



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



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

www.michiganikes.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

December 2010

The **Kids' Nature Club** has wrapped up another season, but when they were out exploring, they came running back to report: "The bridge is done! The bridge is done!" (repeat 10 times at a high pitch.) Thanks to **Mackie May**, plus his family and friends, we now have a nice bridge across our northerly stretch of **Armstrong Creek**. [See Page 4 for photos] We can walk along the far side of the creek now, and not have to test our balance on a log to get back.

This was Mackie's **Eagle Scout** project, and I'm sure he learned a lot in the process. He had to plan a design that would span one high bank and one low, with enough leeway to be sturdy and not cause erosion, get approval from the **DNRE**, create an accurate materials list, and get a crew together for construction. Mission accomplished!

This project inspired a donation from **Phil Varner**, whose own son is an Eagle Scout and is now on his 3rd tour of duty overseas. A former board member who moved to Wyoming, Phil stays connected as a member through this newsletter, and extended his involvement across the miles with a \$100 donation toward the bridge. Thank you, Phil!

The grandson of our helpful members **Dave** and **Anna May Long** has proposed another Eagle Scout project. **Andrew March** wants to build some more picnic tables for use outside our lodge. If you can make an end-of-year donation to this or any project of your choice, it would be greatly appreciated (form on pg.7).

Soon we will be starting to pull things together for **Winterfest**, scheduled for **January 29**. We'll need food, skates, skis, sleds, shuttle-drivers, fishermen, etc. Which piece of the action would you like?

Now, I must apologize about the late newsletter last time. It went out like usual, but as a result of some sort of new efficiency policy at the Post Office, it was routed through Pennsylvania. Hey, at least it wasn't India. We are hoping to figure a way to deal with this in the near future. In spite of the delay, we still had a pretty good turnout for the **Game Dinner**. (By the way, if you did not get an e-mail update from me, please send me your address.)

The food at the Wild Game Dinner was delicious! **Darva Boot** and **Jack Hornbach** brought fish from the Keys, and **Tom Nederveld** brought halibut from Alaska and moose from Newfoundland. Plus we had local game, such as **Jack Stegmeier's** venison, and great treats from salad to desserts. Thank you to all who could make it, or brought something to the table, and to **Mackie**, who tackled the dishes. It was nice to see **Linda Arnold Schuhart** again as well, helping **Tam Bagby** and **Tom Watson** in the kitchen. Thanks to all!

The proposed budget for fiscal year 2010-2011 was passed unanimously by the membership.

This brings us toward the end of another year, with the hope that I will see you at our **Christmas Dinner** at Timbers

Inside This Issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| President's Message | 1 |
| Game Dinner | 2 |
| Conservation Banquet | 3 |
| Deer Baiting | 3 |
| IKEs Christmas Dinner | 3 |
| Student Editors | 3 |
| Membership/Application | 3 |
| Mackie's Bridge | 4 |
| Consuming Paper | 5 |
| Great Lakes Restoration | 5 |
| Conservation Policies | 6 |
| Officers | 6 |
| Wind Regulation | 7 |
| Thought for the Month | 7 |
| Donation Form | 7 |
| Winterfest | 8 |
| Banquet and Auction | 8 |

on **December 2**, and the best wishes for you and your families at Christmas. May your winter be filled with peace and enjoyment of nature.

Georgia

P.S. Anyone missing a ring of keys? Our neighbor, Dan Robinson reported finding some.

Deadline for the January issue is Monday, December 13 at 8:00 AM

GAME DINNER

Tom Watson

Fifty IKEs feasted on a variety of fish and game at the semi-annual dinner on November 10. Thanking everyone who contributed will be hard, as the action was fast and furious. So, if I leave someone out, please don't be offended. Thanks to everyone who helped make this a tasty and successful event.

Linda Arnold Schuhardt helped in the kitchen and saved the day. Just as I was preparing to fry the fish, the deep fryer died. So, Linda pitched in and helped me get all the fish fried on the stove and we managed to serve on time. Other kitchen assistants were **Tam Bagby**, **Darva Boot**, **Jack Hornbach** and **Maurie Houseman**.

Tom Nederveld supplied Alaskan halibut and moose from Newfoundland. Darva and Jack brought fish from the Florida Keys and **Bob Stegmier** roasted a turkey and brought a tasty steelhead. Many others brought assorted

venison and side dishes along with deserts.

Ron Heidrich and **Leo Devarenne** tended the bar and Steg manned the door.

Clean up was headed by **Mackie May** and his partner **Scott Bradley**. Assisting them were myself, Tam, **Kim** and **Steve Norman**, **Marylou Sundt**, and **Ruth Waybrant**. Others who helped clean up included **Georgia Donovan**, **Fred Eyer**, and **Barb McGuirl**. Again, if you joined in and memory fails me to mention you, thanks for your hard work.



2011 ANNUAL CONSERVATION BANQUET

Bob Stegmier

Think and act ahead. The **2011 Annual Conservation Banquet** is on **Friday, March 4**. Now it may seem early but it certainly isn't too soon to begin gathering some of those special Silent Auction items. Every Ike has this opportunity and very likely some good ideas and prospects. Needed are those special events you have experienced such as a overnight stay at **The Shack** www.theshackbandb.com or Chamberlins Ole Forest Inn www.chamberlinsinn.com. Arcadia House B&B and skiing packages. So let's get to thinking and doing and above all mark your 2011 calander. For answers to your questions contact **Maurie Houseman** at 560.2895, **Bob Stegmier** at 866.4769, **Fred Eyer** at 363.0253 or **Ron Waybrant** at 361.1422.

STUDENT EDITORS
Our thanks go out this month to **Nicholas Placencia and Josh Tasman** for producing this newsletter. Good job students!

GREAT DEER DE-BAIT IS NOT OVER YET

Bob Stegmier

(Pros & Cons information from **Howard Myerson's** article on Sunday 11-14-2010 in *The Grand Rapids Press*)

Opponents say it is unethical and cheapens the hunt.

This summary is very timely with the Michigan firearm deer hunting now in full swing. The arguments concerning baiting are:

Pros:

- Baiting attracts deer, or stops them en route.
- It concentrates deer in a small area.
- It levels the playing field with those who bait.
- It creates additional markets for produce.
- It makes it easier for youth to see and get deer.

Cons:

- It raises the odds for transmitting disease via saliva as multiple animals bite into the same food.
- It pulls deer away from other areas, altering normal feeding patterns.
- It deprives youth of learning how to hunt without bait.



IKE'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

Jay Huston

By the time you are reading this newsletter our annual Christmas dinner will have already been enjoyed, digested, and a done deal. Keep tuned in as the details of this event will be in the January newsletter.

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 - \$50, ____ Family - \$68, ____ Student (18-21) - \$24, ____ 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.

MACKIE MAY'S EAGLE SCOUT BRIDGE



HOW MUCH STUFF DO WE USE EACH YEAR?

Duane De Vries

This is the first of a series of articles about what we consume each year. Future articles will focus on metal, including aluminum and steel, glass, plastic, Styrofoam, tires and the like. I hope you will find it interesting. I have included the name of the source where possible.

Facts About Paper:

*Each of us uses approximately one 100-foot-tall Douglas fir tree in paper and wood products per year. (EPA, 2008)

*More than 56 percent of the paper consumed in the U.S. during 2007 was recovered for recycling, an all-time high. This impressive figure equals nearly 360 pounds of paper for each man, woman, and child in America. (Paper Industry Association Council, 2007)

*More than 400 paper mills in the United States use at least some recovered materials in their manufacturing processes, and more than 200 of those mills use recovered fiber exclusively. (EPA, 2008)

Savings in Energy, Water, etc.:

*De-inked paper fiber is the most efficient source of fiber for the manufacturing of new paper products. One ton of de-inked pulp saves over 7000 gallons of water, 390 gallons of oil, and reduces air emissions by 60 lbs compared to traditional virgin fiber processes. (Abitibi Consolidated, 2005)

*Recycling 1 ton of paper saves 17 mature trees, 7,000 gallons of water, 3 cubic yards of landfill space, 2 barrels of oil, and 4,100 kilowatt-hours of electricity, enough energy to power the average American home for five months. (EPA, 2008)

*Recycling paper instead of making it from new material generates 74 percent less air pollution and uses 50 percent less water. (EPA, 2008)

*Producing recycled paper requires about 60 percent of the energy used to make paper from virgin wood pulp. (EPA, 2008)

Uses of Recycled Paper:

*Just over 48% of office paper is recovered for recycling. This becomes raw material for paperboard, tissue, and printing and writing papers. (Keep America Beautiful, 2006)

*Over 73% of all newspapers are recovered for recycling. Almost a third goes back into making more newsprint. The remainder is used to make paperboard, tissue, and insulation, or exported. (Keep America Beautiful, 2006)

*Approximately 1.5 million tons of construction products are made each year from paper, including insulation, gypsum wallboard, roofing paper, flooring, padding and sound-absorbing materials. (American Forest and Paper Association, 2002)

*Recycled paper can also be made into paper towels, notebook paper, envelopes, copy paper and other paper products, as well as boxes, hydro-mulch, molded packaging, compost, and even kitty litter. (EPA, 2008)

Much of the information above was partially submitted by **Dave Zieverink**, a member of the IKEs National Energy Committee, used with permission.

HOW: GREAT LAKES RESTORATION CONFERENCE

Bob Stegmier, Conservation Chair and IWLA Great Lakes Committee member

Last month I reported on the 2010 HOW Great Lakes Restoration Conference that **John Trimberger, Jill Crafton** and I attended. Here is one correction and a couple of additions and clarifications. The correction is that the DOE will not be 1 1/2 years later than the Great Lakes Commission and the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative's joint study, but 3-4 years later based on their projection completion sometime in 2015. Also The Kreaage Foundation is **The Kresge Foundation**.



For more information and details please go to www.glc.org/ans/chicagowaterway.html for **Envisioning a Chicago Waterway for the 21st Century**, then click on **News Release July 22, 2010**. There was a summary of the DOE's progress, or lack of progress, on page A10 of November 2, 2010 Grand Rapids Press titled, [No Asian Carp Answers Until 2015](#).

On another very important Greats Lakes concern, Aquatic Invasive Species, I am sorry to say there is very little optimism to report regarding ballast water treatment and the **US Coast Guard**. To support their position they sent a retired officer armed with a power point presentation that mostly said how difficult and unattainable such a project is.

IWLA CONSERVATION POLICIES

Bob Stegmier

Here are some appropriate segments from the **IWLA Conservation Policies**. These policies are updated and added to every July at our National Convention.

Chapter V; Fish & Wildlife,

Although **Izaak Walton League** members are some of America's most active outdoor recreationists, the League's policies recognize that conflicts involving wildlife and fisheries should place the highest priority on protecting habitat and sustaining the resource and give the lowest priority to accommodating the needs of the user.

Chapter V; A Principles item 2,

The League views habitat management and improvement as the basic tool of fish and wildlife management. It does not consider artificial stocking to be a primary management technique, except in special cases. Wetlands which provide key habitat for waterfowl and many other species of wildlife, should receive special protection.

Chapter V; A, Principles item 5.

The League believes that conflicts about wildlife, fisheries, or other wild, living resources should be resolved using the following hierarchy: placing the highest priority on protecting the resource base (the habitat); giving second priority to sustaining the wildlife or fish resource itself; and giving lowest priority to accommodating the needs of the user. Sustainable human use depends on healthy wildlife populations, which in turn depend on productive habitats. The mission of wildlife conservation is to perpetuate natural habitats that will support abundant wildlife populations, not to preside over the allocation of a vanishing resource.

C) Feeding Wildlife

1) The League urges the appropriate natural resources agencies to regulate artificial feeding by the pub-

lic of game animals in developed areas, excluding backyard bird feeding, and provide resources for enforcement.

Chapter IX, Outdoor Ethics & Recreation; C) Fair Chase

1) The League urges states to:

a) Maximize conservation opportunities, fair chase, and ethics when creating policy on the use of electronic technology in hunting and in examining how the use of such technology affects the resources and the image of hunters.

b) Ban big game shooting preserves that do not allow for fair-chase hunting. Shooting pen-reared, human-conditioned big game animals within the confines of fenced enclosures that prohibit their normal free-ranging movement is inconsistent with ethical hunting.

c) Oppose any killing of animals when the shooter is not in the immediate area of and does not have actual visual contact with the game being pursued. The League would request and support state and/or federal law banning any killing of animals through the use of any type of equipment from a remote location (e.g., computers and the Internet).

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d) Pass laws requiring a hunter to dismount or exit any off-highway vehicle (OHV) or vehicle prior to shooting at any game animal. These laws should not prevent or restrict the use of an OHV or vehicle operated by or for any person with a documented physical or medical handicap to pursue the sport of hunting and should not conflict with existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws.

Readers can find much more regarding Conservation Policies by going to the Leagues official website www.iwla.org and searching in **News & Publications**. Some students might find good subjects here for research and reports.

WIND REGULATIONS MICHIGAN HB 6564

Bob Stegmier

This is important proposed legislation regarding Great Lakes windmill placing and installation in Michigan great Lakes waters. The consensus is that sooner or later they will be placed in these waters. As of now the law is any lakefront property owner can petition for placing such wind turbines in the lake and currently there is no natural resource-protecting regulation. So it is important that Michigan has laws to protect these waters.

I suggest you ask your representative to take a good look at this bill and vote for it if looks like a good piece of legislation. You too can read the 60-page bill by doing a google search; google Michigan Legislature then click on bills and enter 6564 and the click on bill introduced. The push is to have this passed before the end of the year.

Key elements of the proposed legislation to regulate offshore wind farms in Michigan:

- The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment would hold most of the power in regulating wind farms on the state's Great Lakes.
- Ninety days after passage, the MDNRE must identify those areas that are not suitable for wind development due to environmental, recreational, commercial or military factors.
- State Great Lakes bottomlands available for wind development would be leased through public auction.
- Bottomlands nominated for auction would be done so by the MDNRE, a private developer or a county government within 180 days of passage.
- For those bottomlands between three and six miles of shore, only a county could nominate those areas after public hearings and the vote of the county board. Bottomlands within three

miles of shore are not eligible for offshore wind auction.

- A lease winner must receive a MDNRE "site assessment" permit to study whether to build and operate an offshore wind farm.
- A separate construction and operation permit would be needed to go forward with a project. All permits would need public hearings with the final decision the MDNRE staff.
- All leases would be subject to a 3 percent royalty payment to the state based on gross revenues from the electricity produced. The royalty payments would be put in a state trust fund for Great Lakes management, a new energy efficiency and renewable energy revolving loan fund and for Michigan Public Service Commission efforts on offshore wind issues.
- "Decommissioning" wind turbines at the end of their operations would need a MDNRE permit.
- The Michigan Great Lakes Wind Council would continue as a new Offshore Wind Energy Advisory Council within MDNRE.

Please call me if you have any questions, 866-4769 Bob Stegmier, DLC Energy Committee member.

Thought for the Month Jay Huston

A wise old owl lived in an oak. The more he saw, the less he spoke. The less he spoke, the more he heard. Why can't we be more like this wise old bird?

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

Native plants for Teardrop Island

Boy Scout Bridge

General Budget: wherever needed most

Parking Lighting

Here is my tax deductible contribution _____

Name _____

Project: _____

Mail to:

Fred Eyer, treasurer, 2488 Rockhill NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525



**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
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

WINTERFEST

Saturday, January 29

FREE

FOOD AND FUN!

WINTERFEST!

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|---------------|
| ice fishing | skating | sledding |
| skiing | snow-shoeing | snow games |
| nature walks | shelters | candle-making |
| snow sculptures | archery | fly-tying |

We'll have food, too:

| | |
|-----------|-------------|
| chili | hot dogs |
| hot cocoa | cider, etc. |

CONSERVATION
BANQUET
AND
SILENT
AUCTION

March 4
Friday

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!