scopes in the Frontier lineup, the Frontier 34 FFP scopes are part of the System H7 series, which use index-matched lenses with outstanding clarity throughout the entire field of view. All of the glass surfaces in H7 have 21 layers of advanced coatings for high light transmission and clearer view. These are long-range friendly First Focal Plane scopes that help you hit your target out to ranges most shooters fear to tread. Even better, these scopes represent what may well be the best value in premium long-range shooting equipment.

The Frontier 34 FFP is built on a 34mm mono-tube chassis that is machined from high-grade aluminum. The scopes are fully water, shock and fog proof and are nitrogen purged, making them durable and maintenance free. They have side focus adjustment that lets you zero in on your target regardless of range. The Zero, Lock'n Stop turrets are resettable, lockable and feature a state-of-the-art return to zero feature. These turrets are perfect for the ELR shooter looking to adjust to conditions in the field.



There are two magnification models of the Frontier 34 FFP riflescopes, a 3-18x50 and a 5-30x56. Each of these are available with two FFP illuminated reticle options – Mil Pro Ext and MOA Pro Ext – each calibrated to the scope's magnification and specifically designed for the extreme long-range shooting you want to do. The illumination has 11 brightness levels to match any lighting condition. All models have a generous four inches of eye relief and locking ocular focus. Each Frontier 34 FFP rifle scope comes with an easy-to-use zoom lever that is removable to allow you to set the scope up how you want it. These scopes also come with a four-inch sunshade, reticle battery, Hawke Professional Flip-Up lens covers and a lens cloth. They are backed by Hawke's No-Fault Lifetime Warranty, covering the scope for life.

Whichever model you pick, all you need is the perfect rifle to match and, of course, practice. Learn much more at www.hawkeoptics.com.

Media Contact: Please contact Paige Shipe at Hawke Sport Optics for more info (phone: 877-429-5347, email: pshipe@hawkeoptics.com), or Jonina Costello at Full Throttle Communications (email: jcostello@full-throttle.com, or by calling: 805-529-3700).



HOW Supporting Member News

Target Communications Outdoor Books Releases New 2nd Edition of **BECOME THE ARROW...the Art of MODERN Barebow Shooting**

January 14, 2022. There's more NEW ARCHERY INFO...in this second edition of **BECOME THE ARROW**, by Byron Ferguson. Ferguson is a famed archery barebow shooter, outdoor show performer, trick shot, skilled bowhunter and longbow manufacturer. This book includes:

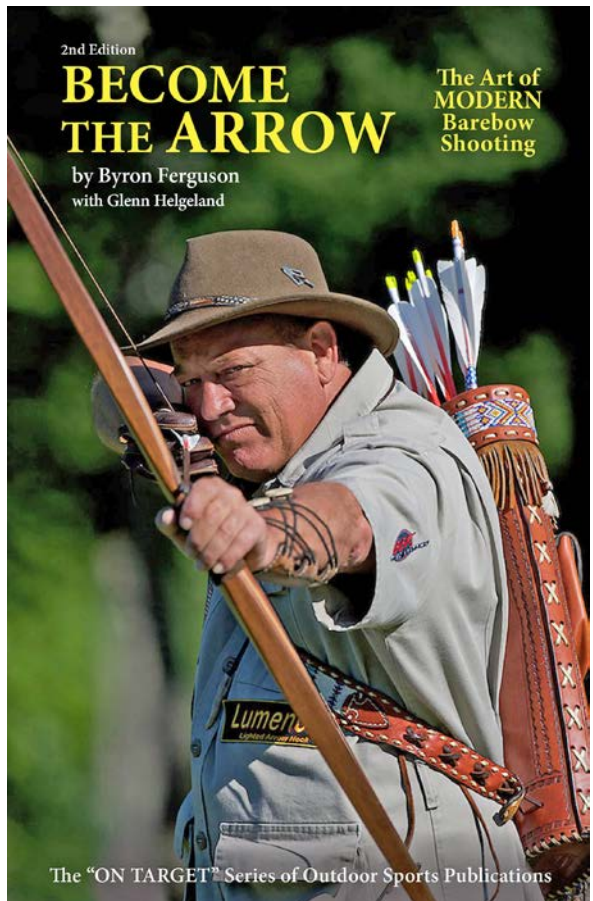
- An **entire chapter on TARGET PANIC**. Ferguson had it and whipped it. Here he tells you how he believes you can whip it, too, if you have it.
- **Ferguson's international shooting performances** -- all the countries he has performed in, the huge crowds who came to see him shoot (up to 15,000), and how well he was received. It is well-illustrated with photos.
- An expanded photo display of the **BIG GAME and other trophies** Ferguson has taken with his bow. A skilled bowhunter, **Ferguson has tagged more than 300 whitetail deer** (his family eats venison nearly exclusively), record-book black bear, plus moose, pronghorn, mule deer, caribou, wild hog, upland game birds and countless small game. He also has shot coyotes with his bow.
- **Special awards** and honors Ferguson has received.

The core of the book learning to "become the arrow" ... is unchanged from the first edition.

Byron Ferguson developed a modern barebow aiming and shooting system called "become the arrow" for longbow and recurve shooters. It is easy to learn, reliable and puts your mental and physical focus where it belongs -- on the target. He calls it "**the art of MODERN barebow shooting, taking accurate shooting one long step beyond the bow.**"

The new second edition of **BECOME THE ARROW** is paperback, 5-1/2" x 8-1/2", 142 pages, \$14.95 retail, plus shipping/handling. It can be ordered from: www.targetcommbooks.com, and will also be available at most Cabela's and Bass Pro Shops stores and from Lancaster Archery Supply. The book is published by Target Communications Outdoor Books (262-402-7668). It will be available in early February.

By applying what Ferguson says in this book, **you also will learn the incredible value of visualization**. When you extend your mental framework to the arrow...when you visualize the arrow hitting the exact spot you intended it to hit...then you truly have become the arrow and will be a more deadly shot.



NOTE TO EDITORS:

For a review copy, send an email to Publisher Glenn Helgeland (glenn.helgeland@gmail.com) or call 1-262-402-7668. We will send you a copy as soon as we get them from the printer. Please send us a copy of your review.

For an author interview: byronferguson@msn.com.

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Artrip Float Company - www.artripfloatcompany.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Black River Tools - www.blackrivertools.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
BOLT Locks - www.boltlock.com
Brella Rainwear - www.brellabrella.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bucket Grip - www.bucketgrip.com
Caldwell - www.caldwellshooting.com
Celox Medical - www.stopbleedingkits.org
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Costa Sunglasses - www.costadelmar.com
Daisy Outdoor Products - www.daisy.com
Danner Boots - www.danner.com
Dardevle by Eppinger - www.dardevle.com
DJ Illinois River Valley Calls - www.djcalls.com
Ducks Unlimited - www.ducks.org
Egret Baits - www.egretbaits.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Falcon Guides - www.falcon.com
Finn Tackle Company - www.finnspoons.com
Fish Monkey Gloves - www.fishmonkeygloves.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Glacier Glove - www.glacierglove.com
Grizzly Fishing - www.grizzlyfishing.com
Hawke Sport Optics - www.hawkeoptics.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryUSA.com
HHA Sports - www.HHAsports.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply -
www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Howard Leight Shooting Sports -
www.howardleight.com
HT Enterprises - www.htent.com
Indiana Destination Development Corporation -
www.visitindiana.com
Indiana Dunes Tourism - www.indianadunes.com
Jackall Lures - www.jackall-lures.com
LaCrosse Footwear - www.lacrossefootwear.com
Lawrence County Tourism -
www.limestonecountry.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com

Looter Lure - www.looterlure.com
Mack's Lure - www.mackslure.com
Mathews Archery - www.mathewsinc.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
Mongo Attachments - www.mongoattachments.com
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
National Wild Turkey Federation - www.nwtf.org
Norsemen Outdoors - www.norsemenoutdoors.com
Nosler, Inc. - www.nosler.com
Nothead Tackle - www.notheadtackle.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle - www.offshoretackle.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Sportsman Group - www.outdoorsg.com
PowerPro Lines - www.powerpro.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pro-Cure Bait Scents - www.pro-cure.com
Quaker Boy Game Calls -
www.quakerboygamecalls.com
RAM Trucks - www.ramtrucks.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
RIO Products - www.rioproducts.com
Roeslein Alternative Energy - www.roeslein.com
Seaguar Fishing Lines - www.seaguar.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Sierra Bullets - www.sierrabullets.com
Snag Proof Lures - www.snagproof.com
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
Sporting Classics - www.sportingclassics.com
Sportsman Magazine - www.sportsman-mag.com
St. Croix Rods - www.stcroixrods.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
Swab-Its - www.swab-its.com
Sweet Owen CVB - www.sweetowencvb.org
Tales End Tackle - www.talesendtackle.com
Target Communications Outdoor Books -
www.targetcommbooks.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
Traditions Media - www.traditionsmedia.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Van Vuuren African Safaris - www.vvasafaris.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
Whitetails Unlimited - www.whitetailsunlimited.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
W.R. Case - 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:

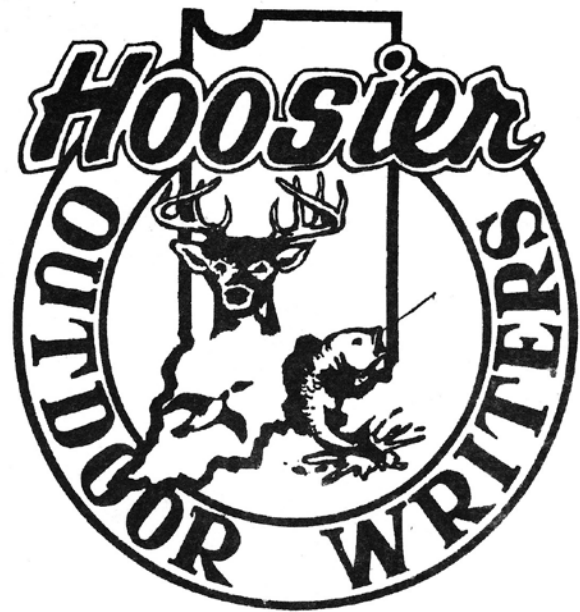
1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor 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)
Cincinnati, OH

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

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

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

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

OWAA 2022 Annual Conference: May 21-23, 2022
(www.owaa.org)
Casper, WY

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

AGLOW 2022 Annual Conference: September 19-22, 2022
(www.aglowinfo.org)
Chateau on the Lake Resort
Branson, MO

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