



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

October 2010

We're coming into my favorite time of the year, the one with crisp temperatures and crunchy leaves. I'm excited to be starting the **Kids Nature Club** again, with a new batch of 1st and 2nd graders from **Cannonsburg Elementary**. **Barb McGuirl** and I always enjoy seeing kids explore the woods and water here at the IKEs.

Hopefully, we may also work with some area schools and once again present our **Save Our Streams** program, which teaches a method of identifying habitats and the life forms that may be found in healthy streams. It's a similar program to the one that **Bob Stegmier, George Zuiderveen, Steve Norman**, and I participated in on a recent Saturday at Cannon Township. It's always fun to see what creekie-critters we can find.

The **Izaak Walton League** has always been very dedicated to preserving clean rivers, which is why I'm doing my best to follow the progress of the **Wolverine Worldwide** tannery demolition and redevelopment. By the time you get this most of the tannery will probably be taken down. I've spoken with a group of concerned citizens, and the hope is that thorough testing and monitoring is done through the whole process, to prevent any toxins from entering the watershed as the buildings are removed. Of course we know how close the site is to the **Rogue River**, so it's worth a lot of caution and vigilance. Sharing this process with the public may help ensure that safeguards are used.

The **Oktoberfest** of September was a lot of fun! It was a very easy-going and enjoyable group of people, and I thank everyone who participated! **Aron Bazen's** presentation on the **Windspire** was very interesting. It's important to note that while a lot of alternative energy is not cheap, it does produce power without coal, which comes with all sorts of hidden price tags.

Next up: On **Wednesday, October 13th**, our program will have a **Native American** theme, with a birch bark canoe that was made according to the old methods, and a talk about the **Ojibwe** language. When I went along on part of the **Grand River Expedition** I met **Evan Karel**, of **Odawa** heritage, who had some interesting things to say about local Indian place names and their meanings. There are clues that can add understanding to words like **Ishpeming** or **Wabasis**. We will either be having **Evan Karel** or **Kevin Finney**. Both speak Ojibwe, and both have handcrafted beautiful birch bark canoes. I had the pleasure of paddling one on a small lake, and it's like floating on a leaf, but drier. I believe **Finney's** new, larger canoe will be hanging in a venue along **Fulton Street** for **Artprize**.

So please come to this next program. Bring a dish to pass if you can, as it's a good time of year to share the harvest. Or come anyway!

As everyone knows, times are tough. Our chapter used to be able to make enough in interest and revenue to cover most of our projects and expens-

Inside This Issue:

President's Message.....	1
Oktoberfest	2
National Convention.....	3
IKEs Clothing.....	3
IKEs Christmas Dinner	3
Membership Application	3
Bear Creek Stream Study.....	4
Lodge Calendar.....	5
2011 Entertainment Books	5
Officers.....	5
DNRC Proposal.....	5
Core Event Schedule.....	5
Energy Saving Homes.....	6
Student Partnerships	7
Tip of the Month	7
Donation Form	7
Potluck/Wild Game Dinner ..	8

es. This has not been so during the last couple of years, so we are paring down our budget accordingly. But we'd like to start passing along ideas as we get them, to give you the opportunity to maybe sponsor a project or improvement that appeals to you. For example, right now we have a boy scout building a bridge for us. Soon, if you cross one bridge, you'll be able to walk up the trail and actually get back again by crossing a bridge at the north end. This project is expected to cost up to \$500. We'll be featuring small lists of various projects on a form (see page 7), in case you'd like to make a donation for a specific cause. If you'd like to help in this way, talk to anyone on the board, or contact our treasurer, **Fred Eyer**. Gifts to the IKEs are tax deductible!

(continued on page 7)

OKTOBERFEST & WINDSPIRE SPEAKER

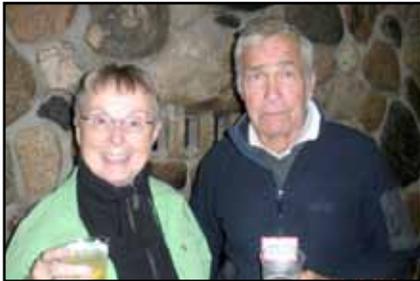
Georgia Donovan

We had our **Oktoberfest** on September 16th, which turned out to be a great time for nearly fifty happy, well-fed people. We have **Bob and Gail Stegmier** to thank for putting the dinner together, plus all the people who helped fill the table by bringing delicious dishes to share. I won't attempt to cover everything, (even though I feel LIKE I probably attempted to sample everything) but would LIKE to thank **Jack Hornbach** for providing so much great saurbratten, and **Kurt Kindig** for his homegrown sour kraut (most local!) Thanks to **Dick Van Haften** for tending the brats on the grill. The mood was festive, with a little accordian music by **Bob Radke**. Also thanks to newer-member **DeAnne Sherd**, who volunteered to do all the dishes! Bob and Gail were the last ones out the door at the end, so thanks for all your work on this event!

Our program for the evening was a presentation by **Aron Bazen** from **Bazen Electric**. He told us about the **Windspire**, a wind turbine with a vertical design spinning around a 30-foot pole. It is made in Manistee, Michigan out of recycled aircraft aluminum, and can start generating electricity with winds of only 8 mph. They qualify for tax credits. There is one on Ball street, near the jail, which is visible from the expressway, too. If anyone wants more information, or a wind test, call 616.458.7210 or go to www.bazenelectric.com

Thanks, Aron! And to everyone who came and made this a pleasant evening!

Deadline for the November issue is Monday, October 18 at 8:00 AM



IWLA NATIONAL CONVENTION AND THE CONSERVATION DIRECTION OF THE LEAGUE?

Bob Stegmier

With the **2010 National Convention** recently held in Harrisburg/Hershey and the resolutions reported in the September DLC newsletter, you may be wondering why more now. Because the resolution process that is so important in setting the direction of the League's conservation policy takes is an all year long process. These policies are online on the iwla.org website in the **Advocacy/Action Alerts** section. By the way, board member **Kurt Kindig** confided in me the other day he read the "entire" Conservation Policy section. Kudos to you Kurt! Now who's next to report to me or Georgia that you have read it, too?

Youth Convention, p. 33, which is held at the same time. They have their own elected officers and agenda suited to their conservation concerns. Many of these youth are as young as 6 to as old as 20. They are a great group, build personal relationships and will be future leaders of the League. I urge all adults and youth to think about attending **Convention 2011**, which will be held in Des Moines Iowa from **July 12 through 15**. Grandparents frequently are the folks that take these youth to convention but that is largely where your responsibility ends. After arrival the youth are largely in the hands of qualified and dedicated staff and volunteers and totally involved.

Well your summer issue of *Outdoor America*, if not in your hands now will be soon, and in it the 2010 national convention is covered in greater depth and in color. Please take time to read it and take special note to the coverage of the

Now that you have read this issue start your planning for Convention 2011 in Des Moines only 493.69 miles from GR and put this *Outdoor America* issue in your vacation follow up file.

IKE'S CLOTHING;
 Caps \$8, Short sleeve
 monogrammed shirts \$20
 Special Deal, Cap and Shirt \$25
 Bob Stegmier, 866.4769

IKE'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Jay Huston

Just an early alert to mark your calendar and save the evening of **Thursday, December 2nd** for our annual **Christmas Dinner**. We will dining at the same place and hours: **Timbers Inn and Restaurant** at 6:00 PM.

The reservation form will be in the November Newsletter. Let's have good turnout again this year.

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.

BEAR CREEK STREAM STUDY CONDUCTED BY CANNON TOWNSHIP

Bob Stegmier

I suspect you all may be aware that **Cannon Township** is probably the most environmentally advanced and savvy township in west Michigan, if not in the state. They have received grant money to advance their stream quality program. The education program conducted Saturday, September 18th, was a **Stream Assessment**. Collecting samples of the macro-invertebrates (stream insects and crustaceans) is an integral part of program, along with a **Stream and Habitat Assessment**. FYI this is an enhanced IWLA **Save Our Streams** program developed 43 years ago. As IKEs you can be proud of the League's effort because the SOS or modified programs are used throughout the world. While at this past summers IWLA convention, I met and talked to a young lady from the **Republic of Moldova** who was here studying the SOS program.

This Cannon Township's Stream Study program study was advertised come rain or come shine! Well the rain came and a little thunder from a distance, but we got the study and training done thanks to **Kim Sapkowski** of Cannon Township, who put it all together.

The following folks pre-registered for the training, note the number of IKE's (IWLA), Anne Medich, Bob Stegmier (IWLA), Bonnie Blackledge (IWLA), Brian Seely (IWLA), Chris Mollema, Derek Landis, 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) and Raymond "Gator" Gates.

There were some others, but unfortunately I didn't get their names. The "classroom" portion took place from 9 to 11:30 and was conducted by **Nichol DeMol**, who just completed 7+ years working at the **Water Resource Institute** at **GVSU** and, starting Monday, September 20, began her leadership of the newly designated **TU Rogue River Home River Program**. Classroom study was at the Cannon Township offices and began with a Powerpoint presentation accompanied by discussion, explanations, questions, answers, samples and demonstrations. Folks attending had from zero experience but with enthusiasm to years of experience and were excited to be brought up to date to the latest developed practices.

After pizza and drinks we headed to **Bear Creek in Townsend Park** to get our feet wet, using new charts and a very familiar Stream Macro-invertebrate Datasheet. With waders or hip boots and clipboards in hand, off to

the creek we went. As it turned out we weren't the only folks at the park getting rained on. There were families gathering all around the park.

Kim led us through a bit more of the technicalities along with the Riparian Habitat for the 300 feet of creek we were studying. Then we grouped into teams, as the weather worsened, to collect bugs. Folks were here and there collecting as many bugs and insects as they could. When the rain really came down we gathered all of our bug sample and gear and headed to the Cannon boardroom to sort and identify our bugs. Yep, there were the usual suspects because Bear Creek is a wonderful high-quality creek and a joy to study. There were **Stonefly**, **Hellgrammite** (the thing that bit **Fred Troost** and drew blood), **Mayfly**, **Snails**, **Dragon Fly**, **Damselfly** and **Crane Fly** larvae. Also we found crayfish, **Scalpin**,



Aquatic Worms, **Riffle Beetle** and more. What kid or adult doesn't have fun identifying these critters? It looked to me that everyone there was having fun.

We now all look forward to doing stream assessments on Bear Creek and its tributaries beginning next year. I am sure that if you are interested but were unable to get in on this training there will be an opportunity to get involved. If you're interested just let me know and I will pass the information onto Kim.

This is a program of The Michigan Clean Water Corps (**MiCorps**), which is a network of volunteers who monitor programs in Michigan. Google MiCorps to learn more.

CALENDAR

October 7 Dale Gould
 October 15 Antel
 October 23 or 24 Kolesar

2011 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS HERE AND READY FOR YOUR PURCHASE

Jay Huston

A voice calling from the wilderness, "Where are all the buyers and sellers for the 2011 Entertainment Books?" We need every IKE to pitch in and buy a book and if you have already bought one from your granddaughter, Susie, give us a helping hand, pick up a couple copies to give as gifts.

The bargains are better this year, with six \$5.00 no minimum purchase cards as a bonus with each book. You will be surprised to know the discounts on services that are available and all you have to do is review the book and you will find those everyday bargains. I speak from personal experience as I remembered a coupon in the book and after making a rather large purchase I returned with the coupon and receipt and the discount was honored and it nearly paid for the price of the book.

I ask that you give this serious thought and I'll be ready to take your order. Call me at 616.942.2503, or e-mail, wjhuston1@sbcglobal.net

DNRE PROPOSAL

Bob Stegmier

The **Department of Natural Resources and Environment** proposes to classify an additional 73 miles of streams under Michigan's gear-restricted streams category.

The proposal, which will be presented to DNRE Director **Rebecca Humphries** at the Oct. 7 meeting of the Natural Resources Commission in Lansing, is the result of lengthy meetings with fisheries officials and **the Citizens Coldwater Regulations Steering Committee**.

By law, Michigan can have no more than 212 miles of trout streams that are managed under gear restriction regulations. Currently, there are 105 miles of trout streams with gear restrictions.

Go to http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/GearRestrictedWatersReview_332448_7.pdf to review the suggested additions and if you have comments you can send them to **Kerry Smith** (DNRE), at SMITHK@michigan.gov

I would appreciate a copy of your comments if you wish to share them with me.

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CORE EVENT SCHEDULE 2010

CHAIR PERSON

October 13, Wednesday ...Potluck with Program @ CCBob Stegmier
 November 11, Thursday ...Game Dinner @ CC.....Tom Watson
 December 2, ThursdayChristmas Dinner @ Timbers RestaurantJay Huston

ENERGY SAVINGS IN A PACKAGE. CHECK IT OUT!

Bob Stegmier
DWL Energy Committee

Energy savings in home construction is important now as there is serious concern about global warming/climate change. If **GW/CG** is not your interest, you might consider becoming concerned about running out of oil and

Being Green means a compact (1633 square foot) floor plan in a bungalow style home with 1 bedroom plus den and 1-1/2 baths on main floor, and an additional bedroom, bath, and flex room on the second floor, located within the attic roof trusses. The attic space, normally wasted, is utilized to full benefit. The open floor plan layout makes the home feel larger, and oversize windows bring in plenty of natural light.



A frost protected foundation system, normally used in European countries, is utilized here to

natural gas, as both have finite amounts remaining.

I believe the **Parade of Homes** LEED Gold designed home is worth visiting. It is full of energy saving ideas and the 3.46 KW Unisolar PVL-128 thin film solar panels really resonate with me. This picture is from the south and full shows the solar panel on the roof. The Unisolar thin panels are made in Greenville MI. I say cool!

This stand alone Caledonia condo at 7584 Hometown Ct. has many Green features unique to the area. Among them is the 3.5KW Solar installation utilizing **UNISOLAR** thin cell technology bonded to the standing seam, south facing metal roof. It is expected that the system will provide over half the electrical needs of this home. Since operational in August 2009, the system has produced over 5200 kw-hrs of energy. Thin cell (approx 1/32") technology has multiple layers of solar material bonded to a stainless steel substrate, which is adhesive fastened to the metal. The individual panels are tied together with "pig tail" connections located under the ridge cap, then routed down to the SMA Inverter. The solar panels are nearly invisible, as they blend in with the metal roof panels, providing a clean architectural appearance. Although not yet certified, the home was built to LEED gold standards.

provide a warmer floor edge, and to minimize site disturbance and concrete consumption. The home is a slab on grade but basements are optional.

Other features of this home include **CFL** and **LED** lighting, low flow, dual flush plumbing fixtures, high efficiency gas furnace, low E argon gas-filled windows, energy star appliance package, tankless hot water heater, recycled content materials and more. The home has **R-21** wall insulation and **R-50** roof insulation. Exterior walls are 2x6 construction, as the walls were all factory panelized, to reduce waste and speed construction time. A unique electric fireplace adds ambience and an additional 4000 btu heating input.

The main floor of the home has no steps to facilitate access. Every stand alone condo located in the **Traditions** project in Caledonia also comes complete with a front porch with rocker. At a price point of \$189,000, including all the bells and whistles, this home proves that being energy efficient is also cost effective.

You can take a virtual tour of this home and see many of the features at: <https://builderfusion.hbaggr.com/bf/mem/home.jsp?hid=2280>

TIP OF THE MONTH

Jay Huston

Character is pretty much like a window glass: even a little crack shows clear through.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 7)

It's also the best time of year for tackling **Autumn Olive** wherever you see it. Cut and immediately daub the stump with **Round-Up**. If anyone can come a couple hours early before the dinner on the 13th, maybe we could clear off a thousand or two. Call me, or **Maurie Houseman!**

Enjoy the fall and see you soon!

Georgia Donovan

P.S. Whoever brought the great taco salad, I have your Tupperware bowl.

STUDENT PARTNERSHIPS

submitted by Tom Watson

Reprinted from the summer 2010 issue of *Outdoor America*.

Need help with your chapter newsletter or Web site? Consider partnering with a local technology or communications class. Students get real-life experience and maybe class credit. You get help from people who know the latest technologies - free!



When **Tom Watson**, newsletter editor for the Dwight Lydell Chapter in Michigan, has photos and stories ready, he sends the materials off to a "design firm" - the Electronic Publishing class at the Kent Career Technical Center.



Tam Bagby, a graphic designer, has been teaching Electronic Publishing at the Kent Career Technical Center for 14 years. She is also an IKE and Watson's wife. "When my husband and I joined the IKEs, we volunteered to help with the monthly dinners. My husband is a writer and editor, and eventually we were asked to take over the newsletter. My students create a lot of documents for nonprofit associations because they need real client experience. So the newsletter was a perfect fit."



"I frequently speak on the phone or in-person with students who work on the newsletter," says Watson. "Tam doesn't tell them they are working with her husband. All they know is that I am the client."

After the newsletters are printed, the students fold, tab, and sort them. What a time saver for busy chapters! Check with teachers at your local college - or even a senior high school class - to see if they are interested in partnering with your chapter.

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

- Native plants for Teardrop Island
 - Boy Scout Bridge
 - Parking Lighting
 - General Budget: wherever needed most
- Here is my tax deductible contribution _____

Name _____

Project: _____

Mail to:

Fred Eyer, treasurer, 2488 Rockhill NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525



**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

Wednesday October 13 POTLUCK AND 30/20 RAFFLE

Please bring a dish to pass: Last names A-G bring an appetizer or salad,
H-R bring a main dish and S-Z bring your favorite dessert.
If this doesn't fit your kitchen schedule bring what works out for you. Bring your own dinner ware so no one is in the kitchen during the program.

NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAM

See a Traditional Birchbark Canoe



learn how it's built and
hear a talk about the
Ojibwe language

Adults \$4 and all other ages FREE
as are first time guests.
Call Steg at 866.4769.

GAME DINNER
is coming up!

Thursday, November 11



**Venison, Fish,
Pheasant and More!**

Don't miss it!