



A SPORTSPERSON'S
CONSERVATION CLUB

Conservation Center
5641 Myers Lake Ave.
Belmont MI, 49306

IKE'S NEWSLETTER

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

www.michiganikes.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

November 2011

I love fall. All this glorious color is almost overwhelming! My Morning Glories finally bloomed, with a backdrop of golden hickory leaves. Hopefully you are enjoying some walks in the woods, the wildlife, the hunting, or the scenery. I noticed that the Witch Hazel is blooming, just in time for Halloween.

Barb McGuirl and I had the fun of representing the IKEs at the **Rockford Harvest Festival**, and provided the birdseed, corn meal, and peanut butter for little hands to squish onto pinecones for the birds. Our Nature "Clubbers" made some, too.



A young girl at the Harvest Festival enjoys Barb McGuirl's tub of peanut butter and birdseed as she spreads it on a pine cone.

Hunters, please check your stock to see what you might contribute to our famous **Wild Game & Fish Dinner**, happening on **Thursday, November 10th**. Variety is the name of the game. Your own creativity is appreciated, or if you want to just donate meat ahead of time, we'll cook it up. Let

Tom Watson know, or call any of the board. Please, bring a friend! Where else could they potentially eat venison, elk, assorted fish, pheasant, duck, goose, turkey, buffalo, moose, and mystery-meat for free? (\$8.00 at door, of course)

This group has great potential, and I have gained a lot of experience here. However, I am announcing my resignation as president, and expect to give someone else a turn as of **December 13th**. I have enjoyed making contacts with the IKEs, the community, and other environmental groups. It's very respectable, being a part of the Izaak Walton League, and I've loved many of our activities. My involvement will continue, but I wish to give more attention to other areas of my life. Despite cranking out these articles, being an organized person is really a stretch for me. So, if you ARE organized, this position might be just the thing to perk up your life! Contact a board member, or simply test the waters by trying out the meeting on **November 8 at 7:00**.

We also need a new volunteer to chair the raffle we are planning. Our chapter needs more money to continue with our mission, programs, and projects. Could you keep track of the raffle tickets as they are sold? **Bob Stegmier**

Highlights This Issue:

Potluck Dinner

Work Day

Christmas Dinner

Donation Challenge Update

...and much more!

has details on this, based on one by another **IWLA** chapter that raised thousands of dollars and gave away \$3000.

"Help wanted" also for making up the list of next year's programs. Can you think of some topics you'd like to see covered? Would you like any repeated? Fly-fishing, birds of prey, alternative energy, habitat creation, local foods, dog training, or bow hunting? Come forth with ideas, or join a group to hash out a plan in November. We need you now, to keep our momentum moving!

Many thanks to **Steg, Tom Watson, Duane DeVries**, and anyone else who helped by painting the gate and doors, cutting grass, and making rain barrels!

Treat your wild side and come to the game dinner!

Georgia Donovan

POTLUCK DINNER

Tom Watson

Sixteen IKEs enjoyed a potluck dinner on October 12. While the crowd was small, the spirits were high. All who were there contributed in one way or another, including **Bob** and **Lorraine Radke**, **Mary Lou Sundt**, **Ruth Waybrant**, **Tammie Lundeen**, **Barb McGuirl**, **Jim** and **Alona Schneider**, **Andrew Wisniewski** and some others whose names escape me now. Thanks to everyone for your hard work.

Perhaps next year, instead of a potluck in October, we could have a **chili cook-off**. Lots of time to think about it, but aside from the entrance fee, we might sell samples for fifty cents or something, and award the winner(s) with cash prizes and bragging rights. I may have to recuse myself from the competition, as my chili is the best in the known universe.

Perhaps we could also have a pumpkin carving contest to get some kids there. They could bring their previously carved pumpkins for judging. I suspect we would find a way to award prizes to each entrant.

Just a few ideas to kick around. Hopefully, we can find a way to get more attendance at next year's October event.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Jay Huston

We have reached our half way mark by selling half of our inventory and hopefully we will attain our goal before the **Christmas Dinner**. Meeting many of you at the monthly dinners has gained sales and many that I have not seen will be contacted by phone. The 2012 book is better than last year with more \$5.00 cash, no minimum purchase cards as a bonus with each book. So, I am appealing to all who believe in discount buying to step forward and take a look-see. If you are not aroused by this request I ask that you consider the charitable act of a donation for the new kitchen stove. This is the cause and purpose of our book sales this year.

I will be readily available to take your order by phone at **616.942.2503**, or you can e-mail at **wjhuston1@sbcglobal.net** Thank you for your sincere consideration and support.

BONNIE BLACKLEDGE

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair

Congratulations are in order for **Bonnie Blackledge!** Bonnie was honored by the **IIUC** with their **MMC** (Master Municipal Clerk) designation. IIUC is the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. I personally believe that the IKEs as well as **Cannon Township** has benefited immensely by the effort put forth by Bonnie. Her effort has spread beyond Cannon Township into to other nearby communities.

The IKEs recognized her efforts going back to the initial **Bear Creek** watershed work along with wetlands and storm water runoff ordinances. We are truly better off because of Bonnie. Hey, this is over and above what she has done as county clerk for so many years. Fellow Ike Bonnie, congratulations from all of us Ike's!



WORK DAY

Tom Watson

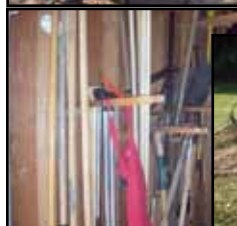
On October 8, a warm and sunny Saturday, several IKEs worked at the lodge. In no particular order, here is what we did.

Barry Gilbertson weed whacked and helped **Duane De Vries** make rain barrels and clean up the small garden on the south side of the lodge. **Bob Stegmier** painted the gate. **Fred Eyer** and **Ron Waybrant** constructed new space-saving racks for rakes and

such in the garage. I primed the doors and south windows (I applied a topcoat the following Wednesday). **Maurie Houseman** attacked autumn olive and I saw before I left that **Dave Long** had a chain saw in his hands. Not sure what he trimmed.

Maurie went to the Cannonsburg store and procured lunch.

Thanks for all the help. Things are looking a bit better.



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

- Gas Range
- Electrical Wiring
- Other

Here is my tax deductible contribution _____

Name _____

Project: _____

Payable to: IWLA - Dwight Lydell Chapter

Mail to: Fred Eyer, treasurer, 2488 Rockhill NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525

IKE'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Jay Huston

Can you believe with all this beautiful Fall weather that we are thinking about Christmas and sure enough before that our annual Christmas Dinner? We will dine at **Timber's Inn/Restaurant**, 6555 Belding Road, NE, Rockford, MI. It is located approximately two and half miles east of Wolverine Blvd. We have a private area that will accommodate up to 60 people, so let us see many more this year.

Be sure to mark your calendar for this special night, **Thursday, December 1, 2011**. Social hour at 6:00 PM (cash bar), Dinner at 7:00 PM.

The Dinner Menu: Choice of one of four entrees: **Top Sirloin Steak** (10 ounce), **Walleye Fillet on a Plank**, **Timber BBQ Ribs** (half slab), or **Smothered Chicken Breast**. The entrees are served with your choice of soup or house salad, 9 grain bread, fresh vegetable of the day and your choice of baked potato, fresh mashed potatoes and gravy, French fries, wild or white rice and beverage. If you choose to order a dessert, it is a la carte.

The price of the sit down dinner is \$23.00 per person. The reservation deadline is **Friday**,

November 25th. Please cut off the reservation form below and mail with check for \$23.00 per dinner ordered.

We will not have a formal program but we'll have plenty of time to visit, enjoy each others' company, and get into the spirit of the holiday season with good conservation. We can entertain ourselves by relating our past year's experiences, a vacation, trip or cruise or a couple good jokes. You may even remember a good story to tell.



YOUTH HUNT

The youth hunt was a successful time for **Rocket Hefferan**, pictured here with his 7-point buck. He is 12, and got it with the .270 rifle he bought with money he earned a couple years ago. He says that basically the deer just walked in front of him when he was hunting in a familiar area.

LODGE RENTALS
November 18,-20:
Boy Scouts
November 24:
Dave Robinson

CHRISTMAS DINNER RESERVATION FORM

NAMES(S) _____

NUMBER OF DINNERS: _____ X \$23.00 = (TOTAL) \$ _____

YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO: DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER, IWLA
MAIL TO: JAY HUSTON, 207 GREENBRIER DRIVE, SE., GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49546

Thank you for joining our celebration.

KITCHEN IMPROVEMENTS DONATION CHALLENGE UPDATE

Fred Eyer

The response to last month's article regarding the donation challenge for kitchen improvements has been good. To date we have received an additional \$200 in response to the article. The total donated now stands at \$655. This amount along with the donation and pledge from an anonymous member puts the amount at \$798 given so far. The graph below indicates that we are almost 20% of the way to paying for the kitchen improvements.

The anonymous member challenged the rest of the membership by pledging \$1 more for every \$5 contributed. The kitchen improvements made to date cost approximately \$4500 with some additional electrical work needed beyond that. The maximum that can be raised through the challenge is \$500 from the anonymous member and \$2500 from our membership. However, we will accept donations after the challenge maximum is reached.

The list of contributors to date is as follows:

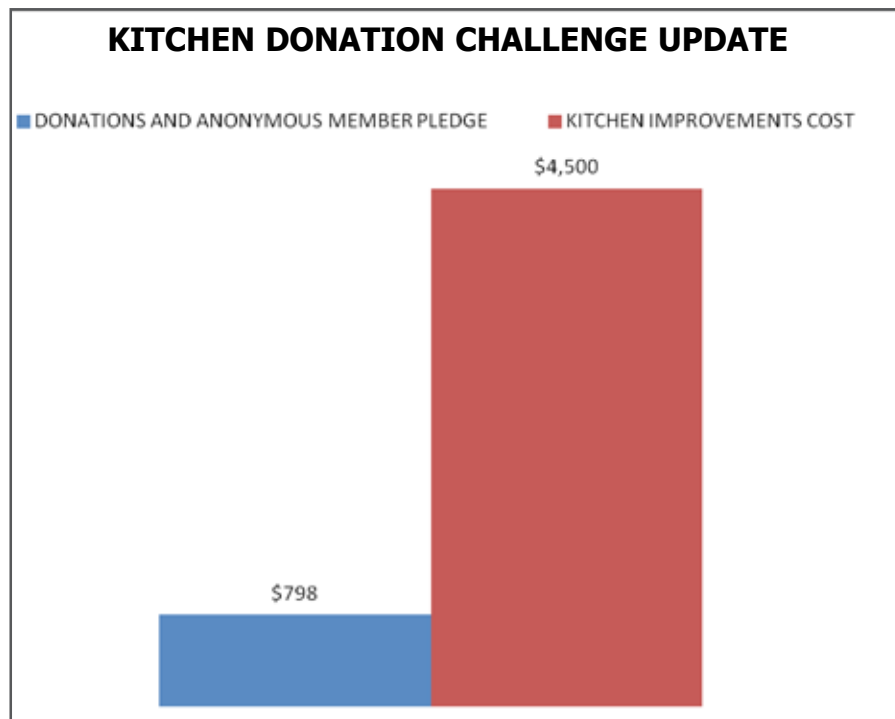
- Fred and Sue Eyer
- Gena and Allen Granholm
- Diane Napierkowski
- Jim Schneider
- Bob and Gail Stegmier
- Bob and Lorraine Radke
- Ron and Ruth Waybrant

So let's keep the contributions coming for the needed improvements at our lodge. Remember that we are a 501-c3 organization and all of the donations are deductible on your Federal Income Tax Return. I will send you a letter via email or regular mail verifying your donation. Please fill out the form on page 3 along with your check payable to **Dwight Lydell Chapter-IWLA** mail it to: Fred Eyer, 2488 Rockhill Dr Ne, Grand Rapids, MI 49525.

IKES ARE KNIGHTS, TOO

Jay Huston

Two long-time member IKEs were recently granted a **Certificate of Appreciation** for their dedicated and loyal service to **Round Table International**. **Sir Dale Gould** for his 35 years of continuous membership and **Sir W. Jay Huston** for his 25 years as a continuous member both in the Loyal Knights of the Round Table, A.D. 512. **The Grand Rapids Table** meets twice a month for lunch with a guest speaker. The prime objective of the organization is to support local charities.



STUDENT EDITORS

Our thanks go out this month to Toni Clark, Ryan Telder and Tori Isbell for producing this newsletter. Good job students!

Deadline for the December issue is Friday, November 25 at 8:00 AM.

2011 GREAT LAKES RESTORATION CONFERENCE

Bob Stegmier

This was held at The Westin Book Cadillac in downtown Detroit not far from Comerica Park where Thursday night the Tigers just brought their wins to 3 so they are still alive as I write this piece. **John Trimberger** and I are at the convention along with **Jill Crafton**, a fellow Ike from Minnesota, and a fellow member of the **Great Lakes Committee**.

Rick Graham IWLA Ohio Front, **Jill Crafton** IWLA Maine. **John Trimberger** IWLA Michigan, **Mark Coscarelli** Great Lakes Fishery Trust. Picture taken by **Francisco Ollervides**, Great Lakes Consultant

In the picture are:
Back row **Robert Stegmier** IWLA Michigan,



MEMBERSHIP INFO

Ron Waybrant

You may notice an increase in membership dues in the renewal requests you will be receiving or may have received already. The Izaak Walton League of America national organization raised the national dues this year (individual \$4/yr, family \$6/yr, student \$2/yr and youth \$.80/yr). However, the state and local dues remained the same. Our chapter is holding its own financially at this point, although it is very close. Much of our funding comes from ticket sales for the Sports Show and Cottage & Lake shows, and the silent auction & raffle at the

Annual Conservation Banquet. If we continue to support these efforts, we should be able to postpone any local dues increases in the near future. The bottom line is, if we put extra effort into supporting these two events, and attending chapter programs, then we can avoid increasing local dues and have the resources to develop our local programs even more.

Thought of the Month
Jay Huston
Hope: "Of all the forces that make for a better world, none is so powerful as hope. With hope, one can think, one can work, one can dream. If you have hope, you have everything"

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

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.

NEWS FLASH FROM 2011 HOW CONFERENCE DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair DLC and IWLA Director

The HOW (Healing Our Waters) Great Lakes Conference had exciting information I want to squeeze into this November newsletter. Deciding how and where to perform hydrologic separation of the Great Lakes from the Mississippi River basin is a critical step in preventing Asian carp from entering the Great Lakes and preventing the transfer of AIS between these two great water basins. Two significant groups began collaboration a couple of years ago (**Great Lakes Commission** and the **Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative**) to determine how the separation can be accomplished. Their goal was to have their comprehensive study completed by January 2012 a full 2 1/2 years ahead of the USCOE.

The really good news is that the studies are on schedule and on budget. One detailed presentation showed where the five permanent separations would be and what the separation structures would be. Qualified professional firms were hired to do the study and engineering, and included close collaboration with all stakeholders involved including the USCOE. This is no small study and is costing just a little less than 2 million dollars.

Probably the most exciting news is that they plan to have this separation accomplished in five years. To me, this is an outstanding goal and will need all of the support of concerned IKEs, citizens, state agencies, congress and US Government units. I will report more on the 2011 HOW Conference in the next IKEs newsletter.

I will report more on the 2011 HOW Conference in the next IKEs newsletter.

OFFICERS

President, Georgia Donovan773.2850
georgia.art@att.net
 Vice President, Barb McGuirl..... 874.7740
jbm McGuirl@sbcglobal.net
 Secretary, Jim Schneider 340.4604
jim-ms@comcast.net
 Treasurer, Fred Eyer 363.0253
fseyer@gmail.com

Board Members

Duane DeVries..... 532.9151
duanedv@earthlink.net
 Barry Gilbertson Gilby40@MSN.com
 Bruce Gilmore 365.8892
 Maurie Houseman..... 560.2895
mhouseman@grar.com
 Jay Huston..... 942.2503
 Bill Kirk..... 874.8230
bkirk@i2k.com
 Bob Schumaker 616.984.2429
schu6062@charter.net
 Bob Stegmier..... 866.4769
rstegmier@ameritech.net
 Marylou Sundt 443.7377
hellomarylou56@yahoo.com
 Tom Watson 874.7254
twwatson@comcast.net

Grounds/Maintenance Chair

C. J. Tasma..... 887.8542
hsi@handicapsigns.com

Membership Secretary

Ron Waybrant 361.1422
rcwaybrant@gmail.com

Lodge Rental

Bob Radke 874.7658
radkerobert@aol.com

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER OF THE IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE OF AMERICA CORE EVENT SCHEDULE 2011

Chairperson

November 10, Thursday Game Dinner @ CC Tom Watson
 December 1, Thursday Christmas Dinner @ Timbers Restaurant Jay Huston



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

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Rockford, MI
Permit No. 208

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

WILD GAME AND FISH DINNER

**Thursday,
November 10**

Social hour at 6PM and Dinner at 7PM.

Your game is needed!

**Attendees are encouraged to bring
their "favorite game dish" to pass.**

**Don't forget some desserts, and we'll be
serving domestic turkey, too.**

**Reservations: please call
Tom Watson at 874.7254 or email:
twatson@comcast.net**

No phone calls after 8pm.

Reservation deadline is Sunday, November 7 at 8pm.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

is coming up!

Thursday,

December 1st

Timbers Inn/Restaurant