

IKEs

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

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER
OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA

NEWSLETTER

www.michiganikes.org

The IKEs Update

October 2016

Fresh paint! Our lodge looks lovely! The faded grey has a hint of bluebird in it now, and looks beautiful against the fall sky. Lodge & garage got their new coat amazingly fast once enough hands were applied, and it was truly a fun day. Thank-you, helpers!

Thank-you also to **Duane DeVries** for all his diligence as President riding herd on the board and creating an excellent web page for us. Also please follow the **MichiganIKEs Facebook** page, for last minute info & photos.

Duane deserves some time off now, and **Ron Waybrant** is stepping up as president. He did a great job at our first meeting and his enthusiasm is spreading.

As I write I'm looking forward to a camp-out at the IKEs with several young families and kids. Fall is such a great time for campfires, with cooler temps, fewer mosquitoes, and fantastic colors. It's so easy to drop in at the IKEs for a cookout, walk, or camp. Without a long drive there's no reason not to! It's a small adventure that will relax and refresh. Think of it as an extension of your backyard. You really do have a "back 40!"



Rachel Hood talked to us about all her ideas as she runs for **County Drain Commissioner**. The responsibilities are complicated, but the old rule was: Drain the water as quickly as possible. Her thinking, to protect clean water

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The IKEs Update

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and prevent flooding, is to drain appropriately, using wetlands to preserve rivers and habitat.



By the way, there's an IKEs' Bug App that sounds like fun. I'd like

to get it in time for the Bear Creek stream study on Oct. 1 at Cannon Township.

The 62-year old **Enbridge** pipeline crossing the **Straits** continues to be a concern as it pumps bitumen from Canadian tar sands. At over 50,000 square miles, the mined area is second only to the Amazon in deforestation. But if we don't see it, we don't know.

Something good I heard recently is that **DTE** is transforming 10 acres of old Detroit land into a solar farm, which will power 450 homes. Come on, solar!

Oktoberfest

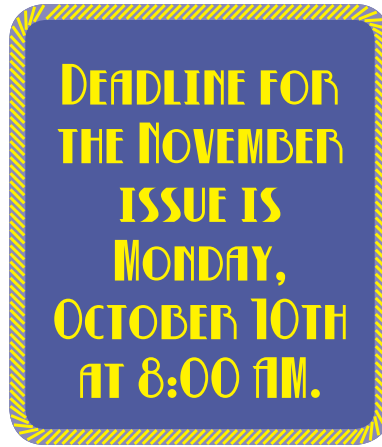
Tom Watson

Twenty-one IKEs and guests enjoyed our annual Oktoberfest dinner on September 14. **Jack Hornbach** brought his world famous beef sauerbraten and I cooked up some very tasty bratwurst I bought from **Ric's Grocery Store**. There were some salads and desserts, but I'm not sure who brought what, but thanks to all for making the dinner quite sumptuous.

Joining me in the kitchen were **Tam Bagby, Darva Boot** and her sister, **Pat** and Jack. Darva washes all the dishes afterwards while I cleaned up the rest of the kitchen. Thanks to whomever took care of the dining room after the speaker finished.

Ron Waybrant handled the door and **Bob Stegmier** tended the bar. Thanks to all who pitched in that night.

Georgia Donovan



IKEs History

Bob Stegmier

Lake County Star "1926 OFF THE PRESS" on page 8, as printed in 1926:

"Farmers in Carr, Branch and along the **Pere Marquette River** to Custer and Scottville are not overly pleased with Fred Green's statement that he will fire **John Baird** and let the **Izaak Walton League** and the sportsmen of Michigan name his successor.

"While they may not particularly love John Baird the recent demonstration opposing the river dams have made the Ike Walton organization as popular as the KKK at a K.C. picnic."



"They are expressing themselves liberally and adjectively upon the question of having the Waltons name the man who will determine the state's attitude towards this important community development."

I would say, what better organization would there be to pick a qualified person to protect our environment. Remember the **IWLA** was born with clinched fists in 1922. Our **DLC** chapter was chartered

sometime in 1926. I don't know if any of our members were there protesting but could well have been. Our membership over the years had many members who fished the PM and hunted the surrounding woods. We currently have one family member who is a fishing guide on the PM, **Casey Hefferan** and many others fish it diligently from spring to winter.

"Being an activist is not a dirty phrase, speak up when there is an issues! When it comes to your legislators, congresspersons etc.," **John Trimberger** says, "they work for you." So let them and all officials know what is on your mind.

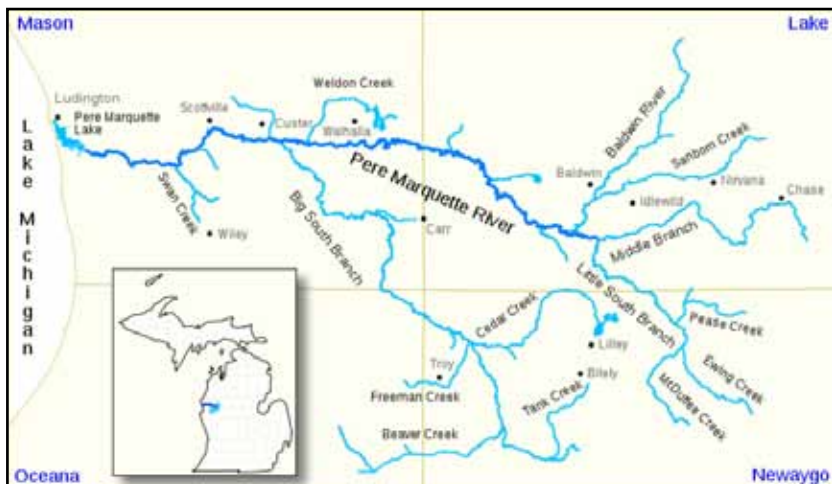


Fred Steketee, chapter member just about forever and just as long fishing the Baldwin River, a tributary to the PM said:

"Having difficulty finding the old file, so I'll go from memory to add a few dams in the feeder streams. **Lake Conna-**

Mara is on a feeder stream to the **Little South [Pere Marquette]** in southern Lake Co., feeder stream to middle branch south of Chase, **Kinney Creek Club**. 2. **Tank Creek** (I believe there were 2, 1 removed recently) near branch, **Bray Creek?**, **Ruby Creek?**, Little South on property known as **Down River Station**. Possibly some of the lakes have dams controlling the lake level (**Big Star** has such as a lake level control). We all know the affects of top spill and shallow bottom spill dams on a cold-water stream. I guess the best that can be said about the PM is that it is the only river in the Lower Peninsula which is dam free on the main stream."

Fred, there is one in Baldwin at the old fish hatchery you forgot to mention on the **Baldwin River**. and last but not least on the **Danaher Creek** dam at the **PM Rod & Gun Club** that was all over the news a few week ago when it was drawn down for some reason. Yep, good for them they had all the necessary permits and oversight.



Work Day

Tom Watson

Despite a little rain early on the **Fun 'N Fix It Day** on September 17 was our most successful in years. The rain stopped late morning and the sun shone the rest of the day. Much was accomplished: Both the lodge and the garage were painted, the windows were washed inside and out and some invasive plants were removed or treated. I cooked up some brats for lunch.

Boy Scout Troop 282 lead by **Bill Hall** dug rain gutters in the

driveway and removed shrubs and prickles from around the archery and the propane tank areas, Thanks for your help, guys.

IKEs who pitched in were: **Larry Allaben, Tam Bagby, Georgia Donovan, Fred Eyer, Barry Gilbertson, Maurie Houseman, Ron Waybrant** and me.

From Fred Eyer: "Three nonmembers also joined us. **Bob Delmont** is a friend of Ron's and he and his wife usually attend and enjoy the annual banquet. My buddy, **Byron**

Panasuk stayed at my cabin last week for a couple of nights and I invited him to help on our **Fun 'N Fix It Day**. **Chuck Martin** was at Lowe's when Ron and I were trying to select the paint color for the lodge. He suggested the color we used. I invited him at that time to come and see how his color selection looked. He lives in Cannonsburg and may be interested in joining. All of them helped make our day a success, as we were able to paint the lodge, the garage, the new wood storage unit and the fence by the garage."



LODGE CALENDAR

October 7, 8 Bob & MaryAnn
Schumaker Rental

October 11 Board Meeting, 7:30 PM

October 29 Jack Hornbach Rental

November 10 Game Dinner

November 12 Board Meeting, 10:00 AM

December 3 Michelle Miller Rental

2017

July 13 Blake Gardner Rental

More photos from Fun 'N Fix It Day



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

www.michiganikes.org
www.iwla.org

Kids' Camping

Fred Eyer

During the early summer I proposed and the Board approved a \$500 grant to **DA Blodgett-St. John's Home** to provide a camp experience to kids that otherwise would not be able to get out into nature. I'm sure you will feel like I did after you read the following letter from the home representative. The board has read the letter and is enthused about providing money next year to the home. We feel like we have a chance to make a difference with the young people's lives and how they relate to nature.

Following is a thank letter we received from the a director at Blodgett:

"As promised, I wanted to report back to you on how the generous \$500 gift from your chapter of the **Izaak Walton League** benefitted our kids this summer.

"The camping focused gift impacted at least 28 youth by helping to provide our younger children in residential care with an over-night camping trip on **Lake Michigan** involving swimming, day hiking and

learning to camp outdoors. It also helped some of our teens go on an overnight backpacking trip on the **Manistee River Trail** in **Manistee National Forest** and at **Pictured Rocks**.

"The kids we serve in residential care have suffered from abuse and neglect, and many struggle emotionally, behaviorally and relationally. These camping excursions help our kids get outside of their problems, so they are not defined by what has happened to them and can gain confidence and develop interests that will begin to redirect their futures. Your group helped make some of that possible this summer!

"Many thanks for your generosity and making vulnerable children a priority."

Jim B. Visser, MA
Director of Advancement
2355 Knapp NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

2017 Membership Dues Alert

Tom Watson, Membership Chair

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 renewal notices and will send them out in October or early November. In addition, the National Izaak Walton League passed a dues increase for 2017 of \$10 for individual memberships and \$15 for family memberships. Chapter members **Bob Stegmier** and others lobbied vigorously against a dues increase at the National Convention last July but nonetheless the increase resolution was passed. Our board is looking at ways to offset this increase. Stay tuned.

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.

Send us your fishing, camping or other outdoor stories and we'll publish them in the newsletter. Send plain text and a photo or two, jpg format to:
twwatson@comcast.net

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER of the IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA Core Event Schedule 2016

Scheduled	Event & Location	Chairperson
January 30, Saturday 10am-3pm....	Winterfest Family Outing @ CC	Georgia Donovan
March 4, Friday	Conservation-Awards-Fund Raiser Banquet	Banquet Committee
March 17, 18, 19, 20	Ultimate Sport Show-Grand Rapids	Jim Schneider
April 21, Thursday	Fish & Game Dinner.....	Tom Watson
May 7,14,21, 28 - Saturdays.....	Kids Fishing & Native Plants @ CC, 9AM-Noon	
May 12, Thursday	Steak and Chicken Dinner, Elections	Tom Watson
June 11, Saturday	Fix up/Clean up Day 9-?, work, eat, play, campfire.....	Maurie Houseman
June 25, Saturday, 10am-1pm	Summerfest Community Family Day @ CC	Maurie Houseman
July 19-22	2016 IKE's National Convention, Stevens Point WI	
July 23, Saturday	Native Plants for Everyone, Tear Drop Island (IKEs)	Tammy Lundeen
August 11, Thursday	BBQ Chicken & Rib Dinner with Program @ CC.....	Tom Watson
September 14, Wednesday.....	Oktoberfest @ CC	Tom Watson
September 17, Saturday	Fix Up/Clean Up/Play 6PM @ CC	Maurie Houseman
October 5, Wednesday.....	Chili Cook-Off/Potluck @ CC.....	Tom Watson
November 10, Thursday	Game Dinner @ CC	Tom Watson
December 1, Thursday	Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant.....	Jay Huston

Website: www.michiganikes.org CC is the Conservation Center/Lodge @ IKEs Property located at 5641 Myers Lake Avenue. Mailing address is Izaak Walton League, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306

Conservation Needs a Friend Ask a friend to join the IKEs!

NAME _____ HOME PHONE _____ BUSINESS PHONE _____
 SPOUSE _____ CHILDREN & AGES _____
 ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 DATE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ SPONSOR _____
 _____ Individual - \$52, _____ Family - \$72, _____ Student (18-21) - \$24, _____ Youth (under 18) - \$12

Mail to Izaak Walton League, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306. Checks payable to "Izaak Walton League" Call Tom at 616.874.7254 for more information. A gate key is provided upon receipt of membership fee. You can pick up your key at the next dinner at the lodge. Please enjoy the 39 acres.

Indicate which of these important committees you're interested in working on:

Natural Features Stewardship _____ Finance _____ Membership _____ Building & Grounds _____
 Conservation _____ Programs _____ Every Member Dinners _____

The Izaak Walton League of America – a non-profit conservation organization – is recognized as a Section 501(c)(3) public charity under the Internal Revenue Code.



Dwight Lydell Chapter
of the Izaak Walton League
PO Box 541
Belmont MI 49306


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

Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters and Wildlife

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IKEs 4th Annual
CHILI COOK-OFF



AND POTLUCK DINNER
Wednesday, October 5

Please bring a pot of
your favorite chili or a
dish to pass.

**Social Hour: 6:00PM,
Dinner: 7:00PM**

Adults: \$8,
youth: 6-12 \$4
and under 6 FREE
as are first time guests!
New members please
join us!

**COMING NEXT
MONTH**

**OUR MOST
POPULAR EVENT:**



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10