



www.michiganikes.org

November 2017

The IKEs Update

As I write this I'm on a trip to Montana, enjoying the cottonwood colors between rivers and mountains. The train ride out was an amazing and friendly way to see the country. Hopefully I'll be seeing you soon at two great upcoming events:

Monday, **November 6**, Blandford brings its **Birds of Prey** to the IKEs at 6:30 pm! I love getting more than a swooshing glimpse of these hawks and owls.

Thursday, **November 9**, our specialty, **The Wild Game Dinner!** Bring what you have, whether it's salad or rabbit, antelope, venison, bison, duck, goose, salmon, squirrel, or those fantastic Florida fish. Or, bring your appetite and a sense of adventure. First-time diners are free.

The kids meeting here in the **Strong Roots** group are being so creative with their map-making projects, using found materials on canvas to record their discoveries around the IKEs'. Some of them should be done

and on display before the dinner, so please come look!

As usual there are a lot of environmental issues, but one in particular is striking close to home. The convenience of dumping waste 50 years ago by **Wolverine** could have seemed innocent at the time, but families in our community are now facing contaminated water and its effects. As we sort through

what areas are tainted with toxins, the DEQ is requesting those with knowledge of areas dumped with old hides call **800.662.9278**, so a plan can be started. Whether it's this issue or another, let's please speak up to protect the woods, water, and wildlife we love!

Georgia Donovan

Chili Contest: A Three Way Tie!
Tom Watson, Tom Salmon and Kathy Crothers
all won the **Chili Contest** title at last month's dinner.



Chili Cook-Off



IKEs Logo Bob Stegmier

Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods Waters and Wildlife, the league's by-line for years. "Years" is correct, but just how many years you might ask and I did ask when I realized this "old" IKE's cap of mine was missing the "air." Notice something different about the Logo on this cap? Something is missing!



If you can't read it, it is "Defenders of Soil, Woods, Waters, and Wildlife."

"Air" is missing! I have had this cap for about 15 years now after picking up a few things from the estate of a "long time" chapter member **Jack London** and just recently noticed that "Air" is not in our motto. Not Jack London the author but a dedicated DLC Ike and Michigan fisherman .

As it turns out this logo is not a mistake because it truly wasn't in the League's motto at one point. This got me reading Born With Fists Doubled: Defend-

ing Outdoor America by **William Voigt Jr.** It is a detailed summary of League actions and important members from 1922 to 1992. As I read, I asked around to many members in the know and as old members that I know and found no one who knew anything about this mystery of mine. There is one of these books in our chapter library at the Lodge, it is Kelly green with gold trim and it is worth reading. It will get your "IKEs" juices flowing.

The answer is found in chapter 11 on pages 117 & 118 beginning in the second paragraph on 117, time 1950.

"A number of issues that had been prominent in recent years have from time to time aired in Outdoor America or at League convention, only to be forgotten until something came along to jog a memory. Air pollution was one of these. Robert C. O'Hair of the Glen Ellyn, president of the Illinois Division, one of the League's most colorful personalities called attention to the air pollution of the greater Chicago area. When flying over the area one could see a brownish cloud hanging over the city from sixty to a hundred miles away. The first convention action in response to O'Hair's appeals was to appoint a study committee to judge whether air pollution was a proper concern of the Izaak Walton league. The committee thought it was and a strongly worded resolution was adopted at the 1951 convention."

Not the end of story, coal was king and auto emissions were of no concern back then.

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

Look What Is On The League's Page At: www.iwla.org.

Bob Stegmier

It is your "opportunity" to sign up! To be honest I don't know if it is new,

very new or been there a long time. I guess it is one of those things that all of a sudden "rings a bell"! It rang my bell the other day so I joined as an *Outdoor Defender*. Possibly I joined before and don't remember but I am in it now.

I suggest you do too and for you to encourage others to also join.

Hello
my name is

Outdoor Defender!

Join other defenders. Get emails to learn about the League's efforts to conserve our outdoor resources and how you can help. (It's free!)

Over 25,000 of your peers already do!

LODGE CALENDAR NOVEMBER

November 6	Birds of Prey
November 9	Wild Game Dinner
November 14	Board Meeting 7:00PM
November 17-19	Hunter Waterstrat Boy Scout troop 264

DECEMBER

December 7	Holiday Celebration
December 10	Carla Wylie Rental
December 12	Board Meeting

Attention IWLA Life Members: Are You Tired Of Paying Chapter Dues Every Year?

Ron Waybrant

The Dwight Lydell Chapter has an answer for you. In 2013 the **DLC Board** established a chapter life membership to complement the national s life membership. While a life membership in the IWLA is a worthy investment, it applies only for national dues and does not apply to state or chapter dues. Thus, IWLA life members in our chapter still pay state and chapter dues annually. If one becomes a life member at our chapter, they would not

pay any annual national, state or chapter dues.

The chapter life membership is available for a \$300 payment and coordinated by the Chapter's membership chairperson. The chapter life membership was established in the fall of 2013 and currently 5 members have taken advantage of the opportunity. This option is only available to members who have a national IWLA life, family life, life

benefactor or family benefactor membership.

Life membership fees provide a continuing asset to further the goals of the IKEs. Life membership dues for both the chapter and IWLA are tax deductible. With this program, DLC is providing a benefit for the life members in our chapter. Currently we have 14 life members in our chapter, and would welcome more.

To see this and past editions of the newsletter and national IKEs information please visit our websites:
www.michiganikes.org,
www.iwla.org
FIND MICHIGANIKES ON FACEBOOK SO WE CAN SEND UPDATES OUT IF THERE IS SHORT NOTICE ON EVENTS, OR SHARE PICTURES!

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

Outdoor America 2017 Issue 3

Bob Stegmier

You should have received it by now and likely have read every item in it already. BUT just in case you haven't, I want to point out *Your Endowment in Action* on page 11. Take a look at the 19 different items "your" endowment is funding in 2017, totaling \$95,203.

a separate non-profit fund! I suggest taking a look at each of the items funded and then think about where and how our chapter could use a grant. Have an idea? Present it to the board! The small solar installation for education purposes was funded by an Endowment grant and now feeds excess electricity generated back into the power grid.

National Conservation Scholarships

This important and significant funding begins every year at the Annual Convention. The Endowment is member-funded via donations and remembrances of members. It is not part of the IWLA organization, but



The endowment is worth a little more than \$2 Million dollars today and only the annual earnings from it are spent. The fund is totally run by volunteer League members, most of who make this a lifetime volunteer effort to the League. Interested? Talk to **Bill Weber** who was a long-time volunteer investment advisor to the endowment. Bill always gave the annual financial report in a dry but humorous delivery that kept everyone's attention. You had to pay attention! Thanks a lot Bill for helping build it to what it is today.

Conquering the Biosphere

John Stegmeier

E. O. Wilson said, "We have conquered the biosphere and laid waste to it like no other species in the history of life. We are unique in what we have wrought." You might not be familiar with Mr. Wilson, but if anyone is qualified to make such a grand statement, he is. [E. O. Wilson is a noted American biologist, researcher, theorist, naturalist and author. -ed.]

We are also unique in that we in that we have the capacity to understand what conquering the biosphere means, how it affects our lives for good or ill, how it affects other species, and to make moral judgements about whether we ought to continue in certain directions. We are unique in having the ability to choose how we gain our living and oversee the world we have conquered. Whether we have the will to make wise judgements for long term sustainability over short-term individual gains is for the future to determine. One thing is clear; we have joined as IKEs to promote this agenda.

The IKEs are "Defenders of Soil, Air, Woods, Waters, and Wildlife." Soil, air, and water are the non-living portions of the biosphere; they are essentially minerals which provide the chemical nutrients to support life and the media in which life can occur. Woods and wildlife are the plant and animals that share our world and help to keep the nutrients cycling throughout the biosphere. The atoms that we are made of will be taken up by other organisms or released back into the atmosphere or turned into rock. As individuals we experience a one way ride through life but what we are made of is for our practical purposes, eternal.

We have so many options of ways to help defend our biosphere, from personal issues and local levels, to state level, regional levels, and on to global levels. We can take action on how we handle household energy, recycling, and lawn care. We can bring our concerns about chemical contamination of water supplies such as the **Flint** water crisis and the **Wolverine World Wide** contamination of local aquifers to our state and local governments. We can stand against risking the **Bristol Bay** salmon runs for the sake of a gold mine. We can let our government hear our voices saying that the world's climate is being altered by the release of greenhouse gasses through human activities and that we have the will to do something about it. Having conquered the biosphere we need not continue to lay waste to it.

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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)

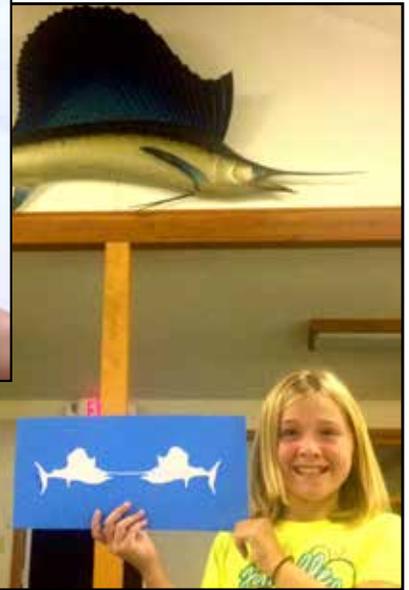
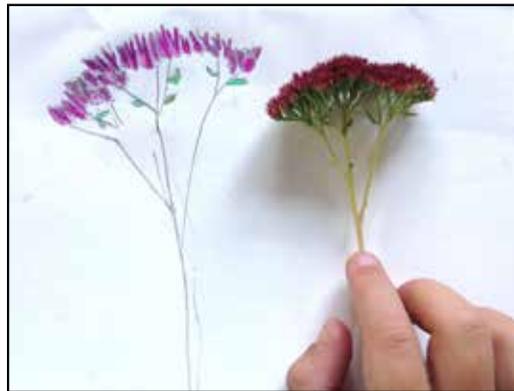
Strong Roots

Georgia Donovan

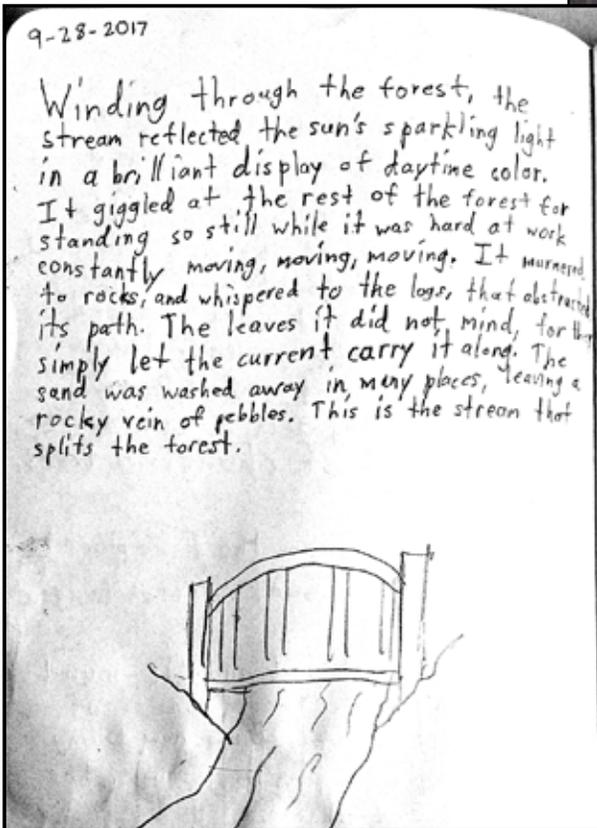
Strong Roots nature class meet at the IKEs. Here they are working on their journals.

Here are a couple of botanical drawings by kids in the Strong Roots group.

Paige Roe.



Here's a journal entry by **Josiah Miller**, describing our creek. Josiah is 12, and a helper with Strong Roots. His family just joined the IKEs!



2018 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. Membership term is the calendar year, January through December.

We also need for you to keep your addresses up to date for our newsletter. 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.

DWIGHT LYDELL CHAPTER of the IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE of AMERICA Core Event Schedule 2017

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.

<u>Schedule</u>	<u>Event & Location</u>
January 28, Saturday 10am-3pm.....	<i>Winterfest Family Outing @ IKEs</i>
March 3, Friday	<i>Conservation-Awards-Fund Raiser Banquet</i>
March 16 through 19	<i>Ultimate Sport Show-Grand Rapids</i>
April 20, Thursday	<i>Fish & Game Dinner & Program</i>
May 6, 13, 20, 27 - Saturdays	<i>Kids Fishing & Native Plants @ IKEs, 9AM-Noon</i>
May 11, Thursday	<i>Steak Dinner, Annual Meeting & Short Program</i>
June 10, Saturday	<i>Fix up/Clean up Day 9AM-?, work, eat, play, campfire</i>
June 24, Saturday, 10am-3pm	<i>Summerfest Community Family Day @ IKEs</i>
June 26-28	<i>2016 IKE's National Convention, Sandusky IN</i>
July 15, Saturday	<i>Native Plants for Everyone, Tear Drop Island @ IKEs</i>
August 17, Thursday	<i>Ribs & Chicken Dinner & Short Program @ IKEs</i>
September 13, Wednesday.....	<i>Oktoberfest @ IKEs</i>
September 16, Saturday.....	<i>Fix Up/Clean Up Day 10AM @ IKEs</i>
October 4, Wednesday	<i>Chili Cook-off/Potluck @ IKEs</i>
November 9, Thursday.....	<i>Game Dinner @ IKEs</i>
December 7, Thursday	<i>Holiday Celebration</i>

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 _____
 DATE _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS _____ SPONSOR _____

___ **Individual - \$62** ___ **Family - \$87** ___ **Student (18-21) - \$37** ___ **Youth (under 18) - \$22**

Membership term is the calendar year, January through December.

Mail to Izaak Walton League Membership, PO Box 541, Belmont MI 49306. Checks payable to "Izaak Walton League"
 Email Tom Watson at twatson@comcast.net for more information. A gate key is available to you upon receipt of membership fee. You can pick up a 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

BIRDS OF PREY PROGRAM!!

Monday, November 6
at 6:30 pm

- ▶ Come see live hawks and owls, and hear their stories from **Blandford Nature Center**.
- ▶ Bring the kids and friends for this one hour program.
- ▶ It's **FREE** for members, others please kick in a \$5 family donation.

**CIRCLE NOVEMBER 6
ON YOUR CALENDAR.**

SWOOP IN FOR A LOOK!



WILD GAME AND FISH DINNER

Thursday
November 9th

Please bring your favorite game or a side dish or dessert to pass. Invite all your friends and family!

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!