



IKEs

NEWSLETTER



A SPORTSPERSON'S
CONSERVATION CLUB
Conservation Center
5641 Myers Lake Ave.
Belmont, MI 49306



DWIGHT LYDELLE CHAPTER
OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

www.michiganikes.org

March 2015

The IKEs Update

Make way for a nest full of happiness! Time to chase the mice out of the birdhouses so the bluebirds can move back in. Some have been cooling their heels here all winter, and some are just returning. They sure provide an uplifting burst of color.

The **Beekeeping** presentation was a lot of fun, with over 30 people tasting delicious local bread and honey, while checking out the beehive system from **Aquinas**

College. It was an interesting group of people, some new members, and many of them plan to come back for next month's program on **Foraging**.

On Saturday, March 21 at 2:00 **Rachel Mifsud** will talk about collecting wild plants that are useful as food or medicine. Not just useful, but delicious, as I discovered last year when I made my first **Wild Cherry Juice** and found my first **Wild Plums**. Rachel was here before teaching about

*Introduction to
Foraging Wild Foods with Rachel Mifsud
Saturday, March 21 at 2:00 PM
at the lodge*



mushrooms. The **Intro to Foraging** will be an overview of what you can harvest throughout the year. It's free, to spark interest in **Briarpatch Outdoors** where she teaches with **George Hedgepeth** near Durand. To miss a chance to learn from Rachel is just silly. She is bursting with knowledge and enthusiasm. I love it when you RSVP; then if there's an update I can let you know.

Seniors at Forest Hills, Rockford, Sparta, or Northview schools that are entering college for an environmental career may ask their counselors for our scholarship application. Deadline is **April 15**.

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2015 Annual Conservation Banquet

Dwight Lydell Chapter - Izaak Walton League of America

Friday, March 6th - Public Welcome!

Thousand Oaks Country Club & Restaurant, 4100 Thousand Oaks Dr NE, Grand Rapids, MI



Fascinating Courtship & Reproductive Behaviors of Birds

by

Dr. Eldon Greij

5:30 pm

Social Hour/Silent Auction

7:00 pm

Dinner and Program

9:00 pm

Silent Auction Winners/Raffle

Friday, March 6th, 2015

Thousand Oaks Country Club



Silent Auction includes *incredible* deals on: sports equipment, paintings & fine art, gift certificates for fishing charters, salons, fine dining & entertainment, and raffle prizes. **This year only: a chance to bid on a climb to the top of the Mackinaw Bridge!**

IWLA Conservation Awards Banquet - Reservation Form

Tickets are \$32 per person. Please mail reservation form with *check made out to DLC-IWLA* and mail to:
Fred Eyer, Izaak Walton League Treasurer, 2488 Rockhill Dr. NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525

Thank you for making reservations by Monday, March 2nd!

Please list attendee names for name tags:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Number of tickets purchased: _____

@ \$32 each = \$ _____ (total due)

The IKEs Update

(continued from page 1)

If you get this before the big 3/6 **Conservation Banquet**, I hope you will come and have a great evening! The bird-program looks fascinating. I'm excited about the **Plaster Creek Stewards**, the Bridge-auction, all the great items offered to raise funds for our cause, plus the food and friends. If you're reading this later... I'll bet we had fun!

Georgia Donovan

Checking out the beehive system from Aquinas College



OFFICERS

- President, Duane DeVries.....532.9151
duanedv@earthlink.net
- Vice President, Georgia Donovan.....
georgiadonovanart@gmail.com
- Secretary, Jim Schneider340.4604
jim-ms@comcast.net
- Treasurer, Fred Eyer363.0253
fseyer@gmail.com

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mhouseman@grar.com
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hootjay1@aol.com
- Bill Kirk.....874.8230
bkirk@i2k.com
- Len Kizer866.4256
len12sc4mi@yahoo.com
- Marylou Sundt 443.7377
hellomarylou56@yahoo.com
- Travis Vanluyn.....723.4550
travis.vanluyn@gmail.com
- Tom Watson.....874.7254
twwatson@comcast.net
- Lars Wigert.....866.8626
wigerts@aol.com

Conservation Chair

- John Stegmier..... fishysteg@msn.com

Grounds/Maintenance Chair

- C. J. Tasma.....887.8542
handicapsign@gmail.com

Membership Secretary

- Ron Waybrant361.1422
rcwaybrant@gmail.com

Lodge Rental

- Jim Schneider340.4604
jim-ms@comcast.net

THOUGHT OF THE MONTH

Jay Huston

“Your life and mine shall be valued not by what we take... but by what we give.”

Edgar Allen



Dwight Lydell Chapter
of the Izaak Walton League
4905 Cresthill Dr NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49525

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pass it on to a friend.

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Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

Make your reservations now for the **2015 Annual Conservation Banquet and Auction**

Friday, March 6th, 2015
Thousand Oaks Country Club

5:30 pm Social Hour/Silent Auction
7:00 pm Dinner/Program
9:00 pm Awards/Auction Winners and Raffle



**This year only: a chance to bid on a climb
to the top of the Mackinaw Bridge!**

Reservations due by March 2nd. See page 2 for reservation form.

And then
don't miss the



**DEVOS PLACE
Outfitters Expo**

coming up
March 19 - 22