

**INDIAN LAKE / BLUE MOUNTAIN
FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION, INC.
NEWS LETTER**

**FEBRUARY / MARCH, 2007
PO BOX 521, INDIAN LAKE, NY 12842**

Association Officers:

President -	Kevin Elkin	648-6487	Treasurer -	Mike Brooks	648-6470
Vice President -	Kim Mitchell	648-6183	Secretary -	Bruce Lewis	648-5819
Range Manager -	Kim Monthony	623-5520			

Newsletter - Mike Brooks 648-6470 or mikebro@frontiernet.net

Web Site - www.IndianLakeFishAndGame.com

KEVIN'S KORNER

Well, winter has finally arrived. It's terribly overdue, but I'm pleased to see it, none the less. The lakes have finally frozen up, which means our annual ice fishing derby will be taking place on Saturday, February 10, at Adirondack Lake, Indian Lake, NY. Registration begins at 0530 and the fishing begins at 0700. You can pre-register for \$30.00, though if you are reading this and have not registered yet you will likely be paying the \$35.00 register at the door fee. Please come out to support this event, as it should be a good day for fishing, seeing friends and winning prizes. We hope to see you there.

There are quite a number of snowshoe outings coming up in the next couple of months as well. See elsewhere in the newsletter, or check it out on our web page for dates, times and trip leaders. Please remember to contact trip leaders so they know how many are coming. These are fun events, and it is a good way to make friends or get to know people better. Also, if you are not comfortable going on a hike by yourself, this is a very safe, comfortable low stress way to get out and enjoy the beauty of the mountains.

In March there will be another cabin fever dinner, which will be held at the Indian Lake American Legion Hall. It is a potluck affair, so be sure to bring out your favorite dish. Remember, strawberry rhubarb pie is my favorite, but I surely would not turn down a blackberry, blueberry, peach, pumpkin, mincemeat, apple or shoofly pie either.

I hope to see you at some of these events, as well as the regular meetings, which resume in January. We meet on the last Wednesday of the month at Byron Park at 1900 (7:00 PM). Until then, I hope the fire's warm and the water's running in your home.

Kevin C. Elkin

HOME ON THE RANGE

Hi everyone! Almost time for the Ice Fishing Derby!

We finally have some winter weather now for some snow. I enjoy most winter activities and look forward to winter every year. The biggest reason for not much snow is I bought a package deal on some snowmobiles and a trailer.

As for the range it's pretty quiet, I will be getting a schedule together soon and outlining the projects we need to address such as moving the out house behind the firing line. I am looking forward to seeing the progress here as this will be the first season with the new layout. We still need to have someone step up and take over as the Range Manager. I know most of you are retired and like to travel and such. Possibly a team of two members could work together. I am not moving away and will still serve in some capacity, but if I cannot give 100%, I would rather step down.

Lastly, my business partner David White has gone back to Oklahoma, his original home state. I have changed the name of the business to Chase Mountain Custom. I am still building custom rifles, specializing in Rim-fires and Break Open Single Shots.

I'll see you at the Derby!

Kim (Kim Monthony)

ACTIVITIES - Members are expected to call the trip leaders in advance to ensure that participants are notified of last minute changes. Trips leave promptly, try to be a few minutes early. Dress properly for winter conditions, leave the cotton clothes at home.

February 5 (Sun) Cross- Country Ski to Round Pond – This trip follows the old stagecoach route from Indian Lake to Speculator through the Kunjamuk valley. Six miles round trip, this ski is rated as beginner in one guide book. Trip leaves from One-Stop parking lot at 1 PM. (**Note** - Time has been revised from 12 noon.) Trip Leader **Mike Brooks** 648-6470.



February 10 (Sat) – Ice Fishing Derby (Rescheduled from January due to lack of ice.) –Our third annual ice fishing derby will be held on Lake Adirondack, 7AM til 3PM. Members have already received a registration form and detailed info in a November mailing. Only 150 entries allowed, so register early to be sure of a spot. Derby day registration starts at 5:30 AM. Hourly cash prizes, door prizes, and Chuck Wagon cuisine. Volunteers needed to help put on this event. Coordinators **Kim Monthony** (623-5520) and **Kim Mitchell** (648-6183).



February 17 (Sat) Snowshoe Trip to Clear Pond – This trip will be included as part of the Indian Lake Winter Festival. An easy snowshoe of about 2.2 miles, round trip. This trail is through an open hard wood forest and ends at a neat pond tucked in the woods with great views of the adjacent mountains. Meet at the One-Stop parking lot at 1PM. Trip Leader – **Mike Brooks** 648-6470.

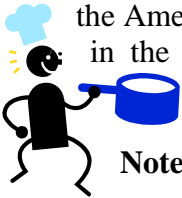
February 25 (Sun) Snowshoe trip to Sprague Pond – This pond is less than a mile off Cedar River Road. The hike in is easy, but the pay off is great. A gem of an Adirondack pond awaits. Meet at One-Stop parking lot at 1:00 PM. Bring something to drink or perhaps an orange. Trip Leader **Bob Bradley** 648-0005.



March 4 (Sun) – Snowshoe trip to “Little Sawyer” Mountain – A bushwhack through open forest off Cedar River Road, tracing the marsh bed between two peaks forming Sawyer Mountain. The trip ends in about a mile at an unusual boulder, 30 ft. or so high. The terrain does not change much in elevation until the vicinity of the boulder. To reach the prize you have to make a short climb. Meet at the One-Stop parking lot at 1PM. Trip Leader – **Chuck Jordan** 648-0310.



March 11 (Sun) –Fourth Annual Cabin Fever Dinner–This year’s dinner will be held in the American Legion Hall in Indian Lake, pot luck style. This has been a “good time” in the past few years. Here is an opportunity to recognize members who have contributed their efforts to the Fish and Game last year and to sample some really creative food. Register today, dinner details later in this newsletter.



Note- This is the last notice, no newsletter until after the pot luck.

OVER THE SHOULDER – Jan. 28. “Hot Dogging Snowshoe Trip”

A Good Day in the Woods! – Fifteen intrepid members attended this hike, a record I would guess. It was a pleasant day, 20 degrees or so. Much warmer than the preceding days of below zero. We found the trail with a modest amount of snow but enough so it was best to use snowshoes for traction. Some trees were also across the trail, a testimony to recent high winds.

Firewood was wet enough to discourage even the most determined arsonist but perseverance prevailed and we were able to produce results ranging from mildly warm hotdogs to the incinerated variety. All tasted great though, proving once again even the lowly hot dog can be a culinary delight when out doors and with good company. There were more snacks and treats than could be eaten on one trip.

All said, a very enjoyable day.

P.S. George Wager set a new record – 6 hot dogs and he survived!

(Chuck Jordan)

A TRUE HUNTER- Frederic Remington writing in the late 1880’s about the end of a long day of trekking with a canoe in the western wilderness made the following observation of hunter’s tales. “Finally the coffee boils, the tent is up, and the bough bed laid down. You lean against the dead log and swap lies with the guide; and the greatest hunters I have ever known have all been magnificent liars. The two go together. I should suspect a man who was deficient. Since no one ever believes hunters’ yarns, it has become to be a pleasurable pastime, in which a man who has not hunted considerably can’t lie properly without offending the intelligence of that part of his audience who have.”

LIFE IN THE ADIRONDACKS - *How lucky we are to know the Adirondacks and get to live and play in this outdoor paradise. Sometimes it takes an outside eye to remind us of what we have. Here is a letter (used with permission) from one of our most recent new members who received a gift Fish & Game membership for Christmas.*

Hi,

I'm Gabe McCubbin, one of your newest (and NOW farthest away!) members of the Indian Lake/Blue Mountain Fish & Game Association, Inc., thanks to my great friends, Robert & Jeanne Paschal, in Beacon, New York. This is truly an exciting gift! I visited Robert & Jeanne's cabin, Camp Cokabootie, at Lake Abanakee a couple of years ago. I had a terrific time with the Paschal family, AND fishing with Robert at the dam and farther downstream (where we caught MANY trout!), and, I caught my FIRST Northern Pike in Lake Abanakee! Robert and I actually witnessed an osprey hovering (for about 10 minutes!) right above where we were fishing in his canoe. This bird had spotted a large trout, swooped down, clawed it up in its talons and was just *barely* able to fly away with it a few feet above the water. Wow, we thought that was one of the coolest sites we had ever witnessed in nature! Honestly, it was spectacular...unforgettable.

I hope to return to Beacon next year to spend some time with the Paschal family, and head to the Adirondacks for another relaxing and pleasurable visit, where I'm sure we'll do more fishing and do a little bushwackin' (hiking) in the thick woods to some faraway fishing spots. We did visit the Adirondack Museum, where I learned so much about the rich history of outdoor life and the roots of camping, fishing, hunting and living in the Adirondacks. I discovered that so many of our founding fathers (and mothers) of industry and politics in the United States had a strong bond in that part of Northeast. Amazing!

I want to wish everyone at the Indian Lake/Blue Mountain Association a very Merry Christmas, and a safe, healthy, prosperous and Happy New Year! It's an honor to be a part of such an historic and fun organization. I'm looking forward to my next visit, *and my next newsletter*, to be sure. The NEW Indian Lake/Blue Mountain membership card is now in my wallet!

Best regards, Gabe McCubbin

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Paul Norton	Indian Lake	Mary Culp	Indian Lake
Patrick O'Brien	Indian Lake	Erik Werner	Philadelphia, PA
Roland Brown	Morristown, NJ	Bill & Dianne Aber	Indian Lake
Steven Cannan	Indian Lake	Lenny Baglieri	Marlboro, NY

On January 1, 2007 the membership totaled 191, with 51 Family memberships, 72 Single memberships, 13 Life memberships, and 3 Complimentary memberships. Looking back, the total at the start of 2006 was 198.

Since the Young Adult memberships were established a couple of years ago, we have had no young people (16-21 yrs.) take advantage of our \$7.00 annual membership dues and join. You might think about encouraging someone you know to join and take part in our activities at the range, on the water, and in the woods. Springing for the first year's dues is always a possibility.

CABIN FEVER DINNER CABIN FEVER DINNER CABIN FEVER DINNER

It's that time of the year again for our annual Cabin Fever Dinner. A chance to get together with other Fish & Game members, talk about the good old days, and recognize the members who have made significant contributions to our organization over the past year. "True" hunters may want to swap a few tales. We will even have a couple of nice door prizes. Here are the details:

When / Where : **Sunday March 11**, at the American Legion Hall, Indian Lake.

Time : Social hour starts at 5 PM, Dinner at 5:30 PM.

What: A pot luck supper. Members bring a salad, main dish, vegetable dish, or dessert. Appetizers will be provided for the social hour.

Cost : Free to members, guests are requested to donate \$5 per person at the door. Free to all under 16.

Registration : Fire safety rules limit registration to 45 people. **Sign-up closes on Monday, March 5. Register today.** To register, call one of the dinner committee members:

Chuck Jordan 648-0310

Bruce Lewis 648-5819

Mike Brooks 648-6470

With limited seating, it's important to attend the dinner if you register so we don't end up sending members away and then having empty spaces available.

What to bring: **1.** A dish to share. **2.** Your own beverages. (Coffee and tea will be provided.) **3.** Dinner plate and utensils. (We will have paper plates and plastic utensils if you prefer.) **4.** A large portion of enthusiasm.

NYSDEC - The DEC Bureau of Fisheries has reported that a serious fish disease, Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS), has been identified in certain waters in New York State. While VHS can be deadly to fish, it does not affect human health. VHS can be spread to new waters by stocking fish, and by the collection, sale, and use of bait fish. New federal and state regulations have been enacted pertaining to moving fish (including bait fish) and disease testing.

The NYSDEC web site has extensive information on VHS and newly promulgated regulations if you wish to follow up on this notice.

THE LAST WORD

Support the Ice Fishing Derby on Feb. 10th by volunteering to help or by fishing.

Call today, register for the pot luck dinner. This is the last notice.