



www.michiganikes.org

November 2018

The IKEs Update

Ah, November. The hunters hunt, the foragers forage, and we ready our nests for winter. For me, it's a chance to turn some of summer's photographs into paintings. I require a certain amount of lousy weather; otherwise, I'd rather be outside. I think my mom must have been so good at supplying the games and art materials to brighten a gloomy day that I got hooked on it.

The kids in the **Strong Roots** program will be making their lanterns to lead their parents on a walk around the IKEs. That happens on **Thursday, November 8**, the same evening as our monthly dinner.

So, hunters & foragers, cooks and eaters, come one come all to the **Wild Game Dinner!** It's our most unique dinner of the year, with no two menus ever alike. Could be some rabbit, some pheasant, maybe duck, venison, turkey, wild or tame, a school of fish, a swarm of salad, and a passel of desserts. Don't miss it! Bring a dish, a friend, or just your smiling face. **Thursday, November 8.**

If you're looking for a getaway this fall, **Maurie Houseman** has a deal for you. He has a cottage on the South Branch of the **Pere Marquette River** near Baldwin. Sleeps 6, I think. He might rent it for \$500 a week, and then donate

that toward a shed to store members' equipment at the IKEs. His contact info is inside.

Most people who use the IKEs respect the property, enjoy it, and leave it as they found it. Certainly that was the case for the **Schneider** family wedding; the lodge and tent were decorated beautifully, and it was left shining. But occasionally, some group makes a mess. Around the end of September piles of apple pieces were left around the campfire, equipment was scattered around and not returned to the bin, and part of the loom was broken. There is no maid service, so please leave it looking good for the

next people. Maybe it was someone else. I believe members respect their "big back yard" and are proud of the IKEs. It's looking better all the time!

There are some paths being forged through the NE beyond the pond; go ahead and explore the new territory while the leaves are still in their glory!

See you November 8!

Georgia Donovan

FIREWOOD CUTTING DAY

Fred Eyer

Please put **Saturday, December 8** on your calendar to come to the Lodge to cut, split and stack our firewood supply for the winter. Last year we did this in about 3 hours and then had a lunch at the lodge. We are in need of individuals with chain saws and some-



one with a wood splitter. The action will start about 9:00AM and we should have what we need by noon. This should be a fun time to come and help the IKEs and to meet some new people and to work with old friends. I'm looking forward to seeing you there.

Driveway Speed Bumps or Something Else?

Ron Waybrant

The next time you come down the IKEs' driveway you'll notice what looks and feels like speed bumps at regular intervals. However, while they may function as speed bumps, they are there for a more significant purpose.

The "speed bumps" are actually storm-water diversion structures. We've had significant erosion in the driveway, and several folks have commented about the deepening ruts in the road. An Internet search identified a Best Management Practice (BMP) used by the **U.S. Forest Service** for gravel driveways and gravel roads. For gravel roads on an incline like ours, they recommend "water-bars" or storm water diversion structures to move the water off the roadway. Storm water causes significant erosion only when there is enough quantity and velocity of water to move sand and gravel. By diverting the storm water off the road at regular intervals, the critical quantity and velocity isn't reached.

Other means to divert storm-water would require significant

gravel purchase and driveway reconstruction to mound or slope the driveway. Since that isn't in our budget, the water-bar structures or diversion mounds were used as they could be installed with volunteer labor and hand tools. The diversion structures are spaced (following recommendations in the BMP) to divert the water at intervals that reduce the velocity or volume



is determined. And after the road workers recover from their exertions.

So please understand why the diversion structures were installed. The "speed bumps" will decrease in height as vehicles drive over them and compact the soils. They will have to be cleaned out or rebuilt in part in the spring as winter plowing will also reduce their height.

in the driveway, in hopes that deep eroded ruts will not develop and gravel will not all wash down to the foot of the driveway. The existing ruts will be repaired after the effectiveness of the diversion bars

Lynn, Hometown Watchdog

by Georgia Donovan

Lynn McIntosh is an artist and an activist. She lives in downtown Rockford. I first met Lynn when we were both concerned about the tannery being taken down, but the difference is that she followed those concerns with diligence. Around Rockford, her persistence was sometimes seen as inconvenient, but she believed local pollution was too dangerous to ignore. Her efforts and coordination have stopped many people from drinking contaminated water. I want to share Lynn's story.

Me: When did you first become concerned about the tannery?

LM: It was in 2009 when a house behind ours was being demolished. It was known to contain asbestos. It was a windy day, and clouds of dust could be seen blowing around. The asbestos had not been removed and no precautions were being taken. After speaking with the building inspector, I called the **DEQ**, who ordered it stopped. At that point I realized there were no safeguards in place so I became worried about

the tannery demolition since there would be materials in the air, soil, and stormwater.

Me: What did you do?

LM: I still remember the date. On June 25, 2010, I called the **DEQ** and asked about the tannery demolition, and realized their involvement would be limited. It was explained that the **DEQ** are "not the whipping boys most people think.

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National Website

Bob Stegmier



As I was thinking about what I might write for this November IKE's newsletter, the National www.iwla.org website came to mind and just what I might pick up there. I must admit I don't go there enough or even consistently. While it is very early for a New Year's Resolution, I am making one right now, and that is to immediately after receiving my monthly IKE's newsletter go to www.iwla.org to see what is there I should consider! While I am admitting to something, I will admit I use the site's "Take Action" and "Contact Legislators" sections quite frequently to contact local, state and national elected officials. They need to hear from the voters and as a wise friend of mine told me years ago, "They work for you!" It is good to let them know when you agree or disagree with them and when you think they did it correctly. It is most important to contact them when discussions are going on. You might and can influence the decisions.



The home with solar panels is from the IWLA website. The ground installation is in Grand Rapids near Knapp Corners and can be visited, was designed to supply the owner's yearly need of electricity.

Now at the iwla.org website, "Conservation" is the first option and very apropos for any IKE's investigation. The first item there is **Clean Air & Energy**. C.A. & E are two items getting considerable talk and some significant action. Global Warming and clean energy and what we individually can do. This link will take you directly to this consideration concern and what we might do about them, <https://www.iwla.org/conservation/clean-air-and-energy/local>. There and many other places we hear about our **Carbon Foot Print** We at the moment it is smaller than it used to be but it is still very large.

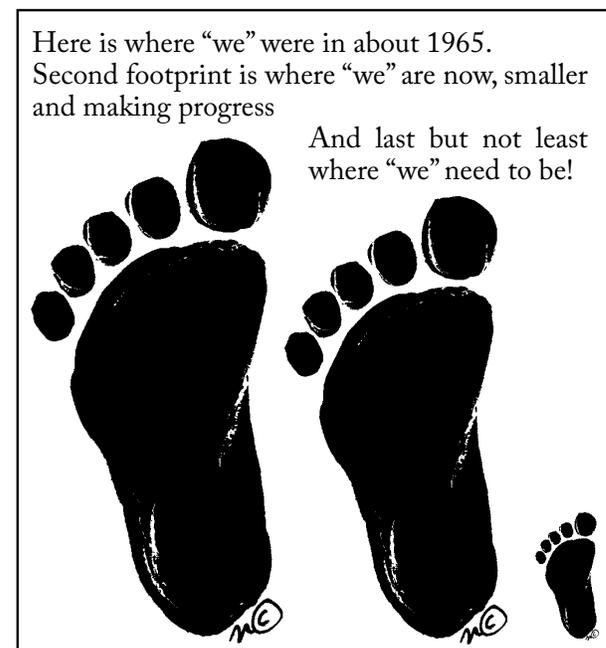
Please don't hold me completely to the relative size of these footprints but you get the picture! Yes, we have come a ways but there is much more to do and it needs to be done with urgency. One might say. "with all hands on deck!"

From this link on the League's website: <https://www.iwla.org/conservation/clean-air-and-energy>: "Abundant, reliable energy is vital to life as we know it today. Yet producing that energy can harm your family's health as well as our air, water, and other natural resources we all rely on.

"The Izaak Walton League is helping move America to a cleaner, more renewable energy system. Whether you install solar panels or energy-efficient appliances

"Solutions, **State**: Most energy action on policy takes place at the state level. The League has developed clean energy programs in Minnesota that serve as models for other states.

"Solutions, **National**: The League succeeded in cutting mercury from power plant emissions. Today we're supporting federal programs that cut carbon and other pollutants."



Lynn, Hometown Watchdog

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It is the City that has the power to insist on tighter controls. They sign the permits.” The DEQ, however, was concerned. They partnered with MDEQ to make conditions regarding **Wolverine’s** request for MEGA funds. WWW declined the funds.

A spin-off from a neighborhood group gathered, called **CCRR** (Concerned Citizens for Responsible Remediation) and we began talking to people in **Whitehall** about their tannery demo. They stressed the need to test the soil so contaminants wouldn’t enter the waterbodies. So we asked Rockford to tighten their demolition ordinances to include soil and water testing. We even hired an environmental attorney, **A.J. Birkbeck**, to help as a bridge-builder. Though progress was made in ensuring better dust control, on Aug. 31, 2010, then City manager **Michael Young** signed the demolition permit, without requiring the testing.

We all took photos, gathered info, called the City and the DEQ when dust was in the air, etc. Our actions contributed to holding back some contamination, but a lot got washed into the river by stormwater.

After the demolition, in 2011, we petitioned the EPA to come study the site. We included interviews and records of our attempts, and the EPA said it was “the best petition they’d ever seen.” They came out in a month, and that helped with collection of scientific data. We weren’t a bunch of crazies. Then, it got handed back to the DEQ again.

Me: I remember a lot of tension and controversy and heated politics.

LM: Yes, and I think that a lot of watershed groups want to “paint pictures with pastels,” but you can’t be afraid of bold colors. When you have truth, and it affects human life, you have to take action.

Me: You taught yourself how to **FOIA** (use the Freedom Of Information Act). I was pretty impressed with that. And interviewed a lot of tannery workers.

LM: Yes, we talked with many former workers, trying to connect the dots. We could have given up, but had this heartfelt concern. And then in 2013, **Earl Tefft** called us, after we had talked with his son. We were interviewing people in the “cancer cluster,” trying to get a health study going. We’d heard there was a dump on House St., and Earl confirmed it. Earl was a truck driver who had a picture-perfect memory of where he had dumped waste. **Plainfield Township** was still issuing building permits in the area.

Meanwhile, others were making discoveries. **Bob Delany**, from the DEQ, recommended in 2012 that all municipal water sources should be tested, and found that Oscoda’s water from the fire hydrants was contaminated. *MLive* environmental reporter **Garrett Ellison** published the story about the **PFAS** from the **Wurtsmith Airforce Base**, and 4 other places around Michigan.

We worked with DEQ Surface Water division to get fish in the **Rogue River** tested for PFAS in 2013. This all took a very long time, but they found PFAS in surprisingly high levels in the impoundment behind the dam, and fish advisories were issued in 2015. All along, the **House Street** area was weighing heavily on our minds. The bogs of bureaucracy run deep. Finally in Jan. 2017 we collected enough proof to urge the DEQ to act quickly and test private wells for groundwater contamination in the House St. area.

When action was delayed, it was time to contact the watchdog reporters. After this the issue snowballed, and the PFAS contamination was finally getting the attention it deserved.

Me: I know this is still very complicated, but at this point are you able to feel some satisfaction from all your work?

LM: Oh yes, because people in **Kent County** are no longer drinking this contaminated water. (I hope.) One young woman, who a year ago didn’t know what was wrong with her, losing her ability to walk, has shown some signs of improvement. Young children who have high levels of PFAS in their blood, and might have compromised immune systems, can be watched more closely to make sure their vaccines are having full effect.

Me: While this has been a difficult process, you seem to have made some friends, too.

LM: I am thankful for all the people I worked with on this, and especially my husband, **Michael**. CCRR was advised by a small group of professionals including A.J. Birkbeck, **Dr. Rick Rediske**, **Janice Tomkins**, and others. We were supported by 25 petitioners who requested help from the EPA. I worked with a ragtag group of citizens who showed up to take photos, collect samples, go to meetings, and give support however they could. Now I’d like to get back to my art, and writing, but you know what an activist is? An activist is an artist on fire.

Me: Thank-you, Lynn, for all that you’ve accomplished!

Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Draft Budget

(2017 - 2018 Data as of 8-13-18)

CATEGORY / REVENUE	% Budget This Year (2018-19)		Item Description	Last Year (2017-18)		
	Proposed	Proposed		Approved	Actual	
Fund Raisers	39%	\$11,500		\$11,850	\$11,518	
Annual Banquet			\$9,500	Same as 17-18 Budget	\$9,600	\$9,475
Sport Show			\$1,000	150 Tickets @ \$7 Each	\$800	\$984
Other Fund Raisers			\$200	Matches 17-18 Income	\$250	\$214
Contributions			\$800	Matches 17-18 Income	\$1,000	\$845
Member Activities & Facilities	18%	\$5,350		\$3,350	\$5,391	
Education/Outreach Events			\$250	Same as 17-18 Budget	\$250	\$228
Facility Rentals			\$3,500	Matches 17-18 Income	\$1,200	\$3,550
Social Events			\$1,600	Matches 17-18 Income	\$1,900	\$1,613
Membership Support & Services	21%	\$6,200		\$4,500	\$6,252	
Membership Dues			\$6,200	Matches 17-18 Income	\$4,500	\$6,252
Other Income	0%	\$100		\$1,800	\$2,002	
Interest			\$0	No Interest On Checking	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous			\$100	Typical Income	\$100	\$202
Grants	0%		\$0	Possible Grant	\$0	\$0
Trust Income	6%	\$1,700	\$1,700	Same as 17-18 Budget	\$1,700	\$1,800
From Savings	16%	\$4,850		\$5,600	\$0	
Total	100%	\$29,700		\$27,100	\$25,967	

CATEGORY / EXPENSES	% Budget	Budget	Budget			
Member Activities & Facilities	34%	\$10,000		\$8,100	\$11,231	
Social Events			\$1,100	Matches 17-18 Expenses	\$1,400	\$1,065
Property Maintenance/Improvement			\$4,000	Less Up-Keep Needed	\$3,000	\$5,250
Property and Liability Insurance			\$2,000	Matches 17-18 Expenses	\$2,000	\$2,022
Utilities			\$1,800	\$1200 Propane & \$600 Electricity	\$1,500	\$1,794
Rental Deposit Returns			\$1,100	Matches 17-18 Expenses	\$200	\$1,100
Membership Support & Services	30%	\$8,800		\$6,300	\$8,800	
National Support (Dues)			\$5,900	Matches 17-18 Expenses	\$4,100	\$5,925
Publications and Mailings			\$2,700	Matches 17-18 Expenses	\$2,000	\$2,708
Solicitations, Renewals and Key Mailing			\$200	Matches 17-18 Expenses	\$200	\$166
Mission Related Programs	21%	\$6,150		\$6,650	\$2,551	
Conservation Advocacy			\$500	Same As 17-18 Budget	\$500	\$389
Conservation Contributions/Memberships			\$650	Same As 17-18 Budget	\$650	\$100
Education/Outreach			\$2,000	Same As 17-18 Budget	\$2,000	\$1,062
National Convention			\$1,500	Same As 17-18 Budget	\$1,500	\$0
Scholarships & Grants			\$1,500	\$500 Less Than 17-18 Budget	\$2,000	\$1,000
Fund Raisers	14%	\$4,100		\$5,400	\$4,038	
Annual Banquet			\$3,800	Approx. 17-18 Expenses	\$4,600	\$3,786
Sport Show			\$200	Approx. 17-18 Expenses	\$300	\$197.05
Other Fund Raisers			\$100	Approx. 17-18 Expenses	\$500	\$55.20
Administration	2%	\$650		\$650	\$359	
Miscellaneous			\$300	Approx. 17-18 Expenses	\$300	\$359.14
Stationery & Postage			\$350	Same As 17-18 Budget	\$350	\$0.00
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		\$0	\$0	
Total	100%	\$29,700		\$27,100	\$26,979	

Note: if during the year additional funds are available, or a project is necessary, these can be reviewed and adjusted.

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Lodge Calendar 2018

November 8 Fish & Game Dinner

November 13 Board Meeting 7:00 PM

November 22 Susan Allaben Rental

December 1 Michelle Miller Rental

December 6 Christmas Dinner

December 8 Firewood Cutting 9:00 AM

December 9 Rick Wylie Rental

December 11 Board Meeting 7:00 PM

To see this and past editions
of the newsletter and national IKEs information
please visit our websites:
www.michiganikes.org, www.iwla.org

FIND MICHIGAN IKES ON FACEBOOK SO WE
CAN SEND UPDATES OUT IF THERE IS SHORT
NOTICE ON EVENTS.

Send us your fishing,
camping or other outdoor
stories and we'll publish them
in the newsletter. Send plain
text and/or photos in jpg for-
mat to Tom at:
twwatson@comcast.net

**DEADLINE FOR
DECEMBER NEWSLETTER
IS MONDAY, NOVEMBER
12TH AT 8:00 PM.**

IKES MEMBER BENEFITS

-  Monthly Award-Winning Newsletter
-  Gate Key to 39 Acres
-  Nature Trails
-  Catch/Release Fishing
-  Free Camping
-  Lodge Rental (\$75.00 per Day)

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER of the IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA DRAFT CORE EVENT SCHEDULE FOR 2018

NOTE: This is a draft schedule. Especially for late year events you can check for updates in our newsletters and on our website along with notice of special events that come up on short notice and are not listed on this Event Schedule. Also additional information about these listed events can be found in the newsletter and on the website.

Schedule	Event & Location
January 27, Saturday	Winterfest Family Outing, 10AM-3PM @ CC
March 3, Saturday	Conservation-Awards-Fund Raiser Banquet
March 15 thru 18	Ultimate Sport Show-Grand Rapids
April 14, Saturday	Fly Fishing Workshop, 10AM-2PM @ CC
April 19, Thursday	Fish & Game Dinner & Program @ CC
May 5, 12, 19, 26 - Saturdays	Kids Fishing, 10AM-1PM @ CC
May 5, Saturday	Fix up/Clean up Day, 9-?, work, eat, play, campfire @ CC
May 17, Thursday	Steak Dinner, Annual Elections @ CC
June 13, 20 and 27, Wednesdays	Kids' Fishing at Versluis Lake, 6:30pm - 8pm
June 23, Saturday	Summerfest Community Family Day, 10AM-3PM @ CC
July 18-20	2018 IKE's National Convention, FredericksburgVA
July 21, Saturday	Native Plants for Everyone, Tear Drop Island (@ CC)
August 16, Thursday	Ribs Outdoor Cooking Competition @ CC
September 15, Saturday	Fix up/Clean up/play, 6PM @ CC
September 19, Wednesday	Oktoberfest @ CC
October 17, Wednesday	Chili Cook-off/Potluck @ CC
November 8, Thursday	Game Dinner @ CC
December 6, Thursday	Christmas Potluck @ CC

Website: www.michiganikes.org

IKEs property located at **5641 Myers Lake Avenue, Belmont MI**

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 _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

___ **Individual - \$62**, ___ **Family - \$87**, ___ **Student (18-21) - \$31**, ___ **Youth (under 18) - \$16**

Mail to Izaak Walton League Membership, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306. Checks payable to IWLA-DLC. Email Tom Watson at twatson@comcast.net for more information. **Note:** Term of membership is the calendar year. A gate key is available to you by request upon confirmation of membership fee payment. You can pick up your gate key at the next dinner at the lodge or request one from Tom Watson at twatson@comcast.net Please enjoy the 39 acres!

An active organization needs active helpers! Please check the IKE's opportunities here and indicate "all" that you can help. Thanks from your DLC Board! 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

Nonprofit
Organization
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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

ELECTRONIC SERVICE REQUESTED

Please join us at the
FISH AND GAME DINNER
Thursday, November 8th

Please bring your favorite dish to pass. Enjoy turkey,
salmon and other game dishes. Invite friends and family!

Social Hour: 6pm
Dinner: 7pm

12 and over: \$10
Under 6: FREE as are
FIRST TIME GUESTS!



NEW MEMBERS PLEASE JOIN US!

DECEMBER 6, THURSDAY

**CHRISTMAS
POTLUCK**



FREE TO MEMBERS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

**FIREWOOD
GATHERING**

FOR WINTER WOOD SUPPLY

