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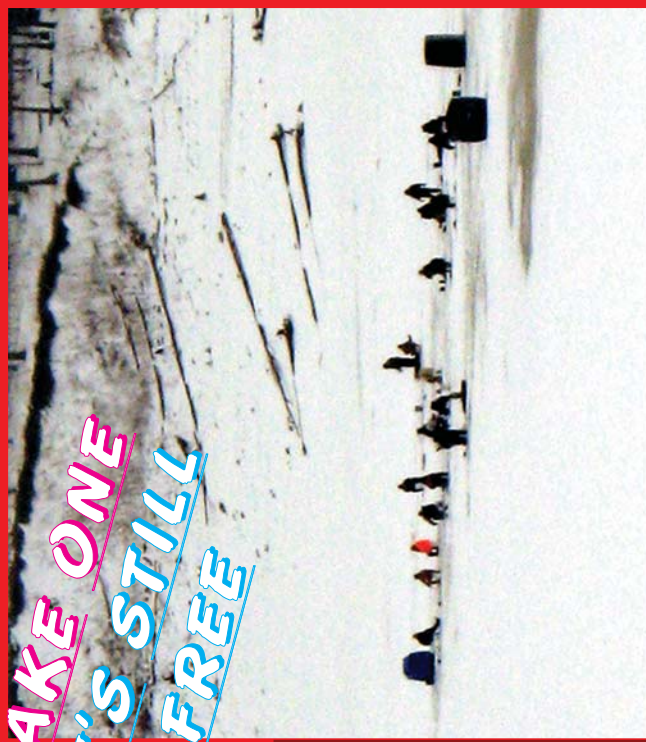
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THE COVER PHOTOS

Left Photo: Chris Edwards took a 12 point, 220 pound (field dressed) Buck on October 17, 2010 with a compound bow. Chris's buck grossed out at 192.2/8, it went into the Buckmaster's book at 175 2/8's and is currently number 1 entry as a typical with a compound bow in the state of Indiana. You can

check this out on Buckmaster's website. There is a photo of Chris and his oldest daughter on the website. He also netted out at 172 6/8's in Boone and Crockett Club, Pope and Young, and the Hoosier Record Book.

Chris shot the deer on a private farm in Pike County Indiana.

Chris is currently working with Lisa Prince from RACK magazine on an article that will appear in their August 2011 edition.

Chris has had the pleasure of taking a lot of deer over the past 26 years of his hunting career, considering he is only 35 years old. He says he can give many thanks to his Papaw and Dad (Harvey Edwards (Managing Owner of Patoka Lake Marina) who taught him how to love the outdoors. He was taught from a little fellow and is now passing this on to his two daughters. His 10 year old has already taken a 7 pointer and a doe. She also shot her first turkey last year during youth season. **(Jake Sternberg of Jasper, IN)**

Top Right: These fishermen were catching a bonanza of large crappie through the ice at Salamonies Reservoir in late January 2011. **(Photo by Fletcher Bozarth)**

Bottom Right: Two unidentified youngsters on the shooting line at the 2010 Indiana NASP state tournament. See more on page 8. **(Photo by PIO Gary Catron)**



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Roaming The Outdoors



by Ray Dickerson

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Troop 16 Boy Scout Dakota Wilson and his fellow boy scouts will be "Scouting for Food" on March 19, 2011.

TROOP 16 "SCOUTING FOR FOOD"

You've heard me talking about Troop 16 late last year when my grandson Dylan joined the troop. Dylan is back home in Worcester MA, but my interest in scouting is still as avid as ever.

Troop 16 will be "Scouting for FOOD" on **March 12, 2011** when they are busy going door to door in Centerville handing out flyers asking you to donate non-perishable food for them to pick up on March 19th. The food collected will be used to restock local food pantries at the First Baptist Church of Centerville on Matte Harris Road and the United Methodist Church on South Morton Avenue in Centerville, Indiana.

On **March 19, 2011** they want you to put your non-perishable food outside on your porch or near your front door for them to collect, it would help if you could put it in a bag. If you don't have a bag it is okay just to put the food near your front door for them to pick up.

This is a big undertaking and its for a very good cause. It makes me proud to say I was a member of Troop 16 when I see all the wonderful things they do

for the community and most of all for the way the Boy Scouts makes leaders and such fine young men out of these dedicated boys. I would also like to say too that Troop 16 is blessed with having adult Scout Leadership beyond compare.

Remember **March 19, 2011** to set your non-perishable food out front for the Boy Scouts to pick up in Centerville.

38TH ANNUAL GEM, MINERAL, FOSSIL SHOW MARCH 4-6, 2011



Gene and Lucille Mays, members of the Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society shown here at the 2010 show.

The Eastern Indiana Gem & Geological Society (EIGGS) annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil show held at the Kuhlman Center in the Wayne County Fairgrounds in Richmond, IN., this year it will be held March 4-6, 2011.

This is a real good Gem Show, one that you don't want to miss. I've known Gene and Lucille Mays for a long time, they and all their fellow members of EIGG are dedicated to furthering interest and knowledge of the Gem and Geological wonders that surround us all.

For further information write the **Eastern Indiana Gem and Geological Society, Inc, P.O. Box 1724, Richmond, IN 47375.**

For information on booths or other for the 38th Annual Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show contact Dave Straw at **756-966-4249**

I hope to see you at the Gem show, see below for admissions and other important information.

Directions: The Wayne County Fairgrounds is easily accessed from I-70, exiting at exit 149 (east or west bound) go north on US 35 to Salisbury Road turn left onto Salisbury Road south to the entrance to the Fairgrounds. From US
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So You Wanna Catch More Fish



by **Tag Nobbe**

Professional Fishing Guide

Big Walleye Time

After a long cold winter March marks the time of the year that the lake starts to wake up. This year the lake has been frozen for most of the winter. Some years Brookville lake does not freeze at all, but for the last few years Brookville lake has been getting some good ice coverage for most of the winter. What this will do is help deplete the shad population. If the lake stays covered in Ice all winter the shore lines will be covered with dead adult shad in the early spring. I believe this is do to water temperature or oxygen levels I'm not real sure. I had a conversation with one of the states fishing biologist a few years back he told me that 40 percent of the biomass in the lake was shad. With shad being a major food source for all fish there is a delicate balance between not having enough and having to much. But for now Brookville lake is full of shad. Which is why Brookville lake has no problem fueling the big fish that swim among its shores.

At Brookville lake one of the first fish to spawn is the walleye. Most all fish do their spawning in May when the water temperature reaches the 70's,



After ice-out, fish rocky areas like this for the hungry monster walleye, before they spawn. (Photo by Tag Nobbe)

but walleye spawn when the water temperature reaches 46 degrees. This means as soon as the surface ice melts they need to be looking for a place to spawn. The time period between ice out and 46 degree surface temperature is about 2 weeks. This is a window of opportunity to catch a big walleye, this is called pre-spawn. What your looking for are big females loaded with eggs. If you want to catch a 15 pound walleye this is when you need to be fishing. What your looking for are sun-drenched shore lines, as these spots will warm up early.

The best way to hook one of these monster is to cast, cast, cast and cast to the shore from a boat. The bait of choice would be some type of shallow diving crank bait that can be fished slow.

Your rod should be a six and a half foot trigger stick with a good quality bait caster spooled with 12 pound test mono filament. Most walleye spawn in current or running water, but Brookville lake is a little different. It seems that some fish head for the running water of the river that feeds the lake. While others head for rocky areas all over the lake.

The Indiana state fishing biologist use Brookville lake as a walleye brood pond to stock all the lakes across the sate of Indiana with walleye. The way walleye spawn its just not possible to sustain a good fishery without the stocking program. The way it is done is with gill nets. This is a way they can catch the walleye, take the eggs from the females, fertilize them with the males and then return all of them back into the lake unharmed to live and spawn another day. Remember though if you want to catch a big walleye on a rod and reel you have to be fishing as soon as the surface ice goes away. Once that surface temperature reaches about 46 to 47 degrees the walleyes priorities switch from feeding to spawning. Good luck on your mission. Send me the pictures

Good Luck Tag

If you need more info email me at tag@tagnobbe.com or go to the web site www.brookvillelakeguideservice.com or call my



Harry Grays holding a nice walleye he caught fishing with me on Brookville Lake. (Photo by Tag Nobbe)

cell phone **765-265-3238**. I guide fish for walleye, striped bass, and crappie starting mid April till mid December, 7 days a week on Brookville Lake. We fish out of a 2007 Lund Pro V 2025 with a 225 Honda motor. I supply everything all the way down to cleaning the fish. I can take 1 - 4 people. The price is according to how many people go, \$400.00 for 4 people, \$325.00 for 3 people, \$275.00 for 2 people and \$225.00 for 1 person. We start at 7:00 am and fish till 1:00 pm. To schedule trips call me at home **765-647-4329** or on my cell phone **765-265-3238**

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News from the Indiana State Police



by Sgt. John D. Bowling

Secondary Crashes in Traffic Backups-Dangerous & Deadly

Back in mid January I was working the road helping units with crashes that were occurring on I-70 in Wayne and Henry Counties. Snow was falling and semis and cars were crashing. We were just clearing from a crash where a semi had plowed through the back of a passenger car. Thank goodness no one was injured seriously.

I-70 was snow and ice covered, and I had already driven off in the ditch once while sitting at the rear of the back up to avoid a semi that was coming at me sideways. We cleared the scene, leaving the smashed up car in the median, because it was too dangerous to pull it out.

I hadn't driven three miles to the cross over when the two county units that had been with us had driven up on a terrible car vs. semi crash at the scene of our original crash. They were at the end of the back up when it occurred. Traffic was flowing in both lanes, but slowed due to the previous back up and heavy snow.

I was going up to turn around to go to the back of the slowdown, but didn't make it before the crash occurred. The other units were right there, but could do nothing to prevent it. The car was simply going too fast for the snow and traffic conditions and struck the rear of the semi trailer.

This was a sad and tragic example of a secondary crash. Your Indiana State Police have studied this and know that 20% of all crashes are a secondary crash. Nationwide 18% of all deaths on the interstate are a result of secondary crashes.

We also know that for **EVERY MINUTE THE INTERSTATE IS CLOSED, IT TAKES FOUR MINUTES FOR TRAFFIC TO CLEAR.** Chances you will be **INVOLVED IN A SECONDARY CRASH GO UP 2.8% FOR EVERY MINUTE THE ORIGINAL INCIDENT ISN'T CLEARED.** So it is very important for us to get the road open as soon as possible after an incident.

Because of this, the Indiana State Police, Indiana Department of Transportation, and the Federal



Indiana State Police car practicing INTIME at the rear of a backup. (Photo by John Bowling)

Highway Administration personnel worked together to develop the IN-TIME, Indiana's Traffic Incident Management Effort. Major Thomas Melville is the chair of this program.

According to Major Melville, "The IN-TIME initiative is focused on the "Open Roads Philosophy" which is having all First Responders, after ensuring their own personal safety and the safety and security of any incident victims, to have as their top priority reducing congestion and the higher risks of secondary incidents for public/motorist safety. This initiative has just over twenty Associations and Agencies in membership.

The IN-TIME initiative is intended to get first responders communicating with each other to accomplish their responsibility in a safe and quick manner. Most first responder disciplines (i.e. fire, ambulance and police) have made a lot of professional progress over the years. But during that growth in professionalism, disciplines began training in their own silos and not including or understanding other disciplines.

Major Melville went on to say "Today, being struck and killed by a motor vehicle at a crash scene is more likely to occur than in years past. The IN-TIME initiative looks at Best Practices that affect all disciplines that will help us work better together. The Best Practices are also intended to further protect first responders at incident scenes by limiting the time they are at those incident scenes."

Once again your State Police are innovators and amongst the leaders in the nation at studying this

problem and taking action to make our roadways safer. We post a car at the rear of the backup with all lights on as soon as we can, to warn you of the danger ahead.

Make sure your spouse and all young drivers in your household know that on the interstate nowadays, you can be driving 70 mph one minute and be at a complete stop the next. Always watch traffic in front of you-don't get lulled into relaxing. If you're out driving and see us just sitting with lights on, slow down and get ready. Chances are danger is ahead.

Motorcycle SAFETY

The warm weather of spring (it will be here eventually) brings increased motorcycle traffic with Hoosiers riding for recreation and transportation. Nationally, every year, motorcycle riders are involved in thousands of crashes that result in disabling injuries and death. The Indiana State Police offer these safe driving tips so that everyone can share Indiana roads safely.

Tips for passenger vehicles:

- Watch for motorcycles. Check blind spots before changing lanes and look twice at intersections before you turn or pull out into traffic. Use your turn signals when changing lanes.
- Anticipate hazards that may confront a motorcyclist like large pot holes, debris, or other hazardous road conditions. Allow at least two seconds of following distance between your vehicle and a motorcycle.
- Be cautious and observant when turning left. This is a primary cause of crashes between vehicles and motorcycles.
- Remember, motorcycles are entitled to operate in a full lane.

Tips for motorcycle riders:

- Wear protective equipment and clothing, especially a helmet with face shield.
- Make yourself visible by wearing bright clothing,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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Talking Leaves



by Golden Eagle

A Time For A Walk In The Woods

Much like Charlie Brown, I could never get my kite off the ground. I have never heard or read about Native American boys having kites. If you've seen or heard any stories let me know. My guess is that the Chinese had something to do with it. It doesn't matter who started it, it has been a spring time activity since I was able to walk and run. I remember when we lived at LaBoiteaux woods in College Hill, the local kids came down to fly kites on our big field behind the lodge.

I know I've talked about LaBoiteaux Woods Outdoor Education Center, at various times. For you not from Cincinnati, College Hill is located in the northwest corner of Colerain Township, and was named for the three colleges located there in the early 19th Century.

The woods were a part of the LaBoiteaux Estate. Mr LaBoiteaux was a nature lover, and donated a block of wooded hills to the city for development as a park. Since the Park Board was not interested in using the land at that time it became the second of the Nature Centers and Day Camps run by the Cincinnati Recreation Division. The other, which I've also talked about was California Nature Preserve near Coney Island.

I didn't work at LaBoiteaux until after the war, when I became the first full time Indian Lore Specialist hired by CRC. I think I told you I climbed over a hundred steps each school day to meet the bus and escort the classes to our council area in the valley. Of all the Indian Clubs I developed, over the years the Ogalala Band at LaBoiteaux was the biggest and finest. Probably because I got to work with them all year round. Eventually they became the Teton Lakota Dancers, a semi-professional dance company. Over the years from 1959 to 1966 the group developed two really top shows. The recreation of the Ghost Dance and the recreation of the Sun Dance. Both were done with great dignity and respect for the people they were representing. If any of you attended the 1968 Boy Scout Big Show at the Cincinnati Gardens, you will have seen the Sun Dance, which we incorporated into the Indian Act that year. One of the girls sang a song honoring her brother, who was one of the pole dancers, my son Mike was another one of the pole dancers. On my

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last day before I went down town as Supervisor of the Arts Division, the group performed the Sun Dance, one last time to honor me. They were a great group and I am still able to keep in touch with a few of them via E-Mail.

When the water began to run in the streams, the ice made popping sounds as it broke up. This was the cue to get up and begin to live a full life. The hunters went out and the women opened up the sides of the tipi's to air them out. You can bet that they also prepared a feast when the hunters came home.

It was a time when everyone from the ten year old children to the oldest members was put to work getting the village back to an active center of life for the community.

Spring was the time for romance among the two leggeds, the four leggeds, and the winged creatures. In the evening the love flutes could be heard as the young men sought to be chosen by the maiden they had "looked upon" as her selection for marriage. The sound of antlers clashing meant the young buck deer were trying to prove themselves the strongest and thus the most worthy of the does for mating. Male birds could be seen performing their mating dance to catch the eye of a favorite female. Such excitement, such emotion all carrying out the Divine directive to go forth and multiply.

With that piece of springtime remembrance and a word from Old Chief, I leave you to enjoy the SEASON!

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Indiana Department of Natural Resource News



by **PIO Gary Catron**

NASP...have you heard of it?

Indiana's 5th archery in the schools state tournament will be held March 11 at the Horizon Convention Center in Muncie. Youths grades 4-12 from across Indiana will compete for top honors during the day-long event. The tournament is open to schools that have included the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) in their curriculum.

It is estimated that over 1000 students will test their target archery skills in a 300 point course of fire from distances of 10 and 15 meters.

Volunteers from the Indiana Field Archery Association will be assisting the DNR Law Enforcement Division's Outdoor Education section and Conservation Officers in providing a first-class state archery tournament.

The NASP curriculum teaches students a regimented approach to archery with each shot broken down into 11 disciplined steps. The same archery equipment is used in the program by all NASP participating schools. No sights or hand-releases are allowed.

Last year Indiana student archers competed



Left Photo: Indiana Conservation Officer David Jackson helps position Blake Sullivan for the shot. Right Photo: Blake Sullivan with his grey squirrel and Kora Powell with her camera-shy mountain cur Sassy. (Photos by Gary Catron)

well at both the National and World NASP tournaments.

Hundreds of kids will be displaying their school spirit at high energy levels then proceed in a businesslike fashion when concentration is demanded and archers take to the shooting line. It's very similar to the way a high school basketball gymnasium (in Indiana) will settle when the home team goes to the free throw line.

I categorize the Indiana state NASP tournament as a 'you have to see it to believe it' experience. Visit www.indiananasp.com for more information on NASP in Indiana.

A Perfect Blend of Kids and Dogs

On a chilly Saturday morning this January past, Crosley Fish and Wildlife area played host to two dozen young hunters for a youth squirrel hunt. For the most part, the traditional methods to hunt bushy-tails employ sit-and-wait or spot-and-stalk tactics. This squirrel hunt had a different ingredient than most that take place across the Hoosier State and that was hunting dogs. Hoosier Tree Dog Alliance members volunteered their time and dogs to give the kids a unique hunting experience.

Despite a morning

temperature barely above the single-digit mark, the kids, most with parents in tow, were all smiles at the group safety briefing. Looks of anticipation followed as hunting groups were formed partnering kids with dog handlers with Conservation Officers providing each group with a safety officer. With assignments made yours truly tagged along as groups departed to begin their hunts.

Tracks in the snow gave sign that some squirrels had recently been active. It wasn't long before Sassy, our group's mountain cur, began to tell us "squirrel over here." Well, I may be paraphrasing but that was the gist of her message. Following, we found her focused and telling us which tree to look in for a squirrel. We looked. We looked some more. We moved and looked. Den tree! This squirrel obviously didn't know how the game was to be played. On this cold morning the squirrels had only been active on the ground for a short time before returning to their dens. This sequence of events repeated itself a



Two unidentified youngsters on the shooting line at the 2010 Indiana NASP state tournament. (Photo by Gary Catron)

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Indiana Conservation Officers (L) Bill Brown and (R) Brandon Shoultz in the Indiana Conservation Officer's booth at the Cincinnati Sport, Boat & Travel Show in January 2011. Master Conservation Officer Bill Brown, at left, is a NASP Instructor/Trainer and is currently working with 7 schools in Indiana. See more info on NASP in ICO Gary Catrons' article and at right. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)



Centerville High School Sportsman's Club officers from left to right: Vice President Taylor Johnson, President Josh Evans, Sponsor Mr. Mark Baldwin, Treasurer D.J. Strikeleather and Secretary Tiffani Ditmer. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

few more times with the same result. Undaunted, Sassy pressed on to find more fresh squirrel-scent.

While Sassy worked, our group passed the time by getting to know each other a bit better, making note of various songbirds, trees, animal signs and the like. Our social outing was abruptly interrupted by a familiar sound. Sassy! We again faithfully followed to find a tree being singled out by our enthusiastic four-legged guide. Nothing moved in the tree. It took eyes scouring each branch of the tree to spot a motionless grey squirrel pressed nearly flat against a large branch. Our young hunter, Blake Sullivan, was put within range of his .410 shotgun. Once in position and with shotgun now loaded, Blake's aim proved to be spot on. A future meal of squirrel was in the forecast.

With one squirrel bagged and growling stomachs, we ended our nature hike and headed back to the Crosley check station for a much appreciated warm lunch. As the groups returned from the field the talk largely related how tough the hunting had

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

Centerville High School Sportsman's Club

by Ray Dickerson & Mark Baldwin

Mark Baldwin, who teaches at the Centerville High School contacted me about helping get the word out about the Centerville High School Sportsman's Club that he sponsors. The club is a recent endeavor to introduce students to positive, responsible, lifelong outdoor activities. Currently they have 50 members in the club.

The reason they contacted me was to announce their existence in hopes that just maybe someone reading The Gad-a-bout would like to help introduce these young people to the wonderful world of the outdoors. Many of us grew up in the outdoors with the help of our parents and grand parents. But today many of our youth don't have that same opportunity. In today's world both parents work and grandparents work well beyond retirement and they don't have the time to take their children and grandchildren fishing, camping, hunting, hiking, horseback riding, canoeing, boating, swimming, climbing, etc.

Here we have 50 young people wanting to enjoy the outdoors. All they need now is some help, someone to step forward and say, "come with me I/we will help you enjoy the wonderful world of the outdoors!"

Below is an explanation of the Club's purpose and who can participate within the school. I attended the Club's officer meeting in Mark's wood shop at Centerville High School on Tuesday, January 25, 2011. The Club officers attending the meeting was President Josh Evans, Vice President Taylor Johnson, Secretary Tiffani Ditmer, Treasurer D.J. Strikeleather and Sponsor Mark Baldwin (Shop Teacher in Industrial Technology).

All the student officers are seniors, except D.J. Strikeleather who is a sophomore, they all enjoy outdoor sports of some kind.


The CHS Outdoor Sportsman's Club is the kind of activity that can open a lot of new doors for students who want to broaden their horizons, the outdoors offers so many opportunities. Following are just a few outdoor sports that are available today that I am familiar with.

The **National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP)** is a joint venture between state departments of Education and Wildlife. Several archery equipment manufacturers and organizations are also partners (listed below). The program promotes student education, physical education and participation in the life long sport of Archery. The program's focus is to provide International Style Target Archery training in physical education classes grades 4 - 12

NASP is active locally in schools, Master Indiana Conservation Officer Bill Brown is the NASP Instructor/Trainer and is currently working with the P.E. Teachers and Coaches he has certified as instructors at 7 Indiana schools including Connersville, Community Christian, Union County, Franklin County, Jennings County and Anderson Preparatory Academy. Participating students can compete locally and nationally in this program. For information you can Google "Indiana NASP" or contact ICO Bill Brown by calling District 9 at **812-689-4370**.

The National 4-H Shooting Sports (Skills for Life - Activity for a Lifetime) The focus of all 4-H programs is the development of youth as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens. The National 4-H Shooting Sports Program stands out as an example. Youth learn marksmanship, the safe and responsible use of firearms, the principles of hunting and archery, and much more. The activities of the program and the support of caring adult leaders provide young people with opportunities

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



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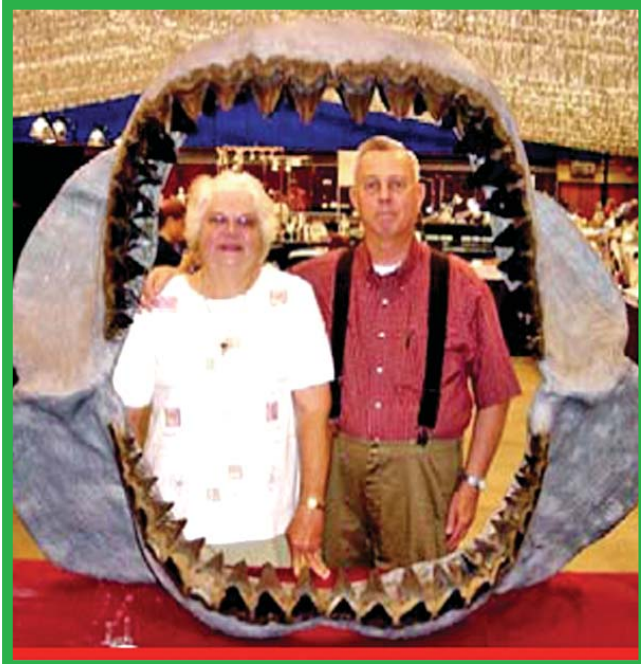
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Left Photo: Rose & Van Wimmer standing inside a pre-historic fossilized shark jaw and with teeth. Rose Wimmer with her Gem Trees. Rose is a wire artist and a does wire sculpture. The trees she makes by twisting non tarnish craft wire into the tree trunk. It is all one piece of wire. She then puts real gem stones on the tree for leaves and mounts the whole thing on a mineral specimen that could be apart of a mineral collection. Each one is one of a kind. (Photos by Van Wimmer)

celed if the Guard Unit is activated or there is a State or National Emergency. Please call or check our web site to be sure that these shows have not been cancelled.

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The 13th Annual Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry show will be held at the Indianapolis State Fairgrounds in the Agriculture/Horticulture Building at 1202 East 38th Street in Indianapolis, Indiana on **March 25-27, 2011**, Friday 10 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

Adult admission is \$5.00, Tickets are good all three days. Children under the age of 16 are admitted FREE. Hourly Door Prizes.

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Questions may be directed to Van Wimmer - Show Director at (540) 384-6047 or to the Indiana State Fairgrounds at (317) 927-7503.

Van Wimmer will be back to Indianapolis October 7-9, 2011 for their 13th Annual Fall Indianapolis Show. Be sure to mark that date on your calendar.

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March 25-27 Indianapolis, IN, 13th Annual Spring Show, Indiana State Fairgrounds - Ag/Horticulture Bldg. 1202 East 38th Street. 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

***May 20-22 Martinsville, VA**, 21st Annual Spring Show, National Guard Armory - 315 Commonwealth Blvd W (Across from Liberty Fair Mall). 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

May 27-29 Salem, VA -- 20th Annual Roanoke Valley Spring Gem & Mineral Show Salem Civic Center - 1001 Boulevard. 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-6pm

July 1-3 Fishersville/Waynesboro Area, VA -- 24th Annual Show. Augusta Expoland. Expo Road (I-64 exit 91). Fishersville, VA 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

***July 22-24 Boone, NC** -- 17th Annual Show. Boone National Guard Armory. 274 Hunting Hills Lane. 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

Aug. 12-14 Dalton, GA -- 20th Annual Show. Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention Center. 2211 Dug Gap Battle Rd (I-75 exit 333). 2pm-7pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

Oct. 7-9 Indianapolis, IN -- 13th Annual Fall Show. Indiana State Fairgrounds - Agriculture/Horticulture Bldg.1202 East 38th Street. 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

Oct. 21-23 Harrisonburg, VA -- 9th Annual Show. Rockingham County Fairgrounds - 4808 S. Valley Pike On US Rt.11, 1/2 mile S. of Harrisonburg off I-81 between exit 240 & 243 Commercial Exhibits Building. 10am-6pm; 10am-6pm; 11am-5pm

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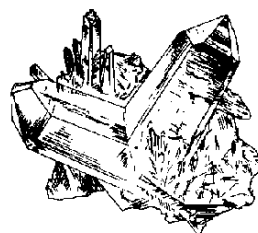
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with Ray McCune

Easy Breads For Campouts (If I can do it you can do it)

With all the modern equipment that campers have available to them there's no need to 'skip' making bread on campouts. I think baking your own bread in a Dutch oven or even in one of those collapsible metal ovens that fit over a burner on our portable camp stove. It's a challenge and baking a cake or a pie on top of serving up bread you've baked with your own two hands on a camp out will certainly give you 'braggin' rights around anyone's campfire.

Here are a few recipes to get you going and I guarantee you'll have fun baking on campouts from now on. The Boy Scouts can do it why not you?

Cornbread is central to American culinary history. The early settlers often depended on it for survival. While today cornbread is largely a regional bread eaten mostly in the South, this has not always been so. For all of us outside the 'cornbread belt', this food is worth a revisit. Floriani Red Flint' produces an orange yellow bread. Use a finely ground meal for this recipe or sift a coarser meal to produce a finer one. If you make your own butter, use the buttermilk. If you aren't ready to bake when you make butter, you can always freeze the buttermilk for later use.

WORLD'S BEST CORNBREAD (Found on the internet.)

- 2 eggs
- 2 cups buttermilk
- 2 cups fine or medium cornmeal
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. butter

Break the eggs into a bowl, mix well, and whisk in the buttermilk, cornmeal, baking soda, and salt. Pour into a lightly buttered, pre-heated, #6 or #8 cast iron frying pan and place in a pre-heated 350 degree oven. Bake until the bread is firm in the middle - about 45 minutes. Turn onto a cake cooling rack to cool. Serve warm. This recipe should serve 6 to 8.

INDIAN FRY BREAD

(Use for soppin' or with a slight twist, serve as a dessert.)

- 2 cups of flour
- A pinch of baking powder (about a half tsp. - experiment)
- A pinch of salt
- Sugar
- Cinnamon
- Milk
- Powdered (XXX) sugar
- Honey, jelly, butter, apple butter

Mix all dry ingredients thoroughly. Add milk a little at a time to form a soft dough. Knead it a few times but not too much. Pinch off a golf ball size (or larger) piece of dough; flatten it out on a dough board to 1/4 inch thickness. Place the rolled out dough in a skillet with about 1 inch of cooking oil and fry at about 400 degrees. Turn when brown and cook the

other side. Drain on paper towels and cool. Eat as is like a tortilla or roll it in powdered sugar (my favorite) or roll it in a combination of regular sugar and cinnamon mixture. They are good smeared with jam, jelly, peanut butter, or honey and served as roll-ups.

EASY TO MAKE CORN BREAD

(This is way too easy.)

- 1 1/2 cups self-rising cornmeal mix
- 1 cup buttermilk (regular milk with a spoonful of lemon juice or vinegar will work)
- 1/2 cup water

Mix ingredients together and pour into a pre-heated greased 8-inch cast iron skillet and bake in a 450 degree oven for about 20 minutes or until golden brown. Cool slightly before cutting into 8 wedges. Serve warm with butter and jelly or eat with milk poured over it (my favorite way).

I grew up with whom I like to think was/is the world's greatest cook. She was born a little after the turn of the century, married young and learned old timey cooking from my grandmother and grandfather who after retiring from the railroad, opened a restaurant back in the hills of West Virginia. She could make buttermilk biscuits that would float off the table they were so light and melt in your mouth when you took a bite. I have tried to bake biscuits like she did and have failed at every attempt. Later on after I left home for the Navy, she started cooking less heavily and since there were only the two of them to eat at meals, she started cooking in to conserve not only ingredients but time and energy as well. She found a shortcut to baking biscuits. Oh I admit they were good but they weren't the ones I grew up with. I've rejected here recipe for a long time until I started teaching Dutch oven cooking to Boy Scouts who have little to no patience when it comes to cooking. This recipe I've added to my own personal recipe book of teaching methods. Here's what I call:

MOM'S FAST BISCUITS (So fast.)

- 2 cups self-rising flour
- 1 cup milk
- 2 heaping tablespoons mayonnaise

Mix all ingredients well and pour batter into greased muffin pans (each muffin cup should be about 1/3 full). Bake 20 minutes at 350 degrees or until golden brown. This recipe will make about 12 biscuits. To adapt this recipe for baking in a Dutch oven I had to cut a regular muffin pan to fit it. Of course I can only bake about 4 biscuits at a time but then I think they are worth waiting for. Just keep them warm by covering them with aluminum foil and near the fire until there are enough biscuits to feed the whole 8-main patrol.

ANOTHER QUICKIE BISCUIT RECIPE (From the Bisquick box.)

- 2 cups Bisquick
 - 2/3 cup milk
- Preheat the oven to 450 degrees. Mix ingredients with a fork into a soft dough. Beat a few times and drop by spoonful on an ungreased baking sheet. Bake 10 to 15 minutes.

Surprise your group with some 'home made' biscuits or bread the next time it's your turn to do the kookin' 'round your kampfire. Have plenty of butter and jelly on hand or cook something that needs 'soppin' like beans.

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Fishing Lake Michigan



by Capt. Mike Schoonveld

SLAMMIN' IN PRAIRIE DU CHIEN

The term, grand slam, was first used to describe a baseball player blasting a home run when bases are loaded. Since then I've heard the term used in many non-baseball applications, as well, including hunting and fishing. On Lake Michigan, catching a Grand Slam means you manage to catch a brown trout, lake trout, steelhead, coho and king salmon on the same day. Not an easy task.

For turkey hunters the slam comes when they manage to bag an eastern, Miriams, Osceola and Rio Grande strain of these great birds. Getting them all in the same spring is the super slam.

There are other kinds of grand slams in the outdoor world, as well. Sheep hunters have a slam which can take them from the southern Rocky Mountains to Alaska. Flats fishermen in the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean can claim they've



Mike Valley's market is a great place for unusual items and up to date fishing information. (Photo by Mike Schoonveld)

caught the slam when they catch a tarpon, permit and bonefish in one outing.

I've never heard of the Mississippi Grand Slam, but if there is such a thing, I was in on it recently on a trip to Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin. Fishing with guide, Brent Jenks and Mike Valley, owner of Valley Fish and Cheese, each time a bait or lure went into the water, we truly didn't know what sort of fish would end up hooked on the end of our lines.

Early in our trip, even veteran guide Jenks was surprised by the different species of fish we were catching. He told me, "It's not uncommon to catch 3 or 4 species of fish on the same day. Sheepheads and walleye often hang out in the same type of water, bluegills and bass can usually be found in the same spot and most days, we target one or two areas depending on what the river is doing, what sort of fish are usually abundant at the time of year we are fishing as well as the success we've been having on recent trips. This is ridiculous!"

Normally, the Mississippi is a well-behaved river in the fall. Low water is the norm. Super fishing is expected. "Every other year I've been guiding, I'd run upstream 10 miles or more and we'd work the points and current breaks on the trip back for constant action on smallmouth bass and walleyes."

This year, atypical rains in the area and

upstream had swollen the river over 12 feet above what the normal flow would be. "That never happens in the fall," Brent said.

"It happened in 1985," Valley said. "But I don't remember what we did."

Brent said, "It happens often in the spring, so we'll try some spring tactics and places."

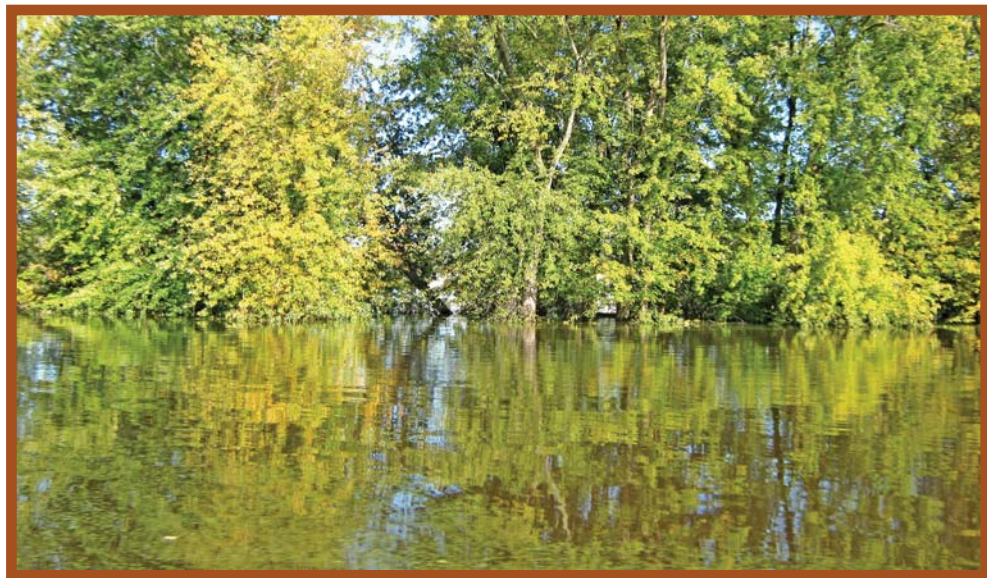
Evidently there are lot's of good places to fish in the spring because we tried a variety of spots. We fished

in slack water-backwaters, areas with plenty of current pushing through, we tossed lures under and around bridges, we anchored in the woods at one spot and other than most of the trees were maples, you'd have thought we were in the Okefenokee Swamp. One spot featured Artesian wells boiling up into the water.

Most of them produced a fish or two, none of them held a mother lode of the fish, but when we were done, we'd caught what I'd call the Prairie du Chien Grand Slam.

The first fish I hooked was a walleye, later I

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



With the Mississippi running 12 feet over normal, the fish were in unusual locations. (Photo by Mike Schoonveld)

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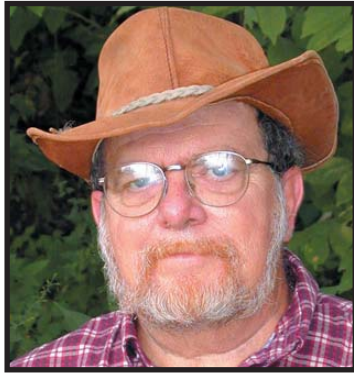
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Outdoors Tales



by Phil Junker

**Farm ponds
good crappie spots**

This winter has been brutal. It's hard to think past the snow shoveling, windshield scrapping and the heating bill.

But, spring will come to Hoosierland, and then we will have other things to think about; other choices to make.

Do we scout the woods for turkeys? How about hunting morel mushrooms? Try out luck catching suckers as they head for the spawn? Just a walk in the awakening woods to view the array of wild flowers is a wonder of the changing seasons.

And, we can't forget crappie. They always are fun to catch and fun to eat when spring arrives.

When thinking about spring crappie, most anglers think about their favorite lake to try their luck. However, Many farm ponds are good spots to rid one of the winter blahs and catch a nice mess of fish for the skillet. They would be even better along with a platter of morels.

Farms ponds are where most crappie anglers first felt a "slab" on the other end of a cane pole or their Zebco rod and reel.

Farm ponds remain one of the best places to catch a tasty dinner, or teach a youngster to fish. And, ponds usually provide good fishing long after early spring when even hot weather arrives, and we begin to complain about the heat rather than the cold, ice and snow.

While most small ponds are on private property, many can be fished simply by asking for permission, plus there are numerous public small ponds and lakes where good crappie can be taken.

There is no better place to take a youngster to learn to fish, or for a family outing, than a farm pond. Farms ponds usually remain good fishing when hot weather turns off fish in larger impoundments.

Malcolm Lane, who guides on Kentucky and Barkley Lakes, said he used to spend considerable time fishing small



Farm pond crappie will hit small jigs like this 1/16th ounce Road Runner, other small jigs tipped with minnows, or just plain minnows on a crappie hook. (Photo by Phil Junker)

ponds and lakes, and still uses them when the big lakes are too windy and rough.

He said early morning and late evening seem to be more important fishing times in ponds than on the big lakes. "Wind seems to help the bite. I have caught good fish with a slip bobber and minnows. Small jigs under the bobber can be deadly because you can control it in the wind on small water."

"You can cast to the cover with the bobber, and stay in the zone longer...Drifting minnows at different depths in the open water can be good. Fish seem to move really in or really out in smaller water," he explained.

Lane added that when he fishes small water, he also goes small with his lures and jigs. He said among his favorites are the Mepps Aglia and the Aglia Long, or the one-inch Mister Twister Curly Tail

T.J.. Stalling with Road Runner lures also grew up fishing ponds and lake shores, although they were Florida ponds in the Orlando area. He learned from his father, who was a well-known bait shop operator for many years.

"In the Orlando area, there were so many ponds, we could just pull off the road and fish after school," said T.J. "I learned a lot fishing from the shore."

T.J. offers 10 tips for farm pond crappie fishing:

1. Pond and small lake waters are usually shallower and more susceptible to noise...Always approach a pond as quietly as possible. Never slam a tail gate or truck door.
2. Crappie trying to "swim" in your cooler will make as much noise as a dump truck in reverse. For less noise, ice your Crappie as you catch them.
3. Fish can see you much better than you think. Don't let the sun throw your shadow on the water; Crappie bed in depths as little two feet!
4. "Elephants eat peanuts" Smaller lures are better. 1/16 oz. Road Runners or minnows will be more

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

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The Simple Life



by Jack & Leslie Turner

Darn Snow.... Great Memories

The winter of 2010-2011 saw an above average snowfall in the tri-state area. Some of you uttered not-so-kind words to the local weatherman each time you heard of snow in the forecast. But to look at snow from a negative perspective just may be unwarranted as many memories can be created by placing your feet upon white ground.

Some of our greatest childhood memories emerged from days off from school due to inclement weather. For Jack, he remembers a posse of approximately 10-12 children, along with his mother, building igloos and large snowmen in his front yard. For Leslie, her memories revolve around the infamous sled riding parties on "Fog-le Mountain". Friends and families gathered for endless amounts of hot chocolate and fun!

As a married couple now, we are enjoying the snow-covered landscape by driving around and taking photographs. Some of the prettiest photos are captured when snow and ice rests on barren trees, on the rocks along a trickling brook or at the base of a freshly painted red barn.

On several occasions we have taken walks at a local state park. These have been good as Jack has



A barn located on West Road in Harrison, Ohio. The snow brings out the deep red color. (Photo by Jack and Leslie)

been able to share his expertise about animal footprints and trails. But the best part is sharing intimate time together in the solitude and beauty that God has provided us.

Jack has many memories of hunting and trapping alone while several inches of snow blanketed the fields and forests. Hunting rabbits or trapping fox & coyote somehow seems more enjoyable to Jack when fresh fallen snow is present.

Christmas is a perfect time for families to enjoy the winter season, especially when snow is present. For more than 20 years Jack has taken his children on drives to look at Christmas lights, usually the week of Christmas. The season becomes even more enjoyable when the snow and lights are combined supplying both beauty and an inner peace to the viewer.

As children, many of us were involved in our fair share of snowball fights and I'm certain we can remember a time or two where we got walloped in the face or upside our heads. We laugh now, but it hurt like the dickens then.

For some, snow supplies us with many hours of snow skiing or tubing. We know quite a few people, including our own family and friends, who drive to Perfect North Slopes in Lawrenceburg, Indiana for several hours of snow related activity.

The winter season and snow does not have to mean that we spend three or four months indoors glued to our favorite chair and getting cabin fever. There are many things that we can do to enjoy time in the great outdoors as well as creating memories with family & friends. In every season, go out and create memories that will last a lifetime.



A winter wonderland while driving up Jamison Road near Bright, Indiana. (Photo by Jack and Leslie)



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Indiana Outdoors



by Joe Martino

Sometimes roosting does lead to roasting

As turkey hunters, we generally like to move in as close to the roost as we can in the hopes of getting our intended quarry to pitch down our way. In doing so, however, we invariably will, at some point or another, attempt to get too close and end up bumping the bird off the roost. Heck, on one occasion, I got close enough alright – too close, only to watch the bird soar right over my position.

A few seasons back, I found myself in a situation in which I felt like I needed to get as close as possible to a particular bird. I had nearly killed him the night before in an open picked corn field. I called him in from about two hundred fifty yards away as he was making his way across the field towards his roost tree. His only saving grace that evening was an extremely low flying jet that spooked him at the last minute – just as I was beginning to put some tension on the trigger.

I felt my odds were good for the next morning's hunt, but I just wasn't sure about trying to coax him across that field again. I phoned a good friend and accomplished turkey hunter from Illinois that



Many a hunter have bumped birds off the roost in an attempt to get close. And sometimes you can get too close. There are effective ways to close the distance on a turkey's roost, however without sending them onto the next property. (Photo Credit IDNR/Outdoor Indiana Magazine)

evening and asked for his advice. I made sure to inform him that this bird was roosted on the bank of a creek, and that there was no way for me to get to him other than crossing the wide open picked corn field.

He advised me to get to my hunting spot well before I normally would and to make my way across the field. He said that I should have my decoys set up and be in position about a half-hour before the gobbler woke up and began gobbling, and that that was the only way he felt that I could pull it off. Still, I was nervous about creeping so close to that gobbler with nothing between us but air. Had there been more cover I may have felt better about it.

Nonetheless, the next morning found me slowly picking my way across the field plenty earlier than I normally would. Upon reaching the area near where the tom was roosted, I quickly set up a full strut B-Mobile decoy along with a hen decoy. As daylight approached and the gobbler sounded off, I was shocked to find that I was a mere forty yards from him with no trees between us. I slowly got myself ready, knowing that I now wouldn't be able to move for fear of being picked off.

As fly down time approached, I was surprised to see that the gobbler had a hen roosted in the tree with him. This had me concerned as I was afraid he wouldn't pay my decoys any mind having the real thing with him.

The hen pitched down first, landing right amongst the decoys. "Now, if the gobbler

would only do the same thing," I thought to myself. "He better hurry though, I don't know how long I can keep from being picked off by her." Well, he didn't do the same thing. Instead he flew in a direction parallel and away from me – landing in a spot about eighty yards away. After several tense minutes, the hen began losing interest in the decoys and began making her way towards the gobbler. "Great," I thought, "He definitely won't come this way now. She is going to drag him off the other Direction." To make matters worse, the direction that the tom flew down in, and the direction in which she was heading, was right to the area where I nearly killed him at the previous evening.

But before I could even get frustrated about possibly setting up in the wrong spot, the gobbler turned and started marching right towards my position – even passing by the hen on his way. At the moment just before he tried to teach ol' B-Mobile a lesson, I couldn't turn any more to the right and I let the hammer fall. Although it would have been a hoot to watch the show once he pounced on the decoy.

Could I have killed this bird on the other side of the field where I sat the previous evening? I can't say. But I can say that I do believe that by successfully getting as close as I did to him, he must have felt compelled to confront the intruder who garnered his lovers interest for a few minutes. It took nearly no effort for him to come such a little distance to If you find yourself in a situation where crowding the roost is no option, and cover is minimal, remember to pack it in early.

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The 2-day event takes place at **3801 West Dunlapville Drive, Liberty, Indiana**. Location: Treaty Line Museum area in the town of Dunlapville (just south of Liberty, IN – in the area with the log cabins that is located just north of the Quakertown Recreation area on the west side of Brookville Lake.

Activities include a Craft Show, a KCBS BBQ and Open BBQ cook off of Chicken, Pork Ribs, Pork and Beef Brisket, a Kids Que BBQ contest, Award winning Barbeque (Ribs, Chicken, etc.) & other great eats, Craft Fair, Home Show, Music, Food, & Fun, Antique Tractor & Farm Equipment Exhibits, Handmade Furniture and Instruments, RVs, Mobility Carts, Golf Carts, Mowers, and More, Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby, Corn Hole Tournament (Saturday), Home Improvement Products, Handmade Jewelry, Healthcare Products & Services, Live Bluegrass Music (Saturday Evening), Antique and Classic Car & Truck Show (Sunday), BBQ Contest (Sunday afternoon) and all happening in the Treaty Line Pioneer Village.

Event Times: Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. / Sunday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Setup Times: Friday evening from Noon to 8 p.m. or Saturday morning from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m.

There is no Entrance Fee for the public to attend the event.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



Top Left Photo: Two Liberty Lion Club members who worked tirelessly to make Smokin' On The Water BBQ the huge success it has been, at the left Carl Sharp and at right John Scott. Top Right Photo: Two more Liberty Lion Club members, At left Patti Sharp (Carl's wife) and an unidentified lady sitting next to her in the Liberty Lions Club food trailer. Bottom Left Photo: Jim McCashland who takes care of the Car Show at the festival here talking with an unidentified visitor. Middle Right Photo: A view from the second story entrance to the Dunlapville Museum looking out over part of the grounds at the Treaty Line Museum and Pioneer Village. Bottom Right Photo: 3 Brothers & a Pig BBQ entrants in the KCBS and Open BBQ cook off. (Photos by Ray Dickerson)

A large graphic for the "INDIANA'S LARGEST CANOE RACE 2011 CANOEFEST JULY 1 & 2 BROOKVILLE, INDIANA WWW.CANOEFEST.ORG". The graphic features a blue outline of Indiana with white stars, and the text is in bold red and white.

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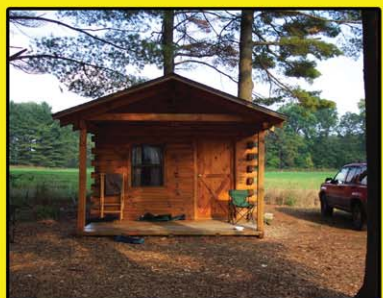


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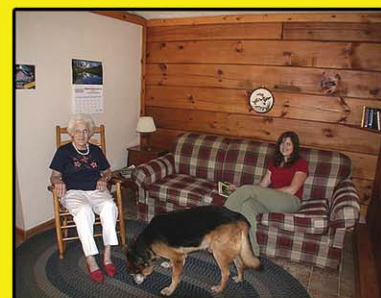
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Misfires & Snags



by Dan Graves

SITTING AROUND AND TWIDDLING THUMBS

Have you ever reached a point where filling the bird feeder is the high light of your day? Or, you actually look forward to the next episode of "As The World Turns" on afternoon t.v.? Perhaps you hope it will snow "again" so that you can spend the morning shoveling the stuff out of your yard and off the roof of the house. I've even considered using a small broom to sweep off the frozen surface of the lake, all 275 acres of it. In other words, it's that time of the year when it's too cold to spend time on the shooting range and I'm not about to attempt to walk on frozen water, chop a hole in it and freeze my nose off trying to catch fish that would all be at the other end of the lake.

As for ice fishing, how is it possible to tell where the little rascals are when you're trying to find them at one spot through a six inch diameter hole in the ice.

I would rather try to find the ideal place to dig a post hole in the middle of the Sahara desert. With the only alternative to the late winter doldrums being greasing the poles of the bird feeders and sitting at the back window and snickering at the squirrels attempts to climb them, I decided to get the fishing and shooting gear ready for spring.

Normally, by the ending of my fishing season my gear looks like it didn't survive a train wreck. Lures lay in a tangled mess in the tackle box and opening the boxes containing the flies looks like the inside of a Japanese beetle trap. As for the rods, line pulled off the reel has the appearance of a curly perm. That is, if it's possible to even pull line off the reels. Normally, I like to carry about four feet of tippet attached to a tapered leader on the fly rod. But after a summer of changing flies and jerking them out of trees the tippet is seldom longer than 12 inches. By late August I get more strikes on the knot tying the tippet to the leader than on the fly. After all, why waste 12 inches of perfectly good tippet when occasionally, as a fish struck at the knot it would get its tail snagged on the fly following it. Either way you catch a fish.

After straightening the lures in the box, rearranging the flies in some semblance of order

(whatever that may be), I straightened the lines by tying one end to a tree and the other to a brick and stretching it out to sit for a day or two. Again, I see no reason to waste money on new line when the old stuff can be salvaged. Sometimes.

As for the rods, I broke the tips off three of them last year by trying to reel the boat over to where I was snagged on the bottom. However, I discovered that a shortened rod works almost as well as the full length model. One advantage to this is the sharp end left below the missing top guide. It can be used to spear a fish rather than trying to haul it over the gunwales of the boat.

With the fishing gear in proper order I tackled (no pun intended) a semi-automatic hand gun I acquired last summer. Since it was used and I have yet to fire it, I decided to field strip it and check the internal condition. Unlike most semi's which have a cross pin through a barrel link, this thing has a thin cross plate just forward of the trigger guard that is pulled forward to unlatch the slide catch and allow the slide to move free of the frame. A fairly strong recoil spring slides over a short internal guide rod and nests on the slide catch. Carefully, I removed the slide and the barrel in its housing along with the spring. After a thorough inspection and a little cleaning I slid the spring over the guide rod, positioned the slide and pulled it against the spring.

SPROING! The spring shot out and disappeared somewhere in the garage. You would have to see my garage to understand that I wouldn't be able to find a fully grown male African lion in there if it didn't want to be found. It looks like a major explosion in a Lowes store. A half hour later I found it behind a pile of stuff, half of which I couldn't identify. Having used only a fraction of my known vocabulary I was glad it took only a half hour to find it. That meant if anything else went wrong that day I would still have an adequate supply of ammunition to cover it. Very carefully, I inserted the spring again, slowly slid the slide in place and began compressing the spring.

TWANG! This time I didn't even see the general direction it headed for. Before I lifted a finger to begin the search again, I used most of the remainder of my ammo but kept a few rounds in reserve, just in case. After a search under cars, riding mowers and a motorcycle it was time to start moving furniture. Finally, I struggled a large, heavy cabinet away from the wall and there the little darling was, nestled among another bunch of alien stuff. When the little light bulb went on over my head I moved the operation into the den where it would take only twenty minutes to find it. Twice more it bounced off walls and I scuffed around on my knees under desks and computer tables.

On the fifteenth try the slide moved over and trapped it and the locking latch slid into place. Needless to say, if I ever field strip this thing again it's going to be

done inside a zip lock bag while standing in a bare closet. On the other hand, why would I ever want to field strip it again? I don't even know if it will shoot. ■

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and that's the news from
West Central Indiana



by **Don Bickel, Forester**

Preparing for the next hunting season & fishing

March, the in-between month. Hunting seasons are over and open water fishing is not there yet in West Central Indiana. But all is not lost, there are a multitude of outdoor and slightly indoor activities to occupy hands and mind.

Actually, the coyote and striped skunk season for hunting and trapping is still open - until March 15. Now it puzzles me why the combination of these two animals? Of course the skunk will be celebrating the warming weather, by beginning its search for a mate. The skunk is not a true hibernator, but will "den-up" when very cold weather approaches and come out when the thaw begins.

However, I'm unsure how many dyed-in-the-wool skunk hunters and trappers there are out there. But I have an idea the Pepe La Phew population is not in any danger. Anyhow, you have till Mid-March to duel with the skunks and hope to walk back

into the house if you are successful.

But March is the time to begin planning and plotting the upcoming wild turkey season which begins April 27. Sure, it is still almost a month away when March ends, however to wait until a few weeks before opening day to secure a hunting location or scout for birds, may lead to disappointment.

This time in March and early April is time to tune up your turkey calling ability. First rule, don't make it a habit to do extensive practice in the same area where you will hunt. A session or two up until a couple of weeks before the season opening might be O.K.. Turkeys may have your sound and cadence pegged and will avoid you on opening day. In this area, the State Parks offer an opportunity to talk to birds that will not be hunted.

I have a theory; when your calling sounds good to you, then it is probably as good as you are going to get, at least for the present. So, calling in your own backyard will probably work for practice, as long as the neighborhood dogs don't join in.

But March in its ending days will see the beginning of open water fishing opportunities. And things may get started earlier than that, especially if there are extended warm spells. A couple of days in the 60's or near 70 with night-time temps no lower than mid 40's should see both bass and bluegill beginning to move into the shallow parts of farm ponds and small lakes.

In this shallow water - 1 to 3 feet - the sun's warmth will cause many forms of bottom dwelling insect life become active. While bass may not feed on the emerging insects, they will be after the small bluegill, crappie and minnows that do. This is a great time to break out the flyrod and tie on a dark wet fly for bluegills or a streamer fly for crappie.

Here in West Central Indiana, another annual springtime angling event begins. Approximately the end of March will see the beginning of the white bass run upstream on Big Raccoon Creek above Raccoon Lake or Mansfield Reservoir or Cecil Harden Reservoir (take your pick). Water level in the Creek will determine how far upstream the spawning fish will swim. It would seem some of the larger female white bass begin this journey first.

Using county road bridges as starting points, it is wise to check several for the possibility of fish holding in nearby creek pools. Most anglers met will share information, but maybe not all. This will be hip boot fishing. In the spring the water - in this writer's opinion - is far too cold for shorts and sneakers.

An ultralight spinning rod with the reel loaded with 4 to 6 pound line will handle the possible catch. Rooster Tail spinners or Mister Twister jigs in white or yellow seem to be producers. Otherwise, copy what the most suc-



An early morning fog froze in the distant trees along SR44 between Glenwood and Rushville, Indiana. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

cessful angler met is using.

Big Raccoon Creek enters the lake at the Parke/Putnam County line. The major portion of this upstream section of the creek is in Putnam County, although when creek levels are suitable, white bass may be found upstream to Ladoga in Montgomery County during this spring spawning run.

However, it is still March and the weather may not be conducive to comfortable fishing. And no one seems to be interested in skunk trapping so what to we do - just sit and wait for sunshine? Oh no, there are two projects that will burn up those dreary March hours.

Project 1. Those tackle boxes sitting in the closet or garage and hopefully not in the tarp covered boat sitting in the back yard, surely need some attention since last seasons outings. There are hard-bodied lures to untangle, plastic baits to sort and separate and those small pieces - hooks, swivels and sinkers that were tossed in one tackle box or the other when a change was made.

Check reels for lubricating or at least exterior cleaning. And try to remember when the line was put on. 4 or 5 year old stuff has probably lost a few pounds of strength. If you have been trying to throw light weight lures with 8 pound test, strip that off and go to 4 pound. If the drag is set right, a fish in the 4 or 5 pound range can be handled.

Project 2. Those firearms that were used through the hunting seasons; the .22 during squirrel season, the 12 gauge during duck and goose seasons, and during deer season you used the 50 caliber muzzle-loader and the rifled barrel 12 gauge. Also, the 20 gauge used for dove and quail, all should have ended their respective seasons cleaned and stored for the next go-round.

Maybe you decided to call an end to the quail season, cleaned the shotgun and placed it in the gun safe. But, then there was that one day right at the end, just one more day out and since no shots were fired the 20 gauge was put away again. Remember, it was a bit moist that day, better do that cleaning job one more time. It will probably save trying to decide how that rust spot got there next fall.

March is only 31 days and the weather will be warming up, so pick a project or an outdoor activity and April will soon be knocking on your door. ■

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Outdoors



With Rich Creason

Late Season Hunting

A heavy layer of snow on the ground, below freezing temperatures, and a heavy wind—this is not my normal hunting conditions. While this is not unusual for deer hunting, if fact, it is probably normal for deer hunting, but I was trying to pop a couple of squirrels for the skillet.

Sometime before Christmas, I was asked by a friend of mine to go with him and his young son on a wintertime squirrel hunt. He said in the area around his tree stand, he would see many of the bushytail critters running around while he was watching for deer. His boy had never hunted these before, and the dad admitted he had little experience also. Could I come along and offer some advice?

My first advice to him was "Let's wait until next fall when it's warmer." His response was something about my advanced age and maybe he should ask someone younger who wouldn't have to take a walker to the woods. Being stupid, I told him I would get along fine with just a cane and still out-walk him. Just what he wanted. We tentatively set the date for that coming Saturday.

On Friday evening, I checked the weather forecast. It sounded good to me. It was supposed to be crisp and sunny, with no wind at all. Of course, we still had a thick snow cover, but late winter usually doesn't have perfect conditions. I called the next morning and asked what time to meet for our great outing. Unfortunately, he had problems come up and we wouldn't be able to go that day. He said he would call me the next day.

Sunday arrived and the phone rang. I hoped it was a wrong number. No sunshine and a strong wind. The squirrels, like me, would rather stay in bed on a day like this. But no, the caller ID told me the bad news. I thought about letting it go to the answering machine, but he would just call my cell phone. I answered and heard, "We'll meet you at my house in an hour."

My clothes were laid out and I quickly donned long underwear, heavy boot socks, a warm, lined shirt, jeans, waterproof boots filled with about 5,000 grams of Thinsulate, insulated coveralls, and topped it off with blaze orange gloves and hat with heavy ear flaps. I could hardly walk with all this on, but at least I should stay warm. I picked up my 65 year old Savage .410 single shot and a box of shells. This was the gun my mom taught me to hunt pheasant with about 50 plus years ago. I taught my daughter to hunt squirrel with this gun when she was young, and hopefully will do the same with our grandson in a few years.

A forty minute drive brought me to their house in Henry County. I only had to use the 4-wheel

drive a couple times to get there and also in his driveway. We loaded up and following his directions headed on some back roads until I was told to turn into a bean field and park. This is why I finally bought a truck which could handle these conditions. He announced, "We are here."

Since we were only planning on hunting for a couple hours, I only put a handful of shells in my pocket, added a bottle of Pepsi in my other pocket, picked up by shotgun and was ready to go. A few quick safety reminders from dad to son, and we headed for the nearby trees.

This was their woods, so I let them lead the way. We hadn't walked far before we spotted a squirrel bouncing across the snow. He went behind a tree and didn't come out again, so I figured he went up. I stayed in place and marked the tree and motioned them to go ahead. I had forgotten my binoculars, so I leaned back against a tree and fixed my gaze on where I thought our quarry had gone.

Like most of the trees in this woods, it wasn't a large tree, so I didn't think he had a den inside the tree. I looked around and spotted numerous leaf nests, but few hollow trees for hiding places. After they were far enough to see the back side of the tree we were watching, we decided the squirrel had disappeared. We continued along the trail toward the far side where they had their tree stands.

As we walked, I noticed there were a lot of squirrel tracks in the snow. Walk, stop a while, scan the treetops, and watch the ground. Nothing moving. Not even a bird. The squirrel sign was plentiful, but I think the strong wind and lack of sunshine was keeping them from showing themselves. I broke open my .410 and pocketed my shell. I often do that when hunting in the snow so I can easily check to make sure I didn't accidentally get snow plugged in the barrel. If a squirrel showed, I would have plenty of time to check the barrel and reinsert the shell before I would have to shoot.

Before time to leave, one more critter, (the same one we saw earlier?) was running across the snow on the far side where we had entered the woods. We stalked him for a few minutes, but he was long gone. We returned to the truck empty handed. We decided to try again in early January if we could get our schedules together. Perhaps the weather and the squirrels would be more cooperative.

On the ride back to the house, he told me he had another area where coyote were plentiful. He asked if I would like to try for a late season coyote. I'm not real sure he wanted me to come along, but he knew my Johnny Stewart digital game caller and my rabbit decoy were not coming by themselves.

They were a package deal with me as part of the package. We still have a month and a half left in the season, so perhaps I will bring my camera with the long lens and try for a camera shot of a coyote coming to the decoy. Next month you may be able to read about that hunt.

The author may be reached at eyewrite4u@aol.com.

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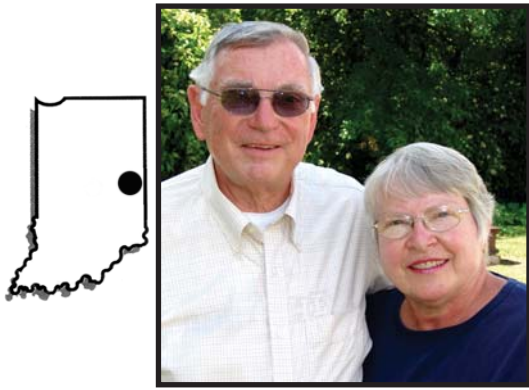
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Camping Here & Beyond



by John and El McCory

Camping With Teens II (You Must Plan Carefully)

In every camping trip, whether it's a group of family, friends, school, scout or church groups there should be some type of "where are we going", "what are we going to do" and some "type of regulations everyone lives by." Especially is this true with youth groups who many times haven't had this type of experience away from home with their peers. Of course there has to be some freedom and not like everyone is tied to ball and chain. If leaders can expect nearly one hundred percent cooperation, the regulations are needed to be followed from the planning, throughout, and until the end of the trip. After having discussed the plans and regulations at an "everyone must come with at least one of each youth's parents or guardians," going over the complete trip, and handing out necessary papers to be completed and signed, many of the leaders' responsibilities have been set in place and are expected to be followed throughout the trip. There will be variations in the regulations with every type of group but most of the rules are similar, including safety and following directions.

To be safe, costs, regulations, "what ifs" should be gone over carefully, signed originals carried by the leader and copies given to the parent. Important papers each student needs to have on file with the leader includes medical advice, such as what if an injury or illness takes place, does the leader have the parent's permit to take the person to a hospital or clinic for needed care, lists of conditions the youth may have, such as heart problems, diabetes, seizures, and medicine he or she needs to take (the medicine needs to be kept by the leader in a locked container).

Who should be contacted if the parent cannot be reached? This is important as we've seen parents go on their own trip at the same time (sometimes out of the country) and before cell phones, could not be readily contacted. Doctor's names and phone number, medical insurance plans, contact persons and numbers, and waivers signed by the parents allowing the leader to contact the above sources. Parents should also be asked if there are any religious beliefs that apply to medical treatment.

One such example I had was a boy that had forged his dad's signature on the permits for the trip, beginning the afternoon of Good Friday, the beginning of Spring Break. The dad brought the boy to the school and asked me about why no papers were sent home telling of all the plans, costs, and permits. I showed him the signed papers and he said he'd never seen them and these weren't his signatures. I was for once, without words, trying to pull myself together as time approached to leave on the camping trip. I had had a waiting list of students who wanted to go but room didn't permit and they'd made other plans when we had filled up the camping trip. There was no one available to take the boy's place. I stuttered and stammered and finally asked the father if he would please sign for the boy and take care of his name-forging son when we got home a week later. He knew we were close budgeted and time limited and no replacement could be contacted at that late hour. The boy went on the trip, walked straight as an arrow and I felt sorry for him the whole trip---he had the wrath of dad, a lawyer, to contend with upon returning home. I could just hear the legal lessons the boy learned the next week.

When hiking, driving down the road, riding the train, or in an airplane, there are rules that need to be followed. These can be developed by the leader and explained to the students, preferably in writing weeks before the trip as the leader and chaperones have rather tough tasks without needing to baby sit one or two rowdies the whole trip who haven't read the rules. The kids can be ornery and mischievous



Spring Mill State Park tent and fold-out campers. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

without upsetting the schedule or causing anxiety for the leaders or chaperones, or being a pain in the rear for the rest of the group.

If funding is a problem to take extended field experiences, many of you have probably already come upon many money-raising projects. We almost always (in my school Ecology Club) had projects where we collected recyclable material to sell and used the money for field experiences. We had glass, aluminum, and paper drives and also products like greeting cards and paper and envelopes which were made from recycled paper that the kids sold door to door.

Back when President Carter was in office the "in thing" among the environmentally minded was to back the "throttle the bottle" and "ban the can" projects. This meant paying a few cents for each bottle or can so they wouldn't be thrown out thus recycling the glass or aluminum. A young man in my club got together a project where we took over 300 aluminum cans, taped up the sharp openings, made labels addressed to President Carter in the White House and put eighteen cent stamps on each of the 300 plus cans. The boy called a press conference at our city's main post office. With television cameras rolling and the boy speaking to reporters and class and public supporters, he dumped the sack loads of addressed cans into the mailboxes on the steps of the post office. Whether Carter ever saw the cans or not, we got a nice letter back from someone in Washington from one of the federal offices, that they

got the point. That boy is now Northern Regional Director of the Indiana State Park System.

There will be more about teen camping and their sometimes outrageous, but hilarious activities on the trips next month. If you have anything you'd like discussed about camping contact us at: jmacnut@yahoo.com or 260-637-3524. See you in April.

John and El McCory

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Left Photo: Skid foundations for my better brush piles. Right Photo: Skids with brush on top. Photo taken before final covering to show the skids. (Author's photos)

Dog Tales



by Alan "Grizz" Smith

Conservation Projects

Well hunting seasons are pretty much over for us here in Hoosier land. With a little time to kill between now and the start of turkey season or fishing season (for us fair weather fishermen) you

may be getting a little stir crazy or be suffering from cabin fever. Not to worry this is the perfect time to get out and work on some conservation projects. There are numerous projects that you can work on that will be beneficial to both game and non-game wildlife species. Many of them are great for getting the kids involved in conservation efforts and to show them that there is more to our hunting heritage than just the killing that goes along with hunting. Teaching responsible stewardship of our natural resources is something that we should take great pride in. Both the effort put into such activities as well as the end product should bring a sense of pride to a hunter no matter what their age.

Two of my favorite projects to work on are wood duck boxes and building brush piles for rabbits. Any type of brush pile will help provide cover for rabbits and help protect them from predators. As the brush starts to break down a lot of the voids that are used by rabbits will disappear making them of little value. There are a few different

ways to prevent this. The way I like to do mine is by making the bases of the piles out of two shipping skids. I stack these on top of each other and then build my brush piles on top of them. This keeps the piles from collapsing and provides adequate cover under the pile. These bases will hold up for several years and a little new brush added each year too the top keeps them in working order. There are all kinds of places where you can obtain these hardwood skids for free. Check local factories, farm and feed stores etc... Last year I obtained six truck loads of cut Christmas trees from a local vendor. These didn't get sold by Christmas and were given to me just for hauling them off. This really paid off with an increase in my local rabbit population on my land. This project will only cost you a little gas to obtain skids and is a great project for getting the kids involved.



A mallard nest. (Photo courtesy of Delta Waterfowl)



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Members of the Central Indiana Chapter of Delta Waterfowl along with their kids on a wood duck box clean out day at the Providence Pond Wetland Conservation Area. (Photo courtesy of CICDW)

Wood duck boxes are also a fun project and will bring a great deal of satisfaction upon seeing your efforts being used by the local wood duck population. There are numerous plans available for building wood duck boxes as well as a wealth of information concerning these boxes and how to maintain them online. Be sure to check out the Ducks Unlimited web site at www.ducks.org you can find their info on wood duck boxes at www.ducks.org/conservation/waterfowl-biology/wood-duck-resources. You will also find more

quality reading by doing a Google search on wood duck boxes. Also they will make recommendations for certain types of wood but don't be afraid to use what you have around. I have made several wood duck boxes out of 3/4 inch plywood that lasted for several seasons. Just stay away from treated wood.

Another project that I plan to try for the first time this year is to build and install some mallard nests. These are basically a tube formed from two pieces of welded wire hardware cloth with grass matting sandwiched between the rolls. This is then supported on a pole and installed in the water. This project is a project that will probably cost you a little green unless you have some of the materials on hand or can find a source to salvage some of the materials. Check out Delta Waterfowl's website at www.deltawaterfowl.org also on Deltasite you will find the plans for building a mallard nest at www.deltawaterfowl.org/henhouses/build.php

There are many other projects out there that are worth your consideration, these are just a few of my favorites. So get out there by yourself, with your hunting buddies, with your kids or with your neighbors kids if you don't have any and get busy on some conservation projects.



The Order of RED MEN

The Improved Order of Red Men

Greetings Brothers!

It's always with great pleasure that I write to you.

Our Miami Tribe is growing. In January we did not meet due to the bad weather. We hope to meet on February 17th for our nominations and election of officers; and to have Abraham Lincoln as our guest speaker.

We always meet the third Thursday of each month at MCL Cafeteria in Richmond to eat and our meeting begins at 6:45 pm and ends at approximately 7:30. Mark Twain will be our speaker at the March 17th meeting.

We are a patriotic organization; one of nine tribes scattered across Indiana. We meet for the purposes of Freedom, Friendship, and Charity. We welcome you as our guest and if you would like to join us the dues are \$20.00 a year. We have over 600 members in Indiana and over 17,000 members throughout the United States. The Pocahontas (women's auxiliary) has over 7500 members.

Our national charitable project is Alzheimer's. We are now collecting used ink cartridges and we turn them in for cash for this project.

In the past year we supported the American Legion Flag Project. We also contributed to other charitable projects. We need you; your presence, support, and prayers.

For additional information please call Malcolm Greene at 765-259-1958.

May you always feel the presence of the Great Spirit to guide you on your journey of life.

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Ramblings from Da Region



by Gene Clifford

Bunnies aren't beneath me

Sadly, this is not the case for most hunters, nowadays. Too often, most hi-powered hunters think it's a kids game to hunt for rabbits. Too bad. They're missing out on one of the classic American hunting traditions. Our pioneers survived on hunting small game, on their trip westward. After the farms were platted out and fences were installed, these country-folk continued their association with the outdoor wildness by continuing to hunt these furry little rodents. Pursuing rabbits is simple, cheap, and pure fun. Who gives a rodents rear end what other hunters think.

"Hunt" is the key word in all of this. When I was about 10 years old I was invited to go along with my 2 older brothers and their friends, on a rabbit hunt. Little did I know that I was invited along primarily to carry whatever they killed, I felt I was "accepted".

With modern day rabbit hunters you don't have to worry about your scent or if you have the right color of camouflage on. You can go out and kick some brush piles and just "hunt".

Another thing you don't have to worry about is getting out to hunt on opening weekend, as most states the bunny season lasts for many months and the daily bag limits are generous. Nobody's going to get the big one you've been watching on your trail camera, as all this expensive electronics are definitely not needed when in pursuit of "ol br'er rabbit".

Anyone who's hunted rabbits knows they are nervous critters and will most likely bolt from their hiding place at the slightest of perceived danger. When you enter a briar patch, walk slowly, stopping every now and then as you would when hunting pheasants. This will most likely unnerve them in to leaving their present surroundings for safer habitat.

Contrary to popular belief, rabbits don't exactly run in a big circle when being chased by dogs. A lot depends on just how hard they are being chased. Most of the time, rabbits are really only familiar with the general area of where you jumped them. They do, tend to stay within their known range, and if you have the patience to wait, the dogs will undoubtedly bring the bunny around to where you can get a shot at them. Even when spooked from their hideouts, they typically will only hop a short distance to another bit of cover, where they will no doubt lay up until spooked again.

Most avid rabbit hunters feel that an Improved



The irreplaceable bunny rabbit. (Photo by Ray Dickerson)

Cylinder is enough choke in your gun to bring down the hairy creatures. That's true, in that you'll not put too many pellets in the rabbit, damaging the meat. I personally feel I'm not that quick on the draw anymore so I need to use my 20 ga. Remington 1100 with full choke to insure a clean kill or a clean miss. It also depends on how much cover you're hunting in. If the cover is very thick, I hunt with #4's in my 20 guage. Whereas, if the hunting is done out in the open more, I'll use #6's. It only takes 2 or 3 pellets to stop a bunny from escaping into the next county.

My bunny hunting friends tell me I have a Senior Citizens beagle, because in the last 2 or 3 years, he's taken to fetching the rabbits for me. With him being 8 years old, and me nearing 75, I can't ask much more of my dog than that.

Weather more than anything else affects the rabbits behavior and temperament. The time of day must be taken into consideration too. Twice in the last 2 or 3 years I've experienced a situation where, having just jumped a rabbit, the dogs could not pick up it's scent because it was still too cold or the snow was too fluffy. So I've now taken to hunting rabbits only when it's above 25 degrees, or near that, with the sun shining profusely. What convinced me of this new tactic, was when I could not get the dog to track a rabbit I just spooked, yet when I came back to the same area some 2 hours later we kicked up 3 bunnies as the sun had come out and it started to thaw a bit. The dog seemed to be able to pick up the scent easier if there's some moisture on the ground. Besides, rabbits are a lot like people---they want to be outside and moving if the sun is shining.

Bunnies by the numbers

According to a recent U. S. Fish and Wildlife survey back in 2006 there were 1.9 million rabbit hunters in the United States. The average number of days spent rabbit hunting was 11, with 20+ million, the number of days spent out in the cold in pursuit of rabbits.

The truth is, there is no bad time to go rabbit hunting. Grab the 20 ga. or .410, whistle up the dogs, and call the kids. It's time for a bunny hunt.

News From The Indiana State Police

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

using reflective tape and by using your motorcycle's headlight. Always use turn signals when changing lanes and turning..

- Look for road hazards. Be especially cautious around intersections, alleys, driveways, and other areas where an animal, pedestrian, or vehicle might enter your path.
- Avoid riding in the blind spot of other vehicles.
- Ride defensively; always leave enough reaction time for unexpected movements from other vehicles.
- Never ride impaired.
- Never perform "wheelies" or other tricks.

Motorcycles are harder to see then other vehicles; consequently, many crashes occur because other motorists don't see the motorcycle. All motorists should take the time for a second look before pulling into an intersection or making a turn. It only takes a second to save a life.

A Story from the Road

One hot June Sunday morning I stopped a new Lincoln on I-70 for speeding. It was early and the temperature was already in the 80's. As I walked up to the car's passenger side I noticed a dark blue Hawaiian type shirt with white flowers on it hanging in the back window of the car. There was no luggage in the car.

The driver and only occupant, in his late fifties, began apologizing immediately for his speed. He explained he was traveling for the day to his college fraternity reunion, where he was going to "entertain," and had no reason to be driving so fast. He commented on how hot it was, and that I must be hot in that "stuffy" uniform. He was even concerned enough to ask what kind of material my uniform was made of.

I wrote his ticket and went back to explain it as quickly as possible. But, in looking in at the man, I couldn't help but laugh. He had unbuttoned his silk shirt completely; evidently despite his air conditioning, the heat had become too much.

I gave him his ticket and quickly went back to my car, leaving him still apologizing. I took a closer look at that shirt hanging in the window as I walked by and think it was actually a silk dress, with a very large pair of high heels on the back seat.

Whatever kind of show he was putting on, I know I didn't want to see it; but sometimes we do get to meet the most interesting people... Well this ends another month's installment. Thanks for allowing all of us to serve all of you, be safe, and we will talk again next month.

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IDNR News

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

been. By the smiles exhibited at lunch one would not have known only a few squirrels had been taken. The smiles illustrated the hunts had been successful even with few animals bagged.

I'm not really sure, even now, whether the kids have more fun than the adults at these so called 'youth' hunts. We may just have to reconvene the same time next year for a 'do-over' to address this matter.

2011 Karl E. Kelley Memorial Youth Camp Applications Available

The Indiana Conservation Officers Organization is accepting applications for the **2011 Karl E. Kelley Memorial Youth Camp**. The camp, named in memory of F/Sgt. Karl Kelley who died in the line of duty, is open to boys and girls that have completed the 5th or 6th grade in the preceding school year.

One of the goals of the camp is to teach kids an appreciation for natural resources. The camp is filled with activities introducing kids to a variety of outdoor related topics. Certification is offered in the hunter and boater safety education programs of the DNR Law Enforcement Division during the week long camp.

If you know of an appropriately aged person who is attracted to spending a week away from home doing things like boating, fishing, hiking, camping and having more fun than should be legal, visit: <http://icoo.com/>. Camp is limited to 120 campers so apply soon! ■

CHS Outdoor Sportsman's Club

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

to develop life skills, self-worth, and conservation ethics.

The National 4-H Shooting Sports is also currently being taught in area schools.

The Bass Federation (TBF) announces the formation of the largest student angler program in history. Decades of youth program leadership by TBF and affiliated state federations, and FLW Outdoors' position as the largest promoter of tournaments in the world have spawned the largest youth fishing initiative in sports history. The new

national High School Fishing program follows highly successful TBF and FLW Outdoors programs including National Guard FLW College Fishing, the SAF High School Fishing World Finals and the TBF Junior World Championship. Over 23,000 high schools across the nation and Canada are invited to compete giving high school anglers opportunities to fish, make friends, advance to championship events and earn scholarships to benefit their education and their lives.

The Indiana Bass Federation has offered several programs for Indiana youth state wide.

These are but a few of the opportunities for high school students to participate in organized outdoor programs designed to help them enjoy the world around them in outdoor sports. Finding local individuals, organizations, clubs and others to sponsor or help provide the opportunity for these young people to become outdoor men and women is the goal. Can you help?

The CHS Outdoor Sportsman's Club is something to get the students involved in outdoor activities.

The Purpose: The Centerville High School Outdoor Sportsman's Club is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to encourage Centerville High School students to participate in positive, lifelong outdoor activities such as camping, fishing and hiking and to serve as stewards of fish and wildlife. The Centerville High School Outdoor Sportsman's Club will provide opportunities for extending the individual's knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of his/her environment through experiences in outdoor activities under the leadership of volunteers and the club coordinator. At all times the individual shall cooperate with the aims and objectives of sound environmental practices.

Membership: Membership in the Club is open to all CHS students. Students who are on academic and/or social probation are eligible to membership but ineligible to participate in club activities.

Cost/Fees: Members will not be charged membership dues. Members may be asked to pay for special activities or participation in fundraisers. Individual and corporate donations will also be accepted to help support the Club.

Activity Participation: The CHS Outdoor Sportsman's Club will attempt to schedule one fall and one spring activity with the possibility of more activities if possible. Participation in activities is left to the discretion of the sponsor. Members who are on academic and/or social probation are not eligible to participate in club activities.

Anyone who would like more information or can provide some help for the CHS Outdoor Sportsman's Club can do so by calling Mark at **765-969-5353** or e-mail mbaldwin@centerville.k12.in.us. ■

Fishing Lake Michigan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

caught a smallmouth bass, a largemouth bass and a yellow perch. Mike and Brent caught some of all of these and added to the list with white bass, red-horse sucker, bluegill, sauger and sheephead. Some might opine we needed a catfish, carp or pike to complete the slam but that doesn't much matter.

The variety of fish we caught, the natural beauty of the river and its backwaters and the opportunity to fish with a pair of experienced rivermen made for a Grand Slam afternoon of adventure along the mighty Mississippi.

To contact Brent go to www.eagleeyeriverguide.com. He'll meet you at Mike's store, www.msippivalleyfishmarket.com. Pick up a stick or two of catfish baloney. You'll have time to eat it when you are done fishing.

THE END ■

Outdoors Tales

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

effective.

5. Opaque colored jigs are productive in dark waters. Try a clear/chartreuse in lighter waters. Combination colors will offer more contrast.

6. Crappie love shade. (They have pretty large eyes for their size) Cast past structure and retrieve slowly through the shade.

7. Live minnows are extremely effective. Choose a float or bobber that barely floats for less lost bait. A larger float offers more resistance and allows crappie to pull the minnows off the hook.

8. In the warmer months, crappie are more active at night. Lighted, slip-floats make night fishing possible and it's very productive.

9. Moon phases affect shallow ponds more than larger waters. Try to fish on the growing moon; especially when the moon is "up".

10. Take the kids. Crappie fishing is fun for the whole family.

Crappie fishing will be picking up. The ground hog didn't see his shadow, so spring can be too long in coming.

###

Contact writer Phil Junker by Emil at: outdoor_scribe@yahoo.com ■

Smokin' On The Water BBQ Festival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

Cost: Only \$60 for each space (approx 15'x20') for entire weekend.

Location: Across from Quakertown Recreation Area on the west side of Brookville Lake: Treaty Line Museum & Pioneer Village

Restrictions: Please, No: Animals (except working guide/leader dogs), Alcohol, Used Clothing Sales, Bicycles, or Golfcarts (except for event organizers) will be allowed on the premises.

To Find Forms And all the activities go to Smokin' website www.libertyindianalions.com/liberty_lions_club/Smoke_on_the_Water.html

Questions: Contact Carl Sharp at 765-458-5574 (office), or 765-580-0215 (cell) or email at: Carl.sharp.c9mm@statefarm.com or Zack Cartee at 765-309-3061 (Cell) with any questions. ■

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

40 drive east or west to west side of Richmond to Salisbury Road, turn north on Salisbury to Fairgrounds entrance.

TREASURES OF THE EARTH GEM & JEWELRY SHOW MARCH 25-27, 2011

The 13th Annual Spring Bead, Gem, Mineral and Jewelry show will be held at the Indianapolis State Fairgrounds in the Agriculture/Horticulture Building at 1202 East 38th Street in Indianapolis, Indiana on **March 25-27, 2011**, Friday 10 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 6 pm and Sunday 11 am to 5 pm.

Rose and Van Wimmer host Treasures of the Earth Gem and Jewelry Shows in Indiana, Virginia, North Carolina and Georgia. For a complete list of their shows in 2011 and more on this show go to Page 10 in this issue. For more information go to their website www.toteshows.com or call (540) 384-6047.

EAST FORK FISHING EXPO MEMORIAL DAY MAY 30, 2011

Brian "Snook" Nobbe and Jim Surhe have been in contact with me on this event here is what I know so far.

The photo at the right is a collage of several photos taken by Jim Surhe (of CanoeFest fame) of last years East Fork 1st Annual Fishing Expo for Kids.

The East Fork Fishing Expo for Kids is on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, 2011. This will be the second annual year for this free event.

This event is in conjunction with Family Fun Day, which is put on by Stayin' Alive, Franklin County LCC. Last year we had about one hundred and forty kids participate in the fishing expo, while around one thousand kids and adults attended the Family Fun Day event. The event will take place at the same location as last year, which is the Brookville town park.

For the Kids Fishing Expo, we encourage kids to bring their own fishing poles, but poles will also be provided. Bait is also provided by 52 Pik-Up convenience store. The event will take place from 10 am. to 1 pm. All participants in the Fishing Expo are to be accompanied by an adult. There will be other fun things for kids to do.

The local NASP archery program will have an area for young archers to practice their skills, along with information on water and boater safety. The Fishing Expo is put on to educate and encourage our youth to embrace and utilize our local natural resources. Brookville is blessed to have this resource so close to its community.

For more information on this exciting event for kids in the Whitewater Valley and nearby read **The Gad-a-bout** here or at www.thegadabout.com or contact Brian Nobbe at 765-647-3600.

INDIANA'S LARGEST CANOE RACE CANOEFEST JULY 1-2, 2011 BROOKVILLE, INDIANA

Indiana's largest canoe race will take place in Brookville again this July 1-2 of the big 4th of July weekend. Last year the CanoeFest garnered a place in the Guinness World Book of Records of frying the most chicken in one day. Undaunted by last years fame the masterminds of this years event are looking to break last years record and of course put on the Best ever CanoeFest of all time. For more information go to WWW.CANOEFEST.ORG. Hope I see you there, until then, be safe and have fun this year.



2010 was the first year for the East Fork Fishing Expo for Kid. In the upper left corner is Brian "Snook" Nobbe, he, Greg Morgan (middle right in orange shirt), Scott Rowlett (lower right in blue shirt), Jim Suhre and many others made this happen. Kids fished along the East Fork in the Brookville City Park all using live bait. (Photos by Jim Suhre)

MISFIRES & SNAGS WRITER REMINDS ME OF SIMILAR ACTION

While I was reading Dan Graves article (Misfires and Snags page 18) he was telling about putting a semi-automatic pistol back together after cleaning it. His experience reminded me of my first experience cleaning my .45 after our first pistol practice as a new member of the RAF Chelveston Pistol Team in England, back in 1962. The armory was in a quonset hut which was made of corrugated metal. The sides and roof had no interior wall, just the bare metal as the roof/ceiling. On the 1911 .45 pistol to disassemble it for cleaning we learned you simply push a button in at the front below the barrel, with the button depressed you turn the metal bracket holding the spring and slide together, the spring slides out, then you remove the slide and barrel. Well I guess someone forgot to tell me or I wasn't listening at the time to make sure to keep a good hold of the spring tightly. When I depressed the button and turned the bracket, the spring rocketed out of the .45 bouncing off the corrugated ceiling barely missing one of the other guys standing nearby. Read about Dan's experience on page 18, **SPROING!** Dan and his wife live near Greensburg, Indiana. His humor has thrilled The Gad-a-bout readers for quite some

time.

I've been going to look back and see just how long Dan and the other regular writers have been writing in The Gad-a-bout. I'm going to do that just as soon as I find time to do it.



Fishermen catching a bonanza of Crappie through the ice on Salamonie Reservoir in January 2011.

BOZARTH COUNTRY STORE 2011 CRAPPIE SCHEDULE

The Crappie Tournament Dates for 2011 are: April 30, June 4, September 17, October 1 & 2 - Maybe a Two Day event.

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These are the best we have at this time and expect to hold these dates.

Crappie USA is June 11 - Tentative.

I have attached a few photos of the fishing at the 105 bridge.

For information on the Bozarth Crappie Tournaments contact Ryan at 765-981-4522 or e-mail brccampground@hotmail.com.

GRAND RACE SET TO KICK OFF VEVAY/SWITZERLAND COUNTY

VEVAY, IN - The Switzerland County Recreation, Tourism, and Convention Commission (SCRCC) is excited to announce a new event coming to the area this summer. The Switzerland County Grand Race is a day long scavenger hunt and adventure that will lead teams of contestants throughout all of Switzerland County. The adventure takes place Saturday, June 18, 2011.

Teams, made up of four members, will compete in a specific category: general, senior, or family and try to win the grand prize of \$1,000.00 by solving clues, completing tasks, and racing to the finish. The grand prize is for those competing in the general category, winners in the senior and family categories will receive a cash award and prizes.

This is not a traditional 'running race', but rather an event that requires team-work, problem solving, and puzzles. The physical and athletic requirements are minimal. The concept mirrors the "Amazing Race" reality show seen on television.

Not only will teams enjoy a day of fun and adventure, but each participant will receive an event t-shirt. Anyone can participate. The entry fee is \$75 per team before June 1st, and late entry is \$90 per team after June 1st. No registrations will be accepted after June 15th. Team registration forms are available on line at www.vevayin.com. Interested parties may also find information about the event on a new FaceBook Page, The Switzerland County Grand Race, where updates and information is being posted.

Individuals, businesses or teams interested in registering can do so online or by contacting Natasha Turner at (812)427-3237 or natashaturner@vevayin.com.



COLONEL SCOTTY WILSON
New IDNR Director of Law Enforcement

GOVERNOR DANIELS APPOINTED SCOTTY WILSON NEW DNR LAW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR

INDIANAPOLIS – Gov. Mitch Daniels has appointed Scotty Wilson as the new director of the DNR Division of Law Enforcement to replace Col. Mike Crider, who retired at the end of 2010.

"Indiana Conservation Officers provide a tremendous service in protecting and conserving our state's wonderful natural resources for public enjoyment and recreation," Daniels said. "Scotty's years of experience as a field officer, a district commander, and more recently as a member of the Law Enforcement executive team make him a natural fit to fill this leadership role with the DNR."

By statute, the governor appoints the DNR law enforcement chief on the recommendation of the DNR director. Wilson's promotion to the rank of Colonel is effective Jan. 1.

"I'm delighted that Gov. Daniels has made this appointment," said DNR Director Robert E. Carter Jr., who preceded Crider as head of DNR Law Enforcement. "Scotty is a proven leader with an impeccable résumé and will continue where Mike left off."

Wilson, 54, has been a conservation officer for 25 years and spent the last 10 months as the division's Executive Officer with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

As the division director, he will oversee 214 conservation officers and 40 civilian employees.

"I have great respect for the position, and I am humbled," Wilson said. "I worked hard as an officer and enjoyed it immensely. I seized the opportunities that came my way, and those opportunities over the course of 25 years have now given me this opportunity to be the director. I've been working with Mike long enough that I've got a pretty good hook on things. I have a multitude of good people to surround myself with, and I look forward to being the leader of this division and keep us going on the right course."

Wilson joined the DNR in 1985 after being elected class president of that year's Indiana Conservation Officer recruit school. He spent the next 16 years as a field officer in Knox and Perry counties before being promoted to lieutenant for District 7, a 10-county area of southwest Indiana. He transferred to the DNR central office in 2006 to become logistics officer.

He has served in many capacities beyond his primary duties, including being an instructor in advanced scuba, river rescue, hunter and boater education; serving as recruit school drill instructor, sonar operator, and covert operative, and developing the DNR's K-9 program.

Wilson is a 2003 graduate of the FBI National Academy and was elected by his peers as class president. In 2005, he participated in an FBI Fellowship Program in Washington, D.C., and in 2009 was elected president of the Indiana chapter of the FBI National Academy Associates.

He has a Bachelor of Science degree in human resources management from Oakland City University and an associate's degree in general studies from Vincennes University.

Wilson served four years active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps and two years inactive service, achieving the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Crider, 51, retired after 30-plus years with DNR Law Enforcement, the past four as division director.

"Boy, I've had a wonderful career," Crider said. "I got to do some things that were just amazing, and

I watched and experienced the advancement and significant steps forward, particularly in areas of technology and the policing world.

"When I started, we had one or two walkie-talkies in the district, and they were about the size of a small briefcase. Nobody had a cell phone or had even heard of them. Nobody even had computers."

TRUE TEST OF PATIENCE

Monday night, 1-31-11, was a true test of patience.

On Monday the sun shone brightly most the afternoon, but it was cold. The forecast was gloomy - ice, sleet & snow.

After supper I went to South Street and started on the paper. I work in the back with the windows shuttered and didn't give a thought to the weather outside. At about ten p.m. I shut everything down and headed outside. Without thinking or looking I stepped on the sidewalk and about fell on the ice. There wasn't too much of a heavy coating, but it was even and slick. Everything had a coating, a heavier coating was on the windows of the truck. It took me a good twenty minutes to clear off all the windows, mirrors and lights. The fun started when I pulled out on South Street. I always drive in first gear on ice and snow while driving on Centerville's side streets. However even in first gear I had a hard time stopping at the stop signs. I felt like a snail would have an easy time passing me. It's only 3 blocks from the garage on South Street to our house on School. I did pretty good at keeping the truck on the roadway and under control (I had 2600 papers on board). The trouble began when I was trying to park in our driveway, which I determined was a bad idea at the getgo. Normally I would park on the street, but I thought if I was in the drive way and one of our famous 500 speedsters came sliding around our corner, my truck would be safer in the driveway. However I gingerly backed back onto the street and waited until my rear end had stopped sliding across School Street before going forward and turning back toward the east. I then slid to a slow stop and put it in reverse. I wasn't going fast, mind you, but the weight of the truck evidently was the reason I couldn't get the truck to stop moving backwards. There is a slight incline from 2nd to 4th street, so I quickly dropped the gearshift down to the first gear with my foot gingerly on the brake pedal and the truck began moving slowly toward the east again and I made it into my parking space off the road in front of the house. I thought, oh well, if someone hits me, I got insurance, hope they do!

I didn't get up extremely early on Tuesday morning, after the night before experience I knew I couldn't get anywhere with our side streets the shape they were. By noon though I needed to get to a gas station in preparation for my early morning trip taking Sherry to work in the wee hours of Wednesday morning. I didn't gas up sooner due to planning on getting gas in Connersville or Rushville Tuesday morning when I went there for a 10 o'clock meeting in Rushville! The gas price is always cheaper down that way, then locally.

So I went outside cleaned off the truck and headed for U.S. 40. I drove slow and found US40 had 4 lanes clear for travel. I got my gas and headed back to Centerville, checked the mail, got a paper, went over to South Street and put some bird feed out for the birds, then went home to fix my early supper. I was glad I decided to get out, the practice driving on the slick side streets gave me more confidence for my early morning drive to Richmond. I knew our

CONTINUED ON PAGE 28

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Roaming The Outdoors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 27

town streets wasn't going to be treated so we residents had to endure slipping and sliding until Mother Nature gets rid of the ice and snow. I had called the Centerville City Building earlier in the day Tuesday, asking if they were going to put some salt or sand at the intersections. The girl that answered the phone said that the salt wouldn't work on the ice in the cold temperatures. I watched a neighbor drive his Jeep out onto School Street a little too fast and he slid sideways across the street, then he got control without mishap. I thought to myself, yep, its slick!

It started sleeting shortly after arriving home. This was good though, the sleet gives you traction on ice, but remember the ice is still underneath. One thing that is very important when driving on snow, sleet or ice - plan your stops well in advance and leave at least 3 car lengths between you and car ahead. Also, be patient and use good common sense!

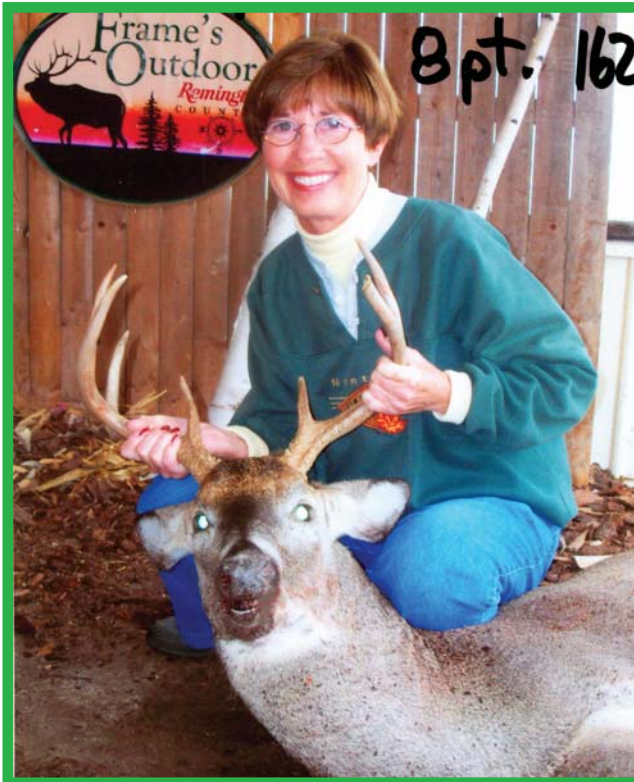
I drove back to South Street gingerly on the sleeted roads, there was a lot more traction. I got some work done on the paper, quitting early to get home and get some sleep. I planned on getting up at 3 a.m. to clear off the truck and we would leave at 4 a.m. Surprise, surprise, when I went outside the sleet had evidently been melted down by precipitation and the temperature was a balmy 38 degrees. The wind was howling. The forecast called for 40-50 mile an hour winds over night. Not a good forecast for those areas that got more ice than we did. I easily cleaned the ice from the truck.

We left home at about a quarter to 4 a.m. There wasn't but a few vehicles out. I dropped Sherry off at work, then got back home safe and sound.

I want to thank all those snow plow guys and gals who drove their State and County trucks for the endless hours it took them to keep ahead of the worst ice, snow and sleet storm that I can remember in my lifetime. That thank you is also extended to the supervisors who keep everything on track and making sure the drivers have what they need before going out to do their job, on the countless miles of roadway they cover. Also that big thank you is extended to the mechanics who keep the trucks in running order and ready for the long hours that are needed to be on the road. Thanks again! Contact me if I can help you out in any way, **765-960-5767**.

A TRUE SIGN OF SPRING

This photo should really make you think of



Carolyn Gardner took this 8 point, 162 lb. Buck on 11-18-10. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Eric Bales took this 10 point, 202 lb. Buck in Fayette County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Ray Charlton took this 8 point, 191 lb. Buck in Wayne County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



David Steinard took this 11 point, 170 lb. Buck in Fayette County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



spring if you enjoy finding mushrooms here in Indiana. These were found by Dave Wilcox who owns Dave's Triangle Guns, Bait and Boat Storage shop located on the point between the Dunlapville Ramp Road and the Dunlapville Causeway Road. at the north end of the Brookville Lake.

I didn't get to go hunting last year, but this year I am going to spend a good portion of my time in the woods.



Eleven year old Megan Porter from Centerville, IN took her first buck, a 5 point in Fayette County. Megan is the daughter of Bob and Joyce Porter. Bob and Nick Porter brought the photo by my house to see if I would put it in Gad's Corner. (Photo by Bob Porter)

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Shane Westerman took this 10 point buck in Franklin County. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Wagler Case from Greensburg, IN took this 150 Class 10 point Buck with a muzzleloader. (Country Mart Store Photo, Greensburg, IN)



Wyatt Case from Greensburg, IN took this 8 point buck taken with a .44 mag. (Country Mart Store Photo, Greensburg, IN)



Mike Mathews took this 30 lb. 4 oz. Coyote. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Taylor & Tyler Mobley had a good Day in Franklin County taking these two bucks and a doe. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Ashley Williams took this doe, her first deer in Franklin County. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Mark Chambers took this Coyote. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Calvin Sorrels took this 15 point, 175 lb. Buck on 12-11-10. (Red Barn Bait Shop Photo, Salem, IN)



Mark Gabbard (L) and Ryan Roberts (R) to these Coyote, a 26 lb. 3 oz. female and a 29 lb. 14 oz. male. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



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Caitlin Long took this 8 point, 170 lb. Buck on 11-14-10. (Red Barn Bait Shop Photo, Salem, IN)



Colton Shamblin took this, his first deer, a 8 point Buck in Union County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



Austin Taylor from Georgia took this 8 point, 175 lb. Buck with a gun. His first Indiana deer. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Roy Cruise took this 9 point, 196 lb. Buck in Union County with a muzzleloader. It won him the Deer Contest. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Nora Brown took this 4 point, 135 lb. Buck with a gun in Union County. She won the Youth Contest. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)



Tommy Tout took this 14 point, 197 lb. Buck in Wayne Co. with a Crossbow on the last day of bow season. Dustin Johnson on the right. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)







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Hunter Geis took this doe, his first deer in Franklin County. (52 Pickup Marathon Convenience Store Photo, Brookville, IN)



Sue Kraus from Lawrenceburg, IN took this picture in Switzerland County. (Photo submitted by Sue Kraus)



Vincent Lagamba took this 15 point, 158 lb. Buck on 11-27-10. (Red Barn Bait Shop Photo, Salem, IN)



Jeff Delk and Wyatt Shinn from Randolph County took this 10 point, 190 lb. Buck. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)



This is not Terry Brockman as shown last month in this spot. The hunter that took this Buck is James Ward from Hagerstown, IN. He contacted me. James took this 10 point, 220 lb. (FD) in Wayne County on 11-14-10 with a muzzleloader. (Summit Lake Bait & Tackle Photo, Summit Lake, IN)



Kyle Carpenter took this 17 point, 210 lb. Buck in Wayne County with a bow on 11-5-10. (Dave's Triangle Inc. Photo, Brookville Lake, IN)

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Ron Alexander took this 11 point Buck in Franklin County. (Frame's Outdoor Photo, Liberty, IN)

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Brian Brown, 12 Pt Buck - 190 Lbs



Aaron Groen, 15 Pt Buck - 220 Lbs



Matt Peters, 13 Pt Buck - 210 Lbs



Russell Bothast, 10 Pt Buck - 205 Lbs



Ryan Jones, 15 Pt Buck - 200 Lbs



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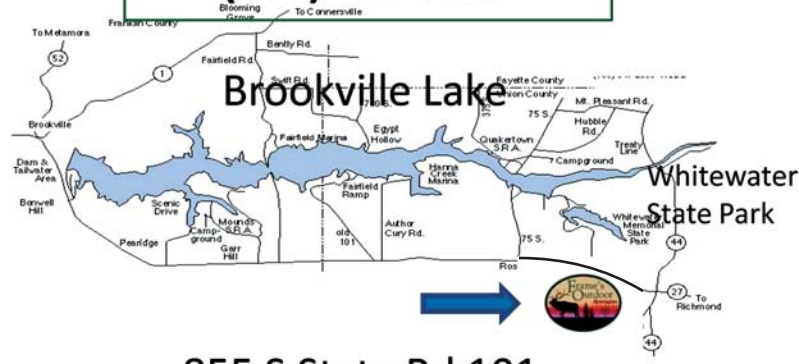


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