

WISCONSIN

GAME WARDEN

Spring 2011



— WISCONSIN —

GAME WARDEN

Spring 2011

in this issue...

- 3** One in the Hand is *MUCH* Better than Two in the Bush
- 4** A Troubling Trend
- 8** Meet the Mojave Rattler
- 10** Female Duck Hunters: Good for Goose & Gander
- 12** Chill Out!
- 14** A Newspaper Headline from the Past
- 17** Marine Unit Trains with FBI SWAT Teams
- 18** The Conservation Warden Auto Cycle Experiment
- 20** You *Can* Harvest a Bear
- 22** Are You *PRIVY* to This?

departments

- 7** Looking Back
- 15** Fruits of their Labor
- 16** Warden in the Spotlight: Shawna Stringham
- 24** Obituaries
- 27** WCWA Membership Form and WCEF Donation Form

on the cover...

The Northeast Region's Marine Enforcement Unit assisted the FBI in training of on-water boardings of hostile ships. See story on Page 17.

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION WARDEN ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Mike Neal
P.O. Box 456, 8618 Highway 57
Baileys Harbor, WI 54202

VICE PRESIDENT

Randy Dunkel
6418 Kinzie Ave
Racine, WI 53406-5668

SECRETARY

Jim Jung
6051 Redpine Drive
Rhineland, WI 54501-8866

TREASURER

John Daniel
4934 County Trunk Highway KP
Cross Plains, WI 53528

Publications Committee

Jim Blankenheim, Gary Eddy, Jim Horne,
Susan Miller, Bill Schwengel
and Tom Van Haren

Managing Editor

Barbara A. Schmitz
1705 Graber St., Oshkosh, WI 54901
(920) 235-0972
write2us@sbcglobal.net

Design, Layout & Production
Beth Blanck

WISCONSIN GAME WARDEN
is the official publication of the Wisconsin
Conservation Warden Association. Third
Class Postage Paid at Oshkosh, WI
POSTMASTER

Send address changes to:
WCWA, P.O. Box 44
Madison, WI 53701-0044.



IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT
WISCONSIN GAME WARDEN
SPRING 2011

Published two times a year by the
Wisconsin Conservation & Educational
Foundation Inc.
P.O. Box 44, Madison, WI 53701-0044
Volume 21, No. 1

One in the Hand

*Living, learning as a Wisconsin
conservation warden*

By Mike Kitt

In the spring of 1982, I was a brand-new conservation warden recruit, fresh out of the academy. My first field-training assignment was with Joe Davidowski in Superior. "Ole Joe" was a living legend, and quite frankly, I was intimidated as hell. Joe seemed to take a liking to me, however, once he learned I drank coffee. I learned a lot from Joe in my stay there.

Joe had a way of making a point stick with very few words, and was very patient with his army of recruits, which was why he was such an excellent field training officer. Joe was a consummate professional, and one of the best this outfit has ever had. I still remember so many things Joe told me, and to this day I try to live them out as Joe instructed me when I was so green.

The "screw up" I remember most occurred in April of 1982 on the Little Pokegama River in Douglas County. Ole Joe sent me out to see if there were any spawning walleyes on the river. I took off in plain clothes and proceeded to walk the river. After a mile or so, I came to a bend in the river where I saw three males in their early 20s sitting along the bank. One was leaning on a spear, while two were sitting on the ground making what appeared to be a fish trap out of two bicycle rims and chicken wire. Armed with a trap hook that I thought resembled a gaff hook, I decided to make friends with them and attempt to join their inner circle. My hope was instead of just getting a "spearing outfit," I would also get them running the fish trap and impress Joe.

After some nervous conversation on their part, I began poking around in the water. The next thing I knew, I was looking at three backsides melting into the brush. There I stood, knee deep in water with nothing. I had blown it! How could this have gone so wrong? I searched frantically for the violators and their vehicle, but came up with nothing. There was only one thing left to do – go back and face the music.

I'll never forget the look on Joe's face when I told him my story. It was somewhere between pain and utter disdain. I stood there and waited for it – the "tongue lashing" I knew I was going to get. Joe looked at me with one eye open and one squinted shut – a look often used by Joe when he wanted to drive a point home.

"One in the hand, Mikey, one in the hand trumps two in the bush every time."



That was it – no lecture, no yelling, just that simple statement. I was ready for yelling. That I could not handle. But I think Joe knew I was beating myself up badly enough.

For the next two days things seemed a little quieter than usual. My sole punishment was to wash Joe's squad every Friday before I left. On the afternoon of day three we were driving past the grade school in South Range when I noticed a guy sitting on the steps.

"Stop the car; that's one of them!" I shouted.

"One of who?" Joe asked.

"One of the guys with the spear, Joe," I replied.

Joe looked at me with one eye and questioned sternly, "Are you positive?"

I shouted in the affirmative. Joe circled the block and parked the squad.

"You stay here Mikey; I'll take care of this," Joe barked.

I sat in the car, nervously watching Joe sitting on the steps talking with someone I was sure was one of the perpetrators. Then all of a sudden, I wasn't so sure. After an agonizing 5 minutes, Joe came back to the car. He got in, looked at me with one eye, and said, "Saved your ass on this one Mikey; they'll be at the house at 5 o'clock with the spear."

Once again I was made to wait in the house while Joe talked to the spearkers outside. Joe finally came in with that twinkle in his eye. "Just remember Mikey, one in the hand" was all Joe said. He did let me write the tickets though.

A few weeks later, my training stint was up and it was time for me to move on. Joe had two friends who were brothers. They were extremely good trappers and carpenters, and I learned a lot from them. Just before I left, Joe gave me a box and said it was from the brothers. Inside was a wooden plaque with a spear head on it. It was THE spearhead! An inscription on the plaque stated, "One in the hand is worth two in the bush – Mikey's first spearing case, Superior, WI." I was at a loss for words. I thanked Joe and asked him to thank the brothers for me. It was time to go.

I put that plaque in my office when I was permanently assigned. It sat in a prominent spot on the wall. If you ever come in my office, you will see that plaque to this day – 28 years later. I never forgot that incident, or the other things Ole Joe taught me. I look at that plaque every day, remember and smile. Thanks Joe!

By Jon Feyen

TROUBLING trend

Number of wardens expected to continue to decline due to economy, retirements

Wisconsin's conservation warden force is one of the thinnest in the country, and that problem will only get worse in the next few years.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Wisconsin has one warden for every 7,900 sportsmen. That figure ranks last among the 27 states with a listed number of fish and game wardens.

Chief Conservation Warden Randy Stark said the state is authorized to have 206 full-time positions, but the current number of wardens stands at 176. While the state government sets the number of possible wardens, the DNR can't afford to spend the \$100,000 it takes to recruit and

train each new warden. It also costs \$100,000 annually to fund each warden's field operations.

"Could we use more people? Absolutely," Stark said. "But the current realities are such that I don't anticipate any additional staffing in the foreseeable future. We're going to do the best we can with what we've got."

What Wisconsin has is 30 vacancies – and that number could double in the next two or three years. There are 37 wardens who will be eligible to retire by the end of 2013, leaving a possible 67 positions empty out of 206.

"We've had kind of a perfect storm," Stark said. "The baby boomer generation is coming of

retirement age. It's happening all across the country – in both the private and the public sector. It hits us a little earlier in law enforcement because we're able to retire at age 50."

But the warden shortage is not due to a lack of applicants, said Kyle Kosin, a member of the 11-warden recruit class in 2008. Last year, the department had more than 750 candidates. About 180 scored high enough to qualify before 84 advanced to the interview stage. The state hired 10, who then went through 13 weeks of police certification and four months of training at Fort McCoy.

Warden Recruit Supervisor Ron Cork has had about a dozen participants in his

academy each year since 2004. He said the department is working on hiring three new wardens for the 2011 class.

Kosin graduated from UW-Stevens Point, which is one of the top colleges in the country for natural resource studies. Professor Robert Holsman said three-fourths of the school's 200 law enforcement students desire to be a game warden.

Kosin, who patrols both the Fond du Lac and Campbellsport stations, said he wanted this job ever since a warden spoke to his elementary school class. He considers his work to be so fun that it's almost a hobby, and he enjoys educating youth at the popular learn-to-hunt programs.

“Walker ran on a platform of reducing regulation. That translates into the DNR not getting any additional resources in the next four years.”

Robert Holsman
UW-Stevens Point Professor

A conservation warden has three main responsibilities – enforcing the law, educating the public and working with local communities. The shortage of wardens might lead to more violators going uncaught, and Stark said being visible is one of the most important things a warden can do.

Kosin said there would probably never be enough wardens in Wisconsin, considering the number of people who utilize the outdoors and the state’s natural resources. The job shares similarities with those at the local police department, but the warden force doesn’t have that type of hierarchy.

“I’m the investigative

officer,” Kosin said. “I’m the patrol officer. I’m my own secretary. I take care of my own bills. In this area, I’m basically a one-man team.”

Kosin, who oversees the state’s largest resource in Lake Winnebago, has been forced to cover the Campbellsport zone because of a recent retirement. He said with no additional money for training, the state is going to have warden vacancies for quite a while.

“With troubles like this in the economy, people are looking at their pensions and trying to balance what’s best for them,” Kosin said. “This is the greatest job in the world, but sometimes it benefits them to retire.”

While the number of wardens

By the numbers...

With 1.18 million hunters and fishers – 27 percent of the population – Wisconsin values game wardens more than most states. That percentage of sportsmen stands fifth among the 50 states, trailing a nation-high 32 percent in Minnesota. The national average is 15 percent, down from 21 percent of the eligible population in 1991.

Though it has a similar number of sportsmen as Wisconsin, Georgia employs the most wardens in the country with 570. That equates to one warden for every 2,000 hunters and anglers. South Dakota holds the best ratio at 1:1,360, while the national average is one warden for every 4,500 sportsmen. Not far from Wisconsin, Ohio has a similar warden shortage with one for every 7,832 sportsmen.

By the salary...

Game wardens in Wisconsin have a starting pay of about \$45,000 per year. On average, our state's wardens earn \$51,690 per year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Wisconsin's average salary ranks eighth among the 27 states with listed fish and game warden positions. The mean salary for wardens throughout the country is about \$55,000.

Georgia may have the most wardens of any state, but it ranks last in average salary at just over \$34,000. Maryland, which has the same number of wardens as Wisconsin, tops the nation with an annual pay of \$67,430.

California lists second among the United States in both wardens — 540 — and average salary — \$65,730.



When he's not in the field, Fond du Lac County Conservation Warden Kyle Kosin has an office at the Wisconsin State Patrol headquarters.

in the state will likely decline because of retirements in the immediate future, the number of Wisconsin hunters and anglers has remained steady over the past 20 years. Stark credits that to his wardens' dedication to youth programs.

But Kosin said Wisconsin's warden quandary is being duplicated in the hunting sector. There are more hunters retiring than there are new hunters taking up the activity.

"We need to get our youth programs going," Kosin said. "They may hook someone on the sport. That opens up a whole new window of involvement before they get to the age where they would rather be playing video games."

Besides enforcing and educating, a warden's duties have expanded since the program began 132 years ago. Stark named just a few of the areas that concern his wardens: regulating hunting, fishing and trapping; hunter education; recreational vehicle education; monitoring boats, snowmobiles and ATVs; enforcing environmental laws for air pollution, water quality and invasive species; and responding to emergencies and natural disasters.

"The threats to our resources change over time," said Stark, who became chief

warden in 2002. "That's why it's very important we have wardens who are adaptive and innovative."

Stark considers the job to be both challenging and rewarding. Wardens must be self-starters because they often operate alone. It's also important they work well with others because they cooperate with law enforcement and sometimes partner with nearby wardens.

Kosin is pleased that wardens in his region are relying on each other more than they used to.

"Back in the day, it was 'this is my area, and no other wardens come into my area,'" he said. "Our team has really evolved."

Admitting there is no way he could cover his entire zone by himself, Kosin also receives great support from the public. In Wisconsin during 2008, the DNR violation hotline received more than 4,300 tips.

"It's come down to me making friends with the landowners," Kosin said. "If I didn't go out and make those connections, then I would never receive those calls. Those violations are cases that would probably go unsolved."

The DNR is trying to keep up with technology by starting a texting program last May. Citizens can quietly report

any violation by sending a brief text to TIP411. Kosin said people could type text messages in a nonchalant way without drawing attention to themselves, which they might do when calling the phone hotline.

Stark considers public support to be the key to their success. The department has limited investigative resources, so any tips it receives are valuable in protecting Wisconsin's natural resources.

Wardens have been able to overcome some of the staff shortage thanks to computers (with air cards) in their patrol vehicles. Kosin loves the fact that he can type and print citations in a matter of minutes, where it used to consume a large chunk of his day.

"Technology has helped us slow that curve down," Cork said. "We've done better because we have computers that help us be more efficient. But there are some things you just can't do without people on the ground."

As Gov. Walker settles into office, Kosin expects him to treat the DNR just like any other department. Wisconsin needs more conservation wardens, but the government will be looking to save wherever possible.

"Walker ran on a platform

of reducing regulation," Holsman said. "That translates into the DNR not getting any additional resources in the next four years."

Holsman believes administrations avoid hiring wardens because it creates the impression that they are spending tax dollars. In reality, 137 of the warden positions are funded through license fees.

The thin warden force has remained effective because its 176 officers are extremely dedicated to protecting our natural resources. Kosin said it's difficult to make family plans because he's obligated to investigate any incident that occurs in his area.

According to Holsman, the situation will eventually get to a point where public service begins to decline. At this point, voters must let their legislators know that the warden shortage is unacceptable.

"We've answered the call on these challenges before," Stark said. "Every generation has its challenges, and we're facing ours right now. We have confidence that we're going to work our way through these things like we always have. It's critical that we pass our conservation ethic onto the next generation."

JON FEYEN is an Oshkosh freelance writer.

Flanigan family donates \$500 to warden exhibit

The family of James H. Flanigan donated \$500 toward the NRF Warden Exhibit in his memory.

Flanigan, 80, of Siren, Wis., died on April 20, 2010.

“James was always proud to be a Wisconsin conservation warden and enjoyed his work very much,” wrote his wife, Wanda Flanigan in a letter to the Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association.

Flanigan served as a warden for the state for more than 29 years, from Jan. 1, 1962 through Jan. 4, 1988.

But he actually began his career in 1957 with the Wisconsin Conservation Department in Polk County, where he served as a special conservation warden. He began his permanent employ-

ment with the department in 1962 with training assignments at Black River Falls, Jefferson and Portage.

His first permanent assignment was at Sauk City in 1962. In 1964, he transferred to Webster and he served there until his retirement.

Flanigan was known for administering a well-balanced program of enforcement and public relations throughout his career. In addition, he worked extensively with the St. Croix band of the Chippewa.

At the January 1988 Natural Resources Board meeting, Flanigan received a commendation for being an outstanding servant of the people.

LOOKING BACK

By Harland Steinhorst

125 years ago

- The state of Wisconsin had field fish wardens for eight years starting in 1879, but officials resisted in hiring game wardens. Wildlife-related organizations and the news media kept pressure on state government officials, hoping for a breakthrough.

100 years ago

- The state warden force is divided into work groups — for inland work, transportation work in railroads and fishery work in outlying waters.
- Wardens are paid \$2.50 per day, while top supervisors received \$4 per day.

75 years ago

- During the year, 1,400 applications were received by the Department for the warden examination.
- This was the second year of the bow and arrow deer season. Only Sauk and Columbia counties had a bow-deer season.

50 years ago

- One of the longest, largest manhunts in Wisconsin occurred in August of 1961 in Sauk County. It lasted seven days, and field wardens, department aircraft flown by warden pilots and the state park police joined in the manhunt. At times, more than 300 law enforcement officers from throughout the state joined in the hunt for three Chicago-based armed robbers. The robbers had shot and killed a sheriff's deputy and seriously wounded the chief of police of Lake Delton.

25 years ago

- Mandatory physical fitness testing began.
 - Breath alcohol analyzers were issued to field wardens, to be mainly used in boating law enforcement.
 - Wardens were given the authority to enforce ATV regulations.
- Harland Steinhorst is a retired Wisconsin conservation warden now living in La Valle.*

Articles, photos sought for Fall 2011 issue

Wisconsin Game Warden Magazine is looking for interesting articles that deal with the great outdoors. The deadline for the Fall issue is Aug. 15, 2011.

Possible topics include ecology, warden cases made, places to go, resource conservation methods, gotcha-type stories, animal rescues, history of the warden force, and articles dealing with the natural world.

Other possible story topics include vacations, recipes and the future of the warden force.

Articles can be submitted to Managing Editor Barbara Schmitz at 1705 Graber St., Oshkosh, WI 54901, or e-mailed as a Word document to write2us@sbcglobal.net. When possible include photographs to go with your story. They can be mailed or e-mailed to Schmitz. E-mailed photos should be at least 4" x 6" and 300 dpi or 8" x 10" and at least 72 dpi.

In addition, the magazine is also looking for photos for its Fruits of their Labor feature. Do you have a picture of your family with fish and game they've harvested in Wisconsin? Or how about one of you and some game? Send it in!

Photos can be mailed to Schmitz at the above address. They will be returned, if requested. As before, photos can also be sent electronically to Schmitz.

If you have questions, you can also call Schmitz at (920) 235-0972.

A rattler is a rattler is a rattler

Not so; Mojave rattlesnake carries 2 types of venom

By Pat Lisi

When Marjorie and I moved from Fitchburg, Wis. to St. George, Utah, one of the pros of the move was that we said goodbye to mosquitoes, deer flies and horse flies, Japanese Beetles, and a bunch of other nasty little pests that used to drain our veins of our good, wholesome blood.

As a retired warden, I remember many nights sitting out in the marsh, waiting for someone, anyone, to do something weird to some natural resource, and growing weaker by the minute whilst a dagger-mouthed mosquito or gnat chewed away at my flesh. You couldn't swat him for fear of making noise, and slathering ounces of repellant makes a sneaky game warden smell funny, even to those would-be varmints who tend to make doing things out of season a bad habit.

However, the move to southern Utah

That mosquito bite you're scratching doesn't seem as annoying when you consider what could be biting you. Pat Lisi captured this Mojave (green) rattlesnake with a 55 mm lens, getting closer to it than was probably wise since the rattler is 20 times as toxic as a Diamondback rattlesnake.

and the high desert (the important word being desert) introduced my wife and I to a different set of creepy crawlers that we had not encountered in the beautiful state of Wisconsin. Those creepy crawlers include tarantula, wolf and brown recluse spiders, termites that can grow up to 1 ½-inches long, scorpions (did you know that some variety of scorpion can be found in almost any part of the world, even the Antarctic?) and of course, rattlesnakes – six varieties right here in southern Utah.

You may be thinking that a rattler is a rattler is a rattler. Not so.

Pictured here is a juvenile Mojave (green) rattlesnake. I know this because my good friend and Utah Game Biologist Lynn Christianson told me so. Lynn is also a professional photographer who accompanies Marjorie and me on some of our

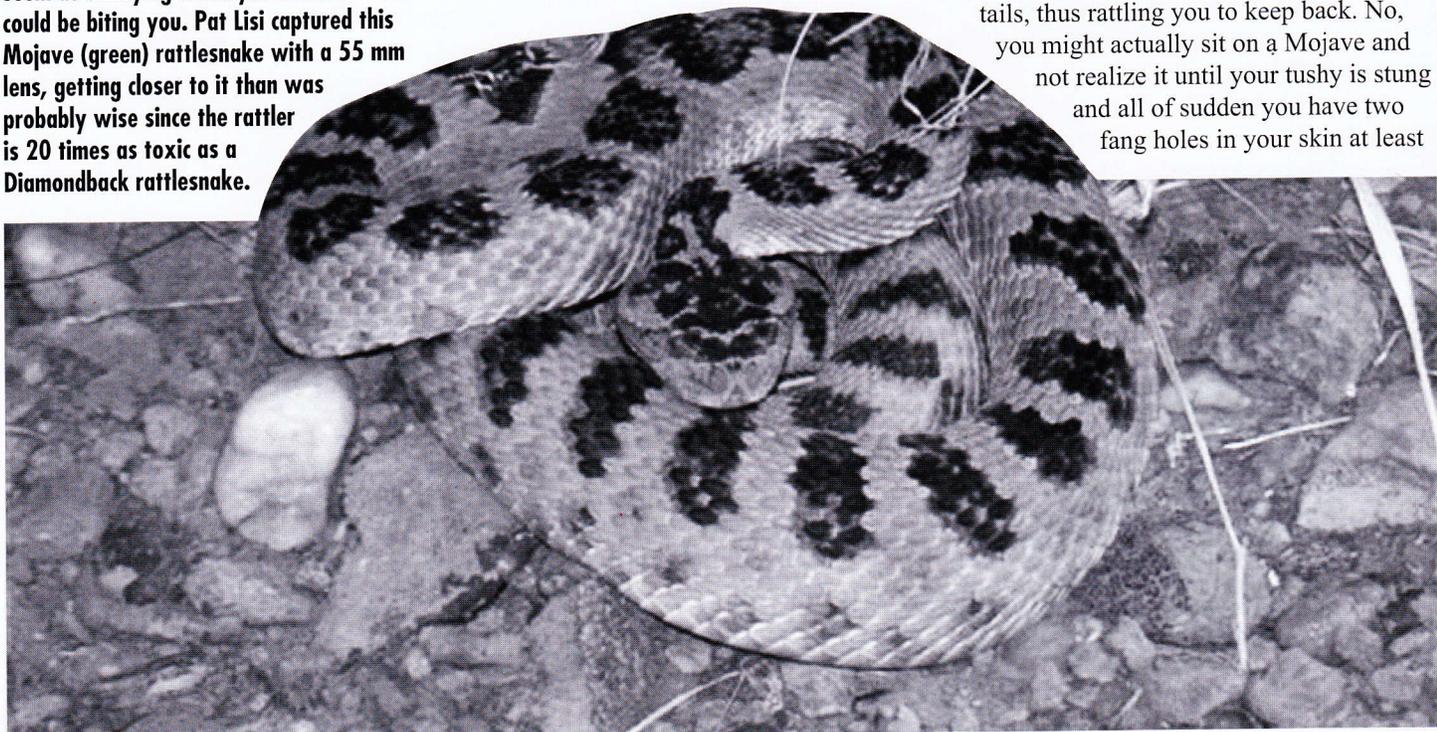
photo trips in southern Utah and northern Arizona. The photo you see here was taken by yours truly, and I was using a 55 mm lens at the time. That means, what you see is what you are getting – a true close-up of a very deadly rattlesnake.

The Mojave rattlesnake is unique. It is the most venomous of the rattlers in the continental United States. This is because it is the only rattlesnake within the Continental U.S. that carries two

kinds of venom: One attacks the nervous system, and the other poisons the muscles of its victim. Think of the Mojave as being 20 times as toxic as a Diamondback rattlesnake, just to put things into perspective.

Mojave rattlesnakes have a couple of other crazy characteristics that make them "bad boys." For one, very seldom do they actually warn you by way of shaking their tails, thus rattling you to keep back. No, you might actually sit on a Mojave and not realize it until your tushy is stung and all of sudden you have two fang holes in your skin at least

One (type of venom) attacks the nervous system, and the other poisons the muscles of its victim.



an inch apart. Try applying first aid there!

The Mojave rattlesnake pictured here never rattled once. By the way, I stood that close to Mr. Mojave simply because I didn't have a longer lens with me at the moment. Next time I'll attach a 200mm lens and stay back 10 feet. Hey, adapt and overcome as we used to say in the Marines. I had to get the shot because the Mojave are somewhat of a rare find during certain times of the year.

Mojave rattlesnakes are also one of only a couple of the rattlesnake species that will hunt from above the ground, usually perching themselves midway up a mesquite or creosote bush to nab a small bird or two. This means hikers need to be looking into things other than rocks on the ground because these guys are predators not to be messed with. Thankfully, I have seen enough of these "green rattlesnakes" to know what they can do and where they usually show up.

One day, as we hiked along a rocky trail a few miles from our home, I caught the quick movement of something in the corner of my eye. Spinning to my right I saw the Mojave recoiling from the near vicinity of my right calf. My heart was in my throat the next second, but then I realized the snake was recoiling away from me – in other words, he simply missed this time! As I stood there, stunned and excited, he crawled into a pile of rocks and then he decided to rattle! Of course, being the good and kind-hearted conservationist and wildlife protector that I am, I did not pursue an avenue of revenge. Besides, you know what the ancient Kung-Fu masters used to say about that: "If you seek revenge, dig two graves – one for your enemy and one for yourself."

Marjorie and I see about a dozen rattlesnakes a year, not all of them Mojave's. The other five varieties of rattlers here include the western, blacktail, western diamondback, great basin, and the sidewinder. The Arizona coral snake is the only venomous snake in these parts that is not a rattlesnake. Sightings are normally during the heat of the day and sometimes right away in the mornings after a chilly night, when they tend to get to sandstone to start warming themselves.

There you have it, guys and gals. If you come out west and hang out in the desert, beware of these deadly creatures. But, have fun and don't get too bent out of shape when you see a magnificent creature like a Mojave rattlesnake. Oh, and bring a nice long lens for your camera!

PAT LISI is a retired warden living in St. George, Utah. He writes: "Let me congratulate the entire Wisconsin Warden Force, the states' Law Enforcement Safety Specialists, and the deer hunters of Wisconsin on the perfect, no-fatality 2010 deer gun season! This was awesome news when I got wind of it down here."

GAME WARDENS FROM THE PAST

By Harland Steinhorst

E. A. Cleasby — Portage and Eau Claire 1912-1914 and 1918-1919

Walter Scott in his book, "The Wisconsin Warden," noted the following information about Warden E. A. Cleasby:

In 1912, Deputy Game Warden E.A. Cleasby of Portage talked to the 26th Farmer's Institute meeting in Neenah on the subject of "Birds of Value to Farmers." In his speech, he said, "In Wisconsin, we realize there is a need of education, and the fish and game warden department is undertaking this work through the schools, the Farmers' Institutes, school board conventions, teachers' institutes, and with the people generally."

That statement would define his mission as a game warden. Cleasby was a member of the Wilson Ornithological Club of America.

In 1914, it was reported that he had "completed his educational work for the state as a deputy warden" and was now employed by the U.S. Biological Survey.

In 1918, former warden Cleasby was rehired to fill a post at Eau Claire, earning \$100 per month, "until such time he may be called back into Federal Service." His name disappears from the warden directory in 1920.

His nickname in the newspapers was "Professor" Cleasby.

The Rev. E.D. Upson Merillian (Jackson County) and Madison 1918-1923

The Rev. E.D. Upson outlined his duties as a game warden in the January 1941 edition of the *Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin*. He was 75 years old at the time of the article.

Prior to being appointed a state game warden, he served as a Methodist Episcopal Church pastor at churches mainly in northeast Wisconsin. In 1918, he was called to the M.E. Church in Merillian and appointed state warden.

He described himself as the "Conservation Department's first official publicity warden." He spent his time lecturing the public on the need for conservation.

He moved to the Madison area in 1920, and served churches in Verona and Middleton while conducting his warden duties as an employee of the Conservation Department.

His picture in his *Bulletin* article shows him wearing a World War I soldier's uniform. I am guessing he served as an Army chaplain prior to being appointed to the Merillian station.

He summed up his position as a "conservation salesman."

In late 1923, Conservation Commissioner Elmer Hall eliminated Rev. Upson's position. There were no chief wardens appointed from 1918 to 1924.

HARLAND STEINHORST is a retired Wisconsin conservation warden now living in LaValle.

Don't forget WGW when you move

If you are moving or have moved, don't forget to tell *Wisconsin Game Warden Magazine*.

The post office does not forward or return the magazines since they are mailed Third Class. That means the Association has no way of knowing which members are not receiving their copies.

For address changes or general mailing questions, contact Kathy Pospychalla at Kathy.Oginski@wisconsin.gov.

WATERFOWLERESS?

*No matter what you call female duck hunters, remember:
What's good for the goose, is also good for the gander*

By Duane Harpster



What is the politically correct term for a woman waterfowler? I think the term waterfowler is sufficiently genderless to cover us all, but maybe it would need to be prefaced by lady or woman, so as to not offend. Whatever it is supposed to be, I guarantee that if you ask my wife, she would tell you she is a duck and goose hunter.

There was a time when she was just a duck and goose shooter, and darn proficient at it, but I think she is now as much a waterfowler as the next guy, ahh person. Janie seems to be a rarity since you rarely see or hear much about women hunting waterfowl. I know a few among my friends and acquaintances, but they certainly are not as common as women deer or bird hunters and anglers.

Why do you suppose that is? Is waterfowling too tough for them? Are they unable to master the intricacies of setting a spread of decoys and calling in birds? I don't know what the answer is, but it could be that they don't get as many chances.

Janie loves to hunt and be outdoors, so chasing ducks and geese was no big step. If there was a challenge, it was getting her proper waders and clothing 20 years ago. Today, equipment is available so that's no longer an excuse. Due to my chosen profession, Janie's first duck hunt was a small affair with just her and our old Labrador. The ducks should have passed out the word right then — this girl can shoot!

We had some nice hunts here in Wisconsin, but when we started going to North Dakota, Janie really started to get into it. With just the two of us most of the time,



Hunting is all about friends and a good time. Our Canadian buddies thought Toby needed sunglasses on this beautiful day.

(opposite page) Janie Harpster isn't concerned with the politically correct term for a woman waterfowler. She just considers herself a duck and goose hunter, who just happens to be pretty proficient at it. This picture was taken during a recent Manitoba hunt.

she quickly became adept at setting duck spreads and field sets for geese and ducks. Guess what! Once she understood the basic principles of decoying, she was a full-fledged partner. It would take us 45 minutes to an hour to set our 300 field goose decoys, but then we always had coffee and a snack. Unlike some of my hunting partners, Janie never forgets the food and coffee. She even got the old lab into drinking coffee, and when we got a pup, we had to have hot chocolate until the pup was full grown. She didn't want to stunt the pup's growth, she said.

For quite awhile she was content to let me do the calling, but one morning, she asked if she could try it. I let her try, and that created a monster. She is pretty darn good on ducks, and she wanted her own calls. That's right; she was not content with one! I honestly don't know how many she now has.

As manager of the Northern Highland Sport Shop in Boulder Junction, she goes to buying shows and gets "samples." Her arguably most favorite "rep" died a couple years ago, but while he was alive, he made sure Janie got a good selection of calls each year. Lucky for me, she occasionally donates one to me. As we all know, multiple callers can really help, and we do all right working together.

Of course, she has added her own little touches to our program, and I honestly can't say they are bad. Nice camo blind bags and nice camo insulated bibs mean no more frozen butts. A little upgrade on coats (what's good for the goose is good

for the gander), neoprene vests for the dogs, and on and on. You know the list of necessities is endless for waterfowlers, and when she is the partner, it is lots easier to get all that stuff. In fact, I don't think I ever had it so good when it comes to getting stuff.

Janie is also rather innovative. For instance, carrying bags of field decoys and all our other stuff across $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of chisel-plowed fields got old. Turns out that she had a couple inexpensive sleds at the store that they stocked for ice fishermen that had been on inventory for a couple years. She brought them home, along with some thin camo foam padding someone gave her. We cut the padding to fit inside the sled, rolled up one end for a headrest, and after we got our gear to the spot, the sleds became layout blinds. We just covered up with decoy bags or gunnysacks, and were all set. We have upgraded since, but those sleds were the answer for quite some time.

Janie has gone through a couple guns; haven't we all? She started with a Remington 12 ga., 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Special Field Auto-loader, and it worked well. However, it struggled with the dirt on the field hunts. I then got her fixed up with a Browning over and under that worked just fine; however, she wanted that third shell. I told you she is a shooter! So now she has a 3" Benelli with a 21" barrel and I think she will never part with it. She now shoots 3" mags at geese, and has her own opinion on loads.

Janie has come a long way in her 20-

plus years of waterfowling, and while she does enjoy getting birds, it is now more important to her to experience the total hunt. We have traveled to Manitoba the last few years and had a great time each trip. The Canadians we hunt with really enjoy her because she is obviously having the time of her life, and it is interesting to see the positive and amazed reaction of the "locals" to this woman hunter.

I often wonder why she loves duck hunting so much, and I have come to believe it is a combination of things. She loves being outdoors, she loves hunting with her Labradors, and she loves to watch the birds, maybe even more than shooting them. This past fall, we were set up on a pretty little bluebill lake in Manitoba as the sun came up. We soon realized that there was a clear blue sky, and amazingly, for the prairie, no wind. We thought the morning would be pretty quiet, but being Canada, we had amazingly good action. However, the neatest thing was that as we kept down when birds were working, we could watch them fly over in the mirror-still water. So clear against that blue sky, we could easily identify drakes and hens and species. When we were done, Janie said: "That was the most beautiful and amazing thing to see those birds' reflections. I won't ever forget that."

Yes, there is no doubt that she is a "waterfowler." So guys, take a woman duck hunting; you won't regret it!

DUANE HARPSTER is a retired warden living in Boulder Junction.

CHILL OUT!

By Duane Harpster

Back in the early 70s, deer still yarded up in northern Forest County, and logging jobs were usually set up in the vicinity of deeryards to provide winter browse. Violators often shot deer in these logging jobs all winter, so wardens often were working illegal deer hunting throughout the winter. I was a special for Crandon Warden Dick Abney back then, so when Roger Lichtenwalner, the Three Lakes warden, needed help with a logging job complaint, I was included in. The fourth member of our merry band was Phil Vanderschagen, wildlife manager out of Rhineland.

Roger always said, "Plan your work and work your plan." Thus, we would get our marching orders on the phone a couple days before the adventure. Roger had been contacted by a logger who told him that someone was shooting deer in the job on the weekends when no one was there. Roger made a trip there and saw several drag trails confirming the logger's story. Roger's plan was to meet at his house in Three Lakes about 6 a.m., so we could be in place at the logging job by 7 a.m. Phil and I were to "lay out" while Dick and Roger waited elsewhere to be notified when the heinous act had been committed, at which time they would swoop in and make the grab. Sounds like fun!

It was 20 degrees below zero at 6 a.m. on that January day, and it was predicted to warm up to a nifty 10 below by midday. Now it didn't sound like so much fun.

We set off wearing our warmest clothes, and each was equipped with the warden's issued Arctic Down sleeping bag, a portable, and food. Phil and I each had a thermos of coffee and another of soup, as well as sandwiches because Roger had warned us that we would stay until dark if necessary. Phil and I were dropped off as planned by 7 a.m. I was hiding among several treetops covered with snow, and Phil was in a huge old stump a couple hundred yards away.

Many times, I was asked by one of the "old" wardens what

Phil and I learned a lot. First, mayonnaise freezes at 10 degrees below zero, and it doesn't really thaw even when tucked inside a down sleeping bag. Second, drink your soup directly from the thermos, and once you open the top, drink it all within the first two hours because it gets cold fast...

I had learned after some adventure as a special warden. This particular time Phil and I learned a lot. First, mayonnaise freezes at 10 degrees below zero, and it doesn't really thaw even when tucked inside a down sleeping bag. Second, drink your soup directly from the thermos, and once you open the top, drink it all within the first two hours because it gets cold fast, even if you keep it inside the sleeping bag. Third, ditto for the coffee. Fourth, if you take candy bars, only take plain Hershey's; at least you can break off pieces and melt them in your mouth. I tried warming candy bars under all my clothes and it just gave me a cold spot. Lastly, start planning to have to go to the bathroom long before panic time; it takes a while to get out of the bag and through all those layers of clothes.

It was a beautiful day, other than being cold as the hubs of hell, and we had deer wandering around, so plenty of bait. I was a little concerned about getting in the line of fire since deer were often chewing on the tops I was hidden in.

Unfortunately, it was a long cold day without action, and I sure was happy when Roger and Dick picked us up. I have to admit, often over the course of the day, I thought how nice

it would be to be warm and cozy in the chase car. However, Dick later said that Roger never started the car all day, telling Dick that what was good for the goose was good for the gander. All the way home Roger and Dick questioned why our deer violators didn't appear; it just seemed it wasn't our day.

A couple days later, Roger drove into that logging job to talk to his complainant. Roger told him that we had been there all day on Sunday, but no luck. The logger replied, "I told those guys that I had called the warden and they better leave those deer alone!"

Those who know Roger know what happened next; those that don't can use their imagination.

DUANE HARPSTER is a retired Wisconsin conservation officer living in Boulder Junction.

Kids really do say the darndest things

By Duane Harpster

Being a game warden gives you a chance to see fishermen and women at their best, their worst and everywhere in between. For instance, children do say the darndest things, and more often than not, the unvarnished truth.

Once while working with several other wardens in an undercover mode at the

Petenwell dam on the Wisconsin River, we watched a boat with an adult and a child, where the adult caught and kept well over the combined bag limits of both people. He put the fish in a basket tied to the stern by him, while the youngster also had a fish basket by him in the bow.

When we approached the boat, I wound up being by the boy in the bow, while my

partner was by the man in the stern. My partner asked the man if he was catching any, to which the man replied, "A couple in the cooler."

I asked the boy how he was doing and he replied, "A few, but my dad is really doing good and he has them in a basket by the back of the boat!"

Out of the mouths of babes.



Wall honors those wardens who died while doing their job

A Warden Wall of Honor is now located in the Wisconsin Natural Resources Building, or GEF 2, in Madison.

Located at 101 S. Webster St., the wall is a place to honor the Wisconsin wardens who have given the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty — their life. The Wall of Honor is located on the 8th floor of the natural resources building near the elevator.

“This project would not have been possible without the assistance with funding from the Warden Association,” Chief Warden Randy Stark wrote in an e-mail sent to all current and retired wardens. “With WCWA’s help, we have been able to make this project a reality. I’d also like to thank Bill Engfer for his work on this project.”

The Wall of Honor includes plaques engraved with the fallen warden’s photo, along with the story of what happened to each, and a badge. On the table below the plaques is a U.S. flag in a display box that also contains a badge for each of the wardens along with a short note reflecting that they gave the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

Groups partner to hold first waterfowl clinic

By Patrice Eyers

A project near and dear to the hearts of several Mead staff members became a reality this September. Conservation Wardens Barry Fetting and Paul Leezer, Marathon County Biologist Cortney Schaefer, Mead WLA Project Manager Tom Meier, and Wildlife Technicians Bill Hirt and Patrice Eyers hosted the first annual Mead WLA Learn to Hunt Waterfowl Clinic and Hunt.

Ten participants between the ages of 12 and 15 who had completed the hunter safety program and who had no waterfowling experience were paired with experienced volunteer mentors with the goal of introducing and recruiting new hunters into the declining sport of waterfowling. The Mill Creek Education and Gun Club sponsored the event.

Barry Fetting, a conservation warden for Wood and Marathon counties, received a \$250 grant from the Wisconsin Conservation and Education Foundation to be used toward the waterfowl youth hunt that took place at the Mead Wildlife Area. However, the grant was received after the event took place so the monies will be used for next year’s event.

On the day of the clinic, students and mentors partook in activities that included an introduction to waterfowl and waterfowl identification, boating and gun safety, a clay shoot, an overview of waterfowl hunting regulations, a decoy setting and duck calling demonstration, and a display of both retrieving and versatile dogs.

Volunteer mentors and assistants, Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, National Wild Turkey Federation, North American Versatile Hunting Dog Association, Muddy Water Retrieving Club, DNR law enforcement and wildlife management staff provided lunch, clay pigeons, a clay launcher, shotguns and shells, waders, and a variety of gifts for the students.

The morning of the youth hunt brought 10 new faces full of anticipation, excitement, and curiosity into the marsh. Ten new faces dressed head to toe in camouflage. For some, it was their first trip in a canoe. For all, it was a new experience. As the morning progressed, a new group of waterfowl hunters emerged — some with ducks and some without, but all successful.

Published in the Nov. 2010 Wetland’s Gazette

Indian Poachers Shoot Local Game Warden WILLIAM COLE IN HOSPITAL WITH SEVERAL WOUNDS

• • •

Greatly weakened by loss of blood, but will recover;
George Lonetree and son held as assailants

Deputy Game Warden William A. Cole is in the Riverview hospital here with four buckshot wounds inflicted about 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon by an Indian father and son whom he caught deer hunting in the Elm Lake District, town of Seneca. Although greatly weakened by loss of blood, his condition is not dangerous.

Arraigned this Afternoon

The two Indians, George Lonetree, 40, and his son, Fred, 19, were to be arraigned before Judge Christian J. Randall this afternoon on a charge of assault with intent to murder or rob. Two other Indians, Edward Lonetree, 20, also a son of George Lonetree, and Grandell Dick, 19, were to be charged with hunting deer out of season and without a license.

Deputy Game Warden Cole said at the hospital this morning that he left Wisconsin Rapids shortly after dinner yesterday to check on reported deer hunting along the Hemlock creek bottoms in the vicinity where the assault took place. Cole and William Otto took County Trunk K from Seneca Corners and branched off toward the lake.

Seeing car tracks along the ditch, they went down to the creek, but found the hunters were after ducks. Coming back to their car, they heard a shot in the distance and immediately started driving toward it.

Gave Fictitious Name

It was not long before Edward Lonetree and two dogs, apparently in pursuit of a deer, came up to them. Warden Cole stopped him, took a single-barreled shotgun loaded with buckshot away from him, and asked him his name. He gave a fictitious name, but the game warden learned his real name from a passerby, and made him promise to appear in court at Wisconsin Rapids the next day.

Then Mr. Cole sighted the other two Lonetrees, and immediately started for them while Mr. Otto remained in the car. They raised their guns and took deliberate aim, but the game warden thought this was just a bluff and kept coming directly toward them. At a distance of less than 200 feet they fired three shots.

Hit in Arm, Leg

One of the buckshot went through Mr. Cole's right wrist. Another coursed up through the hand and out the thumb. Another grazed his left wrist, a fourth went through the back of his left knee, and



The killing range of a 12 gauge shot shell with 00 buck shot pellets is under 40 yards.

a fifth cut a hole through the back of his coat. A few inches nearer the body and it would have been sufficient to kill him.

The wounded man ran for cover, and was able to get back to the car. Otto had come out to meet him when the trouble started. He hurriedly drove to a farmhouse to use a telephone, and Mr. Cole was rushed to the hospital for treatment.

Son Signs Confession

Fred Lonetree, in a signed confession, admitted the party of four were deer hunting shortly after noon, and started two deer north of the road leading to the Hemlock. He said he shot once with his shotgun, and then heard his brother shoot once. Shortly afterward, he saw the game

warden approaching.

"Jumped behind a stump and fired my shotgun at William Cole, striking him with the buckshot. My father shot twice in Cole's direction. I don't think William Cole had a gun," the confession read.

After shooting at Cole, the confession read, the Indians all ran through the woods to the home of the Lonetree brothers' grandfather, Alex Lonetree, where they hid the two shotguns, one a 12-gauge pump gun and the other a single shot, under some hay in the barn, and shut the two dogs in the barn.

Posse Apprehends Them

A sheriff's posse of about eight or nine men was formed in Wisconsin Rapids and went out to apprehend the quartet. The Lonetrees were located in their home in Altdorf, and Dick was found driving a car along the road. They offered no resistance. The squaw, who was left behind, also asked to accompany them to jail, but she was not taken.

The three shotguns were confiscated and brought into the jail. Today Mr. Otto and several others went out to see if they could find any other guns or the deer that the Indians said they shot at.

Editor's Note: The shooting occurred on Oct. 11, 1931. At their arraignment the following day, George and Fred Lonetree were charged with intent to murder. A cash bond was set at \$2,000 for each. Edward Lonetree and Grandell Dick were charged with hunting deer out of season and hunting without a license. A cash bond was set at \$200 for each.

HARLAND STIENHORST, a retired conservation warden now living in LaValle, submitted this 1931 article.

FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR

a photo album



Add two brothers, one father and one bear and what do you get? Memories. Nick Nice, a conservation warden in Taylor County, and Mike Nice, a warden in Richland County, teamed up to help their 79-year-old father, Nick, harvest a 235-pound bear in 2010. The younger Nick spent countless days baiting in the Medford area, and with Mike and his dad in a ground blind, they managed to harvest the black bear on their first night hunting. "It's definitely another memory Nick and I will have for a lifetime," Mike said.

Submit your photos of harvested game

Do you have pictures of you or someone in your family whose harvested game? Send it in.

Photos can be e-mailed to Editor Barbara Schmitz at write2us@sbcglobal.net or mailed to 1705 Graber St., Oshkosh, WI 54901. Please include cutline information.

After three years of hunting, Darby Allen shot her first deer on Oct. 17, 2010 in Kewaunee County. Her father, warden David Allen, said they originally saw the doe under an apple tree at about 140 yards at 5:50 a.m. The doe bedded down, and Allen told Darby to sit and wait. At about 6:10, the doe stood back up and began feeding along the tree line, once stopping in an opening, Allen told his daughter to shoot, which she did. But she shot over the top and the deer started running toward them. Finally, the doe stopped and turned broad-side, and Darby shot again. This time the deer dropped.



WARDEN IN THE SPOTLIGHT

By Stephanie Daniel-Merkel

Growing up, Shawna Stringham's father gave her a bit of advice. He told her that if there was something she wanted to do in life, she should make it happen.

"My father raised four girls and taught us that there was nothing we couldn't do," remembers Stringham. "He was very supportive of me."

Stringham took her father's advice, and she now finds herself passing it on to those she encounters in life and on her job as conservation warden in Vernon County. She especially enjoys giving young people interested in similar careers the same type of encouragement her father gave her.

One of the highlights of her job is working with the learn-to-hunt program, which allows her to share her experiences and passion for the outdoors with young people, including many young girls, and mentors.

"Nothing makes me happier than when they ask questions. They feel comfortable coming up and talking to me," says String-

ham. "I am finding a lot of young girls that want to be game wardens. I enjoy providing them with information about the job."

When young girls show interest in becoming a warden Stringham tells them: "Be yourself. You don't have to change." She has found the DNR to be very accepting of her and has been honored to follow in the footsteps of top-notch female wardens. "We have a very supportive DNR family."

Stringham credits a lot of her success not only to a supportive work environment, but also to the cooperation of the people living in her service area of Vernon County.

"There is something special about the people in this area," she says. "I wouldn't make the cases I make if it wasn't for the people."

She feels fortunate that the people in her area hunt and fish, and therefore have an appreciation for their resources. "The great people I work for make this job great," says Stringham. "At the end of the day,

people around here appreciate what you do."

Along with a love of public service, Stringham also enjoys the excitement of the job. "You never know what you are going to get. It's always changing," she explains. "This isn't an 8-4 job, which makes it exciting." The variety of the job with its aspects in law enforcement, education, and protection of resources, keeps the job exciting for Stringham.

Some of her favorite cases are those involving the illegal harvesting and dealing of wild ginseng. "For some reason, I love that little root that many people (are unaware of), but is so extremely valuable," says Stringham. Although those cases can be very challenging, she has been success-



Shawna Stringham holds a baby bear that had been stolen from its den.

ful.

In fall 2009, Stringham and Mike Nice, a warden in Richland County, made one of the largest ginseng seizures in the history of Wisconsin. They confiscated \$12,000 worth of ginseng and issued 17 citations with the penalties totaling \$5,593.

Stringham, who grew up in Iowa, had always had an affection for the outdoors. Growing up, she was exposed to the warden profession by her best friend's father, who became one of her biggest influences. "I always thought he had the best job in the world," Stringham remembers.

Because of her early exposure to the profession, Stringham set her sights on becoming a warden in high school. She eventually received a bachelor's degree in biology from Loras College in Dubuque and went to work for the Iowa DNR right out of school, working in fisheries and then in wildlife. She enjoyed the work but found herself leaning toward law enforcement. "I used to do ride-alongs (with wardens) and knew that was what I wanted to do," says Stringham.

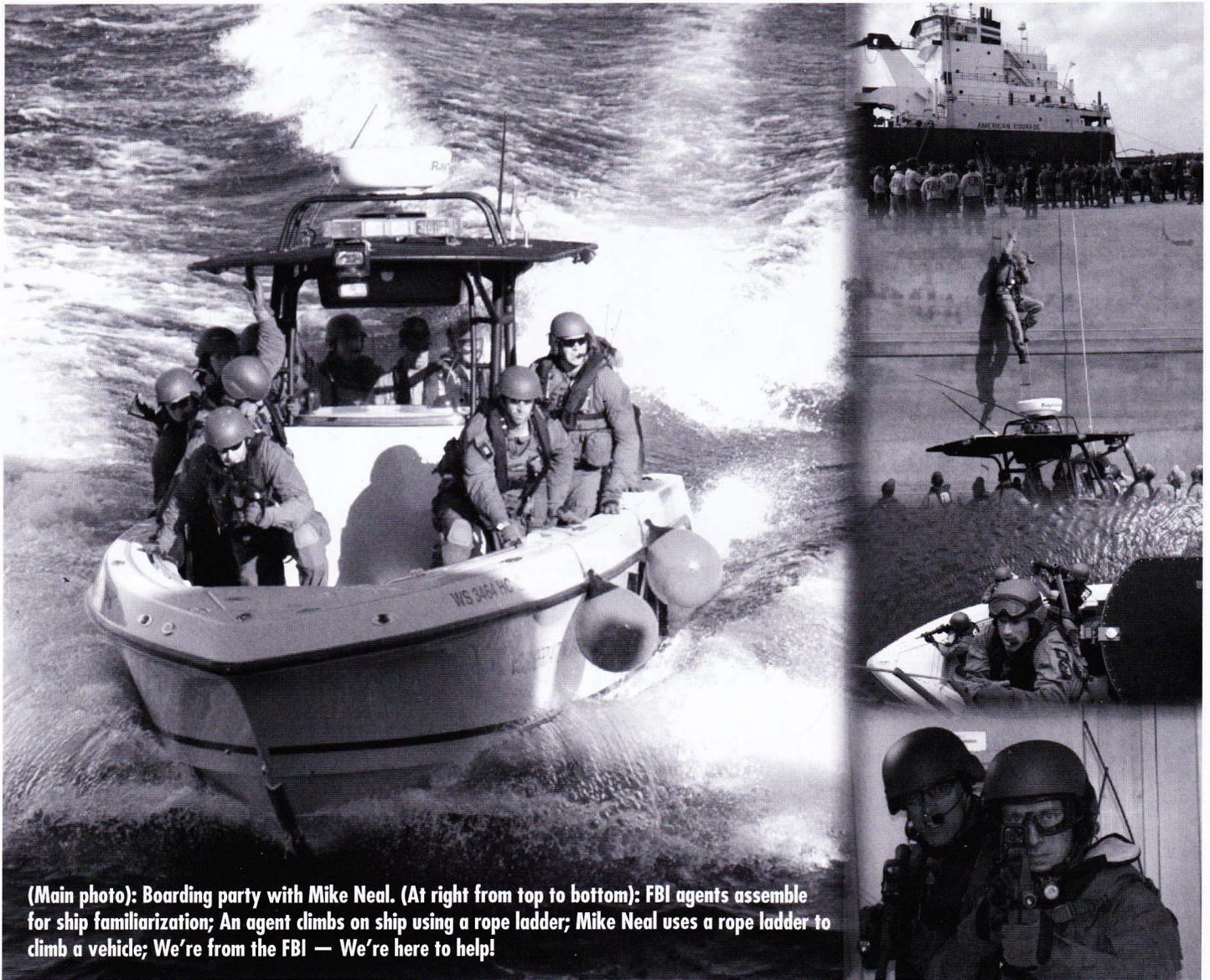
She enrolled in basic police academy to get the law enforcement background she needed. She then worked as a warden in Rock County for three years before taking the job in Vernon County.

She is happy she took her father's advice. For Stringham, her job is her passion and with that comes no regrets.

STEPHANIE DANIEL-MERKEL is an Oshkosh free-lance writer.



Shawna Stringham, right, passed on her passion for turkey, waterfowl and bear hunting to Mickella Geary of Viola through the learn-to-hunt program.



(Main photo): Boarding party with Mike Neal. (At right from top to bottom): FBI agents assemble for ship familiarization; An agent climbs on ship using a rope ladder; Mike Neal uses a rope ladder to climb a vehicle; We're from the FBI — We're here to help!

Marine unit trains with FBI SWAT teams

By Mike Kitt

The Northeast Region's Marine Enforcement Unit was recently requested to assist the FBI Great Lakes regional SWAT teams in on-water boardings of hostile ships. "The Bureau" heard that the DNR might be able to provide boats and operators to fulfill their needs of deploying tactical teams onto ships for training purposes and possible future live scenarios.

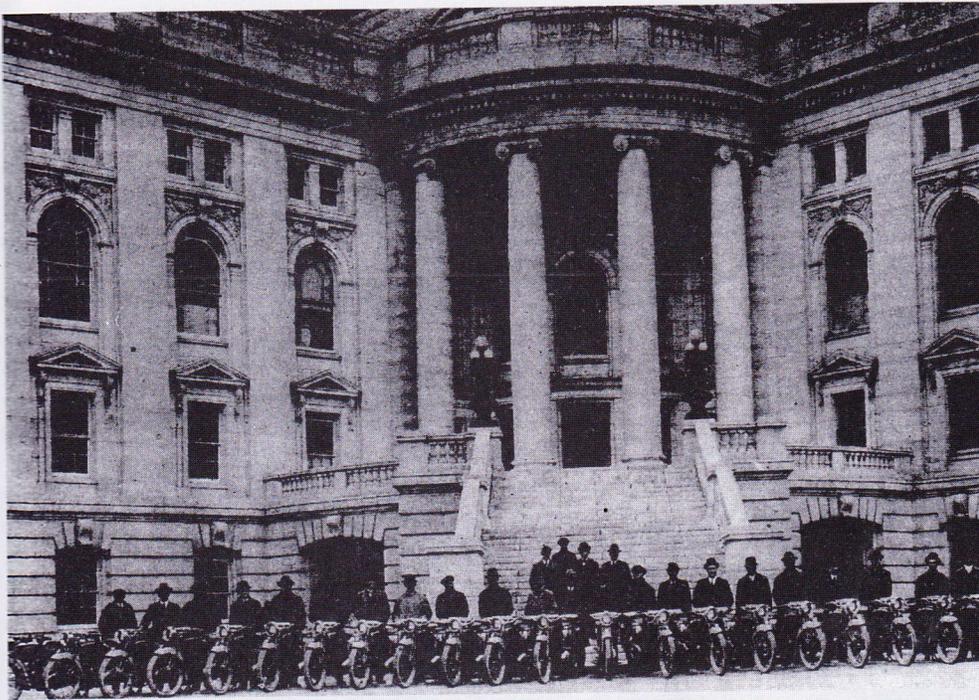
NER's Marine Enforcement Unit Supervisor Chris Groth was contacted to see if his team was up to the task. The "Unit" would be working with FBI teams from Milwaukee, Detroit, Minneapolis and Chicago. Plans were set for training in Sturgeon Bay in August 2010. The Marine Unit would provide four 29-foot Donzi patrol boats and the 30-foot "Defiance" to serve as boarding platforms for up to 20-man SWAT teams dressed in full-battle gear. Bay Shipbuilders in Sturgeon Bay provided a 700-foot oar carrier in for repairs as the practice vessel for Day 1. Teams practiced coming up along various parts of the ship and deploying a boarding ladder. Team members then climbed onboard the

vessel and ran room-clearing exercises.

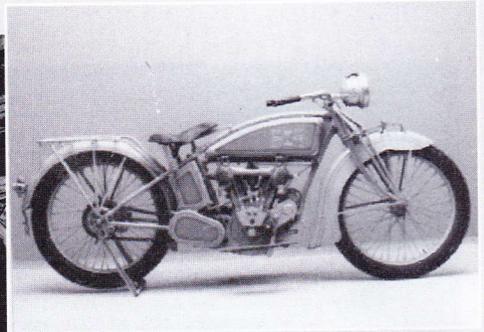
Day 2 consisted of moving boardings aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Buoy Tender "Biscayne Bay." Teams practiced grabbing onto a moving ship and getting their teams aboard quickly, and hopefully undetected. Cover vessels were used in conjunction with the boarding vessels if the ship's crew or "hostiles" detected the assault.

All in all, both the FBI and marine wardens learned much as to what their actual capabilities were. The marine unit provided a more than adequate means to support the FBI in marine-based operations, and will further this country's readiness to respond to acts of terrorism or disasters within our borders. Mutual aid practiced and utilized by different agencies throughout the country means a well-prepared nation ready to meet the challenges it will surely meet in the future, and the Wisconsin warden force is doing its part to help.

MIKE KITT is a conservation warden in Marinette County and a member of the marine enforcement unit.



Wardens line up with their new auto cycles in front of the state Capitol in 1916.



The Conservation Warden Auto Cycle Experiment

By Harland Steinhorst

In 1915, the Office of State Fish and Game Warden was consolidated into the "new" State Conservation Commission, which was made up of three appointed Commissioners. W.E. Barber was named head of the Division of Wildlife Conservation, and he was to oversee the operation of the warden division. The head warden was C.W. Thompson.

The Problem and Solution

The Division of Wildlife Conservation budget was very tight in 1915-16. Commissioner Barber zeroed in on the monthly \$70 expense line item for wardens. This line covered usage of personally owned vehicles, eight in number, two warden-owned horses, livery fees, train tickets and other personal expenses. The warden division had an inventory of three Ford trucks and one Ford automobile. Since more trucks and automobiles were out of the question, Commissioner Barber decided to purchase 25 auto cycles for conservation warden positions.

The Experiment Begins

On April 21-22 of 1916, a number of personnel from the State Parks and State Forestry departments, as well as game wardens, assembled in Madison to learn how to repair and ride the 20 hp Excelsior

two-wheel auto cycle. Cycles were purchased from the East End Cycle Company of Madison. They were pearl gray in color, with red and gold trim, and a big, silver "X" on the gasoline tank.

In July 1915, a list of 26 game wardens was prepared by the Commission, stating these wardens are "subject to dismissal during the month of August." Contingency plans were immediately prepared. All forest rangers, park superintendents and all employees of the forestry department were commissioned as conservation wardens, which was the new terminology to cover all employees. That is why some non-fulltime game wardens were issued auto cycles. The only three game wardens named in available Department records are Wardens Ed Fess of Madison, K.C. Jakoubek of Phillips and John Long of Mellen.

Second Day

The next day consisted of photo ops — new cycles and riders lined up in front of the State Capitol, then traveling home on their two-wheelers. Most riders would depart Madison on trains; the cycles were in the baggage car.

Warden Supervisor L.D. Jones recorded this description in a June 1948 article in a *Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin*: "One warden got two blocks from

the Capitol, failed to make a sharp corner, crashed through the front door of a millinery store and jammed himself and the auto cycle so tightly in the door, the fire department had to be called." Scratch one Excelsior auto cycle from the inventory.

It should be noted that by 1906, the Excelsior Motor Company of Chicago was building racing auto cycles capable of reaching speeds over 100 mph with new V-Twin engines.

On July 1, 1916, a sidecar was purchased for the K.C. Jakoubek motorcycle. By 1919, 11 game wardens had been issued state-owned Ford cars and only three Excelsiors remained on the warden division inventory.

End of the Motorcycle Squad

The motorcycle experiment was never repeated in large numbers. The 1916 Excelsior was designed to be operated on hard surfaces, not as a trail bike. A sidecar was needed to carry necessary equipment, if wardens were involved in long-range patrols of their area of responsibility. The Bureau of Law Enforcement has recently acquired some military-surplus motorcycles for conservation warden use in special situations.

HARLAND STEINHORST is a retired conservation warden now living in La-Valle.

OH, OH!

Getting caught in the act

By Duane Harpster

After we put the size limit on bass, some folks took a little while to get used to it and some just ignored it. I was working on a pretty popular smallmouth lake and had just gotten a new 14-foot olive drab-painted boat and was using it in place of my normal big patrol boat. So I guess I was somewhat incognito, even though I was in full uniform.

I was approaching a boat with two fellas who were fishing and planned to check their licenses and bags. I was motoring up slowly and came within 50 feet or so of the boat when the fellow in the stern glanced over at me, did a double take, leaped to his feet, and grabbed a 5-gallon pail out of the bottom of the boat. As he stood to do that, I announced myself and told him not to dump the pail, to no avail.

I could see there were a large number of smallmouth bass being dumped and they

didn't look very big. I coasted alongside the boat, at the same time standing up to look where he had dumped the fish. To my amazement and the fisherman's consternation, I saw a couple dozen dead and dying undersized smallmouth floating back to the surface. The fisherman's partner said, "I told you they would die in that pail!"

...

There are quite a number of lakes around without public access and sometimes folks who live on them tend to think a warden can't come on them, which, of course, is not totally correct.

Early one summer evening, I received a call from a gentleman who lived on one such lake. He asked if I could come up to his lake and apprehend some guys illegally motor trolling. I told him I would hook up my boat and be right up, to which he replied: "Don't bother; just drive over to

my place and we will take my boat."

When I got there, we hopped on his pontoon boat, I settled into a lawn chair on the front in full uniform and we motored out to the trollers. When we were only a few feet away, I asked how the fishing was.

The two occupants, each holding a rod, responded that they were getting a few, but that it was slow. I said that I didn't know you could motor troll on this lake, and asked if they were afraid of getting caught. Their response was, "You can't; but this is a private lake and the warden can't come here."

My complainant began to laugh and blurted out, "He is the warden, you idiots!"

You could see the lights finally come on as their heads dropped and shoulders slumped. Their comment: "We didn't know the warden had a pontoon boat!"

RECIPE CORNER

Goose and Dressing

By Brenda Rubenacker, Auburn
From the Illinois DNR website

4 lbs. red potatoes, cubed
5 apples, cubed
5 onions, cubed
½ stalk celery, diced
goose giblets
3 tsp. salt
2 tsp. pepper
2 tsp. sage
8 eggs, beaten

Cube potatoes, apples, onions, celery and giblets. Place vegetables in a large mixing bowl. Add seasonings and beaten eggs. Rub the goose with additional salt and pepper and place in a medium roasting pan. Stuff dressing in, around and on top of the goose. Place lid on top of pan. Bake at 350 degrees until the goose is done, about 4 hours.

WCWA Charitable Giving 2006-10

<u>Grants to Conservation Organizations</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Future of Hunting and Fishing Projects.....	\$9,500.00
No Child Left Inside Projects.....	\$13,355.00
Safety Education Projects.....	\$2,035.00
Protection of Natural Resources Projects.....	\$7,714.00
Summer Camp for Children of Officers Killed in the Line of Duty.....	\$3,500.00
Wisconsin Outdoor Youth Expo.....	\$5,000.00
Scholarships.....	\$16,000.00
<u>Other Organizations</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame.....	\$200.00
International Association of Natural Resources Crime Stoppers.....	\$250.00
Wisconsin Wildlife Federation.....	\$250.00
NAWEOA Fallen Officer Fund.....	\$400.00
Federal Fish and Wildlife Officers Association - Torch Run.....	\$1,200.00
National Association of Wildlife Enforcement Officers.....	\$250.00
Wisconsin Special Olympics.....	\$500.00
Total Funds Given	\$59,884.00

IF YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, YOU CAN HARVEST A BEAR

Drummond program is proof

The 2010 Drummond Learn-to-Bear-Hunt program took place over a two-weekend period in August 2010 and was proof that if you know what you are doing, you can harvest a bear.

While only 10 hunters participated, selected from a list of 144 who applied throughout the state, eight of the 10 ended up harvesting a bear.

Beginning in 2005, the Wisconsin DNR began offering Learn-to-Hunt opportunities. The Learn-to-Bear-Hunt program, which represents the opportunity of a lifetime for a novice hunter, is another tool to expose people to the hunting experience and recruit new hunters into the sport, said Conservation Warden Jill Schartner who organized the hunt.

Working in partnership with many dedicated bear hunters and local conservation organizations, successful Learn-to-Bear-Hunt events have been held across the northern half of Wisconsin in the past few years.

The program has several goals:

- To provide a bear hunting experience to novice hunters who would not otherwise get that chance to hunt bear.
- To provide a safe and memorable first-time introductory bear hunting experience to novice hunters through experienced and qualified mentors.
- To teach novice hunters about the habits of bear, how to read bear sign, check baits, track and handle hounds, use proper shooting techniques and safely handle firearms.
- To provide an opportunity for experienced bear hunters to contribute to overall conservation efforts by giving something back to the hunting heritage through recruiting the next generation of safe, legal, ethical and responsible hunters to carry on the bear-hunting tradition.

Schartner began sponsoring a bear Learn-to-Hunt program in 2007; that first year they took three hunters, she said. From 2007-2009, Schartner had her hunters attend a training session in Washburn, piggybacking her program with programs set up by Conservation Wardens Brad Biser and Pat Quaintance.

But in 2010, with the help of local mentors, the training day was held in Drummond. While Learn-to-Hunt programs can be set up in many different ways, many sponsors hold the training day on the same weekend as the actual hunt, Schartner said. "But with



Photos at left from top to bottom: Look what we shot! Two young hunters pose with their game shot during the August 2010 Drummond Learn-to-Bear Hunt program; The smiles say it all. A young hunter and mentor children pose with a bear harvested during the 2010 Drummond Learn-to-Hunt bear program; While it may take a village to raise a child, it also takes a group of dedicated mentors and hunters to help make a successful bear hunt for a youth.

agreement of all my mentors, we decided to hold the training day two weekends prior to the actual hunting weekend," she said. "This gave the mentors and hunters more time to work/learn together."

Many of the hunters arrived on Friday before the training day. The hunters were up early Saturday morning to set up stands. Some were taken into the woods and shown where and why a location is chosen. Others went out and ran with the dogs before and after the training season.

During the training sessions, Schartner, Wildlife Biologist Greg Kessler and mentors spoke to the hunters about bear and tactics/skills used to hunt bear, while Linda Cline of Wild Things Taxidermy wrapped the session up speaking about caring for your harvested bear.

After lunch, the group headed out to the Barnes Shooting Range where each hunter sighted in their firearm. It was again another chance for the hunters to gain some pointers from their mentors.

Two weekends later, on Aug. 28 and 29, the hunters returned for the actual hunt.

Schartner said she made changes to the program after feeling that something was missing after the 2009 hunt. "The three-day program we ran the first three years just did not give the hunters much time to learn about the hunt," she said. "Some were harvesting a bear within an hour or two of being on their stand."

While Schartner acknowledged that harvesting a bear is the icing on the cake, she questions what the kids were learning since the mentors were doing all the work. So she spoke with each of the mentors to see what they thought about running the program over two separate weekends.

They all thought it was a good idea, so the work began. Schartner applied for and received a grant through the Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association to assist in the cost of running the program. She recently received notification that she again received a \$200 grant to help with the Drummond 2011 Bear LTH Program. "With the money, we were able to offer a lunch at the training day, and then a hot dog/brat meal at our place on Saturday evening of the hunt, where each hunter was able to share their day's experience with the rest of the group," she said.

Schartner said the Drummond 2010 Bear LTH Program was so successful that she was recently contacted by the Barnes Area Conservation Club, which has agreed to donate \$500 toward the 2011 LTH Program. Schartner said that it just keeps getting bigger and, she hopes, better.

People interested in participating in such a LTH program must submit an application by May 21 of each year. The hunters are chosen by a panel who looks at their hunting experience or lack of experience. All hunters are required to write a short essay, which helps the panel choose the hunters.

For more information, go to <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/hunt/bear/guidelines.pdf>.

ASSAILANTS HURT EAGLE RIVER GAME WARDEN

Is Victim of Brutal Attack while Investigating Trapping of Beaver

Working with meager information, state conservation officers were continuing today their efforts to solve the mystery surrounding a brutal assault upon Game Warden S. W. Hayner, of Eagle River.

The assault occurred at about 2:30 o'clock last Friday afternoon on what is known as the "Stormy Banks" of the Wisconsin River, about two miles south of Sisson's resort, near the Gilmore Lake road in Oneida County.

According to Warden Hayner, he had been investigating reports of beaver trapping in the area in which the assault took place. Early Friday he drove in on the Gilmore Lake Road and followed a little used trail to "Stormy Banks." He found the trapper's car and observed in it equipment used for beaver trapping.

Unconscious Three Hours

Following the trail, Hayner came upon two men, both with guns drawn. He entered into conversation with them and was struck by one. So violent was the blow, the warden said, that he remembered nothing further for about three hours. His first conscious act was when he lifted the hood of his automobile, at about 6 o'clock, and found that the distributor had been removed.

Hayner stumbled about two miles to a farmhouse and telephoned to Eagle River for help. A car was sent to get him and he has been under a physician's care in Eagle River since.

It is believed that Hayner was struck with a heavy, blunt instrument. One tooth was knocked out and one side of his face was lacerated and bruised. The blow which felled him is believed not to have been the only one struck, as there was a concussion located in such a way as to indicate that the warden was hit several times and probably was kicked after being unconscious.

Hayner Confused

Game wardens in Vilas and Oneida counties were assigned to the task of investigating the assault. The suddenness and fury of the attack was such, however, as to confuse Hayner's mind and clues found at the scene of the crime were meager.

Hayner is well known here as he has cooperated with Oneida County wardens on local cases on several occasions and was at one time stationed in this county. His condition was reported as being fairly good today.

Submitted by retired Wisconsin conservation warden JIM CHIZEK. Chizek says he recalls wardens telling him about the case and believes the attackers were never apprehended. The story was dated May 2, 1933.



Are you

PRIVY to this?

By Peter Dring

Privy means secret or concealed. But privy is also an outdoor toilet or outhouse. And often, the smell alone meant that they weren't secret or concealed.

The average outhouse was 3-4 feet square by 7 feet high. Many were single-holers, but sometimes they were double-holers. In the last century, hotels often had outhouses with a dozen holes. And at least one hotel in Montana had a two-story outhouse with a plank from the second floor of the hotel going over to the second floor of the outhouse. The deposits fell through a 1-foot channel down past the first level into the hole.

Outhouses were easy to build. They were nothing more than a wooden shell with a roof, a floor and a front door. Inside was a 2 foot high box built into the back half that went from one side wall to the

other side and came out from the back wall about two feet. In the top of this was an oblong hole about 12 inches by 10 inches. The outhouse was set over a hole that had been dug, usually about 5 feet down into the ground.

What kind of toilet paper did they have? Although toilet paper may have been marginally available in the early days it didn't really catch on. People didn't know anything else, and had better things to spend their meager cash on than this new unnecessary stuff. There are lots of stories of newspapers, the Eaton's catalog, and other magazines in the outhouse that weren't there for reading. We tore a page out, rumbled it up to make it a little softer, and then used it.

How were the flies kept down in the summer? Lots of people really didn't

worry about the flies. Some of the fancier outhouses had lids for the holes. And if people were really concerned, they bought powdered lime or sometimes lye and sprinkled it down into the hole. This also reduced the stench considerably. One thing is for sure: wondering where that fly had been that was walking on the dinner plate took on a whole new meaning with an outhouse near by. How far away from the house was the outhouse? Usually homes and outhouses were anywhere from 50 to 150 feet apart.

Couldn't people do something different in the cold winter? Like what? There are many stories of children (now old-timers) telling about their "50-yard dash" in the middle of the night in the dead of winter, dreading putting their bare little bottom on that icy seat. But many families had cham-



**Photos from left to right:
Two-story outhouses weren't popular, but they did exist; This outhouse, constructed of stone, offered a great view to users; A three-holer; Users of this outhouse were glad that foliage offered some cover as they did their business.**

ber pots under the bed. These were used exclusively for “#1” and not “#2.” If they had to do “that,” they still needed to run to the outhouse. In the mornings someone had to take the chamber pot outside and dump it, then take it to the well or creek and wash it out (never mind who lived down stream).

What happened when the hole under the outhouse got full? Usually the father of the family dug a new hole a few feet away, moved it onto the new hole, then took the dirt and filled in the old hole.

Many years ago, about 400 years B.C., the Romans gazed at the moon above and believed the moon was a goddess, a virgin maiden fair. They named the goddess Diana and put a crescent moon in her hair. The crescent became a symbol that stands for women. So the symbol was handed

down to the outhouse. The privy that has the quarter-moon carved in the door or side signifies that the fairer sex should only be inside.

It seems the men had a symbol too, to keep on even par. It was Sol, the sun, with a circle or a star. Through many years of use the sun symbol fell by the way. But the crescent moon still prevails to be used by all today.

Most privy pits were lined with wooden boards, bottomless barrels, bricks, stones or concrete. Solid liners helped prevent cave-ins and facilitated cleaning. In the countryside farmers often scooped out the dried material and distributed it directly upon their fields, hopefully well before harvest time. Urban privy owners depended upon professional night-soil men known as “gong fermors” to cart it away at

least once a year, usually in the dark of the night. The alternative to a cleaning out procedure was to top off the heap with a thick bed of gravel, dig a new pit, and move the entire edifice a few more yards upwind of the main dwelling.

Depending on the depth of the vault this action could be deferred for years on end. Ventilator pipes of wood or metal were connected to privy vaults at seat level and extended through the roof, sometimes to amazing heights. Many of them doubled as ornamental birdhouses, or were decorated with fanciful designs. Depending upon the region, a one- or two-hole privy was usually constructed over an excavation ranging from three to six feet deep. (Later privies used buckets and had no pits.) If a faulty seat split open, or the floor gave way, a person would not perish at these depths. In

the South very flimsy structures were sometimes hastily erected over shallow holes. These open-backed models depended upon rats, mice, birds, chickens, pigs, and dung beetles to perform perfunctory cleanup chores.

Should the door open inward or outward? Lem Putt had his own opinion as expressed in *The Specialist*. "It should open in! This is the way it works: Place yourself in there. The door openin' in, say about 45 degrees. This gives you air and lets the sun beat in. Now, if you hear anybody comin', you can give it a quick shove with your foot and there you are. But if she swings out, where are you? You can't run the risk of havin' her open for air or sun, because if anyone comes, you can't get up off that seat, reach way around and grab 'er without gettin' caught, now can you?"

"So I built his like all my doors, swinging in, and, of course, facing east, to get the full benefit of th' sun. And I tell you gentlemen, there ain't nothin' more restful than to get out there in the mornin' comfortably seated, with the door about three- fourths open. The old sun, beatin' in on you, sort of relaxes a body — makes you feel m-i-g-h-t-y, m-i-g-h-t-y restful.

"Builders who favor outward-swingers have their reasons, too. If a very heavy inward-opening door inadvertently sags on its hinges it can imprison an occupant for an entire weekend. A stuck-fast door of the "push-to-enter" variety can also cause messy accidents for would be users who wait until the last possible moment to begin a dash down the garden path."

The actual invention of the first flushable toilet has been a point of dispute for many years. Some historians say that Alexander Cummings was the first inventor while others claim that Thomas Crapper was responsible for the modern convenience we often take for granted. Recent evidence has wiped away any doubt that Cummings is No. 1 in creating the ingenious device, but it was Crapper, a well-known No. 2, who is credited with installing the first usable toilet in King Edward VII's castle and earning him the title of the first royal flush.

The following are unique trivia tidbits with respect to the little room

called "The Library" where we all go with the flow.

- In 1990 an overflowing toilet aboard a Northwestern Airlines flight leaked out onto the wing at high altitude and froze. The chunk of ice eventually dislodged itself and was sucked into the engine causing it to fall off. Luckily no one was hurt when the plane was forced to make an emergency landing. No doubt the passengers found themselves relieved when they closed the lid on their ordeal.
- The first pay toilet ever installed in the Soviet Union was in 1987 just outside of Red Square. Most of the Moskovites were puzzled and intrigued by this device they dubbed "The Capitalist Tool," and while the pay potty wasn't a big hit, it soon became a symbol of the communist regime's slide down the drain.
- In the early years of the space program when flights lasted only a few hours, NASA forgot about building a place where astronauts could answer the call of nature. Commander Gus Grissom actually wore a heavily padded woman's girdle under his space suit that doubled as an absorbent diaper. You could say that he boldly went where no man had gone before.
- Johnny Carson of "The Tonight Show" once made an on-air joke about there being a nationwide shortage of toilet paper. The next day there was a run on the rolls at stores across the United States and only after several days did Johnny confess to his prank and his viewers realized that they had been the "butt" of another Carson joke. Here's Johnny!
- The first toilet ever seen on television was on "Leave It To Beaver."

An Old English Jingle

In days of old
When knights were bold
And paper wasn't invented
They used blades of grass
To wipe their a@# .
And went away contented.

PETER DRING is the retired director of the Red Schoolhouse Nature Center in Cook County, Ill. and is now living in Land O' Lakes.

OBITUARY

Ronald C. Kubisiak

Ronald C. Kubisiak of Wisconsin Rapids died Sept. 6, 2010, at his home after an extended illness. Kubisiak was born Jan. 24, 1934, in Stevens Point, to Clements and Ethel (Paukert) Kubisiak.

He married Carol Shafranski on June 2, 1956, at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Stevens Point.

Ronald devotedly worked as a conservation warden for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for over 39 years. He served as a field warden in Taylor, Juneau and Wood Counties, and in 1977, he received the prestigious Haskell Noyes Conservation Warden Efficiency Award. The award, including a gold watch with an inscription that reads it is given for "faithful and able service," is given to the state's outstanding warden annually by the Noyes family.

At the time of his retirement in 1994, Kubisiak was the warden supervisor at Wisconsin Rapids.

He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting, fishing and trapping. He was a skilled marksman and woodworker and volunteered as a firefighter during the time he was in Necedah. He was also an avid sports fan and enjoyed Brewers, Packers and Badgers games.

Ronald is survived by his wife, Carol (Shafranski); five children, Mark Kubisiak (Ann Kubisiak) of Minocqua, Barb Gregory (Dane Gregory) of Stevens Point, Lori Simon (Scott Simon) of Wisconsin Rapids, Roy Kubisiak (Tammy Kubisiak) of Stevens Point, and Keith Kubisiak of Wausau; and 10 grandchildren, Ashley Gregory of Chicago, Tyler Gregory and Tanner Gregory of Madison, Katie Kubisiak, Aaron Kubisiak and Emily Kubisiak of Minocqua, Benjamin Jeffrey, Rebecca Jeffrey and Andrew Simon of Wisconsin Rapids, and Marina Kubisiak of Stevens Point. He is also survived by his two siblings, Shirley (Wyman) Schmidt of Stevens Point and Harold (Kathy) Kubisiak of Whitehall. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Taylor, Vollert and Jennings Funeral Home assisted the family. A funeral Mass was held Sept. 10, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Wisconsin Rapids and interment followed in Forest Hill Mausoleum.



Cooperation from sheriff's officer leads to 5 being charged with deer poaching

By Jerry Davis

Five La Crosse County men were fined \$20,391 and several had their Wisconsin recreational privileges revoked for 18 years for numerous criminal charges and civil forfeiture violations relating to deer poaching.

Mitchell R. Carrie and Trevor R. Johnson received the majority of the fines and all of the revocations. David R. Pradovic, Jacob A. Smith and Tyler J. Felt received lesser penalties.

Conservation wardens Henry Bauman of La Crosse and Matt Modjeski of Sparta worked with La Crosse County Sheriff Department investigator John Zimmerman in October 2009 investigating the case.

Illegal activities included deer poaching with archery and firearms, littering, felony possession of a firearm, felony theft, felony burglary, receiving stolen property, obstructing an officer and obstructing a conservation warden.

Penalties beyond the fines and revocation included jail time, community service, confiscation of rifle, bow, spotlight and deer.

The case began in early October 2009 when a landowner reported shining and shooting activities in Monroe County. County deputies contacted a person, who claimed to be alone, and said he was hunting coyotes with a .17 caliber rifle. The subject had driven a vehicle onto private property and through standing soybeans.

When Modjeski arrived, he found a dead 8-point buck within a few yards of Mitchell Carrie. It was later learned that Trevor Johnson had fled the scene. Modjeski seized the rifle, a compound bow, spotlight and the deer. Carrie denied any knowledge of the dead buck.

Investigations continued through mid-November and Zimmerman became involved, as well as Bauman. During these investigations, it was learned that three other men — Pradovic, Smith and Felt — had been involved with numerous deer hunting violations.

Going backward from the October incident involving Carrie and Johnson, officials learned that these five were



Wardens Matt Modjeski and Henry Bauman presented a Certificate of Appreciation on Nov. 30 to La Crosse County Sheriff's Department Investigator John Zimmerman for his time and energy to a deer poaching investigation.

involved in illegal taking of antlerless deer and attempts to take other deer.

This involved driving a pickup on public roads in La Crosse County while one individual held a spotlight and another individual with a compound bow shot at deer from the bed of the truck. One antlerless deer was taken into possession but never tagged or registered.

In early October three of the individuals killed two antlerless deer and a six-point buck while attempting to take other deer with a rifle. The buck and one doe were left in a field.

The next morning two of the individuals killed a 10-point buck with a rifle in La Crosse County. An archery buck carcass tag was illegally attached to the buck.

More poaching and poaching attempts continued and the remains of a stolen All Terrain Vehicle was recovered a few miles from this scene.

It was later learned, through sharing of information among the wardens and investigator, that these five individuals were involved in theft and damage to two ATVs.

Zimmerman then requested charges against two of the men for burglarizing an archery shop in Holmen. This burglary

occurred the day after Modjeski seized the compound bow involved in one of the acts of poaching.

This case was made possible because of a lot of cooperation between the wardens and the Sheriff's Department, Modjeski said. "Zimmerman went further regarding investigating the hunting violations than he would have had to go."

"These individuals love to hunt in spite of poaching, so the revocations to two of the men will be the strongest deterrent. Sometimes the DNR stuff gets put on the back burner in cases like this, but that certainly did not happen in this case because of the cooperation between the several agencies," Bauman said. "I hope all the individuals think twice about doing something like this again."

The wardens and investigator put together a list of 25 violations against the five men. In addition, other charges stemmed from the burglary.

"This all started with a landowner calling because he saw something going on that was not right," Modjeski said. "And this is what it led to."

Published, with permission, from the Jan. 28, 2011 issue of Wisconsin Outdoor News.



GROUP REMOVES POND RIPRAP

By Matt Groppi

A Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association grant helped to fund removal of riprap at the outlets of the ponds at the Mequon Nature Preserve on Oct. 23, 2010.

The ponds are the headwaters for Trinity Creek, a tributary to the Milwaukee River. Ozaukee County Conservation Warden Matthew Groppi said the grant money went to the Milwaukee Community Service Corps, a non-profit vocational training organization for at-risk inner city youth.

The Ozaukee County Planning and Parks Department and Bonestroo, an engineering and environmental science company, came up with the plans on how to remove the rocks to best suit fish passage while preventing erosion. Both groups had already been working under a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to remove barriers to fish passage in the Milwaukee River Watershed.

The Mequon Nature Preserve, which is part of the Ozaukee-Washington Land Trust, facilitated the project by getting the necessary DNR permit approvals. In addition, the Mequon Nature Preserve was able to enlist the help of local groups to assist with the effort. Students from John Long Middle School in Grafton, Webster Middle School in Cedarburg, Cedarburg High School and Grafton High School assisted with the project.

MATT GROPPPI is an Ozaukee County conservation warden.





Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association

I want to become a WCWA member or renew my membership

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Regular and Associate Memberships

- \$20 for one-year membership
- \$200 for life membership

Sponsor Memberships

- \$25-\$99 one year
- \$100-\$499, five year with certificate
- \$500 or more, life membership with plaque

Corporate Sponsorships

- \$250-\$500 one year (\$500 or more includes ad.)

Memberships expire on June 30. Please make your check payable to the WCWA and send it to P.O. Box 44, Madison, WI 53701-0044. Your e-mail will not be shared with anyone. It is for the sole purpose of communicating with our members.

Our purpose

The Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association (WCWA) exists to further conservation efforts within the state, without unionizing or collective bargaining, and is dedicated to all of the men and women who have served as Wisconsin Conservation Wardens since 1879.

Our objectives

- Promote natural resources education.
- Promote the profession of natural resources law enforcement.
- Strive to enhance conservation warden/community relationships.
- Provide encouragement, recognition and support to all members in their profession.
- Increase awareness and understanding of conservation and environmental issues.

Why join the WCWA?

- Receive the official WCWA magazine with information, pictures and stories that revolve around Wisconsin conservation

wardens, past and present.

- Help support the WCWA Scholarship Program at UW-Stevens Point.
- Help establish and maintain a Conservation Warden Memorial Program.
- Help establish and maintain a Conservation Warden Museum.

Membership categories

- *Regular Membership* — Active and retired, fulltime permanent conservation wardens who have served part of their careers as wardens; past and present special and county conservation wardens; and active and retired law enforcement officers from other agencies.
- *Associate Membership* — Individuals, organizations and businesses expressing an interest in supporting the association.
- *Sponsor Membership* — Any individual or organization that wishes to provide additional financial support.
- *Corporate Membership* — Any business that provides financial support to the WCWA. Receive a free ad in this magazine with donation of \$500 or more.

Consider a gift to the WCEF

The Wisconsin Conservation and Education Foundation is a non-profit public charity associated with the Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association. The WCEF:

- Awards 15 to 20 grants annually to Wisconsin conservation groups, teachers and conservation wardens that promote hunting and angling opportunities for the young and inexperienced; recognizes and supports dedicated volunteer safety education instructors; funds river watch programs to protect Wisconsin's natural resources; funds river and lake cleanup projects to improve habitats; and funds development of and improvements to exhibits and educational materials at nature centers and public schools.

- Provides funding for four scholarships to natural resources law enforcement students selected by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Points.
- Provides support for warden conferences.
- Provides support to send children of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty to summer camp, and more.

Yes, I want to donate to the WCEF

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail _____

Phone _____ Amount _____

Please send your tax-deductible gift payable to the WCEF to:

Wisconsin Conservation and Education Foundation

P.O. Box 44

Madison, WI 53701-0044

The Wisconsin Conservation and Education Foundation is exempt under section 501 (c) (3) of the IRS Code. The Foundation is classified as a public charity under IRS code 170 (b) (1) (A) (vi).

Wisconsin Conservation Warden Association

P.O. Box 44
Madison, WI 53701-0044

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oshkosh, WI
Permit No 89



The Drummond Learn-to-Hunt Bear program may be relatively new, but it is also relatively successful. In 2010, eight of the 10 novice hunters harvested a bear. See story and more photos on pages 20-21.