



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

September 2010

Hello! I hope you're enjoying the rest of your summer! I had not been to the "big" beach in a long time, but recently had the pleasure of going to Ludington, where I fell in love with the colors of Lake Michigan all over again. Light green to deep blue, white caps, soft sand. I wish every Michigander could make this refreshing pilgrimage at least once a year.

Our little **Armstrong Creek** adds its bit to Lake Michigan eventually, but what it does along the way is pretty helpful. The **Stream Workshop** conducted by **Jim Waybrant** (Ron's brother) was very interesting, as he showed us how the currents worked around rocks, logs, and bends, creating sand deposits here and gravel beds there. He said our stretch of Armstrong was in fairly good shape, with all the streamside trees, and only adjusted a log or two to help move some sand and allow a deeper pool to develop.

There is another lawsuit going forward at the moment to try for a temporary closure of the **Chicago Locks**. Let's hope it works, to give us some time to figure out a solution to the **Asian Carp** threat.

A few people laugh at studies, but when faced with an urgent question about a new problem, such as invasive species, or oak wilt, we realize how little we know. And since the world is always changing, there's always something new to learn. Wondering why and how encourages new scientific thinking, and I'm glad that our chapter chips in with

our outreach programs, nature club for little ones, and 2 scholarships every year.

On Thursday, Sept. 16, we will have our **Oktoberfest** dinner, with a short presentation by **Aron Bazen** from **Bazen Electric**. He will talk about their **Windspire** wind turbine, a vertical cylinder creating power for home use. There is one visible on Ball Street near the expressway. It's made in Michigan! Please come over for a fun evening and find out how it works.

By the way, I read in a book of **Lake County** history that **Rotary Club** members who missed a meeting got to take care of a pet rabbit for the next month. Since no one came forward to rescue poor **Bongo** the Beagle, I'm giving this system some thought!

Rylee's Hardware store donated a lot of tackle and equipment to give away at our **Kids' Fishing Events**. Thank you for thinking of us!

I happened by the lodge while the boys from **Camp Roger** were camped back in our camp area. They hiked in across country from their place and it was really nice to hear them having such a great time.

We're putting together a program for October with a birchbark canoe and talk about the Ojibwe language. Ill let you know next time, and meanwhile hope to see you at Oktoberfest! And don't forget to bring in photographs if you want to enter the contest.

Inside This Issue:

President's Message.....	1
Tip of the Month	1
Bluebird Presentation.....	2
2011 Entertainment Books	2
Salmon Fishing	2
Armstrong Creek Workshop..	3
Membership Application	3
Bear Creek Stream	4
Asian Carp Update.....	4
Radke Fishing Trip	5
Officers.....	5
Lodge Calendar.....	5
Core Event Schedule.....	5
Convention 2010.....	6
Wild Pig Update.....	7
Oktoberfest/Potluck.....	8

Georgia Donovan

PS: For updates on activities, please make sure I have your e-mail address by sending it to me at georgia.art@att.net

TIP OF THE MONTH

Jay Huston

Save our trees. Plant a tree.

"I never before knew the full value of trees. Under them I breakfast, dine, write, read and receive my company."

Thomas Jefferson

BLUEBIRD PRESENTATION

Tom Watson

A small but avid audience enjoyed the presentation on bluebirds following burgers and brats on 17 August. Presenters **Mark DeHaan** and **Paul Sherd** led the discussion on all things bluebird, from nesting habits to dealing with predators. They reported on the birdhouses they erected on **Cannonsburg Road**, detailing how many eggs were laid in each and how many hatched and eventually



fledged. They also displayed several different kinds of bluebird houses and predator guards. A most impressive and

entertaining presentation. Thank you guys, and thanks also for joining the IKEs that night and for agreeing to return next year for another presentation.

The usual suspects prepared the dinner, including **Tam Bagby, DeAnne Sherd, Gail Stegmier** and myself. **Ron Waybrant** did the door, **Bob Stegmier** tended bar and nearly everyone present helped with clean up: **Georgia Donovan, Jay Huston, DeAnne, Gail, Bob** and **Lorraine Radke** and several others whose names memory fails me now. Thank you all for helping out.

SALMON FISHING

Bob Stegmier

THE 2011 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Jay Huston

BUY, USE AND SAVE.

That is what we can achieve when we buy the now available 2011 Entertainment Book. Yes, they arrived on August 16th, presented for sale at the Tuesday meeting with a number of early bird buyers getting theirs to use right away.

The cost per copy is **\$25.00** this year so we make an extra buck profit per book. The better news is your will have six \$5.00 no minimum purchase cards as a bonus with each book. See me at the next dinner or meeting to review (and buy) this 2011 bargain. How can you lose?

To order by phone: **616.942.2503** By e-mail: wjhuston1@sbcglobal.net

We went salmon fishing out of Ludington on August 17 with 7 IKEs from the BCC (**Bethesda-Chevy Chase**) chapter in Maryland. In the picture with the boat load is the expedition instigator **Jim Hubbard** right in front, born and raised in Ludington but living in Maryland. The picture



of four fishermen, 5 King Salmon and one Steelhead is the other boatload. From left to right are Steven, Butch, Charles (Caro MI) and I.

The original plan was to fish two days but the weather was bad on the 16th and that day's fishing was canceled. The BCC folks then visit-

ed the **Consumers Pump Storage** facility south of Ludington and found it very interesting. It was rough enough yet on Tuesday but the fisherman prevailed and caught fish. The other boat had 6 or 7 fish too they tell me, but I don't see the



picture. The other picture is the gang from BCC Chapter sitting outside the motel on the day couldn't fish. Yes, they/we all had a good time!

Deadline for the October issue of the newsletter is Monday, 20 September at 8:00 AM. Send all articles and photos to Tom Watson at twatson@comcast.net

VISITING OUR STREAM IN THE RAIN

Duane DeVries

A few hardy souls braved a light misting rain to learn about how to improve the stream that flows through our property for the benefit

nice gravel bottom for aquatic insects to live and provide food for fish. This can also cause the stream to develop deeper holes to provide a place for fish to keep cool in the summer.



In some of the pictures, you may be able to see where the rocks have forced a faster flow of water and then the sand where the water doesn't flow as fast.

One point of interest is that if you do catch and release fishing, land the fish as fast as possible. The longer the fish fights, the more it builds up lactic acid which it has to dispose of in order to survive. If you play the fish until it floats in to you, you will need to move the fish back and forth in the water for several

of fish and other aquatic life. After an interesting lecture about streams in general, we set out to take an up close and personal look at the stream. We started out at the bridge where MDNRE fisheries biologist **Jim Waybrant** began examining the stream and explaining to us the meaning of what we saw.

The stream is mostly quite shallow with a sandy bottom. This looks pretty but it is not healthy, as fish eggs will get covered with the sand and not hatch. It also provides no food or cover for insects. The way to resolve this is to remove some of the brush that slows the water and move logs and limbs along the sides to narrow the stream a bit and thus cause the water to flow faster. This will sort of scour the sand and help it move downstream, leaving a

minutes to give it a chance to flush the lactic acid from it's body. If you don't do that, it is very likely that after you release the fish, it will die. So land that fish and get it back into the water as soon as possible.

Georgia Donovan: "Jim really didn't think our stream was that bad; he only changed one thing, to create a riffle to expose gravel. Removing some of the brush only means where necessary within the stream, not from the banks where it provides shade."

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

HELLO BEAR CREEK STREAM STUDY VOLUNTEERS!

Kim Sapkowski, Cannon Township

First of all, thank you all for volunteering to be part of **Cannon Township's Stream Study** program! I am so excited to have you all on board. Thanks to your efforts (and a grant from **MiCorps**) we will be able to study the health of **Bear Creek** and help educate and guide our community on water quality policy. I hope you will find the experience rewarding and fun.

We will have a stream monitoring training day on **Saturday, September 18** from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at **Cannon Township Center**, 6878 Belding Rd. You need to attend this training if you wish to take part in macro-invertebrate studies in spring and fall of 2011. The training will be lead by **Nichol DeMol** from the **Annis Water Resources Institute** of **Grand Valley State University**. She will teach us how to collect macro-invertebrates, how to identify them and how to record the data. We will spend the morning inside at Cannon Township Center then will spend the afternoon outdoors at Bear Creek.

If you already have waders and nets, please bring them to the training. If not, don't worry; we'll have some of each on hand. At least bring some "swamping shoes" along with you. I will have more details later regarding where on Bear Creek we will meet and what we'll do for lunch.

Please let me know by **September 8** whether or not you

will make this training. I look forward to working with all of you!

P.S. My hours at the Township will be sporadic throughout the month of August so if you need to reach me, just call me and be patient. I will get back to you!

Kim Sapkowski
Watershed Administrative Assistant
Cannon Township
616.874.6966

Folks currently signed up to take this training include Anne Medich, Bob Stegmier IWLA, Bonnie Blackledge, Brian Seely IWL, Chris Mollema, Derek Landis, Emily Miner, Georgia Donovan IWLA, Jacob Thome, Jan Ries, Jon Miner, Kim Barrett, Laura Readle, Lori Coberly, Louise Swiatek, Lynn Dandridge IWLA, Mindy Miner, Molly Moore, Sandy Weir, Sarah Eddy, Stan Hone, Steve Norman IWLA, George & Gretchen Zuiderveen IWLA.

Bob Stegmier: DLC-IWLA members and friends: if you are interested in learning this program and getting involved in the very worthwhile stream monitoring effort please call Kim ASAP and sign up.

ASIAN CARP INFORMATION FROM THE (UPI) NEWS SERVICE

Submitted by **Bob Stegmier**

"CHICAGO, July 19 (UPI) Five states filed suit Monday against Chicago's water district and the **Army Corps of Engineers** over the infiltration of the Great Lakes by the **Asian carp**. The federal lawsuit is aimed at forcing the corps and the **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago** to shut down two locks on the **Chicago River** that provide a door for the unwelcome fish to enter the lakes. *The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* said the lawsuit also calls for stepped up programs using poisons and nets to eradicate the carp.

"The Asian carp, which has been approaching the lakes from the Mississippi River, could overwhelm native fish if it becomes established and ruin sport and commercial fishing. The idea of closing the locks has been staunchly opposed by

shipping interests and the **Obama** administration has also declined to take steps the states consider necessary to prevent the carp from entering Lake Michigan from the river.

"CHICAGO, Aug. 18 (UPI) Great Lakes states will get their day in court to demand aggressive action to stop the march of the invasive Asian carp. **Wisconsin, Minnesota, Michigan, Ohio** and **Pennsylvania** are suing the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago in federal court in Chicago. These Great Lakes states brought suit on July 18, 2010. They want the court to order shut two navigation locks to protect Lake Michigan from the advancing carp. The states also demand the corps speed up a study on restoring the

separation between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River basin destroyed more than a century ago.

"Testimony will begin Monday August 23. The suit was filed after news an Asian carp had been found in **Lake Calumet**, well above an electric barrier built to keep the fish out.

"Illinois officials and industry leaders strongly resisted closing the busy navigation locks."

Bob: Keep your eyes and ears closely tuned on the process and fingers crossed that this court action results in the hydrological separation the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River system closing down this route for the transmission of **Aquatic Invasive Species** of which the Asian Carp are.

RADKE FISHING TRIP 2010

Bob and Lorraine Radke

This is our experience from winning the First Prize on the IKEs show ticket to the **Ultimate Sports Show & Outfitters Expo** Grand Rapids. This is one of those things where you never expect to win so when it happens it is Wow Wow and another Wow. As you see we were



delighted and immediately called our son in Texas to see if he and his wife Susan wanted to go fishing. The answer was a resounding YES so they flew up for the trip. The trip out of Manistee with "30 Pounder and Captain **John Schwartz** was another "Wow."

Captain John Schwartz was a wizard and did everything in his power to get the fish to bite. Another wow was that Lake Michigan was flat as a pancake with an overcast sky. Now for those that haven't been out on Lake Michigan fishing you need to understand that these are about perfect conditions. Well the pictures, worth a thousand words, pretty much tell the rest of the story but they don't tell you that four of the fish weighed in at just under 15 pounds and one at 8 lbs Our advice for you next year is to buy a bunch a show tickets so you may have one of these lifetime experiences and get some "King" of all eating, King Salmon. Come to Oktoberfest and learn more about our trip first hand.

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CALENDAR

September 5	Kim Williams
September 11	Ron Martini
September 17	Dave Weist
September 25	Travis Van Loon
October 7	Dale Gould
October 15	Antel
October 23 or 24	Kolesar

CORE EVENT SCHEDULE 2010

CHAIR PERSON

September 16, Thursday ...Oktoberfest @ CCBob Stegmier
 September 18, Saturday.....Michigan Division Meeting DLC-CCDiv. Pres. John Sturgis
 October 13, Wednesday ...Potluck with Program @ CC
 November 10, Wednesday Game Dinner @ CC.....Tom Watson
 December 2, ThursdayChristmas Dinner @ Timbers RestaurantJay Huston

CONVENTION 2010

Bob Schumaker and Bob Stegmier

Resolving the final wording and meaning proposed “resolutions” is a very major and important activity at the summer convention. These proposed resolutions submitted by chapters and divisions are finalized in the various committees and then accepted or rejected by the delegates to the convention. This year there were 7 resolutions presented and all 7 were accepted and therefore become part of the IWLA **Conservation Policies**. The old policy books are no longer printed due to cost and the fact that within one year they are obsolete. Now the Conservation Policies are now all on line in PDF at the www.iwla.org website.

1. Separate the Great Lakes Basin from the Mississippi River Basin to Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Izaak Walton League of American, assembled in convention in Hershey, PA, July 16, 2010 [this preamble is the same for all resolutions] urges Congress to establish a permanent hydrological separation of the Great Lakes basin from the Mississippi River basin to stop the spread of aquatic invasive species, including Asian carp.

2. Implementation of the Great Lakes Compact;

Therefore, be it resolved...urges the Great Lakes states to implement the Great Lakes Compact by promulgating the water diversion application process and rules before considering any requests to divert water outside of the Great Lakes basin. The League further urges that the water diversion application process;

...Be transparent, with ample opportunity for public and expert review and comment.

...Include requirements for effective water conservation measures on the part of the applicants to minimize the quantity of water diverted.

...Include protective water quality standards for water returned to the Great Lakes after use.

...Require that applicants fully explore other supply alternatives.

...Insure that diversions are not granted to support significant new residential and commercial developments in areas that could not support such development in the absence of the diversion.

3. Stopping Open Lake Dumping;

Therefore, be it resolved...opposes open lake dumping of dredge spoil material in the Great Lakes.

4. Hunter Safety Color;

Therefore, be it resolved...urges all state fish and wildlife agencies to require where appropriate, the visible display of colors which are shown by scientific study to be the

most visible under the greatest number of conditions to the greatest number of hunters.

5. Riparian and Wetland Set Back Regulations;

Therefore, be it resolved...supports the adoption and administration of local river corridor and wetland protection ordinances by appropriate government agencies and urges citizens pursue such protections.

6. Hydraulic Fracturing (Hydrofracking);

Therefore, be it resolved...urges all level of government, with oversight and regulatory authority over natural gas extraction, to implement a moratorium on issuing permits for drilling new, high-volume hydraulic fracturing directional wells until...

...The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) completes its study of the impacts of hydraulic fracturing on water quality and public health.

...Using results of the EPA study and other information,

EPA issues guidelines to the states for the regulation of hydraulic fracturing and the establishment of protective requirements for freshwater usage, flowback treatment and disposal, ground and surface water quality, spill prevention and response, and other natural resources that could be impacted by hydraulic fracturing.

...Such states having established and implemented regulatory programs in accordance with the guidelines

issued by EPA.

...Congress repeals the exemption for the gas extraction industry from meeting requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act and subjects chemicals used in the hydraulic fracturing process to full public disclosure.

7. Menhaden Harvest;

Therefore, be it resolved...urges the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the U.S. federal agencies responsible for regulating the harvest of menhaden to ban the use of spotting aircraft, satellites and other viewing methods in the commercial harvesting of menhaden.

With each of these resolutions is a rather long “rational” which I have chosen not to include in this Newsletter but are available to you if you’re interested. They are printed in the convention wrap-up on the www.iwla.org website. If that is not convenient for you just let me know and I will mail you the requested information.

At the Membership Awards breakfast, a record-breaking 39 chapters took home the League’s Defenders Chapter Achievement Award! Each chapter demonstrated a commitment to membership, support of the League’s mission, local scholarships, on-the-ground conservation, effective communication, and youth engagement.



WILD PIGS

Bob Stegmier

An article on wild pigs in Michigan first appeared in your April 2010 Ike's Newsletter.

DNRE officials presented an amendment at the July 20 meeting of the **Michigan Commission of Agriculture** that would ban the possession of feral swine (wild pigs) in the Great Lakes state. The **Invasive Species Order Amendment 1** of 2010 proposes to add feral swine to the list of prohibited species in the state of Michigan. The amendment will be presented at the **Natural Resources Commission** meeting in August and likely would take effect in the fall.

Feral swine is the name given to pigs that have escaped or were released into the wild. They're also referred to as feral hogs/swine/boar, Old World swine, razorback, Eurasian wild boar, and Russian wild boar.

"The DNRE has the exclusive authority to add feral swine to the list of prohibited species in Michigan, and that's what we intend to do," DNRE Wildlife Division Chief, **Russ Mason** said. "I have no doubt that by the end of September, it will be illegal to possess or harbor feral swine."

Part 413 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act of 1994 (PA 451) contains a provision that grants the NRC the authority to add or delete species to the list of prohibited and restricted species. The authority for administering this section of the law was transferred from the NRC to the DNRE.

Species are added to the list when any of the following conditions are met:

- 1) the organism is not native to the state;
- 2) the organism is not naturalized, or if naturalized, not widely distributed;
- 3) the organism has the potential to harm human health or to severely harm agricultural or natural resources;

4) effective management controls for the organism are unavailable.

"Feral swine satisfy all of the conditions, so we're acting appropriately by prohibiting them," Mason said.

Approval of the Invasive Species Order Amendment 1 of 2010 will mean that a person may not knowingly possess or introduce (knowingly and willfully stock, place, plant, release, or allow the release of) feral swine anywhere in the state.

The ban would apply to nearly 40 owners of private hunting ranches who sell hog hunts. Currently, no regulations exist to govern the practice of owning and raising hogs for hunting purposes, or for offering hog hunts to consumers.

"We need regulations for the hog-hunting industry in Michigan," said **Doug Miller**, a private hunting ranch owner. "This goes too far."

Feral hogs are highly adaptable and opportunistic omnivores that have been known to carve out a path of destruction wherever they roam. U.S. Department of Agriculture officials estimate that feral hogs cause more than \$1.5 billion in agricultural crop damage annually. They also can negatively impact many species, including pheasants, ruffed grouse, white-tailed deer, and wild turkeys.

Feral swine also have been known to harbor a host of diseases, including swine brucellosis, pseudorabies, tuberculosis, and classic swine fever. The **U.S. Department of Agriculture**, National Invasive Species Center lists them as an invasive species.

State officials believe thousands of feral pigs currently inhabit nearly all of Michigan's 83 counties.

"We estimate the feral swine population to be between 4,000 and 5,000, so it's a big problem," said Dr. **Nancy Frank**, assistant state veterinarian for the Department of Agriculture.

Miller disagrees.

"There is no scientific evidence that there are thousands of wild hogs. If you look at the DNRE's web site, they have a graphic that shows less than 150 feral hogs have been killed or sighted in Michigan."

Just how pigs got into the wild is something else that's hotly debated.

"There is a near perfect correlation between the locations of private hunting ranches and where we find concentrations of feral pigs," Mason said.

Sal Palombo, president of the **Michigan Animal Farmers Association**, believes most feral hogs escape from farms, and not from high-fence hunting operations.

"This is just another example of bureaucrats being out of touch with what's going on and sounding the alarm over something that isn't a real problem," Palombo said. "It's also another attempt by our governor and her appointees to put private ranches out of business."

Miller and Palombo both believe that prohibiting feral swine will spell further doom for Michigan's economy.

"In 2001, Michigan was the number two state in the country for deer and elk hunting on private facilities, which brought millions into our economy," Miller said. "Now Michigan isn't even in the top 20."

Mason believes the move is necessary to prevent the damage to agriculture, the environment and wildlife that feral swine cause.

"This is not an attack on the private hunting industry; it's an attempt to get rid of a cancer to which there is no other solution than to eradicate them," he said.

Reprinted from *Michigan Outdoor News*, July 30 2010 issue



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

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



Printed on recycled paper

Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods,
Waters and Wildlife
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Oktoberfest

September 16

Social hour at 6PM and dinner at 7PM.



Please bring a dish.
Suarebraten will be on the
menu!

We will have a "live" chapter
member playing accordion so
we can "sing along."

Alternate Energy Program

will feature

Aron Bazen from Bazen Electric

He will talk about their
"Windspire" Wind Turbine,
which is made in Michigan!!

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

Coming on
**Thursday
October 13**
**POTLUCK
AND RAFFLE**

Mark your calendar!

We'll have a
**Native
American
program**

featuring a
birchbark canoe and
talk about the
Ojibwe language