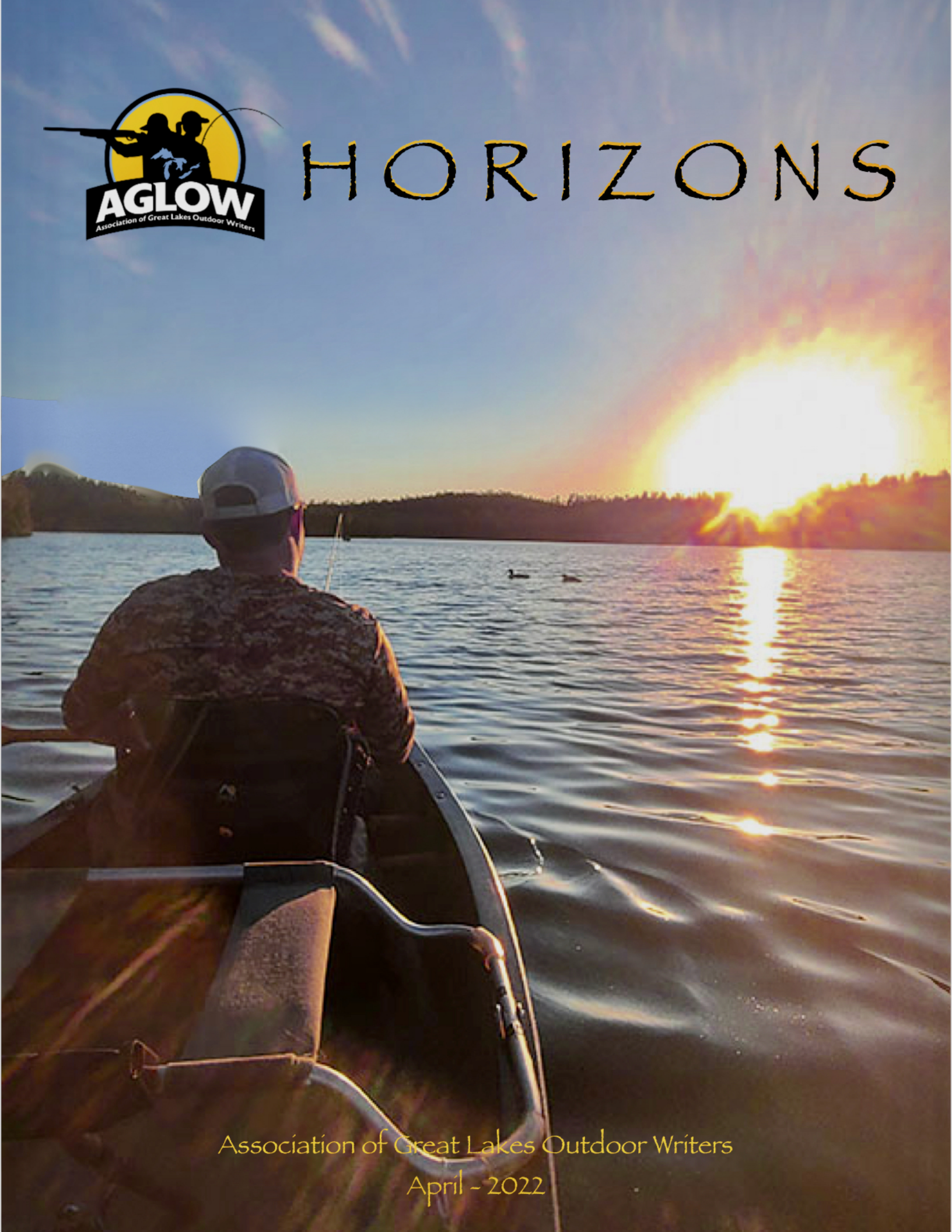




HORIZONS



Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers
April - 2022



HORIZONS April, 2022

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Cover Photo
**Best Of Photography
 Outdoor Recreation
 2021 1st Place
 Scott Mackenthun
 "BWCA Paddle"**

Editor's Notes...



I welcome all the new AGLOW committee chairs on board and am hopeful that we'll be hearing more from them throughout our upcoming newsletters - as we do in this issue thanks to Jay Pinsky's article as the new Crafts Improvement chairman. We welcome expertise from members as well, such as Target Communications member, Glenn Hegleland, whose piece appears within these pages as well.

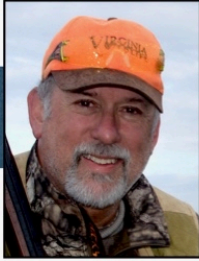
The CI columns are some of the most important features in the AGLOW newsletter, counting on members to share their expertise as professional outdoor writers. Please contact Jay (jamespinsky@yahoo.com) for submitting content, or suggesting topics.

Hopefully some of this content will spark an idea for a subject you can give wings to and generate some freelance work: a product you can make the headliner of your next column, or a program mentioned within these pages that might have a great back story.

Along those same lines, I keep encouraging our corporate members to send in those press releases on new products and programs as well. There's an eager group of writers among us just waiting for a good lead to come their way. Have a great spring!

AGLOW 2022 Committees and Chairs:

- Nominating Committee: Ken Perrotte kmunicate@gmail.com
- Teller Committee: Mark C. Smith aglowoutdoors@gmail.com
- Conference Committee: Trent Marsh tmarsh@spypoint.com
- Finance Committee: Trent Marsh tmarsh@spypoint.com
- Awards in Craft: Chris Sebastian csebastian@ducks.org
- Past Presidents: Tim Lesmeister timlesmeister@gmail.com
- Ethics: Jim Zaleski jzaleski@parsonsk.com
- Marketing: Dena Vick dena@kingeiderpr.com
- Communications: Chris Sebastian csebastian@ducks.org
- Giving: Tim Lesmeister timlesmeister@gmail.com
- Fundraising: Jeff Davis jeffdavis@whitetailsunlimited.com
- Membership Screening: Mark C. Smith aglowoutdoors@gmail.com
- Supporting Member Recruitment: David Gladkowski dgladkowski@nwtf.net
- Media Member Recruitment: Scott Mackenthun scott.mackenthun@gmail.com
- Craft Improvement: James (Jay) Pinsky jamespinsky@yahoo.com
- Constitution and by-laws: Trent Marsh tmarsh@spypoint.com



From the President - Ken Perrotte

To A Happy Spring...

Happy Spring 2022 AGLOW. The ice is out (in most places) and fishing is heating up across the country, while gobblers are thundering their voices in fields, forests and farms across the landscape. It's a great time to be an outdoors communicator. I hope you're getting out and generating loads of material for readers, viewers and listeners.

We had a productive midyear AGLOW Board of Directors meeting in Branson, Missouri in March. The Chateau on the Lake Resort is going to be a comfortable, beautiful base of operations for our September conference. The diversity of things to see and experience are incredible. We'll have excellent fishing opportunities and I'm counting on an AGLOW member to catch the next record brown trout. Dena Vick and Karen Lutto snuck in a day early for the meeting and had near nonstop trout fishing action on Lake Taneycomo. I was envious hearing about the dressed trout heading home for their dinner tables. But more on the fishing in a later edition...

We will be working closely with our hosts in the area to assemble a diverse array of pre- and post-conference activities. The opportunities should give you ample opportunity to cover not only traditional hook-bullet story angles, but also explore the incredible Ozarks, a region with its own flair, culture and history. No promises right now, but cave exploration, zip-lining, learning about steam engines or glass blowing and more could be on the agenda. And just north of Branson, in Springfield, Johnny Morris' Wonders of Wildlife is simply an astonishing experience, a place worthy of a conservation pilgrimage.

Look for a conference that checks all the business blocks, offers fun and adventure, and provides the incredible networking and fellowship for which AGLOW is renowned.

Back to our board meeting, organizations - especially nonprofits that need volunteerism to survive and thrive - count on member participation and engagement. My early goal this year was to fill committees with energetic, engaged members. Things never happen as quickly as you'd like in an organization that meets sporadically and runs on volunteer effort, but I think we've stepped off in sound direction with several key committees.

One thing heavily discussed was how we, as an organization of communicators, don't always do the best job in communicating with our own members, prospective members and other constituents. Consequently, we directed the formation of a committee of organizational leaders to assess how we can improve, making our communication efforts more "real-time" and reflective of how people work and interact in the 2020s. Look for results soon from this initiative.

We have some "go-getters" at the helm of the committees and in committee membership. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to a sustaining AGLOW that serves its members long into the future.

— *Respectfully, Ken Perrotte*

From Our Executive Director - Mark Smith



Busy Spring For ALGOW

ALGOW Headquarters is a busy place this spring. Fresh off the road from the spring board meeting which was held in Branson, Missouri, we are getting geared up for some smaller media events, the kick-off of AIC and of course, the annual conference.

Holding the spring board meeting down in Branson gave the full board of directors to opportunity to partake in the pre-conference site visit and have some hands-on planning for the upcoming conference. The Chateau on the Lake, which will be our home base for the conference in September, is just as beautiful as I remember it, and Lynn Berry and the crew from the Branson CVB were very gracious, as always.

The sign-up for the Kentucky Lake Media Event is out and filling up fast, so if you have interest in attending use this link to get yourself signed up; <https://aglow.memberclicks.net/2022-ky-lake-camp>.

The purpose of this media camp is to get the word out that the Asian carp crisis at Kentucky Lake is winding down and the sport fishing is perhaps the best it has ever been. Participants will fish for crappie and bass and will spend an evening or two on the water bowfishing for those pesky carp! The DNR will also be on hand to fill you in on exactly what they did to remove millions of pounds of Asian carp from the water system.

Immediately following will be the Hayward, Wisconsin Media Event. Our host will be the Deer Foot Lodge and Resort located on the beautiful Chippewa Flowage. Crappie fishing will be on the agenda, along with a guided ATV tour of the miles and miles of beautifully groomed ATV trails in the area. We will also be visiting the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame. Here is the link to sign up for this event:

<https://aglow.memberclicks.net/hayward-2022>

The guidelines for the 2022 AIC program will be forthcoming in the next few weeks, there will not be many changes from last year. The board of directors decided at the spring board meeting not to move ahead with charging an entry fee. So the competition will remain free to our members.

I hope to have the registration open for conference by early May. We have a few details to work out yet, but the conference committee has been hard at work revamping the order of things for the conference this year. As soon as those plans have gelled up a bit, we will be able to open the registration.

I hope to see some of you at the upcoming media events, and on that note, if you have ideas for a topic or location for a media event, do not hesitate to let me know.

— Mark Smith

CRAFT IMPROVEMENT

A Few Tips On Self-Publishing

Tom Watson / Glenn Hegleland

In my experience as an author and editor, I have engaged in many discussions about self-publishing vs. working through a publishing house. I have found very few books that didn't scream "self published" within the first half dozen pages of text. It's often due to errors, sentence structure and more - by an author who could have benefitted from a thorough, experienced proof-reading and once-over by a professional editor.

While self-publishing is often seen as a more economical and technologically-savvy way for aspiring authors to get their word out, it's not without its limitations, challenges and drawbacks. More often than not it doesn't take too many pages to know you are reading a book that didn't get the scrutiny it sorely needed.



Fellow AGLOW member Glenn Hegleland, president and pub-

lisher at *Target Communications Outdoor Books*, offers a few key areas of importance when considering to publish on your own:

1) Market plans first, definitely first. Editorial later.

- Can you get the book on Amazon?
- Will you be able to get book wholesalers to buy your book?
- Who will the various wholesalers sell to? Some sell only to libraries, for instance.
- Check out the chain retailers. This can be laborious. Do they sell e-books? (If you're planning an e-book.) Be aware the big chain retailers have lengthy application processes.
- Do the chain retailers sell online?
- Will you be able to sell directly to specialty retail stores? Where will you get the mailing lists?
- Have you looked into blogging, to sell the book yourself? How well known are you in your area of expertise? Is there a ready market here, or do you just think there is?

- How will you introduce the book? Where will you introduce the book? Are there clubs in your area of expertise who will actually be able to help sell the book, or will they just talk a good sales pitch.

2) Look into CreateSpace on Amazon and explore those possibilities.

3) Don't sign up for any online "want to be a publisher" websites. They will inundate you with sales pitches all promising the same things, and cost you money. I haven't tried any of them. Talked to one several times, but they offered "services" I already was capable of doing -- cover design, book layout, manuscript editing, proofreading, etc. Someone without my background in magazine editing may have been able to use some of this, but to what extent, I cannot say.

- 4) Editorially — Selected an IT company to put the book together? (Design, layout, production, etc.)
- Typesetter? What typeface will you use? What style will you have for heads, Chapter intros, column breaks, captions, etc.
- Will you proof the camera-ready final product before sending it to the printer?
- Printer selected? Offset or sheetfed? Black only or 2-color or 4-color? Paper to use? Quantity? Number of illustrations?
- What do you have for illustrations?
- Will the book be paperback, hardcover?
- Will you be sure to start all chapters on righthand pages?
- Who will get the ISBN number? Will you get 10-digit and 13-digit? Library of Congress ID number?



(continued next page...)



Many successful authors have the experiential skills to professionally edit their own books. However, utilizing professional publishing processes can help make one's book even more successful in this always challenging marketplace.

These tips were gleaned from several publishing sites on the internet —

- **Not Editing or Not Investing in Professional Editing** - An unedited book is one of the most common mistakes self-published authors made.
- **Not Knowing Anything about Publishing** - Do your research and find the best way to professionally present your books to your target group.
- **They design their book cover, despite having no design experience** - Make sure the design is professional, adheres to your genre's style conventions, and fits the content of your book accurately.
- **Not Having a Clear Marketing Strategy** - A book marketed without a specific audience in mind can make self-publishing almost impossible. Your book is like a business. Who is going to be reading your book? What kind of marketing is effective for this group? What social

media sites do they visit? What other kinds of books do they read?

- **Publishing Too Soon/Bad Timing** - Sometimes, book isn't ready to be published. You want to make sure that you are releasing your book at an opportune time. You want to plan your moment and get your book out at the right time.
- **Take the time to make sure your book is edited well**, formatted correctly, and ready for public consumption.
- **Limited Availability and Access to Your Book** - Don't promote your book on only one site. You should be trying to reach out to everyone you can.
- **Not Setting the Right Price** - Set a price that strikes a balance between too spending or too cheap to bother reading. See what other authors in your genre are selling their books for.

CRAFT IMPROVEMENT

What is Syntax?

Introduction by Tom Watson - Body of text excerpted from the *Writing Explained* website:

<https://writingexplained.org/grammar-dictionary/syntax/>

As professional writers we sometimes fall into the typo' tar pit where our words get mired in grammatical errors or stumbling sentence structure - or both. One beneficial proofing tool I've found to work very well is to read my finished manuscript aloud. If your tongue fumbles it verbally, your reader's eyes will probably get thrown off, too.

A basic tenet of good writing is proper "syntax". Following is a simple primer of this critical sentence structuring tool, gleaned from the *Writing Explained* website:

Syntax definition: The arrangement of words and phrases to create sentences; a way for writers to express creativity and create interest; a balance of words that must be parallel to be grammatically correct.

What does syntax mean? Syntax is the grammatical structure of sentences. The format in which words and phrases are arranged to create sentences is called syntax.

Examples of Syntax in a Sentence:

- The boy jumped *happily*.
- The boy *happily* jumped.
- *Happily*, the boy jumped.

By rearranging just one word in the sentence, a varied syntax is formed. Each is grammati-

CRAFT IMPROVEMENT

cally correct and acceptable English language form. A writer will vary sentence syntax to make writing more interesting or to emphasize a particular point. Words and phrases must follow English rules for correct arrangement and coherent sentences.

Syntax vs. Diction: What's the Difference?

Syntax and diction are different concepts in grammar and in literature: Diction is word choice.

The following examples have similar syntax but different diction.

- The boy jumped happily.
- The girl sang beautifully.
- The dog barked loudly.

Each of these sentences has the same syntax. Each sentence follows the structure of subject-verb-adverb. However, each sentence uses different diction (word choice).

The following examples have similar diction but different syntax.

- The boy jumped *happily*.
- The boy *happily* jumped.
- *Happily*, the boy jumped.

Each of these sentences has the same diction. Each sentence uses the same four words. However, each sentence has different word order to create different syntax. In other words, diction and syntax focus on different things. Diction focuses on word choice, while syntax focuses on the order and structure of those words.

Proper Syntax in English Sentences: In English, a strong, active voice sentence will always

have the subject doing the action of the sentence. These sentences will follow a basic subject-verb-object format. Below are a few examples of different types of syntax in English.

Each of these examples has different syntax. (Simple sentences follow a subject-verb format); Simple Syntax Examples:

- The boy jumped.
- The girl sang.

Compound sentences have more than one subject or verb: "*The boy jumped and the girl sang.*"

Complex sentences contain a subordinating clause: "*The boy jumped even though he was nervous.*"

Compound-complex sentences contain two independent clauses and more dependent clauses: "*Even though he was nervous, the boy jumped and he landed across the stream.*"

Parallel Structure in Sentences: When constructing sentences, it is important to always keep in mind that ideas should be parallel. In English, parallel structure is most often an issue when creating a series list. Correct example: ***I like running, jumping, and hiking.*** In this example, three gerunds are used (running, jumping, hiking) to create the grammatically correct list.

I'm sure most of these were obvious and with rudimentary examples. Nevertheless, it's the simple, common mistakes that so often appear in published writing.

How to Improve Our Craft: Step 1 - Remember our "Why"

Jay Pinsky

I was asked to chair the "Crafts Improvement" committee and help us become better communicators. So, I will.

What I'm about to tell you will either inspire you or make you angry. Hell, it may do both or neither.

Ready?

Your writing is boring.

Yes, I said it. I've had the honor and privilege to judge AGLOW writing for two years, and picking the winners was always easy. The first thing they weren't was boring.

"When we write, it should help us and hurt us..."

Let me save you some time. None of us have boring assignments. Nope. If we had to write a boring story, the only one to blame is you know who.

None of the AGLOW writers I judged got to tell the story of aliens landing on their deer blind or tornados carrying their hunting truck to the Land of Oz to chase trophy-class flying monkeys. They wrote about everyday people doing ordinary things, but they wrote about them in extraordinary ways.

The truth is just about every human being, and for sure, every dog has at least one if not a half-

dozen stories that need to be told by someone gifted enough to give it the flair, punch, humor, or passion it deserves. And let's be blunt here – everyone lives a Pulitzer-prize winning life if the right person finds out about it. We do, but are we as communicators doing our best to discover and tell them? From what I have read lately, the answer is no.

This rant isn't about how to win more awards, though. Well, not the kind you can place on your mantle anyway. The best reward any writer can ever receive isn't a plaque, money, trophy, or magazine cover. I know I used to think it was.

I was wrong.

The best reward is that fleeting, precious moment when your audience stops reading what you say to feel what you say. Our words, when done right, don't serve as an educational process of information but as a soft, warm blanket over our hearts or a sobering, cold bucket of water on our conscious. When our recipe of words peaks, they serve us a meal of memories so fulfilling that we lick our proverbial palates with pause, daydreams, and sighs.

When we write, it should help us and hurt us. It should make us laugh, cry, grow angry, or celebrate. First, we must translate our empathy into a language the masses can and often must comprehend. Why? Because our writing must always be authentic.

When I was in the military, I won plenty of awards for my work. Hell, two or three times (I can't remember), they told me I won an award that proclaimed me the best feature writer in the DoD. Pretty cool, huh? It's nice to be honored by our peers, and I'm thankful. But those plaques paled in comparison to my most cherished moment as a military writer when I discovered a U.S. Marine Corps blog chronicling memories of their time in Afghanistan, Iraq, Vietnam, and elsewhere with Navy corpsmen.

Their memories, often vivid, were resurrected by reading my story about my time in Afghanistan with Navy corpsmen. My writing was authentic, raw, and passionate, and it conjured up memories these veterans had nearly forgotten or,

more accurately, suppressed. I gifted them the power to remember.

They smelled Afghanistan. They felt the tires of the HUMVEE slip on the loose rocks we climbed at way too unsafe of an angle. I told them how scared I was, and they understood because they were scared too. I validated their memories and enabled many of them to remember fallen comrades, moments of bravery, and internal struggles with fear, anxiety, and sometimes anger.

It was then when I learned that to be a great writer was to resolve myself to be as unselfish as I

could ever become so that the words stayed mine just long enough to make it to my readers' hearts and minds, and that then, and only then, those words became theirs. It was humbling to finally understand the power and, more importantly, my responsibility as a writer to share their stories.

That's right – their stories. I can't tell you how many times I've (had to) read stories that essentially read like, "A man caught a big fish with this bait." Yes, that's true. A big fish was caught. But that's the news; it isn't the story. No, we need to, as communicators, channel our inner Paul Harvey and share the rest of the story. Why? Because it gives honor and substance to the moment. It elevates the man, the fish, and the bait (sponsor). There wasn't anything routine about that fish, and the fisherman knew it when he got up at 3 a.m., prepping for the day. Nope, 3 a.m. wake-ups are inspired by dreams, and every fisherman has at least one. Think fishermen don't think this way? Have you ever asked? Ask. Ask several different times and in different ways.

Our writing isn't for us. It is for the world to see itself because it can't or won't. We are gifted communicators so that we can speak for and to those who cannot or will not speak of or for themselves. Each of us in AGLOW has one if not a few gifts that enable us to write the good stories well and discover the extraordinary in the seemingly ordinary because none of us are common.

So, to improve our craft moving forward, I ask that you pause to remember the why in our careers. I promise you'll win every award ever worth having if you do.

*"Our writing isn't for us.
It is for the world to see itself ..."*

Trail Cams - Fair Chase Or An Overreach Of Technology?

Brent Frazee

So when does modern technology conflict with fair chase in hunting and fishing?

Trail cams that transmit real-time images of big game, sonar units that show real-time movement of fish, rifle sights with built-in electronic range finders, electronics that make it nearly impossible for a fish to go undetected—is this really fair chase or is it overreach of technology?

“Are we losing the mystery and romanticism . . . if we rely on modern gadgets such as this?”

To me, it appears we have reached a crossroad. Many hunters and fishermen wonder if we’re going too far too fast, and I’m one of them.

The latest debate centers on the use of trail cams, especially that ones that can be linked to a Smart Phone to get real-time images of big game. In essence, a hunter could see that a big buck had ambled within sight of the trail cam he or she had put out, could cross a draw and shoot that trophy deer.

Is that really fair chase? Or to be more succinct, is it really fair? Are we losing the mystery and romanticism of what brings us outdoors in the first place if we rely on modern gadgets such as this?

Some of the fish and game managers in the Western states apparently have the same concerns. Arizona made news when its Game and Fish Commission voted to ban all trail cams for the purpose of hunting.

“Arizona is an arid state, and hunters know where big-game animals go to water,” said Larry Phoenix, a regional supervisor for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. “We’ve seen as many as 25 trail cameras around one water catchment.

“It was to the point where it was absolutely impossible for wildlife to avoid detection. Plus, it was leading to conflicts among hunters. So after we got feedback, we decided to go this route.”

After considerable debate, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission voted to ban trail cameras “for the

purpose of taking or aiding in the taking of wildlife.” That regulation went into effect Jan. 1.

But Arizona isn’t alone. Other Western state such as Utah, Nevada, Montana and New Mexico all restrict or ban the use of trail cameras for hunting to some degree.

And the Boone and Crockett Club, which honors hunters who take trophy big game, recently came out with a new policy statement, saying hunters using certain types of technology no longer will be eligible for recognition.

“The use of any technology that delivers real-time location data to target or guide a hunter to any animal in a manner that elicits an immediate response is not permitted,” it said.

However, the club has no specific policy for cameras that require hunters to physically check the photos from trail cams.

I think that’s a proper stance. Most Midwestern states have no problem with the use of standard trail cameras, which click a photo of anything that breaks the beam of a sensor. Hunter can later go back to the site, insert the card into a reader and see what visited in the night.

The deer could be long gone by the time they see the photos, but it at least gives hunters an idea of what is around.


That’s fair chase.

But what about the forward-facing sonar that fishermen are using today? It allows fishermen to see real-time movement of fish and drop a lure right in front of the marks on the screen and even see how the fish react.

It’s fun; it’s like video-game fishing. I even considered buying one of the expensive units for my boat.

But there was a nagging doubt that kept cropping up. Do I really need that to catch fish?

Some guides have confided that it’s almost cheating. It doesn’t make the fish bite, but it sure makes them easier to locate. *(Continued next page...)*

The way I see it _____ 

Of course, fishermen have been howling about the advantage of using electronics ever since Lowrance introduced the “Little Green Box” flasher unit back in 1959. And that didn’t actually decimate fish populations.

Fisheries biologists in many states are taking a wait and see approach. If fish populations are affected by

the new technology, they will reduce limits, not ban the forward-facing sonar.

That’s a good approach, in my opinion. But then again, with all of the forward-facing units in use today, I worry that fish will eventually run out of open water refuges where they once didn’t see many lures. As a result, they might become more “lure-shy.”

Only time will tell.

First Day Hikes Help Kickoff Healthier Lifestyle

Brandon Butler

Exercise and fresh air are good for you. Reason enough to go for a hike. It’s the intangibles though, that make hiking such an enjoyable experience. You never know what you’re going to see while taking a walk in the woods. Carrying a pair of binoculars is worth the weight. So is your phone, which gives you both a camera and a voice recorder. As you walk and think, use the recorder to capture your thoughts. Lots of good idea come to us on the trail as we exercise our minds and body.

The National Association of State Park Directors (NASPD) promotes “First Day Hikes” to encourage people to visit a state park and take a hike on New Year’s Day. The NASPD website states, “America’s State Park programs are committed to promoting outdoor recreation in hopes to help address obesity, especially in children. Furthermore, exercise and outdoor activities rejuvenate the mind and body, promoting overall mental and physical health and wellness. Many believe that time spent in nature enhances creativity and lifts our moods.” I couldn’t agree more with the reasoning NASPD

promotes. As I grow older, I continue to become more and more

*“Nature has a way of
improving us...
by giving us time
to just think and breathe”*

worried about our younger generations. As the father of two teenagers, I witness firsthand how addicted to devices an entire segment of our population is. It’s hard for me to accept how much time my children and all their friends spend staring at screens. I live in a college town. It’s dangerous to drive through campus. You never know when a student, or a herd of them, will stumble into the street transfixed on their phone, oblivious to oncoming traffic. We need to get these young people outdoors. They can bring their phone, but hopefully, it’ll be in their pocket for a bit.

In the United States, 42.4 percent of adults over 20 years old are obese, according to the 2021 Obesity Report from Trust for America’s Health. What’s worse, 19.3 percent of children are too. That means one out of five children is obese. We are the 14th most obese nation.

Yet, we have parks and public lands galore. Opportunities to exercise with little to no cost are endless.

COVID is substantially more dangerous, even life-threatening, to obese individuals. If you’re obese and are worried about the dangers of COVID, now is a great time to buy a pair of hiking boots and start hitting some trails in your neck of the woods. You’ll feel better while improving your health.

A few years ago, my cousin’s brother-in-law finally had enough. Jeff had always been a big man. When he topped out over 400 pounds, he said enough and bought a pair of shoes. He started walking, and the results started showing. He began to jog. Before long, he was competing in 5ks and longer races. Jeff lost over 200 pounds the old-fashioned way – he worked at it. No fad diet. No miracle approach. He changed his eating habits and started exercising. He developed a new mindset and built a better life.

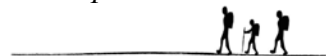
Growing up in Chicagoland, I learned early to appreciate good-tasting food. Remember the Chicago Bears Super Fans on Saturday Night Live. Those were my people.

Deep dish pizza, Italian beefs, and fried lake perch are only the beginning of the culinary treats I crave. But now I've watched loved ones deal with diabetes, and I know people who have died during this pandemic who likely would have lived if they'd been in better shape. I'm motivated to do better, to be better.

Nature has a way of improving us. Not just physically through the demands of strength and endurance, but also mentally, by giving us time to just think and breathe. If you are into making resolutions, perhaps this is the year you make a real change. A year when you say enough is enough, and you put on your hiking boots and start your journey. Take it one step at a time. Start your journey with a First Day Hike on New Year's Day.

See you down the trail...

For more Driftwood Outdoors, check out the podcast on www.driftwoodoutdoors.com or anywhere podcasts are streamed.



MARKET NEWS...

Get the Protection You Need with Al's Hook Bonnets

- Fishing lures with treble hooks with three hook shanks that emerge just below the eye of the hook, each extending downward a certain distance then turning outward and bending back upward a shorter distance with a sharp point and barb that reside at the end, is a staple for saltwater and freshwater fisherman alike. Unfortunately, the unique design of this hook can wreak havoc on fingers, clothes and other tackle. That is why Al's Goldfish Lure Company offers Al's hook bonnets – the only snap-on hook covers made in the USA.

Al's hook bonnets are available in three sizes, designated by different colors: small sized (blue) hook bonnets fit treble hook sizes 12-8 and are designed for small jigs and spinning lures; medium sized (green) hook bonnets fit treble hook sizes 8-2 and fit



most bass style lures; and the large sized (red) hook bonnets fit treble hook sizes 1-2/0 and are ideal for saltwater and musky lures. The hook bonnets are easy to attach, simply push the hook down until you hear (or feel) the lure snapping into place. The bonnets also work on single hooks.

Information on Al's Goldfish Lure Company: www.alsgoldfish.com, Contact: Karen Lutto: karen@hunteroc.com; www.hunteroc.com

Galco's Versatile WheelGunner 2.0



Galco's extremely versatile WheelGunner™ 2.0 offers ambidextrous design as well as quick on-off capability. Suitable for both casual concealment and outdoor sportsman's carry, the WheelGunner 2.0 carries a medium- or large-frame revolver high and close to the body, for good concealment even with shorter covering garments/jackets. It's also ideal for seated riding in all types of motorized vehicles, including ATVs.

Fully ambidextrous, the WheelGunner 2.0 allows right or left hand carry by unsnapping the holster from the belt slide, moving the belt slide to a different location on the belt, and reattaching the holster.

The WheelGunner 2.0 secures the revolver using a reversible retention strap with a glove-friendly polymer tab. Release the strap and the revolver is cleared for a fast, smooth draw.

Constructed of premium steer hide, the ambidextrous WheelGunner 2.0 fits belts up to 1 3/4" and is available for single- and double-action revolvers in tan or black color. Mike Barham - Media & PR Manager: mikeb@galcoholsters.com

How Does the BoatUS App Shorten On-Water Response

Times from TowBoatUS? - Boaters shouldn't leave the dock without the BoatUS App.

When boats break down or run aground, many recreational boaters use the free [BoatUS App](#) to request TowBoatUS on-water assistance. It's the only on-water towing app with the ability to link the captain of a recreational boat with the closest local TowBoatUS towing captain, eliminating the need to call to BoatUS national dispatch.

Once the app is activated it asks a few short questions to confirm the vessel type, how many are aboard, anchoring status, the nature of the problem and desired destination.

The App helps keep the boat captain and crew informed, lowering stress levels. Within seconds, a text message is sent to the disabled recreational vessel confirming the information and request was received, and a few minutes later a follow up text provides an estimated time of arrival. A call or text message from the local TowBoatUS towing captain advising they are underway follows.

The app also offers hurricane alerts, weather and tides; helps BoatUS members find discounts on fuel, transient slips, and marine services. For more information go to [BoatUS.com/Towing](#). Contact: D. Scott Croft, SCroft@BoatUS.com

New, Focused Honda Pioneer 1000 Trail, Forest Versions Unveiled for 2022 - As a part of a huge 2022 model-year powersports product announcement, Honda today revealed the bulk of its rec/utility side-by-side lineup, including the improved Pioneer 1000 platform and the returning midsize Pioneer 700. (The entry-level Pioneer 500 and Pioneer 520 were announced in November.)



Headlining the announcement is the popular Pioneer 1000. Always noted for its outstanding versatility, Honda's flagship rec/utility side-by-side is offered in a pair of more specialized iterations for 2022, delivering rewarding drive experiences for customers who have narrower application preferences. The Pioneer 1000 Trail delivers dynamic outdoor excursions with family and friends, and the Pioneer 1000 Forest facilitates other interests like hunting and fishing.

Both versions come with an array of factory-installed accessories. Honda also continues to offer the versatile Pioneer 1000 Deluxe, as well as the value-conscious Pioneer 1000 EPS. All Pioneer 1000 side-by-sides are available in three- and five-person configurations, and the entire eight-version offering benefits from new improvements that make owning and driving these vehicles even more enjoyable. Meanwhile, the new model year also sees the return of the four-version Pioneer 700 family.

PIONEER 1000 TRAIL - Available in three- and five-seat versions and designed for those who enjoy chasing adventures with family and friends: FOX Quick Switch shocks; 4,500-pound-capacity winch, aluminum cut-contrast wheels, a ROPS-mounted rear-view mirror; in-bed accessory outlet and other features that deliver outdoor fun.

PIONEER 1000 FOREST - Both the three- and five-seat versions of the Pioneer 1000 Forest are equipped with features: winch, black aluminum wheels, dual bed lights; in-bed accessory outlet; self-leveling rear suspension.

PIONEER 1000 DELUXE - The adaptable Pioneer 1000 Deluxe, offered in three- and five-seat configuration: equipped with KYB shocks that have dual-rate front springs; triple-rate rear springs; five-person version features self-leveling rear suspension. (The rear shocks on the three-person version have adjustable preload.)

PIONEER 1000 EPS - The three- and five-seat Pioneer 1000 EP: Platform-wide improvements like increased power, transmission updates, beverage holders, new meter, door nets and more, these vehicles are outfitted with steel 14-inch wheels.

PIONEER 700 DELUXE - A mix of eye-catching and performance-enhancing features: painted plastic, aluminum wheels, Electric Power Steering (EPS); color-matched suspension springs. The Deluxe version also lets drivers switch between automatic and manual shifting. Available as a two-seater or a four-seater.

PIONEER 700 - A balance between scale and capability in a capable rec/utility side-by-side. The 675 cc, single-cylinder four-stroke-powered vehicle is designed for work or play; offered in both two- and four-seat configurations.

Outdoor Edge® Introduces the FieldLite™ - Outdoor Edge, America's leading manufacturer of knives



and tools for all things outdoors introduces the new FieldLite™ EDC knife, a double-duty knife inspired by our expert's extensive experience in the outdoors.

The FieldLite™ is a true everyday carry blade for town or trail. Its glass/nylon handle is durable and lightweight, while the rubberized TPR ensures a secure

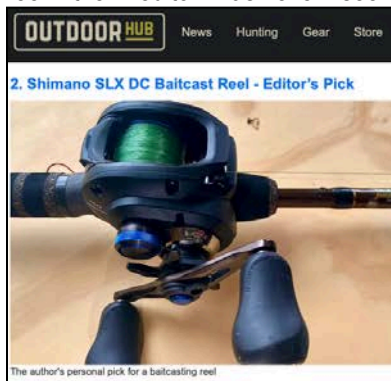
MARKET NEWS...

grip in conditions ranging from hot and dry to wet and cold to freezing and icy. The 8Cr13MoV blade contains 14.5 percent chromium, making it a true stainless-steel blade with great corrosion and wear resistance and a maximum Rockwell Harness of 62HRC.

The sturdy lock back design ensures this knife will handle a wide variety of jobs ranging from field-dressing big and small game to everyday work- and home-related chores. For more info: www.outdooredge.com.

Editorial Contact: Karen Lutto: karen@hunteroc.com; HOCwebsite: www.hunteroc.com.

Shimano's BaitCast Reel is Editor's Pick - A March 2022 Outdoor Hub gear review chooses Shimano's SLX DC Baitcast Reel as it's Editor's Pick and praises it as "The most technologically advanced fishing reel" their editor has ever seen!



The reason is Shimano's amazing DC brake system that basically has a tiny computer inside the reel to monitor the reel's spool speed. It does so 1,000 times a second to monitor the line and it automatically applies braking force to the spool to maximize the casting distance and help prevent the dreaded backlash. The reel has a 4+1 bearing system that, while initially not as smooth as others, actually feels and works very well. The 12-lb. max drag

is also efficient. Shimano has designed a reel that checks a lot of the boxes as a bait caster, and the digital brake pushes it over the top. It comes in 6.3:1, 7.2:1 and 8.2:1 gear ratios and can be had in right or left handed retrieve.

G. Loomis Expands Powerful IMX-PRO BLUE Lineup - New Purpose-Driven Saltwater Rods Boost Coastal Angling Performance - The G. Loomis IMX-PRO BLUE lineup has the grit and character needed to prevail in unforgiving coastal fisheries, and is now expanding with seven new purpose-driven models geared towards southeast techniques and fisheries to enhance the natural ability of every inshore angler.

G.Loomis IMX-PRO BLUE rods are designed to perform multiple duties, they are do-it-all rods that are sensitive enough to throw a light bait like a live crab with accuracy, but also sturdy enough to pitch a 10-inch mullet to a seawall, and then stop a big snook that's charging for a dock piling. IMX-PRO BLUE rods have the power to move big fish.

Each IMX-PRO BLUE rod leverages G. Loomis' exclusive Multi-Taper Design to decrease the blank's weight while enhancing its durability. A series of "micro tapers" within the overall taper of the rod, the Multi-Taper Design process enables rod engineers to reinforce potential stress points while simultaneously reducing unnecessary material in other regions of the blank, yielding a lightweight library of rods with precisely-defined lengths, powers, and actions that strike the perfect balance between durability and performance.

Media Contacts: Dena Vick: dena@kingeiderpr.com.

This Is It! The "Ultimate" Aubrey D. Rebel™ Hot Sauce Knocks at the Gates of Hades! - This is it! This is ludicrous! This is the Ulti-

mate! For the person who likes nothing more than the hottest of the hot, the all-new Ultimate Aubrey D. Rebel Hot Sauce from Gourmet Chips and Sauces takes flavorful heat to another level of both taste and tolerance.

The "Ultimate" Aubrey D. Rebel Hot Sauce features a proprietary pepper that has been cultivated and grown just for this sauce – the 7 Pot Pepper - the only one that



is KOSHER certified and offers the heat (as hot as the ghost pepper) with a flavor that burns for you to ask for more. In its final form it is a delicious, ludicrous mix of the hottest peppers in the world. It is a zesty combination of the Carolina Reaper Pepper, the Ghost Pepper (also known as Bhut Jolokia), the 7 Pot Primo Pepper, and the Trinidad Scorpion Pepper. But as is the case with every Aubrey D. Rebel product, the peppers have been blended to balance the heat with the taste. It is one of the tastiest and their hottest sauce to date in the Aubrey D. Rebel line.

This Aubrey D. Rebel Hot Sauce has no preservatives, no additives, no artificial ingredients, and it's also gluten free and vegan/vegetarian friendly. Ingredients include water, Reaper pepper mash (reaper peppers, vinegar), Mandarin oranges (mandarin oranges, water, sugar), Jolokia pepper mash (bhut

MARKET NEWS...

jolokia peppers with salt), apple cider vinegar, pineapplejuice concentrate, sugars (honey), onions, 7 pot primo pepper mash (7 pot primo peppers with vinegar), ginger puree (ginger root, water, citric acid), Kosher salt, xanthan gum, and scorpion pepper powder. Nothing artificial added.

Information: www.aubrey-d.net; Editorial Contact: Karen Lutto, Hunter Outdoor Communications: karen@hunteroc.com; www.hunteroc.com.

Shimano Unveils the Ultimate Surf Casting Reel - Cast Farther. Fish Longer. Fight Tougher with the New Ultegra XSE - Surf casters require that every piece of equipment helps them cast farther, fish longer and fight tougher. Shi-



mano leverages over a century of design and manufacturing excellence in crafting the new **Ultegra XSE** spinning reel, providing peak performance in every situation and exceeding the expectations of the most passionate surf casters.

Ultegra XSE features include: Shimano's Super Slow 5 Oscillation, minimizing line friction; Infinity Drive technology features a unique low-friction bushing that significantly decreases frictional resistance and provides up to 30% more winding power under load; proprietary surface treatment on the main shaft coupled with special process-

ing dramatically reduces rotational resistance.

Additional features: An ultra-rigid C14+ body; an exclusive three-dimensional design process, the cold-forged HAGANE Gear offers unparalleled durability; precise pinion gear alignment (bearings on both ends to provide increased gear durability); sealed S A-RB bearings and X-Protect technology for added toughness; water-repellent coatings and water-channeling labyrinth construction.

The ultimate surf casting reel, Shimano's Ultegra XSE (ULT14000XSE) is available in the popular 14000 size, accommodating 330 yards of 20-pound-test monofilament.

Contact: Dena Woerner-Vick; dena@kingeiderpr.com.

Galco's Change Carrier - Galco's Change Carrier snaps on and

off a belt or other strap, allowing for access to coins or a self-defense tool in an otherwise prohibited environment. The Change carrier un-snaps to become an innocent-looking – yet highly effective – impact weapon.

Constructed of Savage leather, the Change Carrier is available in black or tan.

Contact: Mike Barham: mikeb@galcoholsters.com.

BoatUS: 21 Gas Saving Tips for Boaters -

D. Scott Croft, SCroft@BoatUS.com

Gas prices are up. What can boaters do to prepare for a summer of boating? The Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS)

Polymer80, Inc. Villainized by NBC News Article

Polymer80 Press Release

DAYTON, Nev. (April 5, 2022) An NBC News article titled "Polymer80's name has become synonymous with 'ghost guns.' Now it's in the crosshairs." is an attempt to distort facts, sensationalize crime statistics and turn an innovative company into a villain.

Anti-Second Amendment politicians, advocacy groups and members of the media use the label "ghost gun" to strike fear and trick the public. Those individuals and groups want the public to believe that privately made firearms are synonymous with crime, even though thousands, if not millions, of Americans have lawfully engaged in this right and freedom for centuries. The truth is, there is a long, storied tradition of firearms use and innovation in America, including the freedom to participate in the build and customization of firearms. Americans have, for centuries, participated in this great tradition in compliance with federal, state, and local laws applicable to them.

Polymer80, Inc. has always operated — and will continue to operate — lawfully, in compliance with local, state and federal laws. Polymer80, Inc. will also continue to vigorously challenge encroachments and attacks on freedom, such as attempts to co-opt the term "ghost gun" for political purposes (whether it be through outright bans on privately made firearms or ill-conceived restrictions) or attack the Second Amendment and the rights of law-abiding Americans. Polymer80 stands ready to defend the constitutional rights of every American to engage their freedom. Contact: Karen Lutto: karen@hunteroc.com; www.hunteroc.com.

has 21 fuel-saving tips boaters can do to help save on fuel and still enjoy a fulfilling season on the water. While some of these techniques may sound obvious, there may be some you never considered.

Before Heading Out:

- Tune your engine now. A once a year for a tune-up and service will help it run more efficiently.
- Match the boat's prop to the boat and activity. The right prop can potentially increase fuel efficiency by as much as 10%.
- Check your WOT. Take your boat out on a calm day and run wide-open throttle (WOT). The WOT rating is the RPM range the motor should achieve when running at wide open throttle. If it's not able to reach WOT — or overruns it — you've got the wrong prop and you're not getting the most bang for your fuel buck.
- Check for propeller damage throughout the season. A dinged or broken propeller will hurt your fuel economy.
- Keep the prop clean. Barnacles and other growth can attach to the propeller, slowing down and impacting fuel economy.
- Keep a slick hull. Barnacles or stuck-on grass can create drag on the hull and make the engine work harder. Measure your fuel flow. Install a fuel-flow meter, which can show you how many gallons per hour your engine is burning, allowing you to dial in the most efficient speed for your boat.
- Upgrade your motor — newer engines tend to be significantly more efficient than older models.

- Join BoatUS. Save on gas money. Members receive exclusive marina fuel discounts at nearly 400 BoatUS Partner Network marinas across the United States that offer BoatUS members up to 10 cents off per gallon of fuel.
- Refuel smartly ashore. It may be wise to enroll in the retailer's customer loyalty or "cash back" program.
- **At The Dock**
- Ditch extra stuff. Additional weight means more drag. This does not include safety gear or necessary ground tackle.
- Lighten your tanks. Don't run with a full freshwater or fuel tank unless you absolutely need it. Water weighs 8 pounds per gallon; gasoline weighs 6 pounds per gallon, so if you don't need a full tank to safely return, lighten your load and bring less. When planning for fuel use on any outing is you need one-third of your fuel to your destination, one-third back home, and one-third in reserve.
- Avoid excess idling. Modern engines are fuel injected, so when you start them, they're ready to go in a minute or two.
- A note on safety: Self-refueling your boat while it's in the slip at a marina with portable containers may be prohibited due to fire hazard or potential for a spill, and depending on the volume of fuel needed for a fill-up may be impractical. This type of refueling is better suited to small vessels with portable tanks that can be removed, filled at a gas station and returned to the boat. Regardless of how you refuel, follow all safety guidelines.

On The Water

- Rearrange your passengers. Evenly distributing the load aboard your boat is the simplest way to help you boat run most efficiently when the boat's trimmed.
- Get on plane. Most recreational boats run most efficiently when they're on plane.
- Watch your wake. Slowing down to no-wake speed saves fuel. It's a matter of plowing a wall of water vs. efficiently slipping over or through it.
- Try slowing down. In addition to stretching a tank of gas, it's safer.
- Reduce wind drag. You can improve fuel efficiency while underway by taking a canvas or bimini top it down if you can.
- Navigate smartly. Run your engine less. Take shorter routes and route trips in synch with current and tide, and try to avoid a lot of banging into head seas.
- Share your angling outings by "buddy boating." - inviting the guy in the slip next to you, and then rotate on the next week-end's angling outing.

Spring Fishing Hotspots



BRANSON LAKES -

Bass - Spring is prime time for catching the Triple Crown of bass on Table Rock Lake. Largemouth, smallmouth and spotted bass will all be spawning and can be taken in the same areas and on the same lures. Suspending stick-baits will catch smallmouth and spotted bass along ledge rocks and largemouth from bluff ends. Running swim-baits next

to hardwood trees along points also produces all three species. <https://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/fishing-prospects/areas/table-rock-lake>

Walleye - Bull Shoals Lake has a great walleye population. In the spring they will make spawning runs up major creek arms and stack up in deep pools and channel bends. Best baits are suspending jerkbaits, single tailed grubs and small crankbaits. <https://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/fishing-prospects/areas/bull-shoals-lake>

Trout - Lake Taneycomo is a great destination for brown trout and rainbow trout during the spring season. <https://mdc.mo.gov/fishing/fishing-prospects/areas/lake-taneycomo>.

Branson Info: <https://www.explorebranson.com/fishing>; More info: <https://www.sharetheoutdoors.com/2021/04/30/branson-fishing-lakes-rank-among-best-in-america/>

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY, NY -

April 1 was opening day for inland trout fishing.

Inland trout stocking locations and numbers: Bear Lake Outlet near Stockton, NY, and in Canadaway Creek near Arkwright, NY - 400 browns; rainbows, 9" - 15" in size; Cassadaga Creek near Stockton, NY, more than 1,000 trout stocked; West branch of Conewango Creek near Villenova, NY, 300 trout; Goose Creek near North Harmony, more than 3,500 rainbow and brown trout, released during March, with more planned for April.

Five Lake Erie tributary streams provide angler access to high numbers of HUGE wintering Lake Erie steel head and brown trout in Chautauqua County, NY. Action is hot through the end of April: Chautauqua Creek near Westfield, NY; Silver Creek and Walnut Creek near Irving; Lower Cattaraugus Creek near Sunset Bay, NY; Canadaway

Creek south of Dunkirk upstream to Laona Falls

Two Lake Erie boat harbor shoreline fishing for steelhead, brown trout and yellow perch: Barcelona Harbor in Westfield, NY; Dunkirk Harbor on Dunkirk, NY.

Media Contact: Dave Barus: dbarus35@yahoo.com; visit <https://www.tourchautauqua.com/>.

LAKE ERIE TARGET SPECIES

Lake Erie anglers can expect world-class walleye fishing in 2022 following years of strong hatches also a strong yellow perch population in Lake Erie's west zone. Low catch rates are expected to continue in the central and east zones.

Walleye - Abundant 2- to 4-year-old-fish ranging from 15 to 22 inches. Larger fish from 2015 and earlier hatches will provide chances to reel in a Fish Ohio qualifying walleye (minimum 28 inches).

Bass - Spawning season: May 1 to June 24, 2022, - one bass per day with a minimum size limit of 18 inches. **ODNR website:** ohiodnr.gov.

NIAGARA COUNTY / LAKE ONTARIO

- The Niagara Bar area of Lake Ontario is tops for pursuing winning salmon are caught off Niagara County waters. Check out www.loc.org.

In addition to king salmon, the area also offers trollers and casters: Coho salmon, brown trout, steelhead, and lake trout. Lower Niagara River: popular destination for a multiple fish species. Drifting for steelhead can produce both size and numbers. Casting for hard fighting smallmouth bass often rewards anglers with true giants.

Walleye numbers on the mighty Niagara have really improved in the recent years and new regulation changes by DEC to open the season earlier (May 1) has given

anglers and extra week to fish.

For more information on the Niagara Region: www.niagarafallsusa.com.

SW FLORIDA -

Heading into some prime fishing here in Southwest Florida - some would say the best time of year - spring and early summer.

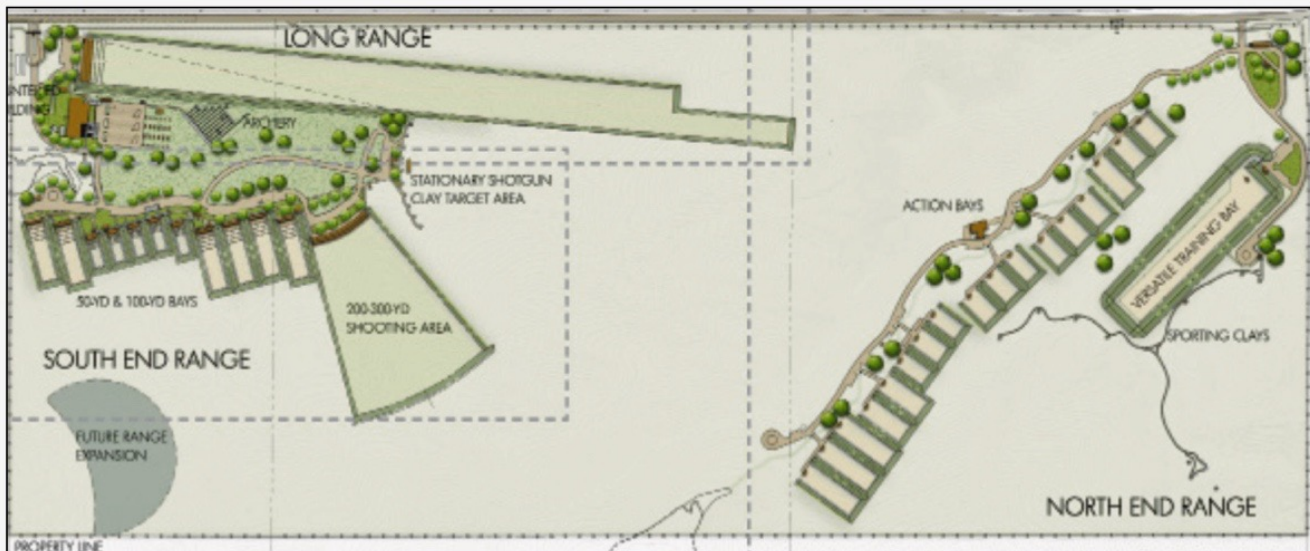
- Warm waters bringing in the bait - greenbacks and threadfins - in the grass beds throughout Pine Island Sound;
- Shrimp always work in a pinch and available at the local bait stores;



Shelley Crant's husband, Dan Baggot, holding a 23 1/2 inch sea trout he picked up while fishing earlier in the day! Caught it on a gold spoon. It's going to be some tasty eating!

- Sea trout, redfish across the flats - sand to grass. Snook working along the mangroves;
- Deeper waters in the sound and Charlotte Harbor- prime for tarpon. Ladyfish make great bait - sharks are also hunting the tarpon - can making for some "reel" exciting fishing;
- The Johnson Sprite 1/2 ounce gold spoon (and jigs) work great for reds, sea trout, snapper, snook. We've even picked up tarpon on gold spoons. And have your camera ready - manatees, Atlantic bottle nose dolphin and sea turtles!

For more information, please visit: <https://www.visitfortmyers.com/see-do/outdoor-activities-and-sports>.



Proposed Game, Fish & Parks South Dakota Shooting Sport Complex

The Game, Fish and Parks South Dakota Shooting Sport Complex aims to be the premier firearms range complex in the region. Four hundred acres of rolling topography offer the perfect site for sporting enthusiasts within minutes of several surrounding communities.

Organized in two separate areas (north and south), the complex offers a wider variety of options for all levels from hunters and recreational shooters to law enforcement training spaces. Designed with safety in mind, the range complex will offer people, families, and youth groups a world class opportunity to participate in multiple shooting sports.

Currently, there is only one public pistol/firearm range in western South Dakota, located in Fall River county. This range will reduce the use of unofficial/make shift firearm ranges in western South Dakota, increasing both the safety and experience for these shooters as well as hikers, bikers and other wildlife watchers enjoying the Black Hills.

There is plenty of room for beginners and experts to shoot side by side with facilities for education,

outreach, and organized shooting competitions. The Master Plan is presented in phases for development based on funding availability and potential growth based on the growing needs of the sporting population.

This Master Plan is a celebration of South Dakota's outdoor heritage and an invitation to what lies ahead for the recruitment, retention and reactivation of shooting sports statewide.

More info at: https://gf-p.sd.gov/UserDocs/nav/South-DakotaShootingSportComplex_FINAL_02.pdf.

Illinois DNR awards Migratory Waterfowl Stamp Fund grants for habitat restoration and preservation in Canada - Grants from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources have been awarded that support efforts to conserve critical Canadian wetland and grassland breeding habitat for waterfowl that migrate to Illinois.

The agency awarded grants for waterfowl habitat restoration and preservation in Canadian breeding grounds. State Migratory

Waterfowl Stamp Funds, generated when hunters purchase Illinois duck stamps, are set aside for this purpose.

Canadian prairies are the primary breeding ground of ducks that migrate to Illinois and throughout the 14 states of the Mississippi Flyway. Illinois law specifies the use and distribution of these funds to areas outside of Illinois that provide ducks to the Mississippi Flyway and for the implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

The Illinois State Migratory Waterfowl Committee met to review three grant applications for funding through the Special Wildlife Funds Grant Program for 2022. A total of \$500,000 was available for fiscal year 2022: \$352,500 for Saskatchewan and \$147,500 for Manitoba.

After reviewing the proposals and presentations by the applicants, the State Migratory Waterfowl Committee recommended the following funding:

\$352,500 To DU for work in Saskatchewan;



\$75,000 to Delta Waterfowl for work in Manitoba.

• \$72,500 to Ducks Unlimited for work in Manitoba.

More information at <https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/grants/Pages/DuckStamp.aspx>; or jayette.bolinski@illinois.gov.

Innovative "Wild Sustenance" Program Coming to a College Classroom Near You -



**Rocky Mountain
ELK FOUNDATION**

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) and the Wildlife Biology Program at the University of Montana (UM) will unveil a bold, innovative, hands-on higher education experience this fall highlighting the fundamental role hunting plays in society and wildlife conservation. Once established, the Wild Sustenance curriculum will be available to other universities.

The three-credit Wild Sustenance course features teaching modules co-branded by UM and RMEF that fulfill a unique niche through:

Tailored programming that focuses on key motivations and barriers to participation in hunting;

Use of cutting-edge technology including virtual reality modules that explore field dressing, butchering and hunter ethics;

Encouraging the inclusion of students from a wide diversity of university majors;

Development of a micro-credential program from UM.

Topics featured in modules will include the basics of hunting, hunter ethics, hunting's role in conservation, firearms safety, processing and cooking game, and motivations and fears related to hunting and hunting regulations, in addition

to other topics developed with the help of RMEF.

RMEF provided significant resources from its Torstenson Family Endowment to fund the program which is core to RMEF's mission of ensuring our hunting heritage.

One-fish walleye limit set on Mille Lacs Lake for spring, fall fishing

Mille Lacs Lake walleye anglers will have two potential opportunities for harvest during the 2022 open water season.

A one-fish limit will allow Mille Lacs anglers to harvest one walleye 21-23 inches or one longer than 28 inches from Saturday, May 14 through Monday, May 30. After a summer of catch-and-release fishing with an early July closure to reduce hooking mortality, the one-fish limit is expected to return on Thursday, Sept. 1.

While the drops in fall walleye catch rates for the 2018 and 2019 year classes aren't as dramatic as previous levels that closed walleye harvest on Mille Lacs, they do signal that more conservative walleye harvest regulations may be needed in coming years.

The one-fish walleye limit is scheduled to resume Thursday, Sept. 1 through Wednesday, Nov. 30. During this period, anglers may fish from 6 a.m. to midnight.

Even with the drop in winter harvest, a two-week closure during what's normally one of the hottest times of the summer is needed to remain within the state's harvest total. As water temperature increases, so does hooking mortality — the tendency for fish to die after being caught and released. Protecting walleye during this vulnerable period can allow for many weeks of harvest during cooler times of the year.

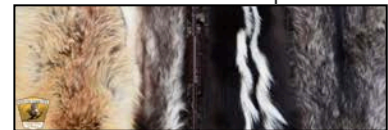
Additional details - The northern pike population on Mille Lacs Lake is healthy and harvest of

fish under 30 inches is encouraged for anglers looking for another option to bring home a meal of fish.

To help avoid incidental catch of walleye during the two-week closure in July, fishing for any species with certain kinds of bait will be restricted. Anglers targeting northern pike and muskellunge can use sucker minnows longer than 8 inches. But anglers targeting other fish may not use live, dead, preserved or parts of minnows, night crawlers, worms, leeches or crayfish.

More information about fishing regulations on Mille Lacs Lake, ongoing DNR management and research, citizen engagement and Mille Lacs area recreation opportunities is available on the DNR website (mndnr.gov/MilleLacs-Lake); Contact: bradford.parsons@st.mn.us

2022 Nest Predator Bounty Program Opens for All South Dakota Residents - The South Dakota Game, Fish, & Parks (GFP) Nest Predator Bounty program opened for South Dakota residents on April 1.



Tails from raccoon, striped skunk, badger, red fox, and opossum are eligible for \$10 per-tail payments with a maximum total payout of \$500,000. The program runs until July 1 or until the maximum total payout is reached.

Since the program began in 2019, three-year averages for resident furbearer license sales show a 19% increase.

Tails eligible for submission can be harvested via trapping or hunting. Participants need a hunting, furbearer, or fishing license to be eligible to participate in the bounty program. Landowners harvesting



nest predators for the program on their own land and youth under 18 are exempt from this license requirement.

Complete program details as well as dates, times and locations for tail submissions can be found on the GFP website.

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Strain Confirmed In Wisconsin's Wild Bird Populations -

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced that EA H5 Avian Influenza, a strain that is highly pathogenic for poultry, has been detected in wild birds in Wisconsin.

The samples were collected from a Cooper's hawk and a bald eagle submitted from Dane County, a lesser scaup from Columbia County, a red-tailed hawk from Grant County, a Canada goose from Milwaukee County, and a trumpeter swan from Polk County.

The DNR continues to work closely with state and federal partners to monitor for this virus.

The strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) currently affecting the health of some domestic and wild North American birds is known as EA H5N1. It has caused disease in domestic and wild birds in multiple states since it was first detected in North America in December 2021.

More information about the distribution of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5 and H5N1 in North America is available on the U.S. Geological Survey website.

DNR And Partners Monitoring Waterfowl, Raptors And Avian Scavengers For HPAI

As part of existing avian influenza response plans, federal and state partners are working on

additional surveillance and testing. DNR staff have increased monitoring efforts for this strain of HPAI, focusing on species most likely to carry or be affected by the virus.

The DNR asks the public to email (DNRWildlifeSwitchboard@wi.gov) or by leaving a voicemail message for a return phone call at 608-267-0866 with reports of waterfowl, waterbirds, raptors (especially bald eagles) and avian scavengers such as crows, ravens and gulls showing tremors, circling movement or holding their heads in an unusual position. These symptoms may be a sign of HPAI.

Anyone who observes sick or dead birds should minimize contact with them. Do not touch dead birds or wildlife with your bare hands. If you have to touch a dead bird, wear gloves or use a plastic bag to put it in the garbage. Wash your hands with soap and water after handling and throw away any gloves.

Avian influenza is caused by a virus that is common in wild birds, especially waterfowl and shorebirds. There are many different subtypes of avian influenza, and most do not cause obvious signs of disease in wild birds. Waterfowl often carry avian influenza viruses naturally without causing disease.

In general, upland birds such as wild turkey have behaviors and prefer habitats that make them less likely to encounter avian influenza viruses in the wild. This strain of HPAI also does not pose a food safety risk; properly handling and cooking harvested birds to an internal temperature of 165°F kills the virus.

More information on Avian influenza viruses and the ongoing response to this HPAI strain can be available on the Wisconsin DNR's wildlife diseases webpage.



Submitted by Bob Holzhei

With tick season just a few weeks away, a tick prevention safety guide has been developed by Brian Anderson," from Iron Mountain, Michigan, known as the Tick Terminator.

"The guide has been used by hundreds of safety directors, outdoor workers and enthusiasts across the country to help them learn and share new prevention ideas in the battle with ticks," added Anderson.

A follow-up bulletin titled "The Hidden Cost of Lyme Disease" assists readers of the tick season which runs from March through November each year.

What is Lyme Disease? -

Lyme disease is caused by the "bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted to humans through the bite of blacklegged ticks (deer ticks). Symptoms include headache, brain fog, chills, fatigue, flu like symptoms, neck stiffness, achy joints, bulls eye rash including other rashes, facial palsy, heart palpitations, dizziness, vision changes, and sensitivity to light," stated Anderson.

If left untreated the disease can spread to joints, heart and the nervous system. It is estimated that the disease results in 300-400,000 new cases each year.

Early detection and treatment are important. If diag-

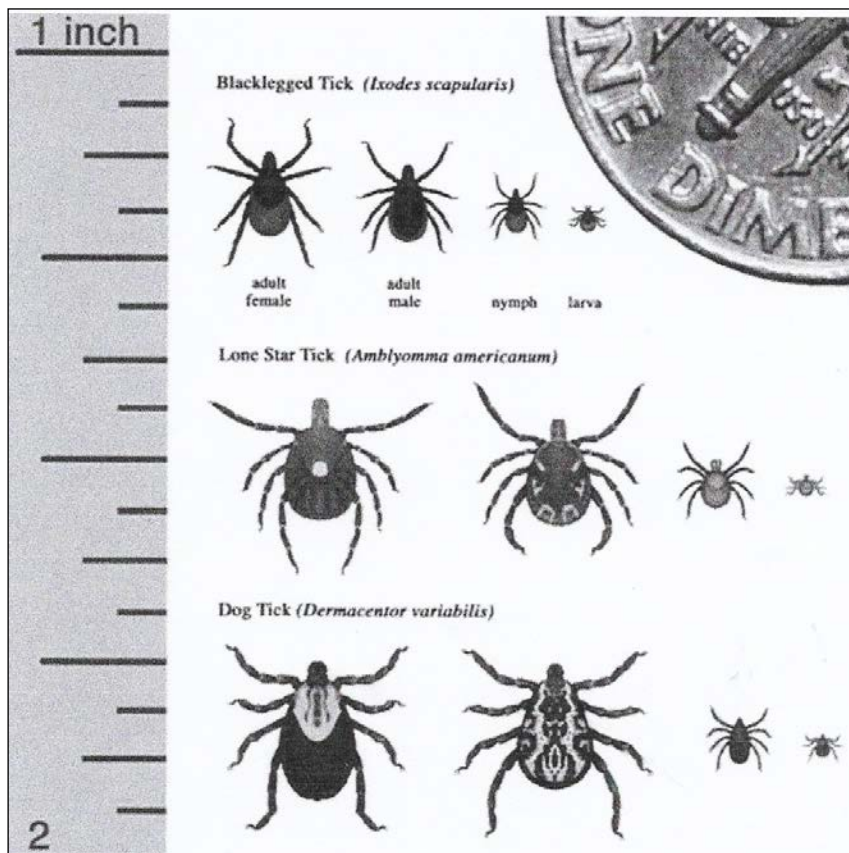
nosed soon enough, within a few weeks of a bite, antibiotic treatment by an MD will be sufficient to combat the disease. To allow the disease go untreated for months will lead to a chronic condition. Many doctors treat patients early with antibiotics to be safe. Lyme disease can take months in the body to show up positive in a test.

Where Does Lyme Disease Come From? - Ticks get Lyme disease by feeding on an infected animal, often a mouse or rodent, which is then passed on to the next host. Using good repellants and checking for tick bites during the season is advised.

The Hidden Costs of Lyme Disease - The person infected with Lyme disease enjoys a normal active life. Then suddenly overnight they become exhausted, can barely make it through a day of work, and can't wait to get home to rest. Often folks feel its just a temporary bug, which will pass. Lyme disease is nicknamed, "the great imitator," and the medical costs continue to rise. "Unfortunately, many insurance companies do not recognize the disease, and therefore will not pay for it," added Anderson.

Where Are Ticks Found? -

Ticks are found in tall grasses and low-lying shrubs, preferring moist shaded areas. They don't jump, fly or fall out of trees. They wait patiently to smell the odor of an animal or human walking by. They then latch on, and enjoy a 2-4-day, blood meal. When temperatures rise to above 32 degrees or warmer, ticks the season, has begun. Ticks do not die off during the winter. The small younger nymph ticks are the size



of a poppy seed, and are responsible for most Lyme disease cases.

Preventing Lyme Disease -

The use of Deet on the skin and Permethrin on clothes and gear was suggested by Anderson: 1) Tuck your pants into your socks; 2) Wear light-colored pants to easily spot ticks; 3) Walk on well-used paths and stay away from vegetation; 4) Use 25-34% Deet on skin; 5) Treat footwear, socks, pants, and shirts with Permethrin.

After the Bite - Quick medical attention is advised by a physician that knows about tick born diseases. The disease can be treated with antibiotics. Early detection and treatment are stressed!

"If you keep the ticks off of you, you won't get bit," concluded Anderson.

For more information:

Reprinted from: [www.thetick-terminator.com/Hidden Cost of Lyme.pdf](http://www.thetick-terminator.com/Hidden%20Cost%20of%20Lyme.pdf) <Tick Prevention Safety Guide.pdf> <Press Release 2:23: 22.pdf> / lymedisease.org.



[EDITOR'S NOTE: Contrary to a common myth that opossums eat up to 5,000 ticks per season: According to Louisiana State University's School of Renewable Natural Resources, Ticks are not, in any manner, selected for by Virginia opossums.]

The Versatile, Multi-Tasking Flying Disc

Tom Watson

With all the high-tech gear and gadgetry available for use in the outdoors, from spike camp to tail-gating family gatherings, there's one invaluable piece of equipment that takes on myriad tasks - something that's been around for decades, yet is a modern-day multi-tasked camping aid.

Ranking high among my essential camping gear inventory is my "camp" Frisbee - that classic, traditional saucer-shaped toy.

Technically a 'flying disc', the Frisbee has been a staple of my outdoor inventory since my days as a Boy Scout. It's one of the most versatile pieces of outdoor gear I have - and that doesn't even include its value as a yard game pastime.

The camp Frisbee is put to more uses in the field kitchen than pretty much anywhere else. Their slightly concave underside, rimmed by a short, solid lip makes them a perfect camp dish - flat enough to be used as a plate (either by itself or as a holder for a paper one), yet it's curved enough to serve as a bowl. For stews or spaghetti, it's especially practical, letting all the chunks of meat, noodles, sauces or gravy slosh around without your food



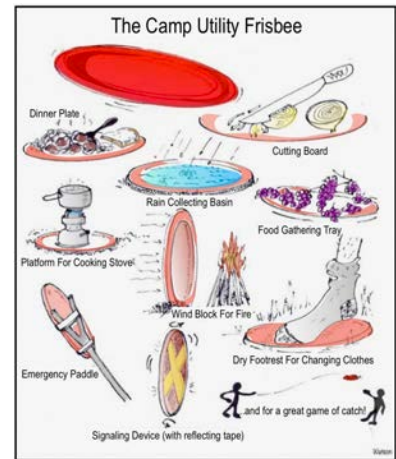
sliding off your plate and onto your lap or ground.

Frisbees make great cutting boards, too. Besides a surface that is easy on your knife blade, the rimmed "plate" keeps all the veggies you've sliced or diced at hand. You can also prepare and serve bread, meat, cheese, whatever! Tray when harvesting berries. It can be a simple lid to keep the heat in a small pan or perhaps as a cover to keep insects off your plate of food.

The round disc can be propped up to form a wind-break for a small backpack stove, or serve as its platform. It can also be used to fan struggling embers in a campfire. Finding a dry place to sit can be a challenge sometimes - but not with a Frisbee along. While not a large area upon which to roost, but it can give you a small, dry area on which to perch. Likewise, doing a little foot hygiene/changing socks is easier when you can place your fresh peds onto a small but dry platform instead of on dirty, damp ground or snow.



Frisbees have a utilitarian place in the paddlsports world, too. Although not a first choice bailer by any means, a rimmed disc can work to scoop some water from your canoe or kayak. It is also a handy mini tray for your lap on which to lay out an assortment of lures, swivels and such when rigging up fishing gear.



It can even come to your aid as a makes-shift paddle, especially when you're up that certain creek without one. This versatile disc can be used as an emergency paddling aid, performing short directional strokes, for maneuvering a small boat through the water.

In your tent, the Frisbee becomes a receptacle tray for small pocket items.

Another consideration in the generic flying disc's favor - they are cheap! You can sometimes find promo/give-away discs emblazoned with a company's logo. Choose bright, high-vis' colors to use as an emergency signal - (mark your signaling Frisbee's outer, domed surface with reflective tape).

Options are limited only by one's imagination: Dog food dish? Emergency visor or rain "hat"? Padded and wedged against a hole/crack in a boat hull?

And, of course, there's always its primary purposes - a great game of catch or a round of Frisbee golf while in camp.





2022 Kentucky Lake Media Event



Be the first to break the story that sport fishing is not just alive and well on Kentucky Lake, it may be the best it has been in many years. The Asian Carp crisis is nearing an end and the Crappies and Bass are biting!

The beautiful Moors Resort and Marina will be your home base for this event. Guided crappie and bass fishing, as well as, night time bow fishing for carp will be on the agenda. Also, you will hear from the Kentucky DNR about the practices that have lead to the removal of millions of pounds of Asian Carp.

Sign up now by taking this form: <https://aglow.memberclicks.net/2022-ky-lake-camp>.

Tentative Schedule:

Monday, May 9th: - 2PM - 5PM: Writers arrive throughout the day and check-in at Moors Resort 5:30PM - 7PM: Welcome dinner at Ralph's Harborview Grill;

May 9-12, 2022 - 7:30PM - 10:30PM: (Tentative) Night time bow-fishing

Tuesday, May 10th: *Breakfast on your own/Boxed lunch provided; 7AM - 2PM:

Group A: Crappie Fishing 7AM - 2PM: Group B: Bass Fishing 2:30PM: Return to Moors;

Educational seminar: 4 pm, by KY Dept. of FW 6PM: Dinner Outing

Wednesday, May 11th: 7AM - 2PM: Group A - Bass Fishing; 7AM - 2PM: Group B - Crappie Fishing; 2:30PM: Return to Moors; FREE AFTERNOON

7PM: Dinner to the Freight House in Paducah

Thursday, May 12th: 8:30 AM: Farewell breakfast 11AM; Checkout and Departure

*Other meals, lodging, and fishing are all included. You will be responsible for your fishing license and transportation to the event.

HORIZONS

Tom Watson / Editor / <tom@tomwatsonwrites.com>

% Association of Great Lakes Outdoor Writers

P.O. Box 548, Knox, IN 46534

877-472-4569

