



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

The IKEs Update

October 2014

Hello! Usually I write about some nice little thing. Today I'm asking for some nice little things. This chapter of the IKEs is a great, fun, social group, with a cause. We know our ecology is crucial. The whole water, woods, and wildlife thing.

Some days I do something for the cause, and others I drive around burning gas and being civilized. Can't help but wonder though, if we all spoke up more often, what influence we might have.

Actions needn't be political. They might be activities among family or friends, or maybe installing solar or wind.

If political, maybe not so partisan. Local township boards are made up of people like us, and we can voice ideas about water use or zoning. For example, there are often rules requiring that houses be large, to protect property values. With a new desire to be debt-free and energy efficient, is that still the best policy?

It's pretty easy to phone or write a legislator. (Lobbyists do it all the time!) Let them know you care about mercury pollution, oil spills, Michigan fish, or whatever. Even saying, "I care about my grandkids' environment" might strike a chord.

And those kids! How about one hour a day, outside and unorganized? If they don't know what to do, start with an order to build a camp or make a giant design with the leaves in the yard. It is not pointless. Their brains extend into the world around them. You might just be saving them down the road when they're surrounded by

blithering idiots, and they know how to THINK. Nature nurtures.

Let's be a group that defends woods, water, and wildlife, by showing it at least once a week.

It was a nice surprise to see **Michael Leahy** show up at our **Oktoberfest!** He was in town for the **Healing Our Waters** conference. As our **IWLA National Conservation Director**, he wrote an article in *Outdoor America* asking that we support the EPA's "Clean Water Rule." By protecting the headwaters, it also helps downstream areas ecologically and economically. They are taking comments until October 20. It's a breeze at www.iwla.org/advocacy

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IKEs Christmas Dinner

Jay Huston

As I write this announcement it surely feels like Fall, but it doesn't look like Autumn as we have another week of Summer. We are yet to get in the mood for the holiday season with Christmas being three months away. So, this comes to you as a friendly reminder to mark your calendar for our **Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 4, 2014**. We will be dining at Timbers Inn and Restaurant where we have enjoyed the fine food and service over the past several years. The social begins at **6:00 PM** with dinner at **7:00 PM**. The reservation form will be in the November newsletter. We look forward to a good attendance of IKEs and their guests.

Oktoberfest

Tom Watson

Twenty IKEs enjoyed a balmy evening at Oktoberfest. Fortunately, the rain came both before and after we working outside. It may have been the last warm evening we will get for a while.

I cooked brats and **Jim Schneider** supplied a variety of Pierogis, those tasty German/Polish mini turnovers filled with potatoes and cheese. **Maurie Houseman** brought sweet corn and some German potato salad. As usual, who else brought what escaped my notice, but none of us left hungry.

The Kitchen Krew consisted of **Barry Gilbertson**, Jim and **Alona** Schneider and myself. Jim washed all the dishes and the rest of the Krew assisted him. Most everyone else also helped with cleanup, including **Georgia Donovan**, **Bob Stegmier** and **Mary Lou Sundt**. Mary Lou also tended the bar and **Ruth Waybrant** handled the door.

Though no program was scheduled, we enjoyed a surprise visit by **Michael Leahy**, **IWLA National Conservation Director**. He was in town to attend the HOW conference (see related article by Bob Stegmier on page 4). Bob and Michael talked briefly about the conference.

Thanks to all who helped make it a fun night, especially to those whose names I failed to mention here.



LODGE RENTALS

9/26-27	Cub Scout Camping
10/2	Dale Gould Insurance
10/10	CQL group
10/25	Kolesar family
12/6	Miller family

Save the Monarchs Presentation at the Chili Cookoff

Raising these endangered butterflies to help increase their chance for survival.

Tam Bagby



I will give a short presentation after the **Chili Cookoff** on how to find **Monarch Caterpillars** in milkweed and raise them at home. This is an awe inspiring month-long adoption that keeps these SUPER Monarchs from being killed by predators or weather. You will learn how to feed, clean, watch them grow and turn to chrysalis. And finally watch them emerge and stretch their wings and fly off into the sun.



Fall

Travis VanLuyn

Fall is a wonderful time in Michigan. There are so many things that bring me joy in the fall. From the leaves changing, to football, chili, bonfires, salmon running, crisp cool mornings, and last but not least bow hunting. I have always liked the fall in Michigan and enjoyed it for many reasons, but I believe a transformation took place when I started bow hunting nine years ago.

After I started bow hunting my level of appreciation for fall grew from a fondness to a love of this magical time of year. Bow hunting has given me so much pleasure throughout the years, not necessarily because of the deer I have harvested, but because of my time spent in the woods, and the solitude and peace that I have felt from this time. Not to mention the comradery with my fellow bow hunters, and all of the great conversations I have had throughout the years with people that I might not have come to know without this common thread.



I have walked out of the woods many mornings and nights with some sense of frustration because I did not get a deer. I have learned over the years that harvesting a deer is just a small part of the joy bow hunting brings me. A larger portion of joy that I get is just being in nature and watching the natural flow of life happen around me while I sit silently waiting to see a deer. In the hectic world that we live in now getting to sit in silence among the trees, and birds seems quite rare. This is a chance to finally be with yourself in stillness and peace, and not be bothered by overstimulation that is constantly bombarding us daily.

This is a chance to recharge the battery of your soul that is constantly being drained from the stresses that life throws at us. Take some time to get out in the woods this fall even if you don't bow hunt and just sit still and enjoy nature. There is nothing like a crisp fall morning in the woods, watching the darkness give way to the sunrise, the lifting of fog off of the forest floor, and all of the sights and sounds that ensue.

OFFICERS

President, Duane DeVries 532.9151
duanedv@earthlink.net
Vice President, Georgia Donovan
georgiaddonovanart@gmail.com
Secretary, Jim Schneider 340.4604
jim-ms@comcast.net
Treasurer, Fred Eyer 363.0253
fseyer@gmail.com

Board Members

Barry Gilbertson Gilby40@MSN.com
Bruce Gilmore 365.8892
Maurie Houseman 560.2895
mhouseman@grar.com
Jay Huston 942.2503
hootjay1@aol.com
Bill Kirk 874.8230
bkirk@i2k.com
Len Kizer 866.4256
len12sc4mi@yahoo.com
Marylou Sundt 443.7377
hellomarylou56@yahoo.com
Travis Vanluyn 723.4550
travis.vanluyn@gmail.com
Tom Watson 874.7254
twatson@comcast.net
Lars Wigert 866.8626
wigerts@aol.com

Conservation Chair

John Stegmier fishysteg@msn.com

Grounds/Maintenance Chair

C. J. Tasma 887.8542
handicapsign@gmail.com

Membership Secretary

Ron Waybrant 361.1422
rcwaybrant@gmail.com

Lodge Rental

Ted & Jan Kuzma 874.7279
kooz7@chartermi.net

**There will be a
WILDERNESS FIRST AID
Presentation at
the Game Dinner**

HOW Conference

Bob Stegmier, WQFC Chairperson

Tidbits from the **HOW Great lakes Restoration Conference**, held at the DeVos Place Conference Center in Grand Rapids, September 9-11:

This is the 10th year anniversary of this Great Lakes conservation/environmental restoration event. Unfortunately it also was a tribute to its founder, **Peter Wege** who died this past July 7 at the age of 94. There were many fine words of remembrances of Peter. Some of his favorite sayings were spoken such as, “do as much as you can for as many as you can as long as you can... drop your ego and pick up your eco...go green-go blue...never give up, never.”

I remember his statement at that first **HOW** event from the podium, “if we declared the Great Lakes our drinking water source, nothing bad could be put in it.”

There were 29 informational Breakout Sessions at HOW 10 over the three days and more important information than one could imagine or for that matter take in was disseminated. Here are a couple sessions I attended and I am sharing what I learned.

Zebra Mussels; a case of “never say never.”

You read in the September IKE’s newsletter first hand from chapter president **Duane DeVries** about the **Zebra Mussel** problem on **Pickerel Lake** north of **White Cloud** where he has a cottage (in upstate New York cottages are called “camps”) where there now are Zebra Mussels. He is correct in saying it is too late for his lake, so we all must take extreme caution that we do not move this animal from one water body to another.

I am a member of the **Water Quality and Fish Committee** on the lake where Gail and I have a cottage or as some say in New York a “camp.” We are a bit more fortunate in that our lake has no public access, so the coming and going of boats is limited. Every spring in our lake’s newsletter we publish this caution:

(Copied from the *Gifford Lake Gazette*)

“This is worth repeating to keep us all alert in Protecting GL from Zebra Mussels and other **AIS** (aquatic invasive species). We think it is certainly worth the effort and recommend all property owners take caution to prevent their introduction. The general practice is that a boat or other vessel, waders etc. be left out of the water for a minimum of two weeks will not bring ZMs into the lake. If it is necessary to bring an item into the lake earlier it must be cleaned thoroughly with a chlorine-water solution to kill any organisms on them.”

Now there is some potential good news regarding control of the ze-



on Efforts to Control and prevent Aquatic Species in the Great Lakes, where there was some very encouraging news regarding research which began way back in the 1990s for control measures. That search took a dramatic step forward when scientists from the **New York Museum Field Research Laboratory** discovered that the killed-cell of a specific strain (CL145A) of a common soil bacterium, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*, caused mortality in dreissenid mussels with minimal non-target animal impacts.

Credits for this information go to, **NOAA, USGA, Great Lakes Commission and Great Lakes Fishery Commission**. For more information search the web for Zebra Mussel Control.

As I said, exciting news and for more info visit **healthylakes.org**

More exciting news from the HOW GLRC:

As you know I represent our chapter on the **Rogue River Watershed Partners** along with **Gretchen Zuiderveen**. **Duane DeVries** just resigned from it after many years of dedicated service. Interested in getting involved in your neighborhood? This would be a good place, just contact any of us. We meet the second Wednesday of the month at the **Cannon Township** offices from 9:30 to 11:30 am.

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Mike Leahy National IWLA Conservation Director

bra and quagga mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha* and *D. rostriformis bugensis*) that I first heard about while attending the Breakout Session on Wednesday titled, Update

HOW Conference

Bob Stegmier, WQFC Chairperson

(continued from page 4)

As you likely know one thing that gets my blood flowing or my blood pressure up is storm water runoff and ever increasing high flood levels on the **Grand** and **Rogue** rivers. On the agenda of breakout sessions for Thursday was Resiliency Planning in Grand Rapids with presenters **Suzanne Schulz**, Managing Director, **Development and Community Engagement** and **Haris Alibasic**, Director, **Office of Energy and Sustainability**. I went just to further my knowledge as to what is going on right here in the neighborhood. I was absolutely blown out of the “water” on what steps Grand Rapids is doing to do. These presenters did an outstanding job with pertinent input from one attendee **Dan Taber**, Project Engineer for the city of G.R.

Grand Rapids has installed two very interesting water retention and filtering systems for street stormwater. With these two systems the water no longer goes directly to the river, which could have quickly led to rising water or taking street contaminates there with it. The two systems explained in detail along with good pictures were the **Plainfield Bioretention Islands** and the **Joe Taylor Park** in southeastern G.R. I have never, at least yet visited the park but have driven by the islands on Plainfield Ave from Leonard Street to Lafay-

ette numerous times. These islands have always intrigued me but I never knew how they worked until Thursday, when I found out at a breakout session they are retention systems designed to hold water and allow it to seep into the ground water table. Now when the rainfall exceeds the speed of seepage into the ground, the excess does go to the Grand River. But this water is filtered by the soil and sand in the Bioretention islands and likewise at the Joe Taylor Park. As they



Sitting left to right:
Mike with Jill Crafton, an Ike from Minnesota,
John Trimberger.
Standing: Stegmier, and Ivan Hack, an Ohio Ike.

often say today “who would have known!” Well, today I do and now you know, too.

One of Dan Taber comments was it took 10 significant rain events this year before any water at all went into the river from these Plainfield Bioretention Islands. To me, this is recycling at its best and

effective environment practice in action.

I was very impressed with the city for becoming so significantly “Green.” As Peter Wege (whose foundation began these conferences 10 years ago and significantly supports it yet today) often said: “Think Green Go Blue!” and “Put down your Ego and pick up your Eco!”

You can go to <http://conference.healthylakes.org/10th-annual-conference-agenda/> to see the full agenda. I apologize to all readers that are not on the internet but this the best I can do without using a lot of paper and space to bring it all to you in print, which would not be environmental sound.

IKEs attending this HOW event were **Jill Crafton** from MN, **Ivan Hack** from OH, **Mike Leahy**, Conservation Director from the national office, **John Trimberger** and myself. Check the pictures, we were awake!

Recently **Georgia** and I got the opportunity to work on establishing a **Rain Garden** and a 200-foot stream bank stabilization project on **Cedar Creek** in **Cedar Springs** on property owned by **C. S. Manufacturing Co.** at 299 W. Cherry St. One of the owners, **Tom Mabie** was right out there on his hands and knees helping with the project. This project was part of the **Trout Unlimited Home River Program** led by **Nichol DeMol**.

Please consider joining **Gretchen Zuiderveen** and me at meetings of the RRWP on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM at the **Cannon Township** offices on Belding Road. Contact either of us if you have questions about the RRWP.

More info on the Clean Water Rule may be found in *Outdoor America*, pg 14.

To comment by mail:
Water Docket, EPA (attn. EPA-
HQ-OW-2011-0880)
Mail Code 2822T
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20004

Other legislative contacts:
Gov. Snyder (517) 373-3400
White House (202) 456-1111
Sen. Debbie Stabenow
(517) 203-1760
Sen. Carl Levin (202) 224-6221
Rep. Amash (202) 225-3831
Mich. Rep. Pete MacGregor
(517) 373-0218

2015 Membership Dues 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 chapter membership committee processes the dues notices and will send them out in October. A new wrinkle will be to request an update in your address, phone number, email and other information as appropriate.

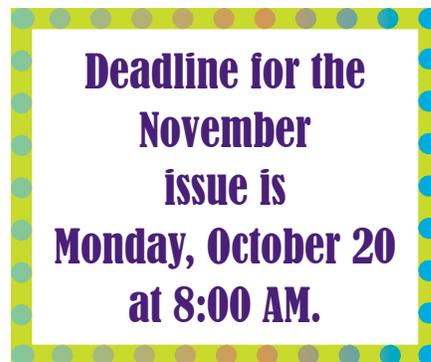
If you are headed south for the winter, please let us know where to send the newsletters. We

send out newsletters at a nonprofit bulk rate. While this saves money at the mailing end, newsletters do not get forwarded and it costs \$.65 to \$.90 each when returned to us. So having correct addresses help us keep our costs down and reduces paperwork.

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,

by US mail, use email or by phone. Addresses and phone numbers can be found in the newsletter.

Thanks.



Tower Tour of the MACKINAC BRIDGE!!!! Save this date for the silent auction and banquet: Friday, March 6th, 2015

A number of months ago our chapter entered a random drawing to get tickets for a Tower Tour of the Mackinac Bridge. Michigan makes 25 tours available to non-profits to use as a fundraiser for the organization and to provide a unique experience for the lucky winners. We were told not to expect to get tickets, as there were many applicants and only 25 tours.

WE are one of the lucky 25!

The towers stand 552 feet above the water. Access to the top is by elevators and about 40' of ladders. The tour must be taken between May 1, 2015 and October 15, 2015 and must be scheduled 30 days in advance. The certificate is for one person and one guest. Check out a YouTube video of this tour at <http://tinyurl.com/lw5g4za> that gives you a sense of the experience.

The board of directors determined that this should be made available to our members as a silent auction

item at our Annual Awards Banquet (scheduled for Friday, March 6th, 2015). Folks we've talked to are pretty excited about a chance to bid on the once in a lifetime tour, either for themselves or as a gift for a family member or friends. We haven't had anything quite this unique and exciting at our silent auction in the past. It should be fun.

More information about the Tower Tour and Silent Auction will be posted in upcoming newsletters and Annual Awards Banquet information. When available, the information will also be posted on our website, michiganikes.org.

To see this and past editions of the newsletter and national IKEs information please visit our websites:

www.michiganikes.org
www.iwla.org

Core Event Schedule 2014

Please Check Monthly for Updates

		Chairperson
October 8, Wednesday	Chili Cook-off/Potluck @ CC	Tom Watson
November 20, Thursday	Game Dinner @ CC	Tom Watson
December 4, Thursday.....	Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant	Jay Huston

The IKE's Update

(continued from page 1)

OK, one nice little thing... I made **Wild Black Cherry** juice! It was good, but delicious with a touch of honey. Beautiful color. You might find some good cherry trees around. Sometimes the cherries are up too high to notice, but the tree in front of the lodge

door is a black cherry.

Please visit and enjoy your membership! Hope to see you at the Chili Cook-off!

Georgia Donovan



Thought of the Month

Jay Huston

TAKE TIME
(for five more)

Take Time to be friendly...
It is the road to happiness.

Take Time to laugh...
It is the music of the soul.

Take Time to give...
It is too short a day to be selfish.

Take Time to work...
It is the price of success.

Take Time to do charity...
It is the key to heaven.

Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Proposed Budget						
2013 - 2014 (Data as of 8-31-14)						
CATEGORY / REVENUE	% Budget	This Year		Item Description	Last Year	
		Proposed	Proposed		Approved	Actual
Fund Raisers	47	\$13,900			\$17,350	\$21,922
Annual Banquet			\$9,600	Same As 13-14 Income	\$8,800	\$9,664
Sport Show			\$1,500	215 Tickets @ \$7 Each	\$1,750	\$1,505
Other Fund Raisers			\$1,800	Mighty Mac Climb Raffle	\$5,800	\$2,499
Contributions			\$1,000	End of Year & Other	\$1,000	\$8,254
Project Renew						
Member Activities & Facilities	14	\$4,100			\$3,500	\$4,049
Education/Outreach Events			\$500	Same as 13-14 Income	\$400	\$859
Facility Rentals			\$1,700	12 Rentals x \$75 & Deposits	\$1,700	\$1,350
Social Events			\$1,900	6 Events x 40 People x \$8	\$1,400	\$1,840
Membership Support & Services	17	\$5,200			\$5,800	\$5,137
Membership Dues			\$5,200	Matches 13-14 Income	\$5,800	\$5,137
Other Income	0	\$100			\$100	\$2,934
Interest			\$0	No Interest On Checking	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous			\$100	Typical Income	\$100	\$2,934
Grants	0		\$0	No Grants Anticipated	\$0	\$0
Trust Income	5	\$1,300	\$1,300	Matches 11-12 Income	\$1,300	\$0
From Savings	18	\$5,250		None For the Last 4 Years	\$1,600	\$0
Total	101	\$29,850		More Than 13-14 Budget	\$29,650	\$34,041
CATEGORY / EXPENSES	% Budget	Budget	Budget			
Member Activities & Facilities	33	\$9,800			\$7,300	\$9,476
Social Events			\$1,300	Matches 13-14 Expenses	\$900	\$1,279
Property Maintenance/Improvement			\$3,500	More Up-Keep Needed	\$2,500	\$3,106
Property and Liability Insurance			\$2,100	5% Increase Over 13-14	\$2,000	\$1,965
Utilities			\$2,700	\$2100 Propane & \$600 Electric	\$1,700	\$2,526
Rental Deposit Returns			\$200		\$200	\$600
Membership Support & Services	20	\$6,100			\$6,800	\$5,941
National Support (Dues)			\$4,000	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$4,600	\$3,959
Michigan Division Support			\$0	Division Dissolved	\$350	\$0
Publications and Mailings			\$1,800	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$1,700	\$1,705
Solicitations, Renewals and Key Mailing			\$300	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$150	\$277
Mission Related Programs	26	\$7,650			\$7,100	\$4,933
Conservation Advocacy			\$500	Same As 13-14 Budget	\$500	\$187
Conservation Contributions/Memberships			\$650	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$100	\$650
Education/Outreach			\$3,000	Same As 13-14 Budget	\$3,000	\$2,095
National Convention			\$1,500	Same As 13-14 Budget	\$1,500	\$0
Scholarships			\$2,000	Same As 13-14 Budget	\$2,000	\$2,000
Fund Raisers	20	\$6,000			\$5,400	\$5,989
Annual Banquet			\$5,100	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$4,300	\$5,114
Sport Show			\$500	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$500	\$505
Other Fund Raisers			\$400	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$600	\$371
Administration	1	\$300			\$700	\$214
Miscellaneous			\$200	Approx. 13-14 Expenses	\$600	\$165
Stationery & Postage			\$100	Same As 13-14 Budget	\$100	\$49
Project Renew	0	\$0			\$0	\$0
Conservation Projects			\$0	No Projects Envisioned	\$0	\$0
Alternate Energy Project			\$0	No Projects Envisioned	\$0	\$0
Grant	0	\$0		No Grant Project	\$0	\$0
Total	100	\$29,850			\$27,300	\$26,552



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.

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Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8TH



**WILL YOUR CHILI BE THE NEXT CHAMPION?
MONARCH BUTTERFLY PRESENTATION RIGHT AFTER DINNER!**

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

Social hour 6pm, dinner at 7pm.

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

AND YOU WON'T
WANT TO MISS THE

**Wild Game
Dinner**

Thursday
November 20th



with Wilderness First
Aid presentation