



A SPORTSPERSON'S
CONSERVATION CLUB

Conservation Center
5641 Myers Lake Ave.
Belmont MI, 49306

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER
• OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA •

www.michiganikes.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 2011

Remember Gwendolyn?

Awhile back I had a hen that took up crowing, and I brought her to the Ikes so that **Farmer Phil** could find a better home for her. In the meantime she escaped, and we had the most fun **EVER** chasing her through the woods and underbrush. At least the kids loved it.

Well, spring is nearing. Have you ever thought about having a few backyard hens?

It's pretty easy if you keep just a few chickens, and it's fun to collect the fresh eggs. Chickens are all the rage these days for reasons including organic gardening, local food, cheap pets, and even tick control.

Connie Rykert from **Cedar Springs Mill & Supply** is going to come down and talk about her favorite breeds and their traits on **Tuesday, April 12**. Anyone who has questions or just wants to see a couple of chickens, come to the lodge at 7:00. This is not a dinner-deal, just a **free program**. The Mill orders chicks by 4/16, for delivery in May, and the nice thing is that you can specify exactly what you want, even just one or two of a kind.

By the way, *Gwendolyn the Miracle Hen* is a wonderful book with

great drawings, in case you want inspiration for coloring eggs.

On **Thursday the 28th** we'll be having our spring **Wild Game Dinner**, so plan to sample some creative local dishes, plus whatever our members have bagged on their adventures. If you can share some fish or game, please contact **Tom Watson**. Salads and desserts are always appreciated, too!

During the dinner **Joan Young** will give a presentation about hiking on the **North Country Trail**. Get adventurous about Michigan, exercise, and explore! Don't miss this traditional Ike's Dinner, with program this year.

In February my brother, **John Stegmeier**, and I took a class to be certified in **Natural Shoreline Restoration** through the MSU Extension. The Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership aims to educate landscape professionals, so that homeowners and lake associations can see the benefits of natural erosion control. It was interesting to see how a sea wall usually creates more erosion down the beach, while natural plantings provide a filter for better water clarity, a more stable bank, and better habitat. Beaches and docks can easily be worked into the design. We finish the course in May; let me know if you need any ideas about shoreline areas.

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By the way, we need some help in clearing the path along the far side of the creek; call if you can help.

Thank you to everyone who supported the chapter by attending the banquet, donating, or buying!

(continued on page 2)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

It keeps us afloat! And thank you to those who worked so hard putting it together, including **Fred & Sue Eyer, Ron & Ruth Waybrant, Maurie Houseman, Tam Bagby, Tammy Lundeen, CJ Tasma, Ginger & Gail Stegmier**, and of course our **Ike of the Year, Bob Stegmier**. It was my pleasure to give this recognition to Steg for all of his dedicated activism. As you know, if there is an Ikes event, he is there, and is not shy

about speaking up for conservation wherever he is.

The presentation by **Dr. Howard Tanner** was just perfect for us. The thinking behind-the-scenes, leading up to the release of salmon as predator fish was interesting, the old photos were a delight, and the message to protect our Great Lakes was... **URGENT!** He was adamant that we insist upon a barrier against **Asian Carp** and other invasives at Chicago. He knows from

experience that Michiganders must use their power and speak up. Our state has a bigger stake than any other. If we want the world's largest fresh water resource protected, it is up to us.

Georgia Donovan



photos courtesy of Pete Bosheff



BANQUET AND SILENT AUCTION FINANCIAL REPORT

Fred Eyer

Here is the latest on the banquet. I still expect there may be several small bills yet to come in. However, here is the to date information.

Total Income: \$9923
Total Expenses: \$3568
Net to Date: \$6355

Raffle Tickets: \$1183

Silent Auction: \$5722
Total Attendees: 117

Average Amount Spent per Attendee on Raffle Tickets and Silent Auction: \$59



SILENT AUCTION DEALS: MAKE IT A WIN-WIN-WIN

Maurie Houseman

We have had another very successful IKEs **Annual Banquet** and much of the fun and profits come from the generous merchants that graced us with their donations. Because of them, the IKEs **win** with substantial profits, and the guests **win** with great deals. So let's be sure the donors of these gifts also **win**.

Merchants are besieged with many, many requests for gifts, much more than they can realistically give. We must appreciate that they give to the IKEs and we should pay them back by giving our business to them. For example, if I buy a \$25 gift certificate from a restaurant, I make a point of spending around \$50 or more when I use that certificate by having it be a

foursome (it's still a great deal) and if I can introduce new customers to their business, I will. And then I will thank them for their donation to the IKEs. Are they glad they gave to the IKEs. You bet! And they will give again.

Or write them a short note to express your appreciation for their gift. It will set us apart from almost any other donor requests.

So pay attention to the list of donors printed in the newsletter and actively support them. They are our friends.

MORE BANQUET PHOTOS



DR. HOWARD TANNER

Bob Stegmier

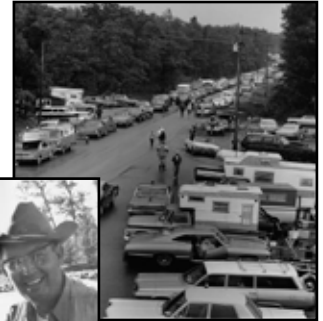
The Great Lakes Salmon Story

A Lifetime of Adventures, Science, Fishing and Friends



Dr. Howard A. Tanner

Memories featuring Wayne Tody, Bill Cullerton, Myrl Keller, Robert C. Ball, John MacGregor, Helen Tanner and more.



photos
courtesy of
Howard Tanner
Archives

Once in a lifetime opportunity fishermen and Michiganders!

Dr. Howard Tanner, the guest speaker and retired MDNR Director is referred to as “The Father of Salmon Fishing” in Michigan, was in charge of introducing Salmon into the Great Lakes 44 years ago. He is in the process of publishing a book titled, *The Great Lakes Salmon Story: A Lifetime of Adventures, Science, Fishing and Friends*.

Dr. Tanner was our speaker at our **Annual Conservation Banquet** where he gave us a travel log presentation of this monument us event in the history of fish and fishing in the Great Lakes. Hardly any Michigander has been untouched by this event.

You have the opportunity to get a signed copy of the first edition of this new book written by the man who made it happen. For those of you who are interested you can place an order for an autographed copy by contacting **John Hesse** at hessej@msu.edu

or by mail at **13551 Wright Road, Eagle, MI 48822**. Please give John your name, mailing address, email address, phone number and the number of copies you would like to have reserved for you. The price of the book has not yet been established, so no payment is necessary at this time. John will contact you once the book is available. There is no obligation to complete the purchase at the time all information is available.



2011 SILENT AUCTION AND RAFFLE DONORS

These area merchants and individuals graciously donate to our Annual Awards Fund Raising banquet in support of our IKEs conservation mission. Please support them when you can! Your Board of Directors.

A Cut Ahead Salon Inc., Rockford	Firestone Complete Auto Care, 2481 E Beltline	Nails by Marilyn
A.J. Pinder Hair Salon	Forest Hills Foods	Olive Garden
Alona Schneider, Member	Fred & Sue Eyer, Members	One Trick Pony
Arcadia House B&B	Fred Steketee, Member	Pando Winter Sports Park
Arnie's Bakery & Restaurants	Fred Willson Studio, Caledonia	Parcel Express Plus, Rockford
Aunt Candy's Toy Company, Rockford	Georgia Donovan, Member	Patagonia
Bargain Books	Gilmore Car Museum, Gull Lake Area	Paul & DeAnne Sherd, Members
Berlin Raceway	Goodrich Quality Theatres	Pilgrims Run Golf Club
Betty Jo Crosby, Member	Grand Rapids Airport Hilton	Pizzeria Grande (Lake Bella Vista)
Bill & Paul's Sporthaus	Great Lakes Shipping Co. Restaurant & Tavern	Presto Print
Bird Watchers Market Place	Great Northern Trading Co. Rockford	Restaurant Partners Inc.
Bob & Gail Stegmier, Members	Haymarsh Hunt Club	River Valley Auto
Bonefish Grill	Heart of Rockford	Riverbend Bar/Grille, Ada
Boulder Creek Golf Club	Heidi Christine's Salon & Spa, Ada	Rockford Quick Lube
Brann's Steakhouse & Sports Grille	Hilltop Sports	Ron Finger, Member
Bruce Dutcher, Member	Honey Creek Inn	Ron & Ruth Waybrant, Members
Camel Charters	Hooters of Grand Rapids	Ruth Kizer, Tai Chi Instructor
Candace & Andrew Ramsahoi, Members	Independent Bank - Rockford	Screen Ideas
Cannonsburg Ski Area	Jewelry by Jill	Shari Walton
Car Star Rockford	Jill Hamelink - Weaver	Shear Profile
Carlos O'Kelly's Mexican Café	Jim & Alona Schneider, Members	Silver Bullet Firearms & Training Center
Carrabbas Italian Grill	Jim Bedford, Author & Guide	Sparta Sports
Catherine McClung	Jim Hegarty, DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY	Story's Country Gourmet Foods
Cedar Springs Mill & Supply	Jim Schneider, Member	Sun-Rays Tanning, Rockford
Celebration Cinema	John & Jan Trimberger, Members	The J Salon, 2090 Celebration Drive NE
Centennial Country Club	John Russo's Wine Warehouse & Deli	The Sewing Room, Rockford
Chamberlin's Ole Forest Inn, Curtis, Mi (UP)	John Stegmeier, Member	The Shack B&B, White Cloud
Charlie's Bar & Grille	Kathleen Chaney Fritz	Thousand Oaks Golf Club
Chase Klinesteker, Member	Kevin Feenstra, Guide & Author	Timbers Inn Restaurant
Cheshire Barber Shop	Latitude Roadhouse/Steelhead Tavern, Howard City	Tom Nederveld, Member
D&W Fresh Markets	Louis Benton Steak House	Twisted Vine Deli & Catering, Rockford
Dale Gould, Member	Marie Catrib's	West Michigan Caterer.com
David Trudell	Mark & Kathy DeHaan, Members	West Michigan Whitecaps
Design 1 Salons	Merle Norman Cosmetics	White Creek Lumber
Dick's Sporting Goods	Merrell Footwear, Rockford	Wild Birds Unlimited
Duane De Vries, Member	MVP Metro Club	Winter Inn, Greenville
Ed & Dave's Auto Service		Woodland Travel Center, 5190 Plainfield
Family Farm & Home		

NEW EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

Georgia Donovan

Andrew March is building us 4 picnic tables to extend our outdoor dining possibilities. Andrew is the grandson of **Dave** and **Anna May Long**, and this is his Eagle Scout project. He expects the costs to come in between \$350-400, and we have agreed to split that with him. If anyone would like to make a contribution toward this project, that would be very nice.

He plans to bring them over in May, so we'll be able to use them for our summer events.



SPORT SHOW

Barry Gilbertson

Thanks to the people who worked both the **Sport Show** and the **Lakefront Living Show!** It was a good chance to meet those involved with hunting and fishing,

and promote our mission to protect habitat large and small, from the Great Lakes to the backyard pond. Shows are a lot of fun but also a chance to educate about invasives like Big-Head Carp, habitat for native fish and wildlife, and saving shorelines from erosion.



BALLAST WATER TREATMENT FOR AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS); WHERE ARE WE IN MARCH 2011?

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

First, the **EPA** will issue a new industry-wide permit limiting the number of live organisms in ballast water, a step that will require shippers to install sterilization equipment. The rule will apply to commercial ships over 79 feet long, exempting recreational and military craft. The agency will release a draft for public comment by November 30, 2011 and a final version within a year, November 30, 2012. It will give the industry a year to equip their vessels.

Second, The **U.S. Coast Guard** also is developing regulations limiting the number of live organisms in

ballast water. They expect to release their recommendations by the end of April 2011. At least a dozen states have rules or laws dealing with ballast water.

While we have some preliminary knowledge that both will fall short of the recommendations of the IWLA's Great Lakes Committee as presented to the Coast Guard in November 2009, we are grateful for the progress. We will of course evaluate where things stand and continue the fight for what is necessary from that position. Your thoughts are always welcome.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

Jay Huston

The annual meeting of the Chapter will be held Tuesday, May 17, 2011 in conjunction with the spring Steak Dinner at the Conservation Center.

The nominating committee is seeking members in good standing to serve the Chapter as an elected officer and/or on the board of directors. Our membership has many with hidden talents and if you have the desire to step forth, contact a member of the nominating committee. It makes our job a lot easier in finding candidates for an office. As you read this newsletter you can see the numerous activities and tasks our members are involved in, many of which are achieved by our loyal members and elected officers and board members. **We do need new blood**, as the saying goes, to relieve some of the current directors in their asks. We encourage your show of strength in taking part in the continued success and in leadership in the Chapter.

The nominating committee would like to hear from many of you soon.

Jay Huston: 942.2503, Bill Kirk: 874.8230, C. J. Tasma: 887.8542

**DEADLINE FOR
THE MAY ISSUE
IS
MONDAY, APRIL 25
AT 8:00 AM.
GAME DINNER
ARTICLES ARE
DUE
MONDAY, MAY 2.**

OFFICERS

President, Georgia Donovan 773.2850
georgia.art@att.net

Vice President, Barb McGuirl..... 874.7740
jbm McGuirl@sbcglobal.net

Secretary, Jim Schneider 340.4604
jim-ms@comcast.net

Treasurer, Fred Eyer 363.0253
fseyer@gmail.com

Board Members

Duane DeVries..... 532.9151
duanedv@earthlink.net

Barry Gilbertson Gilby40@MSN.com

Bruce Gilmore..... 365.8892

Maurie Houseman..... 560.2895
mhouseman@grar.com

Jay Huston..... 942.2503

Kurt Kindig 874.7999
rockford1@charter.net

Bill Kirk..... 874.8230
bkirk@i2k.com

Bob Schumaker 616.984.2429
schu6062@charter.net

Bob Stegmier..... 866.4769
rstegmier@ameritech.net

Tom Watson 874.7254
twatson@comcast.net

Grounds/Maintenance Chair

C. J. Tasma..... 887.8542
hsi@handicapsigns.com

Membership Secretary

Ron Waybrant 361.1422
rcwaybrant@gmail.com

Lodge Rental

Bob Radke..... 874.7658
radkerobert@aol.com

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Core Event Schedule 2011 (2-15-2011)

Chairperson

March 4, Friday	Conservation-Awards-Fund Raiser Banquet	Houseman, Stegmier
March 17-20	Ultimate Sport Fishing & RV Show.....	Barry Gilbertson
March 25-27	Cottage & Lakefront Living Show Grand Rapids.....	Barry Gilbertson
April 28 Thursday	Fish & Game Dinner, North Country Trail program @ CC	Tom Watson
May	<u>Kids Fishing every Saturday from 9 am to 12 noon ...@ CC</u>	Bill Kirk
May 17, Tuesday	Steak Dinner/Annual Elections, Wildflower program.	Tom Watson
June 15, 22, 29 & July 6	<u>Kids FREE Fishing at Versluis Lake, Plainfield Twsp. 6:30-8 pm.</u>	Jim Biener
June 18, Saturday	Summerfest Community Family Day @ CC	Houseman
July 12-15	2011 Ike's Convention, Des Moines, Iowa	Open to all Members
August 18, Thursday	Chicken & Ribs Dinner/Program@ CC	Houseman-program, Watson-food
September 14 , Wednesday	Oktoberfest @ CC.....	Bob Stegmier
September ??, Saturday.....	Michigan Division Meeting DLC-CC	Div. Pres. John Sturgis
October 12, Wednesday	Potluck with Program @ CC.....	Board
November 10, Thursday	Game Dinner @ CC.....	Tom Watson
December TBD	Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant	Jay Huston

Membership Application ... Izaak Walton League of America

Dwight Lydell Chapter, 5641 Myers Lake Ave. Belmont MI 49306

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

NAME _____

SPOUSE _____ CHILDREN & AGES _____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ SPONSOR _____

_____ Individual - \$50, _____ Family - \$68, _____ Student (18-21) - \$24, _____ Youth (under 18) - \$13

Mail to Ron Waybrant, 4905 Cresthill Dr NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525. Checks payable to "Izaak Walton League"
Call Ron at 616.361.1422 for more information. If you want a GATE KEY so you can walk our 39 acres at your leisure ADD \$5 to the membership fee.

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. Minimum national dues are \$36 for individual and \$54 for family memberships, which includes \$4.00 for *Outdoor America* magazine. Magazine is inseparable from dues. Chapter and Division dues may vary.

NEW DEER FIREARM OPENING DATE?

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

Change the opening day for the firearm deer-hunting season to a weekend opening day?

First, thanks to all members who took time to express their feelings and comments on the idea. Nine responders voted in favor of the change and seven voted against. One was undecided. More than one person in favor said it might get more folks out hunting and that it might be good for the economy. Some of the folks against were against because the kill would be too high and to some others the hunting areas might become too crowded.

Thanks for taking part. We will see how the powers to be see it whether any change is made.

If you are interested in being active on the conservation committee just let me know.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH JAY HUSTON

Always remember: *Life is not measured by the number of breaths you take, but by the moments that take your breath away.*

STUDENT EDITORS

This month's newsletter was edited

by Samantha Andersen,

Haelee Koster, Ainslee Kruizenga,

Dedrik Panches and Cody Scott.

Great job, Students!

KIDS' NATURE CLUB

Georgia Donovan

The spring session will be starting soon, on April 20th. It meets at the IKEs on Wednesdays, 4:00 - 5:30, for 6 weeks. It is aimed at 7-9 year olds. In a loose-knit way we will play outside, explore, and learn about nature. The fee is \$10 for members, or \$20 for non-members for the 6 weeks. Space is limited. Call

Georgia at 773.2850, or **Barb** at 874.7740 by April 12 if interested.

Would you like to make a special donation for a project of your choice?

Native plants for Teardrop Island Boy Scout Bridge
General Budget: wherever needed most Parking Lighting

Here is my tax deductible contribution _____

Name _____

Project: _____

Payable to: IWLA - Dwight Lydell Chapter

Mail to: Fred Eyer, treasurer, 2488 Rockhill NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525

ASIAN CARP

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

The USCOE (U.S. Corp of Engineers) is plodding along at what seems to be towards their initial 2015 target date of announcing their plan to keep **Asian Carp** from entering the Great Lakes. At that point we will learn what that will be. It might be somewhere between a complete hydrological separation of the Great Lakes from the Mississippi River to the electrical barriers now in place. In other words, something from a very

good and positive measure to one that will fail in the effort to keep Asian carp out.



At our IKEs booth at the **Ultimate Sport Show** we handed out information from a recent **IWLA Action Alert** urging members to contact the USCOE and ask them to hurry along the scoping study on what needs to be done and urge that the final resolution be the hydrological separation of the two water resources. Here is the message we handed out. You will probably receive this information too late to take your own action.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) is accepting written comments through March 31, 2011 on its Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin Interbasin Feasibility Study (GLMRIS).

The way this study is conducted will determine how quickly and how effectively the federal government will act to stop Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes basin. The study was authorized by Congress requiring that the USCOE to determine options available to prevent invasive species from moving between the **Great Lakes** and **Mississippi** basins, through the **Chicago Ship and Sanitary Canal** and other pathways.

The **Izaak Walton League** urges you to submit comments in support of a permanent hydrologic separation between the basins, the only known method to prevent the migration of Asian carp and other aquatic invasive species. League members adopted a resolution at the 2010 national convention supporting this position.

For more information about this issue go to: <http://www.iwla.org/index.php?ht=d/ContentDetails/i/10215>

How to Submit Comments:

To submit comments, visit <http://glmr.is.anl.gov/involve/pubschedule/index.cfm>. Select your privacy preference and enter your contact information as requested. Copy the sample comment below, paste the comment into the form on the website, add your personal perspective or experiences as you believe appropriate, and then click

submit comment.

Sample comments:

I am writing to urge the USCOE to support the permanent hydrologic separation between the Great Lakes and Mississippi River basins in the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin Interbasin Feasibility Study (GLMRIS) and to take prompt action to accomplish hydrologic separation. It is the most failsafe way to stop the transfer of Asian carp and other AIS from moving between these two great water systems

Asian carp pose a severe and imminent threat to the Great Lakes fishery. The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** and the **Great Lakes Fishery Commission** agree that Asian carp are a significant threat to the Great Lakes fishery. If they get established they would become a dominant species and would likely destroy the \$7 Billion sport and commercial fishing.

The COE current timeframe of 2015 for the study completion is totally unacceptable. The study needs to be streamlined eliminating all non-essential studies so the study can be completed in half that time.

The GLMRIS should also include a plan to mitigate verifiable long-term and short-term economic losses

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the GLMRIS.



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

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



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Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods,
Waters and Wildlife

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Annual Spring Fish & Game Dinner

Thursday April 28

Social Hour: 6:00PM

Dinner: 7:00PM

As always we will supply the basic items, but feel free to bring your favorite dish to share: venison, duck, bear, etc. We count on you for dessert, too, so please bring some!

The Florida Key's IKEs will supply a variety of Key's fish. It will be superbly prepared in different ways as always. There will be a grilled Meijer turkey for those with special wishes.

Kitchen help, setup and clean up are always needed, so call Tom Watson if you can help!

Reservation deadline is Sunday, April 19th at 8:00 pm.

Please call Tom Watson at 874.7254 or email at: twatson@comcast.net

No phone calls after 8pm.

**Adults: \$8, youth: 6-12 \$4 and under 6
FREE as are first time guests.**

**Next up:
Steak Dinner**



and



Elections

May 17, Tuesday