



www.michiganikes.org

June 2018

The IKEs Update

Kids Fishing was a blast when I was there on May 19th. Ron rigged up 4 kids as the rain slowed to a drizzle, and then a couple more showed up. They were catching bluegills left and right, and about



half the kids were first-timers. **Sue McMaster** brought her grandson **Gavin** with his buddy **Reed Reisterer**, who fished with a passion. Gavin was excited to catch his very first fish, an 8-inch bluegill, and Ree's second was a bass.

Remember, as members you can take kids on a catch-and-release outing anytime. Helpers will be available again at **Summerfest**. That's **June 23**, 10-3, and we'll have as many activities as we have helpers. We need people to get kids in and out of kayaks, assist with archery or fishing, act as trail guides,

lunch servers, plant-people, or whatever you want to add. It's just fun to see kids enjoying the IKEs (what electronics?) Let a board member know if you can be there!

The **Steak Dinner** filled the lodge and was visited by some of the **Strong Roots** kids, who sang a song for us. We postponed the election in order to give you 30 days notice in case you want to run for something. Most of us are willing to stay on, but



there are a couple of available seats on the board, and a few newer members, such as **Kelly Vredevoogd**, who may be interested.

Camping season is beginning, and some of us already enjoyed a campout at the end of April. Things to consider: we have a fair amount of firewood, but if you have some extra, keep the IKEs in mind, and make sure fires get put out. Pretty much any area is open for tents, but we're trying to keep vehicles out of

Vegan Chef Wanted

I'd like to offer some vegan options at our dinners/fests. Please contact me if you are interested in working with me on preparing vegan recipes. Thank you. **Tom Watson:** twwatson@comcast.net

the pavilion and Tear Drop Island areas. Please use the parking lot areas, or right next to it on the south. If different parties show up at the same time, please try to accommodate each other, spread out, or make friends. Both pavilion areas are great for camping, plus the Pine Woods and Hammock Hill, although any campfires should be in the rings.

On very rare occasions, a rental such as a wedding may have a desire for some privacy, which can be arranged for a few hours. If that's the case, please respect that and be glad our place is being used for the happy occasion.

Most of the time we are wide open, with birds to see, fish to catch, trails to walk, and campfires to unwind around. The **Scarlet Tanager** is flitting among the trees and the **Broad-Winged Hawk** soaring overhead!

See you at Summerfest!

Georgia Donovan

Steak and Chicken Dinner

Tom Watson

Over forty IKEs and friends enjoyed a great grilled steak and BBQ chicken dinner on May 17.

As usual the **Kitchen Krew** consisted of **Tam Bagby, Barry Gilbertson, Len Kizer** and myself. A few folks popped in the kitchen to lend a hand here and there, so it was a group effort.

I got the Rib Eye steaks at **Ken's Market** on Plainfield for a good price. Ken's is one of my favorite markets for fine meats, fruits

and vegetables. If you have not shopped there, drop by some time and check them out.

Randy Lawrence headed up the **Klean Up Krew** by washing all the dishes. The Kitchen Krew pitched in as well and others helped here and there. **Ron Waybrant** did the door, **Tammy Lundeen** and **Larry Alaben** tended the bar and **Georgia Donovan** vacuumed the dining room. No doubt some other folks helped out but in the

flurry their names escaped me.

Of course no meal is complete without the contribution of **Maurie Houseman** and this time he brought asparagus. Tammy brought baked potatoes, several side dishes appeared and there were almost too many desserts to count.

Thanks to everyone for making this a tasty meal and enjoyable evening.



Kids' Fishing



Photos Misc.



New docks at the Ikes



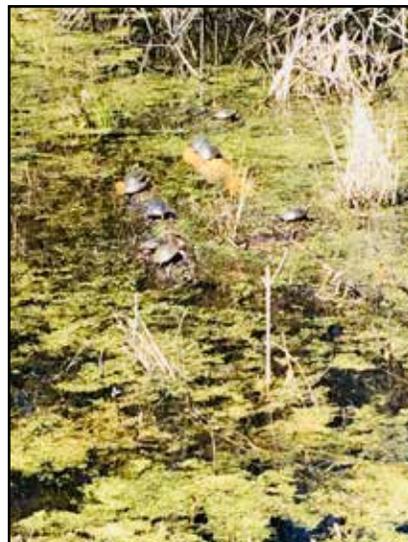
Strong Roots activity



Squirrel Proof yes! But not Chipmunk Proof at Ginger Stegmier's home. It was happy to be released!



6 Chickadee eggs in a nesting box



Turtles in the wetlands on the Cannon Township Trail



Bloodroot flowers carpet the woodlands at Luton Park

Annual Stream Monitoring At the IKEs

Bob Stegmier

We had a good team of volunteers out on Saturday, May 5 for the semi-annual procedure at the new site officially established last spring on our property. This site is at the lower footbridge near **Tear Drop Island** where the native Michigan wild flowers were just beginning to wake up. By the time you read this the garden will really be growing and flowering. This is just the second year

this time. In this picture they are collection bugs that are clinging to sticks and stones. What they collect is taken to another group whose task is to deterring what they are and create the final scoring tally.

This pic is of volunteers having a fun time picking and sorting the insects. Here are this year's results with number of organisms found and the rating of the water quality. Group 1. Pollution sensitive organisms found in good quality water: 1 Caddisfly in wood case, 2 Mayfly nymphs, 2 Gilled snails and 10 Stonefly nymphs. Group 2. Somewhat pollution tolerant organisms found in fair quality water: 2 Alderfly larvae, 3 Beetle Larvae, 1 Blackfly Larve, 7 Crane fly larvae and 35+ Scuds. Group 3. Pollution tolerant organisms found in poor quality water: 8 Aquatic worms. After tallying we get score of 36.6, putting **Armstrong Creek** comfortably in the "Good" category, which has a range of 34-48. There are 4 rating categories, Excellent, greater than 48, Good (34-48) Fair (19-33) and Poor (less than 19. And finally for you true scientists the official location of the Armstrong stream site is Lat:4 3.065804 and Long: 85.505122.

I hope this report creates your interest in getting involved! We will be doing another study again some Saturday in September.

Volunteers this year were: Ruth Brod, Kendra, Anthony and Samuel Decker, Gabe and Johanna Gair, Tom Watson, Tam Bagby and Maurie Houseman. Please accept my apologies because I am sure I missed some folks and misspelled some names.

For our findings to be recognized by the Michigan DEQ we use the <https://micorps.net/stream-monitoring/> established protocol. I assure you and the **IWLA** staff that the MIcorps program is very close to the League's SOS program. Bottom-line, the insects and crustaceans are the same now as they were back it 1967 when the IWLA kicked off this now well-recognized Save Our Stream evaluating program. Pic is of Stream Team members "picking bugs" from material removed from the creek. The sensitivity of the macroinvertebrates are the same today as they were 45 years ago therefore resulting in consistent evaluations year after year. The three groups for scoring score slightly different with declining importance beginning with the most important group which is #1- Sensitive, Group 2 -Somewhat Sensitive and Group 3-Tolerant. When discussing this sensitivity we are talking water temperature, dissolved oxygen, of course any bad contaminants and other good water requirements. Learn more about the working of the Leagues SOS program on its website at [http://www.iwla.org/docs/default-source/Outdoor-America-articles/save-our-streams-\(2014-article\).pdf?sfvrsn=0](http://www.iwla.org/docs/default-source/Outdoor-America-articles/save-our-streams-(2014-article).pdf?sfvrsn=0) I encourage IKE's of all ages to volunteer the next time this opportunity comes along.



for this site, which is an official site recognized in the Michigan **Micorps** stream monitoring program. The site has all the necessary stream characteristics necessary: riffles, runs, gravel, sticks, stones and muddy areas. This is an easy, fun and ongoing way to determine and continue to evaluate a stream whether it is a river or as in the case a small stream. The procedure is a straightforward procedure of collecting and identifying the insects living in the stream tallying the results. Yes, simple; compare the insects collect to a standard chart and compile a final numerical total. Volunteers of all ages can be involved as you can see in this picture of **Tom Watson** working in the creek with another adult and her two children. Wet feet are often part of the process and we had a beautiful day

Tick Patrol

Georgia Donovan

As you may have heard, ticks this year are worse than usual. They hang out on blades of grass, waiting for a mouse, a deer, or YOU to walk by so they can jump on your foot and start climbing. Prevention seems to involve using bug spray with **permethrin** on your clothing or ankles, or disguise your scent with herbal oils. The ones I've heard recommended are sweet grass, geranium, neem oil, vinegar or rosemary. Please let me know if you have one that works well! Garlic and Mint are supposed to repel them from yards, plus chickens and opossums are famous for eating them.

Japanese Barberry on the other hand encourages ticks.

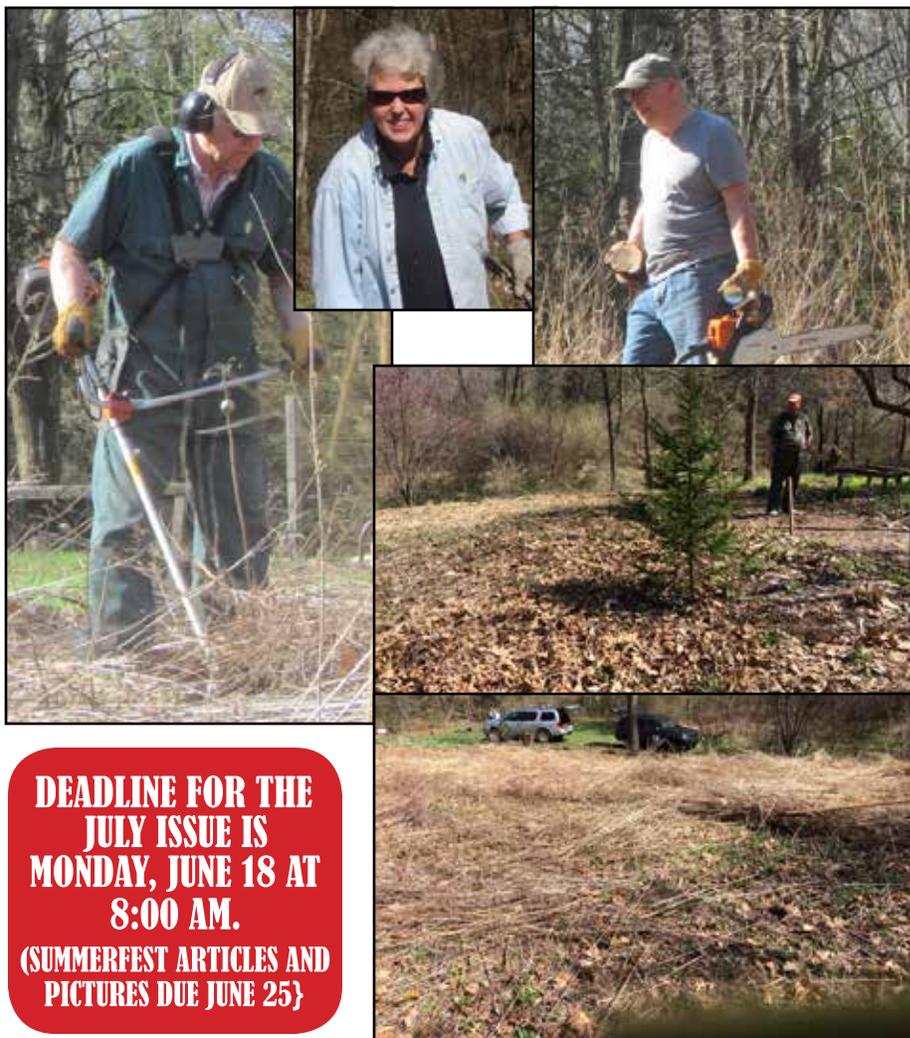
After a walk, check yourself or your good friend for these little crawling monsters. Don't just flick it on the floor; they take some concentrated squishing. If it's IN you, and you get it out, save it in some alcohol or a baggie if you want to identify it for health purposes.

Nowadays toothpaste, match-heads, and concoctions are frowned on in favor of the direct pull, beneath the body, near the head, with tweezers. Or there's a twirling method with a Q-tip, as seen on the internet. That worked great on my dog but not on me. Mine broke with tweezers and I went off to the med station where they removed the rest and recommended a one-day antibiotic, rather than a 21-day course if Lyme disease started. I went for it.

Black-legged or **Deer ticks** can carry **Lyme** disease if they've already had a meal, and then enjoy one on you. They might not carry it, but Lyme disease is serious, so look out. Most of them are about the size of an "o" on this page, flat, and have 8 legs, like the arachnids they are!

[Ed: Tam had a tick embedded in her this spring, too and had to go to the docs!]

Fun 'n Fixit Day



**DEADLINE FOR THE
JULY ISSUE IS
MONDAY, JUNE 18 AT
8:00 AM.
(SUMMERFEST ARTICLES AND
PICTURES DUE JUNE 25)**

The League's National Convention: July 18-20

Bob Stegmier

If you are thinking of going now is the time to take action. Start by visiting www.iwla.org and search for 2018 Convention. There you will find out all the details. These conventions are very much "working conventions" where league policies are made and or updated to keep the league as relevant as possible. Our chapter has votes according to our membership size. The youth have their own separate convention held during this convention and these are relevant and exciting for those attendees. The age requirement for this Youth Convention is 8 to 18, no exceptions.

This year's convention is in **Fredericksburg VA** and the **Clean Water Challenge** will set the scene for this year. At this moment no one has committed to attend as far as it is known. Recent past attendees have been **Ron and Ruth Waybrant, Bob Stegmier, John Trimberger and Maurie Houseman**. Feel free to talk to any of them. They will be glad to tell you the importance of the convention and share some incite and their experiences. Go to <https://www.iwla.org/news-events/events/national-convention> for all the details and the Convention kit.

Lodge Calendar 2018

May 12	Ruth and Ron Waybrant Rental
June 8-10	Marlene Chojnowski Rental
June 12	Board Meeting 7:00 PM
June 23	SummerFest 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
June 24	C.J. & Kim Tasma Rental
July 10	Board Meeting 7:00 PM
July 14	Sally Henderson Rental
July 21	Native Plants for Everyone (note date change)
July 26-29	Peri VanLuyn Rental
August 19	Tom Watson Private Event Rental
August 28	Tam/ Barb McGuirl: Rockford Garden Club Meeting
September 11	Board Meeting 7:00 PM
September 22	Sally Triant Rental
October 5-6	Jim Schneider Private Event Friday
October 9	Board Meeting 7:00 PM

Officers and Board Member Nominations

Ron Waybrant

Annual elections will be held at the **August 16** meeting following the **Ribs & Chicken Barbecue Dinner**.

The following list identifies the officers and board members who are nominated for the respective office or board by the board of directors and the election committee. Note two new nominees, Kelly and Maureen.

Those nominated for 2018-2019 are identified in the following table. Each is currently serving in the position identified and has agreed to continue on. If anyone is interested in a position, nominations can be taken from the floor during the elections portion of the meeting.

Officers

President: Ron Waybrant, 1-year term
 Vice President: Georgia Donovan, 1-year term
 Treasurer: Fred Eyer, 1-year term
 Secretary: Jim Schneider, 1-year term
 Membership Secretary: Tom Watson, 1-year term

Board Members

Ending August 31, 2021
 Maurie Houseman
 Kelly Vredevoogd
 Maureen Chojnowski
 Ending August 31, 2019
 Barry Gilbertson

OFFICERS

President

Ron Waybrant361.1422
 rcwaybrant@gmail.com

Vice President

Georgia Donovangeorgiaddonovanart@gmail.com

Secretary

Jim Schneider340.4604
 jim-ms@comcast.net

Treasurer

Fred Eyer363.0253
 fseyer@gmail.com

Membership Secretary

Tom Watson874.7254
 twwatson@comcast.net

Board Members

Barry Gilbertson Gilby40@MSN.com
 Maurie Houseman.....560.2895
 mhouseman@grar.com
 Len Kizer866.4256
 len12sc4mi@yahoo.com
 Chad Mortonchadmorton4@gmail.com
 Drew Nelson.....drew@drewnelson.net
 Rick Wylierawylie@att.net

Conservation Chair

John Stegmeierfishysteg@msn.com

Grounds/Maintenance Chair

C. J. Tasma887.8542
 handicapsign@gmail.com

Lodge Rental

Jim Schneider340.4604
 jim-ms@comcast.net

Bob Harshman

Sadly, as we went to press we learned that long-time IKEs member Bob Harshman has died. See the next newsletter for anecdotes and stories about Bob. Send good thoughts to his family.

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.

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, 10AM-1PM @ CC
May 5, Saturday	Fix up/Clean up Day, 9-?, work, eat, play, campfire @ CC
May 17, Thursday	Steak Dinner, Annual Elections @ CC
June 13, 20 and 27, Wednesdays	Kids' Fishing at Versluis Lake, 6:30pm - 8pm
June 23, Saturday	Summerfest Community Family Day, 10AM-3PM @ CC
July 18-20	2018 IKE's National Convention, FredericksburgVA
July 21, Saturday	Native Plants for Everyone, Tear Drop Island (@ 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

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

Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

KIDS FISHING at Versluis Lake



It is **FREE**, but kids must bring an adult guide. We will supply supervision, equipment and all the bait you can use.

Versluis Lake is in Plainfield Township on Northland Drive by the Grand River bridge.

Call **Jim Biener: 361.1353** or **Bob Stegmeir: 481.5497** for more information.

Saturday June 23

SUMMERFEST

Family fun! The public is welcome!

10 AM - 3 PM

Free Lunch!

SEE ENCLOSED FLYER FOR DETAILS!

**Please pass the flyer out to friends and family
or post it at a public venue!**