



A SPORTSPERSON'S
CONSERVATION CLUB
Conservation Center
5641 Myers Lake Ave.
Belmont MI, 49306

IKELs

NEWSLETTER

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

October 2012

Greetings from Georgia

This month has large, small, fun, and serious issues to report. In-between would be the **Eagle Scout** project just completed in the native garden area, where **Alex Putkovich** and friends from **Scout Troop #200** constructed two nice big arbors. There's also new seating under the apple tree. **Tammy Lundeen** is pretty excited about the new additions, and it was a happy, lively place with a lot of busy people on the 15th. It was great to have new feet on our ground; thanks to all who helped!



It worked out well for me too, as some of those scouts hauled clay and rocks over to where I was piling them up. My friends and I had a lot of fun working on our rock-pile, which in our minds is the base of a new clay oven[see a photo of the progression page 9]. Time will tell and we'll undoubtedly learn as we go.

Now from small to large:

We're missing one of our white plastic tables. They are nice because they're lighter for lugging around. Does anyone remember

where it's been lugged off to? If so, please return it, no question asked.

Chili Cook-Off is coming up! Concoct something creative and tasty, hot or not, and bring it over on **October 10th!** It's a delicious way to use homegrown tomatoes and vegetables, or sample others' cooking skills. Side dishes are welcome, too! Invite guests to enter; since chili is so much fun to cook and eat, I think we'll draw participation from all over. See the article on the Cook Off on page 4. Bring a crock-pot or cooking set-up. Too many cooks for the kitchen! Or bring your

Highlights This Issue:

Oktoberfest

Chili Cook Off

Big Green Raffle Results

Volunteer Citizen Lobbying

Plant and Bird Species

...and much more!

tasting skills and vote.

Eleven people have won prizes already in our **Big Green Raffle**; add your tickets to the pot! Another \$1000 will be awarded on the 10th! Get into the action!
(continued on page 6)

BIG GREEN RAFFLE...Continues!

All in support of Conservation Education, Scholarships, Kids Nature Club, Tear Drop Island, Winterfest, Summerfest, Save our Stream and MORE!.

\$10 a Ticket or \$20 for 3 Tickets

One \$500 WINNER AND 10 \$50 WINNERS at each of the two remaining drawings with a total of \$1,000 at each event.

October 10 at the Chili Cook Off Dinner and November 8 at the Annual Game and Fish Dinner
Dwight Lydell Chapter IWLA, MSL # C25581

DETAILS ON PAGE 3.

OktoberFest

Tom Watson



A small but enthusiastic crowd enjoyed a great night at OktoberFest on September 12. After dinner **Shirley Kallio** lead a program on **Fracking** and the first winners of **THE BIG GREEN RAFFLE** were drawn (see related articles elsewhere in this issue).

shucked by **Dick VanHaften**, **Maurie Houseman** cooked green beans and mashed potatoes and I brought some fresh tomatoes from my garden. Thanks to all for the taste treats and to those who brought side dishes and desserts.

Jack Hornbach supplied his superb sauerbraten, **Bob Stegmier** provided brats and sweet corn, expertly

Barry Gilbertson and I cooked the brats and it was a flurry of activity when food was served. Everyone pitched in.

I had to leave early after dinner, but a special thanks goes out to **Tammy Lundeen** and her merry elves for their hard work of cleaning up.

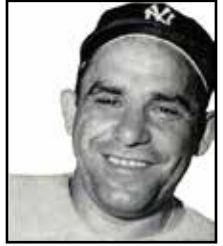


BIG GREEN RAFFLE

Bob Stegmier

BIG GREEN RAFFLE drawings began at Oktoberfest on September 12! If you weren't there you missed the first drawing excitement. **Rocket Hefferan** came just for the excitement, having eaten before he came. Because Rocket is an hunting and fishing enthusiast and an expert at both at the age of 13, he got the chance to draw the first ticket, which was the first \$500 winner of the BGR. Everyone there was so quiet you could have heard a pin drop, you know how unusual that is at these dinners, when chapter member **Candace Ramsahoi** was announced as the \$500 prize winner. Ten more tickets were then drawn with the tickets in the pot stirred between every drawing. The next ten tickets were \$50 winners each were **Therese Trimberger**, member **Antwan Oats**, **Richard Thorne**, **Patrick Justus**, members **Richard & Gail Hansen**, **Maureen & Phil Abele**, member **Paul Sherd** (one of the Bluebird guys), **Ben DeYoung**, **Patrick Justus** and **John Stuckey**. These lucky folks will receive the checks soon in the mail.

Now! "It an't over till it's over," as **Yogi Berra** of New York Yankees' fame often said.



There are two more exciting drawings coming up, first at the Wednesday, October 10 **Chili Cook Off** Every Member



Meeting and the final drawing on Thursday, November 8, at the always popular **Game Dinner**. Mark your calendars for these two events and make your reservations.

BGR tickets are still available, so sell what you have and if you need some you can contact **Bob Stegmier** anytime. Of course you missed the first drawing but the odds are still very good with only about 900 tickets sold to date. Good odds and good prize money!

New Arbors and Seating

Alex Putkovich and friends from **Scout Troop #200** constructed two nice big arbors in the native garden area. There's also new seating under the apple tree.

Student Editors
This issue was edited and produced by **Bret Ranke** and **Tyler Burke**. Great job students!



Chili Cook Off

Tom Watson

The first annual **Chili Cook Off** is set for Wednesday, **October 10**. Here is how I propose conducting the cook off:

1. Entrants should register at twatson@comcast.net
1. Entrants should prepare their chili in advance and heat it thoroughly at the Cook Off.
2. Entrants should pay an extra \$2.00 that night. I'll use the extra cash to purchase an award for the winner. All entries will be judged blindly by all present that night. Designated servers will number each entry and the identity of the entrant will not be disclosed until after the voting. The servers will bring the entries from the kitchen to the dining room.
3. All present will taste a small amount of each chili.
4. **Voting:** Everyone votes for first through third places for the entries on supplied ballots. Three points should be awarded for first place, two for second and one for third. Designated counters will tally the results and announce the winners after the meal.

After everyone has sampled and voted for all entries, dinner will proceed. I'll prepare some brats and hot dogs, and supply nacho chips and cheese. Those who do not bring chili are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert.

Fire up your taste buds and may the best cook win!

Board Member Honored Again

Jay Huston

The **Gleaner Life Insurance Society**, Rivertown Arbor, presented **Jay Huston** with the Community Service Recognition Award for the year 2011-12. The presentation was made at the Whitecaps baseball game Wednesday, August 22nd where the Gleaners honored the **Special Olympic Team** members as their guests.

This annual award is given to one senior member, age 65 years or older, for outstanding volunteer service.

The award included a beautiful electric clock and a prepaid insurance policy. Jay was re-elected to another term as vice president at the July meeting. The Gleaners are supporting our chapter since a number of members have purchased our **Big Green Raffle** tickets.

\$500: \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50 \$50
\$3,000 to be given away
All for Conservation Education

BIG GREEN RAFFLE

\$10 a Ticket or \$20 for 3 Tickets

Benefiting Kids Nature Club, Winterfest, Summerfest, Kids Fishing, Save our Streams (Stream Insects & Crustaceans), Tear Drop Island, College Scholarships, & Much More
 \$1,000 each drawing
Drawings 10/10/12 & 11/8/12
 Dwight Lydell Chapter IWLA
 MSL # C25581

Mystery Plant Identified!

Bob Stegmier

Tammy Lundeen, one of our Tear Drop Island (TDI) experts identified a plant, whose identity was unknown to a neighbor of mine. Other TDI experts are Barb McGuirl and Gordon Olsen.



“What plant is this” came to me from a neighbor who got the question from their son living on Emerald Lake in Grand Rapids Township. After

a few “don’t know” responses I got a positive response from Tammy. Thanks Tammy! Now we all know.

FROM WIKIPEDIA:

- *Abutilon theophrasti* (Velvetleaf, China Jute, Buttonweed, Butterprint, Pie-marker, samuel eu bine or Indian Mallow) is a “NON NATIVE” annual plant in the family Malvaceae, native to southern Asia.

• Flower and leaves:

It grows to 1 m. tall, and has velvet-like heart-shaped leaves 15–25 cm broad. The flowers are yellow or orange, 4 cm. diameter, maturing into button-shaped

capsules which split lengthwise to release the seeds. The flowers and plants have a fruity scent.

- Velvetleaf grows as a weed primarily in cropland, especially corn fields, and it can also be found on roadsides and in gardens. Velvetleaf prefers rich and cultivated soils, such as those used in agriculture.

• Cultivation and uses:

Velvetleaf has been grown in China since around 2000 BCE for its strong, jute-like fibre. The leaves are edible, stir-fried or in omelettes. The seeds are eaten in China and Kashmir.

• Invasive species:

In midwestern and northeastern regions of the United States, eastern Canada and the Eastern Mediterranean, *A. theophrasti* is considered a damaging weed to agricultural crops, especially corn and soybeans.

- Since being introduced to North America in the 18th century, velvetleaf has become an invasive species in agricultural regions of the eastern and midwestern United States. It is one of the most detrimental weeds to corn causing decreases of up to 34% of crop yield if not controlled and costing hundreds of millions of dollars per year in control and damage. Velvetleaf is an extremely competitive plant, so much so that it can steal nutrients and water from crops. Velvetleaf is controllable by herbicides.

Lobbying Installment 2 (Volunteer Citizen Lobbying)

Shirley Kallio

In the August issue, I ended this column by talking about the influence advantage that we as citizen lobbyists enjoy by virtue of our constituency, how our authenticity and our credibility enhance our effectiveness, and the importance of cultivating a personal, mutually respectful relationship with our elected representative.

Studies have shown that margin of election win is one of the most important factors in the malleability of a lawmaker. A lawmaker who wins by a margin of at least 4 to 5% will be more subject to persuasion than one who wins by a narrower margin. While citizen lobbyists cannot change an election outcome after the fact, they can and should adjust their expectations. Despite the frequent inference in media communications, “wins” are rarely 100%, nor are “losses.” Both are usually incremental, subject to protracted give and take, and often out of the public’s view.

The second most important effectiveness probability factor is the degree of similarity between the lobbyist and the person being lobbied. People relate most quickly to other people who seem to be like them-

selves. As a constituent residing in the same district, we already possess at least one common attribute, and probably many. It is very useful, when one is preparing to make a lobbying contact, to do some research on the individual you wish to influence. You may find you share some experiences, vocational, volunteer, educational, etc., that if utilized, can be very helpful in establishing some rapport with your lawmaker.

The third ranking effectiveness probability factor is the number of face-to-face meetings. Meeting in-district, rather than Lansing, facilitates frequent contact. Not every meeting needs to be the same, and should not be, 10 minute coffee hour exchange, 30 minute well prepared delivery of talking points, brief follow-ups as appropriate, a brief exchange in an elevator or at the supermarket. The objective is to be a calm, sustained, friendly presence who can be trusted to deliver honest, thoughtfully-considered opinion and sound information.

Until next time, prepare yourself by following Michigan news on issues of importance to you and your Representative’s activities.

Greetings from Georgia

(continued from page 1)

A Big Green thank you to **Len Kizer** for all of his lawn cutting this summer! I believe he's been there every week, mowing around the lodge and picnic area by the pond. Great work, Len!

Many thanks to those who have contributed in memory of **George Schad**. We have received quite a few, well over \$1500, the last I heard. It was kind of his family to think of the IKEs, and it will extend George's dedication to nature.

Moving up the list from our club to the community: For our **Annual Conservation Award** we honor someone outside our group for conservation. Last year **Mayor Heartwell** and his staff received it for greening Grand Rapids; the year before was **Stu Kok** for saving **Rogue River** shoreline with a conservation easement. We like to have a wide field to choose from, so are opening this up to all of you for suggestions. Keep your eyes open for worthy contenders who have made an impact, and tell us before the end of the year.

And now, the biggest item. **Fracking in Michigan**. As oil and gas leases are sold on both public and private western Michigan land, we should know what's involved. The smallest of fracking wells puts chemicals into a minimum of 2 million gallons of water, and never takes them out again. That in itself is a very high price to pay for gas. Each operation contains several wells, maybe 10, maybe 30 in a "pad." Trucks roll in continuously to the new industrial areas. Methane is released. Leaks into other water sources are possible; just ask folks in places where they can no longer use their wells. There is currently a natural gas glut on the market so it is

LODGE RESERVATIONS

- October 4 Bill Gould
- October 5 Kevin Antel
- October 12 Boy Scout troop 282 (overnight)
- October 14 Jennni Gardner family
- October 20 Kolesar Family

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President, Duane DeVries.....	532.9151 duanedv@earthlink.net
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Secretary, Jim Schneider	340.4604 jim-ms@comcast.net
Treasurer, Fred Eyer	363.0253 fseyer@gmail.com
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Bruce Gilmore.....	365.8892
Maurie Houseman.....	560.2895 mhouseman@grar.com
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Marylou Sundt	443.7377 hellomarylou56@yahoo.com
Tom Watson.....	874.7254 twwatson@comcast.net
Conservation Chair	
Bob Stegmier.....	866.4769 rstegmier@ameritech.net
Grounds/Maintenance Chair	
C. J. Tasma.....	887.8542 hsi@handicapsigns.com
Membership Secretary	
Ron Waybrant	361.1422 rcwaybrant@gmail.com
Lodge Rental	
Ted & Jan Kuzma.....	874.7279 kooz7@chartermi.net

intended for sale to Asia.

I wish I didn't need to report this, but it is something we must find out about. The oil companies got an exemption to the **Clean Water Act** and are pushing ahead. Anyone considering signing one of their leases had best get their own attorney, and consider the long-term risks. My hope is that we can somehow slow the process down, allowing us to make informed choices.

Georgia Donovan

Deadline for the November issue is Friday, October 13 at 8:00 AM.

Hard To Believe But “Wonders” Do Happen!

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

NEW SPECIES DISCOVERED BY CORNELL GRADS, NAMED FOR CORNELL LAB DIRECTOR

The Sira Barbet, a new species described in the July 2012 issue of *The Auk*. Photograph by Michael Harvey.

On a remarkable expedition in 2008, a team of young explorers including three Cornell graduates discovered an undescribed bird in Peru. Now named Sira Barbet, the new species graces the cover of *The Auk* (July 2012), and receives its formal scientific description inside. Its scientific name, *Capito fitzpatricki*, honors the contributions of **John Fitzpatrick**, director of the Cornell Lab, who did pioneering work in Peru (including discovering seven new species of his own) and also helped mentor the Cornell graduates on the expedition.

Those Cornell graduates are **Mike Harvey**, **Glenn Seeholzer**, and **Ben Winger**; their coauthors on the *Auk* article include Peruvian colleague **Daniel Cáceres** and U.S. colleague **Jason Weckstein**. “Fitz’s contributions to Neotropical ornithology, and his enthusiasm for exploration, stoked our dream for the expedition,” said Winger. “He has inspired generations of young ornithologists in scientific discovery and conservation, and we are honored to name this species for him.”



The 2008 expedition was supported by Lab donors, a National Geographic Young Explorers grant, and donations to the Lab’s student World Series of Birding team. In addition to the discovery of the Sira Barbet, the expedition documented 670 species and brought back 490 sound recordings for the Cornell Lab’s Macaulay Library’s archives.

The three-week expedition ventured into remote highlands that had never been the subject of an ornithological study before. Read a full retelling of their adventure and see photos from the expedition in *Stretching the Canvas*, from the Spring 2010 issue of *Living Bird* magazine.

Christmas Dinner

Jay Huston

I can’t believe its that time of year again. Where has the past year gone. The older one becomes the faster time passes us by. So, let us all mark our calendars **Thursday, December 6th** for our Christ-

mas dinner. We will be dining at the **Timbers Inn and Restaurant** where the food is excellent and the surroundings puts us in the holiday spirit. The social starts at 6:00 PM with dinner at 7:00 PM.

The reservation form will be in the November newsletter as we look for another year of a good attendance of IKEs.

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER of the IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA Core Event Schedule 2012

CHAIRPERSON

October 10, Wednesday (NOTE CORRECT DATE). Chili Cook Off/Potluck @ CCTom Watson

November 8, Thursday (NOTE NEW DATE) Game Dinner @ CCTom Watson

December 6 Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant...Jay Huston

Dwight Lydell Chapter Proposed Budget

Draft Budget (9-2-12)							
Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013 (2011 - 2012 Data as of 8-31-12)							
CATEGORY / REVENUE	% Budget	This Year		Item Description	Last Year		
		Proposed	Proposed		Approved	Actual	
Fund Raisers	46	\$14,250				\$13,900	\$20,685
Annual Banquet			\$10,000	Same As 11-12 Income		\$10,000	\$9,976
Sport Show			\$2,450	350 Tickets @ \$7 Each		\$2,100	\$2,451
Other Fund Raisers			\$800	Typical, No BGR		\$800	\$5,610
Contributions			\$1,000	End of Year & Other		\$1,000	\$2,648
Project Renew							
Member Activities & Facilities	12	\$3,700				\$4,000	\$3,743
Education/Outreach Events			\$400	Same as 11-12 Income		\$400	\$362
Facility Rentals			\$900	12 Rentals x \$75		\$1,200	\$950
Social Events			\$2,400	6 Events x 50 People x \$8		\$2,400	\$2,431
Membership Support & Services	19	\$5,700				\$5,700	\$5,702
Membership Dues			\$5,700	Matches 11-12 Income		\$5,700	\$5,702
Other Income	0	\$100				\$100	\$5,816
Interest			\$0	No Interest On Checking		\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous			\$100	Typical Income		\$100	\$5,816
Grants	0		\$0	No Grants Anticipated		\$0	\$0
Trust Income	5	\$1,300	\$1,300	Matches 11-12 Approved		\$1,300	\$1,371
From Savings	19	\$5,750		CD Cashed In		\$1,600	\$10,072
Total	101	\$30,800		More Than 11-12 Budget		\$26,600	\$37,317
CATEGORY / EXPENSES	% Budget	Budget	Budget				
Member Activities & Facilities	26	\$7,900				\$6,900	\$6,982
Social Events			\$1,200	\$1 Per Meal Profit		\$1,200	\$1,507
Property Maintenance/Improvement			\$2,500	Normal		\$1,500	\$975
Property and Liability Insurance			\$2,100	5% Increase Over 11-12		\$2,100	\$2,961
Utilities			\$2,100	\$1400 Propane & \$700 Electric		\$2,100	\$1,540
Membership Support & Services	22	\$6,700				\$8,800	\$6,598
National Support (Dues)			\$4,600	Approx. 11-12 Expenses		\$5,400	\$4,560
Michigan Division Support			\$350	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$350	\$300
Publications and Mailings			\$1,600	Approx. 11-12 Expenses		\$2,800	\$1,620
Solicitations and Renewals			\$150	Approx. 11-12 Expenses		\$250	\$118
Mission Related Programs	23	\$7,100				\$7,100	\$4,968
Conservation Advocacy			\$500	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$500	\$0
Conservation Contributions/Memberships			\$100	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$100	\$100
Education/Outreach			\$3,000	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$3,000	\$1,767
National Convention			\$1,500	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$1,500	\$1,101
Scholarships			\$2,000	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$2,000	\$2,000
Fund Raisers	27	\$8,400				\$5,000	\$5,540
Annual Banquet			\$4,100	Matches 11-12 Expenses		\$3,800	\$4,113
Sport Show			\$600	Matches 11-12 Expenses		\$500	\$590
Other Fund Raisers			\$3,700	Includes BGR Payout		\$700	\$836
Administration	2	\$700				\$700	
Miscellaneous			\$600	Same As 11-12 Budget		\$600	\$3,569
Stationery & Postage			\$100	Matches 11-12 Expenses		\$100	\$89
Project Renew	0	\$0				\$0	
Conservation Projects			\$0	Matches 11-12 Expenses		\$0	\$0
Alternate Energy Project			\$0	Matches 11-12 Expenses		\$0	\$0
Grant	0		\$0	No Grant Project		\$0	\$0
Total	100	\$30,800				\$28,500	\$10,000

Thought Of The Month

Jay Huston

Don't nurse opportunity too long; take it into active partnership with you at least once, lest it leave you for other company.

Membership Alert

Ron Waybrant

Annual membership dues notices will be coming out shortly. The **Izaak Walton League of America** tries to have most renewals completed by the first of the year. The local membership committee will process the dues requests and send them out in mid to late October this year. A new wrinkle will be to request an update for your address, phone number, email and other information as appropriate.

We send out newsletters at a non-profit bulk rate. While this saves money at the mailing end, newsletters do not get forwarded and it costs \$.65 each when returned to us. So having correct addresses

help us keep our costs down and reduces paperwork. Consequently, if you are headed on vacation or headed south for the winter, please let us know where to send the newsletters. We produce an updated set of labels for each newsletter, so short term changes are not a problem. That way you can still get your newsletter and we can control costs. You can send us your changes, even temporary changes, via US mail by sending a note to: **PO Box 541 Belmont MI 49306**, use email or by phone. E-mail addresses and phone numbers can be found in the newsletter.

Thanks.

BULLETIN BOARD

FOR SALE: Beautiful Cottage with two bedrooms, bunkhouse, large garage, and large deck overlooking the Little South Branch of the Pere Marquette River four miles south of Baldwin. Most furnishings stay with cabin. \$ 127,000. Call Si Biener at 616.361.1263 for more information.



It might look like a pile of rocks, but soon it will grow into a clay oven.

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 - \$54, _____ Family - \$74, _____ Student (18-21) - \$26, _____ Youth (under 18) - \$13.80

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 \$40 for individual and \$60 for family memberships, which includes \$4.00 for *Outdoor America* magazine. Magazine is inseparable from dues. Chapter and Division dues may vary.

Hydraulic Fracturing (“Fracking”)

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

Fracking was the program for the Oktoberfest event. There is concern locally about fracking because the State of Michigan is putting land up for lease by oil and gas exploration companies. There are concerns about the environment impact of the fracking process. **Georgia Donovan, Shirley Kallio** and myself put on a short program followed by a Q & A period. Folks were definitely interested and had many good questions. Here is an informational paper put together on the subject by Shirley.

DOOR EASES OPEN TO OIL AND GAS LEASING (THINK “HYDROFRACKING”)

Prepared by **Shirley Kallio**, shirleykallio@msn.com,
(616) 874.7571

PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LEASE AUCTION: Approximately 196,000 acres of state-owned oil and gas rights located in 22 counties (including **Kent, Ionia, Ottawa** and **Barry**) are proposed to be offered for lease at an oral auction on October 24, 2012. Decision-maker: DNR Director. For detailed information about location and lessees todate, go to: http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/1,1607,7-153-10371_14793-30992--,00.html

Landmen, the term for the oil and gas companies’ representatives, are probably already active in these areas attempting to negotiate leases with private landowners.

FACT CHECK: THIS IS NOT THE DRILLING OF THE PAST!

Vertical wells go 9000 to 10000 feet down (as opposed to 1000 in the U.P.), then laterally, like the spokes of a wheel, 5000 – 6000 feet out from the vertical. One vertical well may be hydrofracked multiple times.

Each well requires 100 more times water (5 million gallons) than a conventional well, each time it is fracked, laced with dozens of chemicals (tons) selected from amongst 600 to 700 options, only a very few of which must be disclosed.

Explosive force opens up existing fissures in shale, and possibly creates more, in the hope of releasing and capturing natural gas.

Up to 75% of water and contaminants backflow over a period of months, some of

it radioactive, which must be contained and disposed of. Water treatment plants are not equipped to treat backflow for safe return to the original source, and contaminated water is evaporated, dumped into surface water or hauled to an injection site. injection wells are sometimes even deeper than the gas wells and are not subject to hazardous waste restrictions. Injection wells in Ohio, wastewater depository for Pennsylvania’s thousands of gas wells, have been linked to significantly increased seismic activity. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/print/2012-02-01/ohio-tries-to-escape-fate-as-a-dumping-ground-for-fracking-fluid>

The vast quantities of sand required by this industrial operation have turned Wisconsin rural areas into large-scale mining operations, forever altering the landscape and stressing their infrastructure. <http://truth-out.org/news/item/9266-how-rural-america-got-fracked>

The Process:

The Truth About Fracking by **Chris Mooney**, November 2011 *Scientific American* <http://scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=the-truth-about-fracking>

DeepShale Natural Gas Production in Michigan: Opportunities, Problems, and a Shot in the Dark* *Michigan Bar Journal*, January 2011 <http://www.michbar.org/journal/pdf/pdf4article1803.pdf>

Cornell University Professor **Dr. Anthony Ingraffea**, The Facts On Fracking <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSWmXpEkEPg>

Leasing: Private Landowners, Beware!
Leases are about control of the land.

- Know with whom you are dealing! (Shell companies are common, and two of largest, **Chesapeake** and **Encana** of Canada have been guilty of renegeing on contracts in northwest MI and are under investigation for price fixing in state auction.)
- Get an attorney. (Leases prepared by lessees are written to favor lessees, not land owners).
- Set your own terms; be a price maker, not a price taker.
- Talk to your neighbors.

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Landmen, the term for the oil and gas companies’ representatives, are probably already active in these areas attempting to negotiate leases with private landowners.

FACT CHECK: THIS IS NOT THE DRILLING OF THE PAST!

Vertical wells go 9000 to 10000 feet down (as opposed to 1000 in the U.P.), then laterally, like the spokes of a wheel, 5000 – 6000 feet out from the vertical. One vertical well may be hydrofracked multiple times.

Each well requires 100 more times water (5 million gallons) than a conventional well, each time it is fracked, laced with dozens of chemicals (tons) selected from amongst 600 to 700 options, only a very few of which must be disclosed.

Explosive force opens up existing fissures in shale, and possibly creates more, in the hope of releasing and capturing natural gas.

Up to 75% of water and contaminants backflow over a period of months, some of it radioactive, which must be contained and

(continued on page 11)

Hydraulic Fracturing (“Fracking”)

(continued from page 11)

disposed of. Water treatment plants are not equipped to treat backflow for safe return to the original source, and contaminated water is evaporated, dumped into surface water or hauled to an injection site. Injection wells are sometimes even deeper than the gas wells and are not subject to hazardous waste restrictions. Injection wells in Ohio, wastewater depository for Pennsylvania’s thousands of gas wells, have been linked to significantly increased seismic activity. <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/print/2012-02-01/ohio-tries-to-escape-fate-as-a-dumping-ground-for-fracking-fluid>

The vast quantities of sand required by this industrial operation have turned Wisconsin rural areas into large-scale mining operations, forever altering the landscape and stressing their infrastructure. <http://truth-out.org/news/item/9266-how-rural-america-got-fracked>

The Process:

The Truth About Fracking by **Chris Mooney**, November 2011 *Scientific American* <http://scientificamerican.com/article.cfm?id=the-truth-about-fracking>

DeepShale Natural Gas Production in Michigan: Opportunities, Problems, and a Shot in the Dark *Michigan Bar Journal*, January 2011 <http://www.michbar.org/journal/pdf/pdf4article1803.pdf>

Cornell University Professor **Dr. Anthony Ingraffea**, The Facts On Fracking <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mSWmXpEkEPg>

Leasing: Private Landowners, Beware!
Leases are about control of the land.

- Know with whom you are dealing! (Shell companies are common, and two of largest, **Chesapeake** and **Encana** of Canada have been guilty of renegeing on contracts in northwest MI and are under investigation for price fixing in state auction.)
- Get an attorney. (Leases prepared by lessees are written to favor lessees, not land owners).
- Set your own terms; be a price maker, not a price taker.
- Talk to your neighbors.

Listen To The Expert: Curtis Talley,
Educator on Oil and Gas Leasing with
MSU Extension Service

<http://www.cedarcreekinstitute.org/oil-and-gas-drilling-information>

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY: Consider the risk to your land, your water, your livestock, your neighborhood! Consider the risk to your own and your family’s health!

• Methane contamination of drinking water accompanying gas well drilling and hydraulic fracturing: [Http://www.eenews/assets/1011/05/09/document_pm_01.pdf](http://www.eenews/assets/1011/05/09/document_pm_01.pdf)

• “The human health impacts of gas extraction on local communities may rival those associated with coal. A...study by the Centers for Disease Control finds that **breast cancer rates have dropped in every county in Texas, but have increased in the six counties with the heaviest natural gas air emissions.** <http://www.dentonrc.com/local-news/special-projects/gas-well-drilling-headlines/20110831-breast-cancer-rate-climbs-up.ece>

• “An investigation by New York Times reporter Ian Urbina, based upon thousands of unreported EPA documents and a confidential study by the natural gas industry, concluded, **‘Radioactivity in drilling waste cannot be fully diluted in rivers and other waterways.’** Urbina learned that wastewater from fracking operations was about 100 times more toxic than federal drinking water standards; 15 wells had readings about 1000 times higher than standards.”

• “Research by Dr. Ronald Bishop, a biochemist at SUNY/Oneonta, suggests that **fracking to extract methane gas ‘is highly likely to degrade air, surface water and ground-water quality, to harm humans, and to negatively impact aquatic and forest ecosystems.’** He notes that ‘potential exposure effects for humans will include poisoning of susceptible tissues, endocrine disruption syndromes, and elevated risk for certain cancers.’ Every well, says Dr. Bishop, ‘will generate a sediment discharge of approximately eight tons per year into local waterways, further threatening federally endangered mollusks and other aquatic organisms.’ In addition to the environmental pollution by the fracking process, Dr. Bishop believes **‘intensive use of diesel-fuel equipment will degrade air quality [that could affect] humans, livestock, and crops.’**

• “Equally important are questions about the **impact of as many as 200 diesel-fueled trucks each day** bringing water to the site and then removing the waste water. In addition to the normal diesel emissions of trucks, there are also problems of leaks of the contaminated water.” <http://truth->

[out.org/index.php?option=com_2&view=item&id=7349:frackings-health-and-environmental-impacts-greater-than-claimed](http://truth-out.org/index.php?option=com_2&view=item&id=7349:frackings-health-and-environmental-impacts-greater-than-claimed)

• Oil and gas drilling is a **boom/bust industrial process**, with the boom lasting 5 to 7 years, and putting extreme stress on the community’s infrastructure:

• Transient workers with families put school systems and other services under severe duress.

• **Hundreds of diesel trucks** haul in millions of gallons of water, tons of chemicals and sand, and haul away millions of gallons of wastewater. (“The natural gas industry now acknowledges that it absolutely cannot afford to pay localities the costs of roads damaged from the thousands of truck trips per wellhead, leaving those ruinous costs to local taxpayers, many of whom will see no benefits from the shale boom, but only declines in their quality of life.”) <http://www.readersupportednews.org/opinion2/271-38/7998-the-fracking-industry-war-on-truth>

SUPPORT LEGISLATION

that protects communities and changes current law.

- Townships have no authority to prevent fracking in their jurisdictions.
- Public has no right to input or public hearing prior to permitting.
- There is no required disclosure of chemical mixes prior to or following hydrofracking. There is no requirement for disclosure to neighbors and other stakeholders of the industry’s intent to frack.)
- In Michigan, there is no limit on the oil and gas industry’s water withdrawals and no required disclosure about wastewater content.
- Michigan FOIA exempts from disclosure by MDNRE all but a negligible amount of documentation pertaining to application to drill or permit to drill. (See Michigan Bar Journal article on p. 1)
- Fracking wastes are exempt from “hazardous waste” regulations.
- **Oil and gas have no liability for damages.**
- **Oil and gas are exempt from Federal Clean Water Act and Clean Drinking Water Act.**

http://www.slate.com/articles/health_and_science/climate-desk/2012/08/fracking_laws_by_state_wastewater_notifications_and_chemical_mixes.html



**Dwight Lydell Chapter
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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,
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Wednesday, October 10 is the 1st Annual

CHILI COOK OFF

Bring your
best pot
of chili
and its



GAME ON!

Please bring a dish to pass and a friend or two.

Social hour 6pm, dinner at 7pm.

Call Tom Watson: twwatson@comcast.net with reservations.

Adults \$8, ages 6-12 \$4 with ages under six FREE
as are first time guests!

Coming Up
Thursday

NOVEMBER 8TH



Our Fabulous

FISH AND GAME

DINNER!