

The Blade

2013 Pre-Conference Issue

March - April 2013

The Official Publication of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers



"HOW Conference Fun Shoot", photo by Tom Berg



Hoosier Outdoor Writers

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

Hoosier Outdoor Writers Executive Council

Board Chairman

Brandon Butler
129 Meadow Lake Lane
Fayette, MO 65248
bbutler@driftwoodoutdoors.com

President

Josh Lantz
18738 Old Field Rd.
New Buffalo, MI 49117
josh@sandcreek-media.com

Vice President

Ben Shadley
10635 East Edgewood Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239
bshadley@gmail.com

Executive Director

Tom Berg
2142 Nondorf St.
Dyer, IN 46311
director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org

Legal Counsel

Bill Keaton
126 West Second St.
Rushville, IN 46173
bill@bishophillguesthouse.com

Newsletter Editor

Tom Berg
2142 Nondorf St.
Dyer, IN 46311
director@hoosieroutdoorwriters.org

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On the cover: *The HOW Fun Shoot is the traditional kick-off for the annual HOW Conference. Bob Jennings from Worthington, IN takes aim at a high-flying clay target as he prepares to pull the trigger. Be sure to join us this year and make some new friends! Photo by Tom Berg.*



President's Message

by Josh Lantz

I recently spent some significant time where I had grown up on Lake Wawasee in Kosciusko County. It was a unique opportunity to reconnect with many of the places, people and things from my childhood.

The house I lived in sits on a manmade channel off of the lake. Across the channel is a small strip of undeveloped land, a one-acre pond and approximately 100-acres of cattail marsh.

In the 1970's and 80's, we saw relatively little wildlife across the channel. Of course, we had a variety of turtles, frogs, snakes, muskrats and birds but we rarely saw deer. We had mallards throughout the summer and a variety of other ducks during the migration, but no Canada geese. There were once good numbers of big, black crappies in the pond, but my brother and I fished them out without knowing it. And before the rest of the houses and fertilized lawns came along, there were also nickel-sized freshwater jellyfish in the channel itself. A variety of fish lived and spawned in the channel, including big largemouth bass and plate-sized redear sunfish.

A developer tried to develop the small strip of land in the 1970's. He never had the required permits, and the work he was doing was illegal. Nonetheless, fill was trucked in and many trees were bulldozed before the lake's property owners' association and the courts stopped him.

I've watched the area regenerate in the 40 years since. It is amazing what time and modern wildlife conservation can do.

Remnant scrub cedars have grown to over twenty-feet in height. Cottonwood and sycamore trees have grown too, along with redbuds, oaks and a handful of Osage orange trees. Thankfully, the invasive phragmites and purple loosestrife that has choked out native cattails throughout much of Indiana have not yet found our marsh.

Our nation's wildlife bounty has made the area its home. As I write, I'm marveling at a skein of greenwing teal numbering in the several hundreds -- trading back and forth over the marsh, flying between the main lake and the large bay at the end of our channel. Today alone, I saw muskrat, beaver, mink, mallards, Canada geese, teal, wood ducks, whitetail deer and sandhill cranes -- all on the ground or in the water within 100-yards of my mother's back deck.

The sandhills, of course, have been a real treat in recent years. At least two pairs have nested along the edge of the marsh for the past three or four seasons. They return every year in late February or early March and make sure everyone knows they have arrived home. This remarkable species, like the Canada goose, whitetail deer and wild turkey, has made a remarkable comeback in Indiana, thanks primarily to significant conservation work and habitat improvements made possible by sportsmen's dollars.

On the negative side, I'm afraid the freshwater jellies are gone forever, and an ultra-invasive weed called starry stonewort has taken over and totally transformed the ecology of our channel to the point where bass no longer spawn there. I suppose our hardworking biologists will always have new challenges such as these.

The evolution of the land outside my childhood home's backdoor is a metaphor for every one of our nation's great conservation success stories -- stories I never tire of finding new ways to tell. Isn't that our greatest obligation? Remember, an outdoor writer who lacks inspiration is simply spending too much time indoors.

Thanks to each of you for your contributions to the Hoosier Outdoor Writers, our profession, and to conservation over the past year. If you are a corporate member, thanks for all you do in support of our craft. All of you are counted among my heroes, and it has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as your President.

The Hoosier Outdoor Writers

New Members, Past Presidents & Memorial Section

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

**D.L. "Lori" Smith (Active)
Knox, IN**

Sponsor: Tom Berg

**Mark Smith (Active – Returning Member)
Knox, IN**

Sponsor: Tom Berg

Memorial to Deceased HOW Members

Those Who Have Gone Before Us:

Jack Alkire – HOW President 1979

Bill Beeman – Executive Director

Ed Blann

Charlie Brown

Gary Carden

Jim "Moose" Carden – HOW President 1982/83

George Carey

John Case

Bill Church – HOW President 1972

Jack "Big Jake" Cooper

Mark Cottingham

Jerry Criss

Gary "Dox" Doxtater

Dick Forbes

Tom Glancy – HOW President 1977

Dale Griffith

Fred Heckman

Jack Kerins

Mike Lyle – HOW President 1981

Ralph "Cork" McHargue – HOW President 1976

Dick Mercier

Bob Nesbit

Hellen Ochs

Jack Parry

Harry Renfro

"Bayou" Bill Scifres – HOW President – 6 terms

George Seketa

Hal Shymkus

Al Spiers

Robert "Doc" Stunkard

Butch Tackett

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 |

2013 HOW Conference Preview

Explore Madison!

As everyone should know by now, this year's HOW Conference is scheduled for the weekend of April 19-21, 2013. We will be visiting Clifty Falls State Park and the quaint "river town" of Madison in southern Indiana. The main meeting will take place on Saturday, April 20th at the Clifty Inn inside Clifty Falls State Park. Entry through the south gate of the park provides a direct path to the inn. There are directions and a map in this issue for those who are new to the area.

For those HOW members who are interested, we will be holding our annual HOW Fun Shoot on Friday afternoon, April 19th. We will meet at the Atterbury Shooting Complex near Edinburgh and begin the shoot at 12:30 eastern daylight time. See page 9 for directions and more information.



The Clifty Inn is a great meeting place and the perfect starting point for an adventure inside Clifty Falls State Park. Photo courtesy of Madison Visitor's Center.

On Friday evening, we will gather at the Clifty Shelter House near the north end of the state park at 6:00pm for a special barbecue and get-together that we are planning with the help of the Madison Visitor's Center. They have recruited one of the local Madison BBQ teams to prepare an outstanding barbecue dinner for us. There will be plenty to eat and drink, and it will be a great time to see old friends and make some new ones!



A view from inside Clifty Falls State Park.

As mentioned earlier, the annual meeting itself will take place on Saturday, April 20th. HOW members who can't make it Friday night or who can't stay until Sunday should still feel free to come for the meeting on Saturday. It is "The Main Event", and a lot of people will be coming on Saturday only.

We have lined-up some excellent speakers and presenters for this conference. Ann Mulligan and Marci Jones from the Madison Visitors Center will be on hand to greet us Saturday morning and give a quick description of the Madison area and what it has to offer outdoor enthusiasts. With the Ohio River on one side and Clifty Falls State Park and Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge on the other side, the opportunities for outdoor recreation around Madison are nearly endless!

Joe Robb, the Refuge Manager at Big Oaks NWR will provide an overview of this 50,000 acre property. He will discuss the different habitat types and the diversity of wildlife species living there. Over 200 species of birds and 46 species of mammals are found on the refuge. Big Oaks also provides excellent habitat for the federally-endangered Indiana bat, which uses the refuge for summer foraging, roosting, and rearing young.

(continued next page)

Ben Shadley will present a seminar titled “Practical Digital Photography”. Ben is a photographer, videographer and creative project manager at Kenra Professional, and his presentation will focus primarily on four aspects of digital photography: purchasing equipment, operating the camera, effective shooting and post production/image delivery. The goal is to present the necessary information to enable non-professional photographers to effectively integrate high quality images into their media. There will be a Q and A period at the end of the presentation, and the presenter will be available to talk one-on-one with participants afterwards.

Brian Schoenung, the DNR’s Southern Fisheries Supervisor, will discuss “Fishes of the Ohio River”. He will mention the major species of catfish and the other fish populations on the Ohio, but he will focus primarily on the “Roe Fisheries” (paddlefish & sturgeon) because they are in immediate need of careful management.

Dan Carnahan, the District 6 Fisheries Biologist for the DNR, will talk about the bass tournament monitoring program that he administers. He should have some very interesting catch/release data from lakes all around the state to share with us.

The annual conference has traditionally been a time to renew old friendships and make new ones, but it is also a time to honor the achievements of our members with the annual Awards-In-Craft contests. This year we will award prizes for outstanding writing, photography and broadcast media. A special thank-you goes out to **Toyota Motor Sales, USA** for sponsoring this year’s contests again.



THE ANNUAL HOW RAFFLE

Listen-up, raffle enthusiasts! The annual HOW Raffle is shaping-up to be another extraordinary event. Last year we had product donations from a total of 86 companies and organizations, and in 2011 we had a record number of donating companies (94). At press time, we are on-track to set a **new record** as we have already received raffle donations from 90 contributing companies and organizations. Several more companies have indicated that they are in the process of sending outdoors-related products, too. So the number of contributing companies is sure to grow.

The annual raffle is the highlight of the meeting for some of our members, and they won’t be disappointed this year. For those who can’t wait for the big day to hear what we will be raffling off, here is a partial list that should convince you to bring along lots of extra cash:

Hunting enthusiasts will be happy to hear that we will have a Remington Model 783 rifle chambered in 30-06, along with a great Mathews Drenalin compound bow. Fishermen in the crowd will be eyeing a dazzling array of fishing rods, fishing reels and lures of all shapes, sizes and colors. There will also be lots of icefishing gear, terminal tackle, shooting supplies, lights, ammunition, rain gear, premium sunglasses, hunting gear, waterproof binoculars, spotting scopes, rifle scopes and knives. There’s also hunting calls, turkey hunting gear, outdoor apparel for both summer and winter, outdoors books, cast iron cookware, archery gear, tackleboxes, tents, sleeping bags, coolers, tackle packs, camera accessories, rod holders, camp stoves, electronic game calls, hunting and fishing scents, mapping software, backpacks, boots, trolling equipment and more!



And that’s just a sample of the items in this year’s raffle! So make sure you attend this year’s conference and buy plenty of raffle tickets. You can’t win if you don’t play! Good luck!

Post-Conference Fishing Outing Choices: "Ohio River Catfish" or "Fly Fishing Local Waters"!

"Fly Fishing Local Waters" Outing:

Anyone interested in fishing some of the local spots around Madison with fly fishing tackle will have some interesting waters to choose from on Sunday.

Members of one of the local fly fishing clubs have volunteered to "guide" us, and they will take us to some good fishing holes and show us the ropes. All interested fly anglers will also be invited by our fly fishing host, Steve Thomas, to his family's winery on Saturday evening to tie some flies for Sunday's outing and sample some wine. What could be better? Here are the fly fishing options for Sunday:



- Depending on stream conditions, we can fish some relatively small creeks for smallmouth bass. Although smallies will be the main target, you will probably also hook resident rockbass and even bluegills, too. Options include Big Creek, Graham Creek, Loughery Creek and others. You should bring waders or hip boots if you have them, but if not, don't worry. Anglers without wading gear will still find a good place to wet a line. If you can bring your own fly rod, bring a 4-weight or 6-weight (probably a 6-weight). If you don't have fly tackle, please let Tom Berg know as soon as possible and we will get a loaner outfit for you.
- Another option is to fly fish the quiet waters of one or more of the small local lakes. Hardy Lake is filled with dead wood and stumps that harbor largemouth bass, crappies and plenty of other fish. One of the small lakes in Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge is another cool place to fish. Some of the area lakes have cypress trees in the water and you can cast your fly to the edge of the rounded cypress knees while trying to entice a strike from a bass.
- Depending on weather and river conditions, there is an outside chance that we could hop in a boat and motor down to one of the dams on the Ohio River to cast large flies for stripers. In that case you will need an 8 or 9-weight rod.

Most anglers will opt to fish in the morning since they may have a long drive ahead to get home, but if you live nearby our hosts recommend an afternoon outing. Cold water at this time often makes the fish more active in the afternoon, but morning outings can also be good.

"Ohio River Catfish" Outing:

The Ohio River is home to some giant catfish, and we are hoping to tangle with some of them on Sunday. What is a giant catfish? How about 20 pounds, 30 pounds or even bigger?

Pot-bellied 50-pounders are not unheard-of, so be prepared. We will be fishing primarily for big blue catfish, but there are also lots of channel catfish of all sizes. There is always a chance at catching a big flathead catfish, too. Here are the details:

- We will meet at the main Madison boat ramp (you can't miss it) and we will be divided among several boats. Some boats will hold 2 HOW members and others will hold 3 or maybe even 4. It depends on how many people sign up and how many boats commit to taking us out on the river. You will need to bring your Indiana fishing license and your own lifejacket to get on a boat. If you don't have a lifejacket, please let Tom Berg know and we will get one for you. All tackle and bait will be provided by your boat captain.
- Some captains prefer to drift for catfish and others like to anchor. It is likely that we will be fishing the main stem of the river near creek mouths, since the big blue cats will be gathering to head up the creeks to prepare for spawning. We will also probably be fishing over deep channels where groups of big cats hang out as they wait for a meal.
- Ohio River Note: The Ohio River is a large, unpredictable body of water. It can be dangerous, so if the water is too high to fish safely, this outing will be canceled and we will try to re-schedule you for the fly fishing outing if you are interested in that option. We will watch the weather as the date approaches and keep you informed.



Hoosier Outdoor Writers Annual Conference Registration



Clifty Inn near Madison, IN (Jefferson County) – April 19-21, 2013

This registration form is for the Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 20th
(8:00am – 4:30pm)

Information to appear on name badge:

Name: _____ Spouse's name (if attending): _____

Title: _____

Contact information:

Mailing Address: _____

City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Are you a first-time HOW conference attendee? _____

Conference Registration Fee per person:

HOW Members (and spouses): \$25.00 each (on or before April 1st) = _____

\$30.00 each (after April 1st) = _____

Non-HOW Members: \$30.00 each (on or before April 1st) = _____

\$35.00 each (after April 1st) = _____

TOTAL = _____

Conference fee includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch on April 20th.

Please print this application and mail it along with your check for each person attending (make check payable to “Hoosier Outdoor Writers”) to:

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

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

The Annual HOW Fun Shoot

The 2013 HOW Conference will begin (as usual) with the HOW Fun Shoot. It has become a tradition for the shooters in our membership to get together and break a few clay targets, have some fun and renew old friendships on the Friday before the Annual Meeting. Some of our participants are experienced shooters while others are new to the sport and are still learning. All skill levels are welcome, and the “senior” members are always willing to help newcomers.

Since the 2013 HOW Conference will be held at Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, the nearest shooting facility that we could find was at the Atterbury Shooting Complex near Edinburgh. If you've never been to this state-of-the-art shooting range, this will be your chance. It's worth the trip.



HOW member Barb Simpson is ready to take a shot at a clay “rabbit” running along the ground at Oakwood Gun Club last year. Fun Shoot photos by Tom Berg.

This year's shoot will take place on Friday afternoon, April 19th. We will meet at Atterbury at around noon and begin shooting at 12:30 eastern daylight time. That should give us plenty of time to finish shooting and head south to Clifty Falls (it's about a 1½ hour drive from Clifty).

This location should be convenient for the majority of the shooters, since most will be heading south on I-65 for the conference anyway. The shooting range is conveniently

located along the way, approximately 8 miles west of I-65 or about 2 miles west of the intersection of U.S. 31 and S.R. 252. Look for the orange & white water tower located just before the Camp Atterbury 1942 boulder, take Edinburgh Street (fork right) for about 1/10th of a mile and the range is on your right.

We will be shooting skeet and the cost will be \$6.00 per 25-target round. HOW Supporting Member Remington Arms will be providing the ammunition to participating HOW members free of charge, so come on out and join the fun! Last year's shoot in early May and this year's shoot in mid-April sure beats the old days of shooting in February when the temperature was sometimes below zero!

Once we are done shooting, we will head for Clifty Falls and get ready for an enjoyable evening at our “Friday Evening Barbecue”. Marci Jones from the Madison Visitor's Center has recruited one of the local Madison BBQ teams to prepare an outstanding barbecue dinner for us, and it will be held at the Clifty Shelter House near the north end of the state park.



2013 HOW Conference

We would like to thank the following companies and organizations:



Awards-in-Craft Sponsor



Friday Evening BBQ Sponsor



Conference Lunch Sponsor



Conference Meal Sponsor

as the official sponsors of the
2013 HOW Annual Conference

HOOSIER OUTDOOR WRITERS

Annual Meeting on April 20, 2013
The Clifty Inn (Overlook Room)
Madison, IN

TENTATIVE MEETING SCHEDULE

8:00-9:00am

Registration, continental breakfast.

8:30-9:00am

HOW Board of Directors meeting.

9:00-9:20am

Opening remarks by outgoing President Josh Lantz and briefing about the day's schedule. Ann Mulligan and Marci Jones from the Madison Visitor's Center will then welcome HOW members to Clifty Falls SP and give an overview of the Madison area and what it has to offer outdoor enthusiasts.

9:20-10:05am

Presentation #1: Joe Robb, Refuge Manager at nearby Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge, will give an overview of the property and discuss the different habitat types and the diversity of wildlife species living there (including rare species).

10:05-10:15am

Break.

10:15-11:15am

Presentation #2: Media expert Ben Shadley will present his seminar: "Practical Digital Photography", which will provide the necessary information to enable non-professional photographers to effectively integrate high quality images into their media.

11:15-11:30am

Business meeting, Slate of new officers, presentation of HOW/Bass Pro Shops "Pass It On" Award.

11:30-12:30pm

Buffet lunch and social time for members.

12:30-1:15pm

Presentation #3: Brian Schoenung, Southern Fisheries Supervisor, will discuss "Fishes of the Ohio River". He will mention catfish and the other fish species on the Ohio, but will focus on the "Roe Fisheries" (paddlefish & sturgeon) because they are in immediate need of protection.

1:15-1:45pm

HOW Awards-In-Craft presentation (Writing, Photography, Broadcast).

1:45-2:15pm

Break. Raffle tickets go on sale!

2:15-3:00pm

Presentation #4: Dan Carnahan, DNR Fisheries Biologist, will talk about the statewide bass tournament monitoring program by the DNR. He should have some very interesting catch/release data to share with us.

3:00-3:15pm

Break. Last chance to buy raffle tickets!

3:15pm

Annual HOW Outdoor Writer's Raffle.

4:30pm

Meeting adjourns.

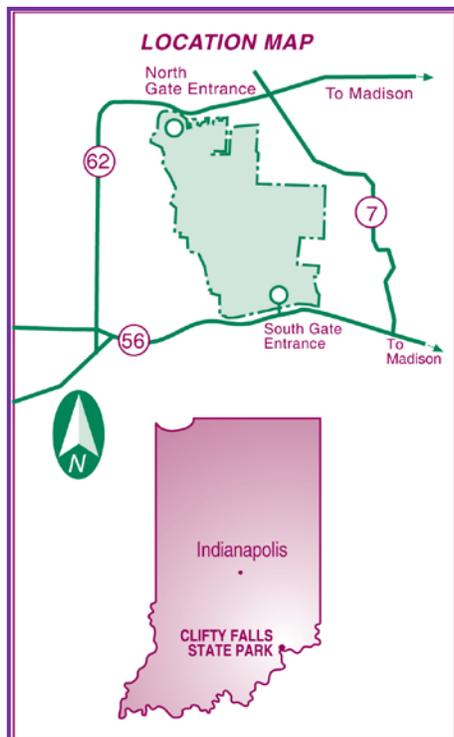
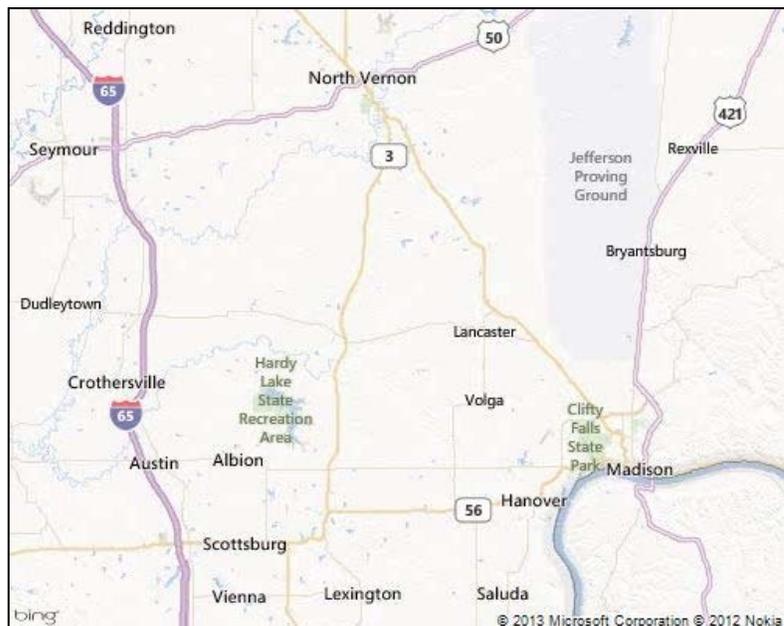
6:00pm

Dinner on your own for those staying until Sunday.

Directions to Clifty Falls State Park:

From Indianapolis: Travel south on I-65 and take exit 36 for US 31 towards Austin. Take US 31 for 3 miles and turn left onto IN-256. Go 19.3 miles and turn right onto IN-62 (Clifty Dr), then left on IN-56 (Clifty Hollow Rd). Go 2 miles and entrance is on your left.

From the south suburbs of Chicago: Take I-80/94 into Indiana and exit I-65 SOUTH. Stay on I-65 through Indianapolis and then follow directions above to Clifty Falls.



From Fort Wayne and northeastern Indiana: Take I-69 south out of Fort Wayne to Indianapolis, and take I-65 south. Then follow directions above to Clifty Falls.

From Evansville and southwestern Indiana: Take I-64 east towards Louisville. Turn north onto I-65 and go to exit 36 and follow directions above to Clifty Falls. You may also take the back roads (IN-62) towards Clifty rather than going north on I-65.

Reality Check:

Caution: Although it is easy to get to Clifty Falls State Park via Interstate 65, be advised that traffic on I-65 and possible construction will likely cause delays. As always, do a reality check when mapping out your course and estimating arrival times. Please plan accordingly!



HOW Raffle Donors - 2013

This list of raffle donors was compiled shortly before the conference. Additional raffle donations may come in after press time, and they will be acknowledged in the next issue.

Alpen Optics
Arctic Ice
B'n'M Poles
Barnes Bullets
Bass Assassin Lures
Bass Pro Shops
Battenfeld Technologies
Bear & Son Cutlery
Birchwood Casey
Black River Tools
Blackpowder Products, Inc.
Boat U.S. Angler
Brownells, Inc.
Bubba Blade Knives
Buck Knives
Bushnell Outdoor Products
Cabela's
Camp Chef
Castalia Outdoors
Church Tackle Company
Clam Corporation
Cocoons Eyewear
Coleman
Columbia Sportswear
Costa Sunglasses
Crappie Pro
Cyclops Solutions
Environ-METAL, Inc.
Eppinger
E/T Lights
Federal Premium Ammunition
Filson Corporation
Flying Fisherman
FOXPRO, Inc.
Freedom Group - Remington Arms
Frogg Toggs
G.Loomis
Gerber Legendary Blades
Hawke Sport Optics
Hodgdon Powder Company
Hoosier Trapper Supply
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
HT Enterprises, Inc.
Hunter's Specialties
Knight Sleeping Bags
Koppers Fishing & Tackle Corporation
Kwikee Kwitter
LensPen
Leupold
Lightfield Ammunition
Lodge Manufacturing
Long Last Lures
Mathews
Montauk Mike's Lures
Mossy Oak
MyTopo
Nautic Global Group
Nikon Sport Optics
Off Shore Tackle Company
Otis Technology
Outdoor Promotions
Pelican Products, Inc.
Poor Boy's Baits/Lurecraft Industries
PowerPro Line
Pradco
Princeton University Press
Pro-Cure, Inc.
Pure Fishing
Quaker Boy Game Calls
Real Avid
Reef Runner Lures
Rocky Brands, Inc.
Run Off Lure Company
Secret Weapon Lures
Shimano American Corporation
Shur-Set Releases
Snag Proof Manufacturing
Solution Products Inc.
Speedy Sharp
St. Croix Rods
T-REIGN Outdoor Products
Thundermist Lures
Tink's
TTI-Blakemore Fishing
Vexilar, Inc.
W.R. Case
WaveSpin Reels
White Flyer Targets
Winchester Ammunition
Wrangler Rugged Wear
Wright & McGill Company

Wide, Muddy River Provides Fun and ‘Culture’

by Kevin Lilly

I brought in the new year exactly how I wanted: sleeping riverside next to a fire.

The last day of the year, though, also included an unpleasant encounter with a Morgan County resident who despised the presence of me and my good friend, Doug Glassjaw.

With the clock ticking ever so closer toward nightfall, we needed to get on the White River upstream of the public access site outside Paragon. The image from the satellite map showed a pull-off about 100 feet from the water’s edge at the end of a dead-end road. Having never been there, I thought, “Looks good.”

Boy was I wrong.

Besides the five rotting deer carcasses, a “no trespassing” sign gave clear indication this move had been considered before, and the property owner opposed it.

Glassjaw and I decided on Plan B: Ask a local.

On the way to the river we passed a man walking a group of dogs with a reputation of biting people. On our way out, I slowed to a stop, rolled down the window and received a lesson.

I had stopped to ask the man a favor. He could have even earned \$5, but he said something like, “You’re not from around here, are you?” I said no, still not picking up on his subtle displeasure with my existence.

“This isn’t a BLEEPING racetrack,” he began to scream just before I started to say something about residing in Brown County and wanting a peaceful float down the river.

The man, standing 6 feet tall and weighing in at about 300 pounds, kept his hands in his coat pockets, but his mouth running. With little to no effect, I tried explaining that my opinion of speeding differed from his. He

ended the conversation by advising Glassjaw and I to move on and never come back.

With feelings hurt, we drove off to implement the rarely utilized Plan C.

Glassjaw is a military-trained survivalist. He served a tour in the Middle East and continues to serve our country full time. His membership to the Veterans of Foreign Wars proved beneficial in getting us on the unexpectedly elusive waterway.

The first starting point entailed canoeing five miles, an easy task on the swift, muddy waters of the wide



(story continued on next page)

White River. Our new spot more than doubled that distance, which meant more rowing on a short winter day.

With canoe loaded with two packs, a fishing pole and an ax, we set off – finally!

Clouds blocked the sun in early afternoon. Wind swept down the roiling waters and sandy banks of the corridor. A bald eagle jumped into flight from its perch high in the air. Squirrels scurried on the ground and leapt from tree to tree. The canoe glided along faster than a leisurely walk.

Glassjaw and I discussed what to do if the boat capsized on a railroad bridge pier or a logjam. Hypothermia sets in quick while wet on a winter day, you know.

We decided, “Grab what you can and head for shore at breakneck pace.”

Fire – that would be a top priority. Get dry and get warm. Civilization is usually not that far away, but we would need our body parts working properly to hike out.

Luckily, none of those what-if scenarios played out. We traveled smoothly past areas of whirlpools, large gatherings of dead trees and even whitecaps on Day 2.

We picked a campsite and built a shelter using rope, plastic and materials from a nearby stand of forest. We placed the fire near the opening and built a wall behind the fire. The shelter’s design worked similar to the sun blaring into a car on a cold day. The shelter, like the interior of the vehicle, heated up despite the cold air outside.

Using fine shavings from dry wood, I ignited a fire using a StrikeForce Fire Starter, which is a device made of flint material that puts off an intense spark. It was a gift from my wife and worked well once I got the hang of it.

To be clear, neither my wife nor Glassjaw’s entirely approved of our plans for the holiday. They talked about the sadness of breaking the tradition of bringing in the new year together, but both of our better halves declined the invitation to join us on the river. They cited temperature below 70 degrees, sleeping on the ground and the possibility for rain and strong winds.

To our adventuring delight, we received guilt-free clearance.

We didn’t make midnight, but that’s OK. We survived and did so with nimbleness. Neither of us fell in the water or suffered injury from a dumb choice with an ax.



Editor’s note: Kevin Lilly is a reporter for the Brown County Democrat. He joined HOW as an Active Member in July, 2012. He also writes outdoor column, “All Along the Hill,” for the weekly newspaper in Nashville, IN. Photos courtesy of Kevin Lilly.

HOW Member News



Alan and Dianna Garbers Cruise To Warmer Climates

“It’s not widely known, but Dianna and I met on a cruise in 1982,” said Active HOW member Alan Garbers. “To be more precise, she was on a cruise and I was in the US Coast Guard on the cutter Acushnet and we both happened to be docked in Nassau at the same time. The rest is history.”

“Since then we’ve been on four other cruises and my favorite is always the western Caribbean. Recently we got a group of friends to go with us, most of which had never been on a ship before. We sailed from New Orleans and visited Costa Maya, Belize City, Roatan and Cozumel. While we enjoyed fine foods and exciting shows every night aboard the Norwegian Star, the highlights of the trip were Dianna swimming with dolphins in Costa Maya, snorkeling in Roatan, and visiting the Mayan ruins of Lamanai in Belize.”

“The common way to get to Lamanai is via a 26-mile boat ride on a winding jungle river. In one moment we were racing through narrow waterways at thirty knots and the next we would be stopping to see a crocodile basking in the sun or feeding monkeys dangling from the overhead branches. It was quite an adventure and that wasn’t even counting walking through spectacular ruins!”

“While it was fun to visit familiar and new ports of call, half the fun of the cruise was seeing the joy and wonder on the faces of our friends as we dined on new foods, explored other cultures, and tried new experiences.”



“Dianna is already planning our next cruise, right after we go on a moose or elk hunt!” Photos by Alan & Dianna Garbers.

HOW Members Work The Indy Boat, Sport and Travel Show

As usual, there were some HOW members spotted working at the Indianapolis Boat, Sport and Travel Show in February. Rich Creason helped man the Gad-A-Bout booth and hand out newspapers. Eric Stallsmith and his Indiana Outfitters booth were right next door to the famous “Twiggy the Water-Skiing Squirrel”!



“Twiggy the Water-Skiing Squirrel”!

How’s that for excitement?!



DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife Honors HOW Member Roger Hunter

The DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife recently honored several of their employees with Awards of Excellence. Among the honorees was Associate HOW member Roger D. Hunter.

Roger, a clerical assistant at the division’s office in Mitchell, was honored for excellent customer service. Hunter joined DNR in 2000 after retiring as a logistical and information specialist with Crane Naval Base. Supervisors credited his good humor, patience and understanding of outdoor recreation.

Congratulations on a job well done, Roger!

Division of Fish & Wildlife

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



The 2013 “No-Agenda” Florida Fishing Tour

Pirate Bob (formerly Ranger Bob), Warden Shadley and John Maxwell fish the Florida Keys.

Once again, HOW members John Maxwell from Indianapolis, Bob Sawtelle from Corydon and Dean Shadley from Rushville met in February at Dean’s Vaca Cut Fishing Club in the Florida Keys.

Maxwell reported the weather in the Florida Keys during early February was monotonously beautiful. One nice day after another after another -- pleasant and sunny -- and then pleasant and sunny again and again.

“Nice weather lulls fishermen and fish into a mutual easy-going laziness, so the fish-catching action was a little slow and laid-back,” explained Maxwell. On the gulf side of Florida, a few hungry speckled sea trout, Spanish mackerels and floppy and fast flounders bit into Clouser minnow flies that were stripped jauntily behind a sink-tip line over grass beds.

Over coral reefs near shore on the Atlantic side of the Keys, an occasional grouper attacked the crew’s trolled Reef Runner deep-diving lures and Rapala Magnum shallow-running baits. Warden Shadley lost, due to 30-pound-test line failure, something alive and very big 40-feet below the boat, seaward of Vaca Cut.

“Trout and mackerel fillets were rolled in flour and cracker crumbs, thrown into sizzling-hot oil in a black-iron skillet, and served with salads and limed beer,” said Maxwell. A balmy night, with a light breeze playing in the palm fronds, followed each sunny day. Sounds like a great time!



Maxwell with a fat grouper pulled from an Atlantic coral reef south of Marathon.



Warden Shadley plots a surprisingly sober sunset strategy for some exciting night-time jack fishing (above left), while Pirate Bob shares his gas-station fried chicken with a fishing friend (above right). Photos courtesy of John Maxwell.



Curious winter buck. Photo by Ken Berg.

Madison Is Old Stomping Grounds For Rick Bramwell

When HOW Past-President (1973) Rick Bramwell attends the upcoming HOW Conference in Madison, IN, it will be like a homecoming for him. Literally.

“I grew up in Madison,” said Bramwell. “My Grandparents on my Mother's side ran a boarding house there, and my other Grandparents owned a farm just north of Madison on Hwy 7. Uncle Walter Ganns operated a funeral home there.

I shot my second-largest buck (157 typical) on the Ohio River bluff downstream from Hanover. When I was a boy, there was little talk of whitetail deer.”

“We moved to Anderson in 1953. On trips north from Madison, I would beg my Dad to not leave until dusk so I could look for deer inside the Jefferson Proving Grounds fence. I shot my first deer with a 66-inch longbow within 300 yards of that fence in 1962. That year there were less than 4,000 licensed bow hunters in Indiana.” Sounds like lots of great memories!

Gary Redmon Affiliated With Outdoor Tracker Systems

Current HOW Board member Gary Redmon announced that he was recently accepted to the OTS Pro Staff. Outdoor Tracker Systems is a fairly new organization that provides safety products and software for hunters and outdoorsmen.

Gary will be at the conference in Madison and will set up a laptop for HOW members to review some of the features of the OTS software at their leisure. If you are interested, stop by and take a look. OTS products were designed to eliminate interrupted hunts, improve safety and communications, and as a tool to organize your outdoor activities.

HOW members may also go to <http://outdoortrackersystems.com> to check out their website and see what they are all about from any computer. You may also see all of their Pro Staff members. Click on Gary's card to see his bio.



A PERFECT SIX

by Mike Schoonveld

I have a six-point checklist that helps guide me when I'm planning a perfect winter get-away. If I can hit 3 of the 6 marks, I'm sure the vacation will be good. Hitting four of the marks is better and until this year, I've never been anywhere that rated more than 5 scores. Here's my checklist:

- 1.) Warmth of the tropics. I'm not talking jacket warm, I'm looking for sweaty warm on a sunny afternoon.
- 2.) White sandy beaches. I don't really care if the sand is white, red or black, but white sounds better.
- 3.) World Class Fishing. Fishing for what? I don't really care other than the bigger, the better and if they happen to be tasty, that's an additional plus.
- 4.) Cold Margaritas, (good food, plenty of choices - but cold Margaritas are very important).
- 5.) Affordable prices. This one is tough since you have to factor travel expense, accommodations, food and fishing.
- 6.) Small town atmosphere. This may not make everyone's list, but I choose to live in the boonies and heading for a city (even one with the above 5 attributes) for a vacation isn't high on my list.

In February, I found a perfect-six at the Isla Mujeres (Isle of Women) which is about 6 miles off the coast of Cancun, Mexico. Cancun is in the Tropics. That's why it's become a popular winter retreat for millions of people. Isla Mujeres is a small town. I loved it.

Isla Mujeres features white sandy beaches on one side and rocky, California-like beaches on the other. Both sides have numerous



Schoonveld battles another bruiser-sized fish in the bright blue waters surrounding Mexico's beautiful Isla Mujeres.

restaurants and stop-over points where cold Margaritas are dispensed. And there's never a line. Okay, maybe by the ferry boat docks it might take a minute to get a cervesa-frio, but elsewhere, a cold drink and warm welcome is instantaneous.

(continued on next page)



One of the reasons Mexico has become a popular tourism spot is affordability. Cancun is huge and offers lots of flight options. The ferry costs 12 bucks round trip. On the island a taxi can take you from one end to the other and back for \$3 - if you feel the need to travel.

And the fishing is good. I hired Capt. Jorge Mostalac (www.sportfishingcenter.net) for 4 days for what a comparable experience state-side would cost for a day.

A perfect-six? **Absolutely!**

Above: Mike Schoonveld lifts a hefty bonito that gave him an excellent fight. Below: Mike and Captain Jorge smile over a big sailfish Mike caught (with his lucky Off Shore Tackle hat!). The sailfish was released to fight another day.



Editor's note: This story was taken with permission from Mike's blog page (photos courtesy of Mike Schoonveld, too). During the spring and summer, Mike mostly blogs about Great Lakes fishing. During the fall and winter he turns his attention to trapping. To read some of his other blog entries, click on www.brothernature.info.

Unusual Nature Photos From The Hoosier Outdoors Sponsored by Buck Knives

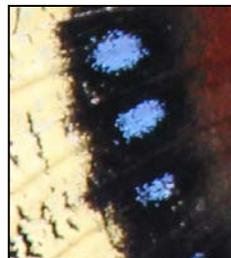
The Mourning Cloak Butterfly Loves The Woodlands



Close-up



Original



The “What is it?” question from the last newsletter was a lot easier than the previous one! Nine HOW members correctly identified it this time. Mike Berg, Brian Waldman, Bill Keaton, PJ Perea, Jarrett Manek, John Maxwell, Alan Garbers, Don Bickel and Rich Creason all had the right answer. When we drew a name at random for the **Frogg Toggs** rainwear, Brian Waldman was the winner. Congrats! We’ll send you a gift certificate.

As you can see in the photo at left, the mystery creature for this issue was a common Mourning Cloak butterfly (*Nymphalis antiopa*). Adult Mourning Cloaks hibernate over the winter in tree cavities, under leaf piles or inside any crevice that might protect them from the cold. These colorful creatures appear on warm, sunny days in the early spring. They mate and the females lay eggs on the branches of the caterpillar’s favorite food plants: willow, cottonwood, hackberry, birch and elm.

The Mourning Cloak butterfly has reddish-brown wings with dusty yellow borders and bright blue spots. They are hard to forget. Since they rarely feed on flower nectar, they are most often encountered in the woods or in woodland openings, and also along creeks, lakeshores and parks where trees are present. Adults feed on tree sap or juice from rotting fruit.

For this issue, our friends at **Buck Knives** have offered to provide a very nice prize for the HOW member that guesses the right answer to the new “What Is It?” question (see photo below). The prize will be an awesome Buck skinning knife. See the bottom of the page for more info.

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

Here’s another Nature Photo mystery. The photograph shown to the right is a close-up of part of a common creature that lives right here in Indiana. It is unlikely that it lives in your back yard, but it is very common and can be found throughout the state. Have you ever seen this color pattern? Can you guess what it is?



This creature shouldn’t be too difficult to identify, but we’ll see. Do you know of any Hoosier creatures that look like this? This time you **must** identify the exact species. If you think it’s a particular species of bird, for example, don’t just guess “Duck”. Give the actual species, like “Mallard Duck”. Of course, it’s not a Mallard! If you know what it is, send the answer via email to thomas.berg@comcast.net. If you’re right, you’ll be eligible for this issue’s prize. If not, you will just have to wait for the next issue to find out!



As mentioned, **Buck Knives** will donate a great American-made knife to the HOW member who guesses the right answer to this issue’s “What Is It?” question. The winner will receive a Buck 113 Ranger Skinner knife as their prize (check it out at left and at www.buckknives.com). If multiple people guess correctly, we’ll draw one winner at random from the group. Good luck! Nature photos on this page 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.

CLAM'S NEW SCREEN TENT SCORES BIG

Medina, MN: Utilizing the same materials and rough-and-tough durability of the Six Pack ice fishing shelters, Clam Corp brings a quality, easy-to-set-up screen tent to market that will hold up in gale-force winds. Campers young and old will be thrilled with the 45-second pop-up and take down notorious for hub-style structures. No more loose pieces or fumbling with printed paper directions in the dark holding a flashlight. With this screen tent, just a handful of tugs on the six hubs is the ticket. It's up in seconds and you're the hero. That means the family is quickly inside, away from the bugs when arriving at a campsite at dusk. Even the no-see-ums won't penetrate the fine mesh material to help keep the whole family safe from irritating bites.



All the hardware is of the same, rugged quality of the on-the-ice Clam experience, using the same sturdy tent stakes and tie down ropes. "We didn't skimp one bit on this," said Nick Chiodo of Clam Corp. "This is the best quality screen tent on the market, above and beyond the usual screen tent."

The Six Pack 1660 Mag screen tent is large enough for a picnic table inside. Three wind panels are a great addition if the weather is coming in from a particular direction. It includes an oversized carry bag and it folds up into the bag in a snap. Made of

210 Denier fabric, this is a high-quality, durable screen tent with triple layer corner pole pockets. The extra large, flex-test fiberglass poles are 11 mm thick and work in tandem with the quality hub-style assemblies. The tent enjoys 94 total square feet of interior space with a 90" center height clearance and measures 140" x 140". The fully stowed weight is an easy-to-manage 34 pounds.

For more information on Clam Outdoors, go to <http://clamoutdoors.com> or get in touch with Clam's Nick Chiodo at 763-231-4138 or by email: nchiodo@clamcorp.com.



HOW Supporting Member News



Camp Chef Explorer Stove Provides Plenty of Power

Hyde Park, UT: The Camp Chef Explorer 2-Burner Stove is designed for the true sportsman. It is great for all types of outdoor cooking and it is preferred by family campers, hunters and scout groups. Rely on the rugged Explorer to provide you with the cooking power you need. Two 30,000 BTU burners cook perfectly for your next camping trip, fishing outing or hunting camp - and just about any of your outdoor cooking needs. Cast aluminum burners resist rust and reduce weight while the burner drums focus heat upwards to give you more power. A three-sided windscreen will help protect your flame and radiate heat back to cook your food better. Legs

adjust to accommodate uneven ground and remove for storage. Great for emergency preparedness, too!

Features:

- Two 30,000 BTU burners
- Three-sided windscreen
- Fully adjustable heat-control dials
- Regulator and 3 ft. hose included
- Removable legs for portability

Specifications:

- Cooking Dimensions: 14" x 32"
- Cooking Area: 464 sq. in.
- Cooking Height: 29"
- Total Output: 60,000 BTU
- Weight: 31 lbs.

For more information, contact: Steve McGrath at Camp Chef, 800-650-2433 ext. 142. You may also send him an email at: stevem@campchef.com.



Mossberg Partners with Mossy Oak and ThermaCELL For 2013 Spring Turkey Promotion

North Haven, CT: Turkey hunters are thinking about spring and getting the right gear for that first hunt of the season. Mossberg is going to arm you with FREE gear, when you purchase a qualifying Mossberg or Mossberg International™ Turkey shotgun from February 11, 2013 – May 26, 2013. Choose from two great items: a Mossy Oak Turkey THUGS® “Mrs. Mom” Upright Hen Turkey Decoy, or a portable ThermaCELL Mosquito Repellent unit with holster. Redemption coupons may be found at participating dealers or www.mossberg.com.

The Mossy Oak Turkey THUGS “Mrs. Mom” decoy is a highly-realistic and durable hen turkey with iridescent color scheme and taxidermy-quality eyes. Portable and cordless, the ThermaCELL Mosquito Repellent unit provides odorless and effective insect protection in an area with up to a 15-foot diameter.



To qualify for the Mossberg 2013 Spring Turkey Promotion and receive the Mossy Oak or ThermaCELL free gear, the redemption coupon must be filled out and postmarked by June 28, 2013. With turkey season just around the corner and more than 50 qualifying Mossberg turkey shotguns to choose from, visit your local retailer today!



Contact Linda Powell, Director of Media Relations at Mossberg for more info (email: LPowell@mossberg.com or call 336-441-2923).

HOW's Supporting Member Websites

Alpen Optics - www.alpenoutdoor.com
Aquateko International - www.aquateko.com
Arctic Ice - www.arcticicellc.com
B'n'M Pole Company - www.bnmpoles.com
Barnes Bullets - www.barnesbullets.com
Bass Assassin Lures - www.bassassassin.com
Bass Pro Shops - www.basspro.com
Battenfeld Technologies - www.battenfeldtechnologies.com
Bear & Son Cutlery - www.bearandson.com
Birchwood Casey - www.birchwoodcasey.com
Black River Tools - www.blackrivertools.com
Blackpowder Products, Inc. - www.bpiguns.com
BoatUS - www.boatus.com
Brownells, Inc. - www.brownells.com
Bubba Blade Knives - www.bubbablade.com
Buck Knives - www.buckknives.com
Bushnell - www.bushnell.com
Cabela's - www.cabelas.com
Camp Chef - www.campchef.com
Castalia Outdoors - www.castaliaoutdoors.com
Church Tackle Company - www.churchtackle.com
Clam Outdoors - www.clamoutdoors.com
Cocoons Eyewear - www.cocoonseyewear.com
Coleman Company - www.coleman.com
Columbia Sportswear - www.columbia.com
Costa Del Mar - www.costadelmar.com
Creative Outdoor Products - www.hunterdan.com
Crappie Pro - www.crappiepro.com
Crosman Corporation - www.crosman.com
Cyclops Solutions - www.cyclopsolutions.com
Eagle Claw - www.eagleclaw.com
Environ-Metal, Inc. - www.hevishot.com
Eppinger Manufacturing Co. - www.eppinger.net
E/T Lights - www.triagelights.com
Federal Premium Ammunition - www.federalpremium.com
Filson Corporation - www.filson.com
FLW Outdoors - www.flwoutdoors.com
Flying Fisherman - www.flyingfisherman.com
FOXPRO - www.gofoxpro.com
Frabill - www.frabill.com
Freedom Group Companies - www.freedom-group.com
Frogg Toggs - www.froggtoggs.com
G.Loomis - www.gloomis.com
Gamo USA - www.gamousa.com
Gerber Legendary Blades - www.gerbergear.com
Hart Productions - www.hartproductions.com
Hawke Sport Optics - www.hawkeoptics.com
Henry Repeating Arms Co. - www.henryrepeating.com
Hodgdon Powder Co. - www.hodgdon.com
Hoosier Trapper Supply - www.hoosiertrappersupply.com
Horton Archery - www.crossbow.com
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - www.hmhco.com
Howard Communications - www.howardcommunications.com
HT Enterprises - www.icefish.com
Hunter's Specialties - www.hunterspec.com
Indiana Conservation Officer Magazine - www.icoo.com
Johnson Outdoors, Inc. - www.johnsonoutdoors.com
Knight Sleeping Bags - www.knightsleepingbags.com
Koppers Fishing & Tackle - www.livetargetlures.com
Kruger Optical - www.krugeroptical.com
Kwikee Kwiver Co. - www.kwikeekwiver.com
LensPen - www.lenspen.com
Leupold - www.leupold.com
Lightfield Ammunition - www.lightfieldslugs.com
Lodge Manufacturing - www.lodgemfg.com
Mathews - www.mathewsinc.com
Mossy Oak - www.mossyoak.com
Muzzy Products Corp. - www.muzzy.com
MyTopo - www.mytopo.com
National Shooting Sports Foundation - www.nssf.org
Nautic Global Group - www.nauticglobalgroup.com
Nikon Sport Optics - www.nikonsportoptics.com
O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. - www.mossberg.com
Off Shore Tackle Co. - www.offshoretackle.com
Okuma Fishing Tackle - www.okumafishingteam.com
Otis Technology - www.otistec.com
Outdoor Promotions - www.crappieusa.com
Pelican Products - www.pelican.com
Plano Molding Company - www.planomolding.com
Poor Boy's Baits/Lurecraft - www.lurecraft.com
Pradco Fishing - www.lurenet.com
Princeton University Press - www.press.princeton.edu
Pro-Cure, Inc. - www.pro-cure.com
Pure Fishing - www.purefishing.com
Quaker Boy, Inc. - www.quakerboygamecalls.com
Real Avid - www.realavid.com
Reef Runner Lures - www.reefrunner.com
Renfro Productions - www.renfroproductions.com
Rocky Brands - www.rockyboots.com
Run Off Lure Co. - www.runofflures.com
Savage Arms - www.savagearms.com
Secret Weapon Lures - www.swlure.com
Shimano American Corp. - www.shimano.com
Snag Proof Manufacturing - www.snagproof.com
Solar Bat Sunglasses - www.solarbat.com
Solution Products, Inc. - www.solutionproducts.net
South Shore CVA - www.southshorecva.com
Speedy Sharp - www.speedysharp.net
Sportsman Channel - www.thesportsmanchannel.com
Sportsman's Connection - www.sportsmansconnection.com
St. Croix Rods - www.stcroixrods.com
Sturm, Ruger & Co. - www.ruger.com
T-REIGN Outdoor Products - www.t-reignoutdoor.com
ThermaCELL - www.thermacell.com
Thundermist Lure Co. - www.thundermistlures.com
Tink's - www.tinks.com
Toyota Motor Sales - www.toyotanewsroom.com
TTI-Blakemore Fishing - www.ttiblakemore.com
Uncle Josh Bait Co. - www.unclejosh.com
Vexilar, Inc. - www.vexilar.com
W.R. Case & Sons Cutlery - www.wrcase.com
WaveSpin Reels - www.wavespinreel.com
White Flyer Targets - www.whiteflyer.com
Winchester Ammunition - www.winchester.com
Wrangler Rugged Wear - www.wrangleruggedwear.com
Yakima Bait Co. - www.yakimabait.com

HOW members are encouraged to check these websites for general info and answers to product and service questions.

Hoosier Outdoor Writers

Application For New Membership

(Check Desired Classification below)

- \$30 _____ Active
- \$25 _____ Associate
- \$50 _____ Supporting
- \$15 _____ Active Student
- \$10 _____ Associate Student

Personal Information:

Name: _____
Company (Supporting members only): _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Professional Information:

Employer (if outdoor-related): _____ Position: _____
Business Address: _____
Business Phone: _____

1. Describe your work in the outdoor field: Full Time _____ Part Time _____

2. Check your field(s) of outdoor work:

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| _____ Newspapers | _____ Magazine | _____ Photography |
| _____ Books | _____ Radio | _____ Lectures |
| _____ Television | _____ Teaching | _____ Trade Journals |
| _____ Artist | _____ Public relations | _____ Government Info - Ed |
| _____ Other (Specify): _____ | | |

3. Are you paid for your outdoor work? Yes _____ No _____

4. Your work is published or disseminated: Daily ____; Weekly ____; Monthly ____; ____ times a year

Attach samples or other proof of your work in the outdoor field: newspaper clips, letters from station managers attesting to frequency of radio or TV broadcasts, lecture schedule or publicity clips, photo clips or artistic prints, title of latest book, masthead of trade journal showing your position, etc.

Send completed application and article copies to: **Tom Berg, 2142 Nondorf Street, Dyer, IN 46311.**

I have read the principles and membership requirements of the Hoosier Outdoor Writers and would like to enroll in the classification checked above.

Signature: _____

Sponsor: _____

Who We Are

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

What We Do

These are the purposes of HOW:

1. To improve ourselves in the art, skill and effectiveness of our craft, and to increase knowledge and understanding of the whole state.
2. To help ensure the wisest and best conservation of Indiana's resources, and the most wide-spread fair use of Indiana's recreational potential.
3. To provide a vehicle for bringing together and joining in common cause all Hoosiers who by profession, hobby or interest are devoted to the outdoors.
4. Conduct an annual Awards-In-Craft Contest among its members. The award winners are announced each year at HOW's annual conference.

What We Stand For

These are what we strive to accomplish:

1. To give the profession of outdoor writing/reporting greater recognition and understanding, even higher standards and enlarged scope.
2. To encourage and enforce high standards of professional ethics.
3. To strive always for the truth, accuracy, clarity and completeness in the dissemination of outdoor information.
4. To help friends and fight the foes of wisely conserved Indiana resources.

Membership Requirements

Membership is open to anyone who meets one of the following:

1. Active

Members are those regularly engaged in the paid dissemination of outdoor-oriented information via newspapers, radio, television, magazines, trade journals, books, photographs, art, lectures, or other fitting media. (Basic guidelines of "regularity" of dissemination are: 20 newspaper articles, photos or broadcasts a year; two national or four regional



magazines or specialty journal articles a year, or one book, 10 lectures, or 20 bona fide outdoor news releases a year.)

The legal advisor for the association shall be an active member without meeting the basic guidelines.

2. Associate

Members are those who have a strong direct interest in the outdoors, either professional or personal, such as conservationists of all kinds; public employees in outdoor fields; educators teaching related subjects; certain sportsmen and retail-level dealers in outdoor goods, equipment or facilities.

3. Supporting

Members are those engaged in major commercial efforts directly related to the outdoors, such as manufacturers, distributors, service providers, manufacturers' representatives, or advertising agencies serving any of these.

4. Active Student

Members are those between the ages of 18 and 24 years who are bona fide college students with a major in journalism, communications, or natural resources sciences.

5. Associate Student

Members are those who are students who have an active interest in the outdoors in the areas of hunting, fishing, ecology, or in preserving the environment in general.

Calendar of Events

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| HOW 2013 Annual Conference: (www.HoosierOutdoorWriters.org) Clifty Inn, Clifty Falls State Park Madison, IN | April 19-21, 2013 |
| NRA 2013 Annual Meeting: (www.nra.org) Houston, TX | May 3-5, 2013 |
| AGLOW 2013 Cast & Blast: (www.aglowinfo.org) Deadwood, SD | May 7-9, 2013 |
| ICAST Show 2013: (www.ICASTfishing.org) Las Vegas, NV | July 10-12, 2013 |
| OWAA 2013 Annual Conference: (www.owaa.org) Lake Placid, NY | September 14-16, 2013 |
| AGLOW 2013 Annual Conference: (www.aglowinfo.org) Fond du Lac, WI | September 23-26, 2013 |
| SEOPA 2013 Annual Conference: (www.seopa.org) Lake Charles, LA | October 9-12, 2013 |

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