



www.michiganikes.org

March 2018

The IKEs Update

Looking on the bright side of March, it's a time of year you can tromp all over "Izaak-land" and not get lost, because you can see through the trees. In a few months it'll be a jungle again but right now you can get a good view of the land, and the creek is beautiful.

If you'd rather socialize, we've got the **Sport Show** coming up March 15-18. Let any board member know if you'd like to help out at the booth and we'll make sure you get in free.

We've got a program coming up, with a visit from **Opal**, the pretty opossum from **Blandford**. Are 'possums fearsome? Cute? Come find out. She should be traveling along with a few other critters, such as a flying squirrel, a turtle, and a hawk or owl. It's free for members, \$5 for visitors, on Tuesday, **March 20**, 6:30 -7:30. Please check our Facebook page for later updates. Actually, we have two, but the Izaak Walton League - Dwight Lydell Chapter is becoming the most used, so follow it for announcements.

Or michiganikes.org.

I'm also wondering about a hammock-making workshop. I have a book on several methods and was thinking about using the beams in our lodge to suspend some "looms" so we could weave hammocks (or

tangled webs). I've always wanted to try it. Anybody else?

There are many issues facing conservation these days, and I encourage you to pick a couple you care about and speak to your legislators. **SB652 & 653** are coming up in the MI House soon. 652 creates a committee to oversee all rule-making of the DEQ. 653 shifts authority from the DEQ to a panel of industry professionals appointed by the governor who will have the ability to overturn permitting decisions by the DEQ. Personally, I'd prefer the DEQ to be able to do its job.

You don't have to be an expert to contact your Representative. You can simply call and say that you have concerns about something, want something supported, protected, or changed, or ask how your rep is inclined and why. Go to **michigan.gov** and click "find your rep" for contact info.

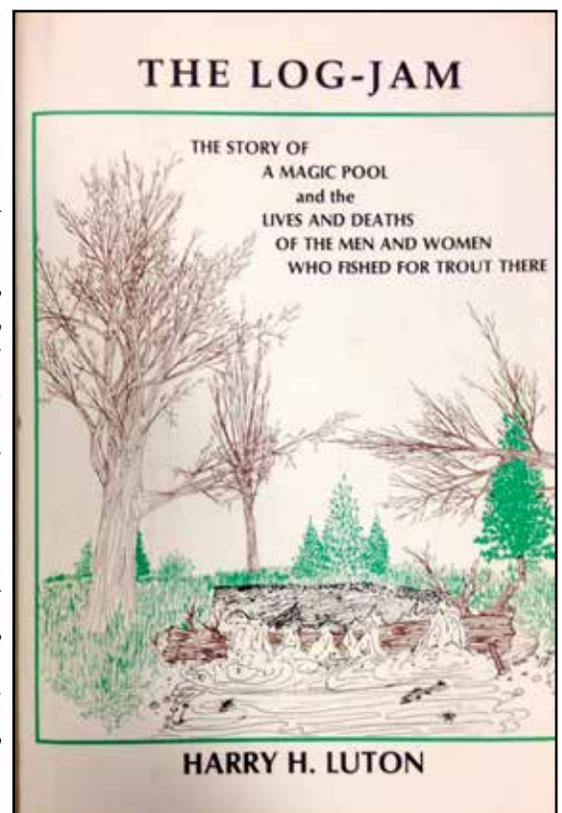
Many of us enjoy **Luton Park**, but did you know **Harry Luton**, a former Ike, donated most of the land? He wrote a book of short stories called *The Log-Jam*, which is pretty good reading. We have a copy at the

lodge, and reading his stories with insights about fishing might be a good way to honor him for his gift of the nature preserve.

I'm currently reading a book for younger readers, because somehow I missed it when I was a younger reader! So I'm enjoying it now: *My Side of the Mountain*.

See you soon!

Georgia Donovan



Did You Know? Ultimate Sports Show Grand Rapids Ron Waybrant

The **Dwight Lydell Chapter** Ikes started the Sports Show in 1946, then it got too much for the members to handle and contracted with **John Loeks Sr.** to run the show. Later on he took full responsibility and started **ShowSpan** who now owns and runs it. Ever since we have been given a FREE booth. We get a prime booth location for free each year and sell discount tickets to the show. The chapter keeps all the ticket sale proceeds, which makes the show an important fundraiser for the chapter. In addition, the tickets sold by the Ikes also include a raffle provided by Show Span.

Show Span sets up a charter fishing trip out of **Manistee** with overnight lodging for the winner of the raffle, and a \$100 prize for second place. Only 200 to 300 tickets are sold, which means the odds of winning the raffle for a ticket holder are really pretty

good. So even if one's schedule precludes attending the show, the raffle itself is a good deal.

The chapter needs volunteers to help set up our booth and sit at the booth during the open hours of the sport show. Typically two or three people attend the booth and in slow times one can check out the show. Volunteers get into the show for free and typically work only 4-6 hour shifts.

If you are interested and can help with the show, please contact **Jim Schneider** at **616.340.4604** or at **jim-ms@comcast.net**.

Show Dates & Times

- Thursday 15 March, 1:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Friday 16 March, 11:00 am – 9:00 pm
- Saturday 17 March, 10:00 am – 8:00 pm
- Sunday 18 March, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

2018 ULTIMATE SPORT SHOW/ OUTFITTERS EXPO

Thursday March 15th through Sunday March 18th

WORK SHIFTS SIGN-UP-SHEET

Set Up: _____

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- Barry G. _____
- Barry G. _____
- _____

Shifts:

- #1: Thursday 15th 3:00 pm to 9:30 pm**
- #2: Friday 16th 11:00 am to 4:30 pm
- #3: Friday 16th 4:30 pm to 9:30 pm
- #4: Saturday 17th 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
- #5: Saturday 17th 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
- #6: Saturday 17th 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- #7: Sunday 18th 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
- #8: Sunday 18th 1:00 pm to close approx. 5:30 pm

**Due to length working split shift Ok - 6:00pm dividing time

E-mail shift choices to: Gilby4040B@outlook.com

Visit Our Dwight Lydell Chapter, IWLA Booth



DEVOS PLACE

 **Outfitters Expo**

March 15-18, 2018

The show presents Michigan's finest tradition for the outdoor loving family, avid fisherman, and hunter. Exhibitors will be at the show with the latest in outdoor gear, travel information and fishing boats. As Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Water, and Wildlife we need to be there. We are the Sportsperson's Conservation Organization!

Conservation Update

Bob Stegmier



Legislation isn't the most fun things for conservationist, environmentalist even us

Ikes but certainly sometimes they are very important to discuss and sometimes issues to get involved in arise. Michigan's **Senate Bills 652, 653, & 654** are three that we should take issue with and talk to our legislators urging them to... **VOTE AGAINST!** All three have been passed by the Michigan Senate and are now in the **Natural Resource Committee** of the Michigan House of Representatives. Just what will happen to them is pretty much anyone's guess. I suggest the thing to do is study these bills and consider contacting your representative regarding how you feel. My opinion as is the opinion of many others these Bills are dangerous and would be heavy handed "political meddling" into environmental issues and concerns.

You can go to this link to read the complete document of the bills; they aren't too long. <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2017-2018/bill-analysis/Senate/pdf/2017-SFA-0652-G.pdf>

Here are the nitty-gritty points of the bills:

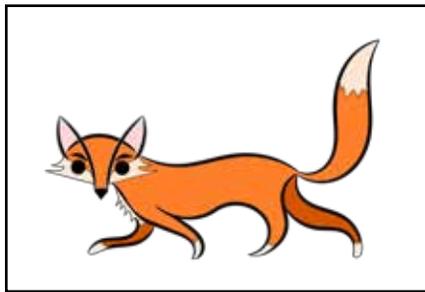
The **MEC**, Michigan Environment Council, argues that these are not good legislation and is working against the passage of these bills. Our **Dwight Lydell Chapter** is a supporting member of MEC and has been for years.

MEC's statement: "Senate Bill

652 transfers environmental decision-making power from" environmental experts" to a committee of stakeholders comprised primarily of industry representatives.

"There are no requirements that these committee members have environmental science education, training, or experience—and they "likely" have a stake in the outcome of the decisions!

"Senate Bill 653 changes the appeal process for denied environmental permit applicants! DEQ decisions such as denied permits for mining or development in wet-



lands could be appealed to this board of the governor's political appointees, and the boards decisions would be final. It is like putting a "fox in the hen house"!

"Absolutely ludicrous! Makes no sense!

"Here is the makeup of the 14 member proposed oversight committee; 1) Director of the **DEQ**, 2) the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services (**DHHS**), 3) the Chief Executive Officer of the **Michigan Economic Development Corporation**, 4) one individual who represents the solid waste management industry, 5) one individual who represents a statewide manufacturing organization, 6) one representative of a statewide organization that represents

small businesses, 7) one individual who represented public utilities that engage in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity, 8) one individual who represented a statewide environmental organization, 9) one individual who represented the oil and gas industry, 10) one individual who represented a statewide agricultural organization, 11) one individual who represents local governments, 12) one individual who represents a statewide land conservancy organization, 13) one individual who represented the general public, and 14) one individual who was a medical professional. The Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate would appoint these voting members. Political! Political! Political!

"Do any of you believe this structure would have prevented the **Flint Water Crises** or closer to home the **Wolverine World Wide PFOS** situation? I for one certainly don't think so! In fact quite possibly worse situations with 11 out of the 14 committee members from a wide variety of non environmental businesses. These same 11 folks, likely would not be specifically educated or trained to any significant degree in the environment sciences. One would have to come to the conclusion that the odds would be greatly stacked against sound environment results. Quite likely they would make unsound environmental decisions in favor of industries, developers, cities etc.

"The MEC organization works closely with legislators and feel there is about a four week window before these bills get re-

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Conservation Update

continued from page 3

leased for a legislation vote, sufficient time to be successful in defeating this legislation.”

I suggest that if you are concerned, as I am, you should contact your representative and express your point of view. For most of our DLC chapter members that representative, District 73 is **Chris Afendoulis**. His Lansing mailing address is Room N 1092 HOB, PO Box 30014 Lansing MI 48909. If you prefer, call his office, 517-313-5697. If you prefer to send an e-mail it is easy to use www/iwla.org website and follow “Take action” then “Contact Legislators” and follow the prompts. After that message you have an option to can sent short and to the point “tweet.”

IKES MEMBER BENEFITS

-  Monthly Award-Winning Newsletter
-  Gate Key to 39 Acres
-  Nature Trails
-  Catch/Release Fishing
-  Free Camping
-  Lodge Rental (\$75.00 per Day)

**Deadline for the April issue is Monday,
March 19 at 8:00 AM.**

Lodge Calendar 2018

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| March 3 | Annual Banquet at Thousand Oaks
Note date is on Saturday |
| March 7 | Tom Watson / Sam Gephard Rental;
Cedar Springs Mill - Annual Beef
Producers Association meeting |
| March 10 | Sharon Tabaczka Rental |
| March 13 | Board Meeting 7:00 PM at lodge |
| April 28 | Georgia Donovan Rental |
| June 8-10 | Marlene Chojnowski Rental |
| July 14 | Sally Henderson Rental |
| July 26-29 | Peri VanLuyn Rental |
| August 5 | Tom Watson Rental |
| August 19 | Tom Watson Rental |
| August 27 | Tam/ Barb McGuirl:
Rockford Garden Club Meeting |
| October 5-6 | Jim Schneider Private event Friday |

To see this and past editions of the newsletter and national IKEs information please visit our websites:

www.michiganikes.org,
www.iwla.org

**FIND MICHIGANIKES
ON FACEBOOK SO WE
CAN SEND UPDATES
OUT IF THERE IS
SHORT NOTICE ON
EVENTS,
OR SHARE PICTURES!**

2018 Annual Conservation Banquet

Dwight Lydell Chapter - Izaak Walton League of America

Saturday, March 3rd - Public Welcome!

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

*Journey to Zero:
Dealing with Trash*

Guest Speaker: Darwin Baas

As the Director of Public Works in Kent County, Mr. Baas' focus is the emerging circular economy - providing leadership and visioning to deliver waste diversion, energy recovery, and sustainable materials management strategies through an integrated solid waste management system for business and residents. Darwin (Dar) brings 25 years of environmental management experience.



The old way

Agenda

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

Silent Auction includes *incredible* deals on sports equipment, paintings/fine art, Gift Certificates for fishing charters, salons, fine dining, entertainment, plus raffle prizes and much more



IWLA Conservation Awards Banquet 2018 — Reservation Form

Tickets are \$35 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 Feb 26!**

Please list attendee names for name tags:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Number of tickets purchased: _____ @ \$35 each = \$ _____ (total due)

POSSUM PROGRAM

Tuesday, March 20
6:30 -7:30

Blandford Nature Center is bringing Opal, the pretty opossum. She should be traveling along with a few other critters, such as a flying squirrel, a turtle, and a hawk or owl.

It's FREE for members.
\$5 for visitors.



OFFICERS

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Grounds/Maintenance Chair

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Lodge Rental

Jim Schneider340.4604
jim-ms@comcast.net

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER of the IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA DRAFT CORE EVENT SCHEDULE FOR 2018

NOTE: This is a draft schedule. Especially for late year events you can check for updates in our newsletters and on our website along with notice of special events that come up on short notice and are not listed on this Event Schedule. Also additional information about these listed events can be found in the newsletter and on the website.

Schedule	Event & Location
January 27, Saturday	Winterfest Family Outing, 10AM-3PM @ CC
March 3, Saturday	Conservation-Awards-Fund Raiser Banquet
March 15 thru 18	Ultimate Sport Show-Grand Rapids
April 14, Saturday	Fly Fishing Workshop, 10AM-2PM @ CC
April 19, Thursday	Fish & Game Dinner & Program @ CC
May 5, 12, 19, 26 - Saturdays	Kids Fishing & Native Plants, 10AM-1PM @ CC
May 17, Thursday	Steak Dinner, Annual Meeting & Short Program @ CC
May 19, Saturday	Fix up/Clean up Day, 9-?, work, eat, play, campfire @ CC
June 13, 20 and 27, Wednesdays	Kids' Fishing at Versus Lake, 6:30pm - 8pm
June 23, Saturday	Summerfest Community Family Day, 10AM-3PM @ CC
July 14, Saturday	Native Plants for Everyone, Tear Drop Island (@ CC)
July 18-20	2018 IKE's National Convention, FredericksburgVA
July 21, Saturday	Dog Days of Summer, 10 AM to ? @ CC
August 16, Thursday	Ribs Outdoor Cooking Competition @ CC
September 15, Saturday	Fix up/Clean up/play, 6PM @ CC
September 19, Wednesday	Oktoberfest @ CC
October 17, Wednesday	Chili Cook-off/Potluck @ CC
November 8, Thursday	Game Dinner @ CC
December 6, Thursday	Christmas Potluck @ CC

Website: www.michiganikes.org

IKEs property located at **5641 Myers Lake Avenue, Belmont MI**

Mailing address is: **Izaak Walton League, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306**

Conservation Needs a Friend Ask a friend to join the IKEs!

NAME _____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

SPOUSE _____ CHILDREN & AGES _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ SPONSOR _____

___ **Individual - \$62**, ___ **Family - \$87**, ___ **Student (18-21) - \$31**, ___ **Youth (under 18) - \$16**

Mail to Izaak Walton League Membership, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306. Checks payable to "Izaak Walton League"
Email Tom Watson at twatson@comcast.net for more information. A gate key is available to you upon receipt of membership fee. You can pick up a key at the next dinner at the lodge. Please enjoy the 39 acres.

Indicate which of these important committees you're interested in working on:

Natural Features Stewardship _____ Finance _____ Membership _____ Building & Grounds _____

Conservation _____ Programs _____ Every Member Dinners _____

The Izaak Walton League of America – a non-profit conservation organization – is recognized as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code.



Dwight Lydell Chapter
of the Izaak Walton League
PO Box 541
Belmont MI 49306

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Rockford, MI
Permit No. 208

Please don't throw this newsletter away -
pass it on to a friend.

Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

**PLEASE JOIN US
AT THE**



**DEVOS PLACE
Outfitters Expo
March 15-18, 2018**



(see article and ad on page 2)

Fly-fishing Workshop!

Saturday, April 14

10:00am til 2:00 pm



This is **FREE** for members, and **\$5** for others.

For questions contact **Georgia** at georgiaddonovanart@gmail.com.

Don't miss out on the FISH AND GAME DINNER Thursday, April 19th

Please prepare your special game dish
or just bring it in for our cooks to prepare.
We will have some great Florida fish and domestic turkey, too.
We also need some great side dishes and desserts!
Any questions, please email Tom Watson:
twwatson@comcast.net



**Adults \$8.00, ages 6 - 13 \$4.00,
under 6 and first time guests are FREE!**