

River Currents

BANKS OF THE WABASH

April 2013

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Banks of the Wabash, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, improving and promoting the significant historical and natural resources of the Wabash River Corridor.

Banks of the Wabash, Inc. works to improve the quality of life for residents and enhance the experience for guests from outside the corridor. Banks of the Wabash focuses on the nineteen counties in Indiana that touch on the Wabash—Indiana's premier river.

Annual Meeting at Delphi Canal Center Captain John Galloway, speaker

Please join us April 17th for BOW'S annual meeting which will be at the Wabash & Erie Canal Conference Center and Museum in Delphi. The meeting starts at 10 a.m.

The featured speaker will be River Captain John Galloway who will talk about his experiences on the Wabash and elsewhere. There will be displays from various groups working along the river and its tributaries—it's a great opportunity to see what's going on and connect with others that share your interest in our official State River.

In addition there will be reports from BOW's Mini-grant winners and presentation of this year's River Re-



Photo by Ron James

ward Plaques (see story below).

At the conclusion of the meeting everyone is invited to stay for a free lunch. (who says there aren't any?) However we encourage free will donations for the River Keeper program.

River Rewards for 2013

At its March meeting, Banks of the Wabash's board voted for this year's River Reward Winners. River Reward winners are recognized for their efforts along the Wabash River in four different categories. The four groups/projects selected this year and the categories for which they are being honored are as follows.

Recreation: Garry "Muskrat" Hills, for his many years of providing opportunities for recreation on the Wabash and its tributaries.

Conservation: North Central Health Care Services for their inter-

est in the river and their financial support for the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation and its work along the Wabash River including their recent acquisition of 100+ acres adjacent to Ross Hills Park.

Preservation: David Rice for his leadership in expanding awareness of Historic New Harmony and the Wabash River.

Education: Art Spaces for its leadership of *The Year of the River* programming and community art in Terre Haute.

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Wabash
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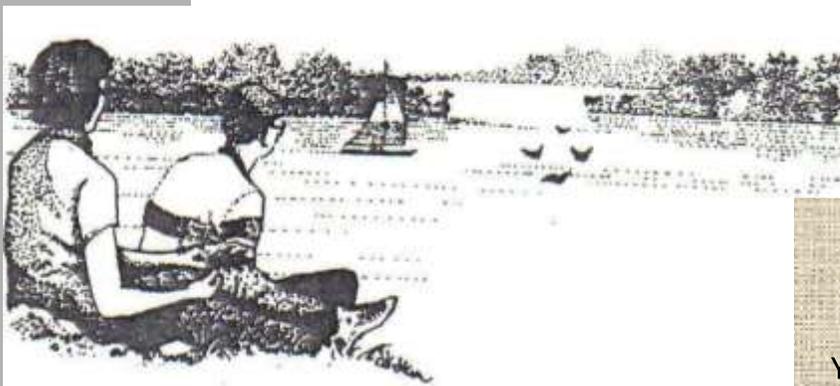
Wabash's Tributaries Important for River's Water Quality

Tributaries of a river, especially their headwater areas, are the most important areas to protect when it comes to improving a River's water quality.

In Vigo County, the Ouabache (pronounced "Wabash" see story about names on page 3) Land Conservancy has identified the 24-mile Otter Creek and its 80,000 acre watershed as an area to work in. OLC hopes

to assist landowners interested in protecting their properties from development through the use of conservation easements or fee simple donations.

There are several areas with some protection already in the watershed including Forest Park, Markle Mill park, Sycamore Trails RC&D Woods, and some properties owned by Indiana State University.



Support the Riverkeeper

You can now make a donation to Banks of the Wabash specifically to help fund the Riverkeeper. Look for the donation line on BOW's membership form.

Riverkeeper Update

Rae Schnapp, the Wabash Riverkeeper reports that Detrash Events on the Wabash are scheduled for April 20th in Lafayette starting at 8:30 a.m. at Riehle Plaza and going to 1 p.m. April 20th is also the date for the DeTrash event in Peru Indiana. Wabash County is holding their event on July 28th as is Huntington.

A reporter from *Outdoor Indiana* wants to focus on river cleanups around the state. Rae Schnapp is working with the reporter on the story which is expected to be in the July issue.

The organizers of the Indiana Boat and Travel Show have expanded to cover the quiet sports (canoeing, Kayaking, scuba, etc.). Rae is investigating the possibility of holding Indiana's Second Rivers Rally in conjunction with the show. River Rally I was held in Lafayette several years ago and was very well attended and many people are interested in holding a second state river rally.

A River of Many Names Courtesy of Nick Harby

taken from **"The History of Vigo and Parke Counties by H. W Beckwith.**

The first European rendition for the name of the Wabash River is **Father Marquette's orthography, "Oua-bous-kigon".** Later authorities spelled it **"Abache", "Oubache", "Oubache", "Oubask', "Wabascou", "Wabashe", and "Waubache".** The French alphabet does not contain the letter **"W" but the diphthong "ou" in French has nearly the same sound as the letter "W" of the English alphabet.**

That 'Wabash' is an Indian name and was applied early to the waterway that now bears this name is clearly established by Father Gravier, a missionary who descended the Mississippi in 1700. In speaking of the Ohio and its tributaries he says: 'Three branches are assigned to

it, one that comes from the northwest passing behind the country of the Oumiamis [the Miami] called the St. Joseph, which the Indians properly call the Ouabachei; the second comes from the Iroquois and is called the Ohio; and the third which comes from the **Chaouanona [Shawnee].... it is commonly called Ouabachi [Wabash].**

Other tribes have somewhat similar names for the Wabash: **the Ojibways "Waw-bish-kaw", the modern Algonquins "Wa-bis-sa", the ancient Algonquins "Wa-bi", and the Menominees "Wau-bish". All these mean "White" in their respective languages and come from the white rocks visible under the then clear water of the Wabash River.**

Recipes for Wabash Fishermen From the Hot Spring AR Hog Heaven Fishing & Cooking Guide

For those fishermen out there, here are a couple of catfish recipes to try. Both use skinned and filleted fish.

Curry Baked Catfish

- 1/3 c mayonnaise
- 3/4 teaspoon Creole mustard
- 3/4 teaspoon lemon juice
- 3/4 teaspoon hot sauce
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon curry powder
- 2 1/2 dozen round butter crackers crushed

Combine the first 6 ingredients, brush over TOP of fillets. Dredge both sides of fillets with cracker crumbs. Place fillets, mayonnaise mix side up in a lightly greased 13x9x2 inch baking dish. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

Grilled Catfish with Tangy Orange Sauce

- 1/4 c orange juice
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- 2 tablespoons light soy sauce
- 1/8 teaspoon ground pepper
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1 clove garlic, minced.

Combine the sauce ingredients in a bowl. Brush the catfish fillets with the mixture. Place fish on lightly oiled grill, about four inches above the coals. Grill for five minutes, brushing frequently with the sauce. Turn over and grill for another five minutes until the fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

Have a favorite Wabash fish recipe? Send it in. We would love some recipes for Asian Carp—maybe we can keep the population down by eating them.

**Banks of the
Wabash's 2013
Meeting Dates**

*Please join us. Meetings
start at 10 a.m.*

April 17 Delphi Canal

Park Carroll Co

June 19 Attica

Fountain Co

September 18

Beef House,

Covington

November 20 Honeywell

Center, Wabash,

Wabash Co.

Eagle Bonanza

This winter Bald Eagles put on a show enjoyed by hundreds of people along the Wabash River. Birds were reported all over, but the river between Lafayette and West Lafayette may have had the most concentrated activity. Eagle watchers regularly saw over 20 eagles at a time feeding along the Wabash along that stretch of the river. A story about the birds was printed in the local paper, the *Journal & Courier* which was picked up by other Indiana papers. Many of the winter eagles are birds that migrated south from northern states and Canada and will return there to breed. However each year more and more Bald Eagle nests are found in Indiana. Currently at least 150 nests have been documented.



Duke Energy's January 26th Eagle Days, mentioned in the last *River Currents*, were a big success. They had plenty of eagles along the river by their plant in Cayuga north of Terre Haute as well as plenty of people—over 200 attended their program.

After so many years when no Bald Eagles nested in Indiana and sightings were rare, it's nice to see that the removal of DDT from the environment, improvement of water quality in the Wabash, and the Non-game Eagle Reintroduction plan have been so successful in restoring this bird to the skies of the state.

Missing newsletters?

If your address changes please let **us know as the post office doesn't** forward mail for very long and this publication only comes out every three months. In addition, the post office returns issues when people are temporarily away. If either of these occur, you might not have any newsletters arrive for six months.

Renew Now-- & Add a Friend

Renewals are due in April so now is the time to send in your checks. If you have already renewed, THANK YOU!

Support for the Wabash is important, so why not give a friend a membership as well? It only takes one stamp to do both .

Another Recipe : Garlic Mustard Lasagna

Garlic Mustard is a biennial invasive plant in the Wabash drainage which seriously impacts our native wildflowers and also affects tree roots so that wood production is 5-10% lower for trees in infested areas. Garlic mustard is edible and can substitute for spinach in many recipes or be used raw in mixed salads. **Here's a recipe for lasagna you might like. To pick garlic mustard pull the entire plant when the leaves start to grow, cut off the stems and dispose of them where they won't re-root and produce seed, wash the leaves and cook as spinach.**

Ingredients:

- 10 ounces of steamed garlic mustard leaves
- 1 pound lasagna noodles
- 1 clove garlic
- 1 tablespoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound can of tomatoes
- 12 ounce canned tomato paste
- 1/2 cup dry red wine (or water)
- 3 eggs
- 3 cups ricotta or cottage cheese
- 1/2 c parmesan cheese grated
- 1 pound thin sliced mozzarella cheese
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

- 1) Set oven to 375-degrees and butter a 9x13x2 inch baking dish.
- 2) Brown beef/sausage in heavy skillet and remove excess grease. Add 1 minced garlic clove, basil, salt, tomatoes, tomato paste and red wine. Simmer uncovered for 30 minutes (removes the alcohol as well as thickens sauce). Stir frequently.
- 3) Steam garlic mustard leaves.
- 4) Cook lasagna as package directs and drain.
- 5) In a bowl beat the eggs, then add the ricotta, parmesan, parsley, pepper and salt. Blend well.
- 6) Lay half the lasagna noodles in a baking dish, spread with half the cheese mixture, a half pound mozzarella, all the steamed garlic mustard leaves and half the tomato sauce. Then cover with remaining half noodles, meat sauce, ricotta and mozzarella.
- 7) Bake for 30 minutes until bubbly. Recipe from Dan Anderson.

Delphi Wabash & Erie Canal Association Happenings

April 16, Tuesday. Annual Meeting: 7 p.m. Canal Center. Bonnie Maxwell will introduce a new local organization called Heartland Heritage. Come and learn all about this group. David McCain will follow her presentation and talk about the Bicentennial Commemoration Project that Heartland Heritage will be doing. Afterwards the audience will share ideas for enhancing Canal Park. Dessert and coffee will end the evening.

April 20, Saturday. Project WEED (Wabash & Erie Earth Day). A great chance to volunteer and help clean up the park and other local areas. Rain day is Saturday April 27th. Bring the whole family, friends, troop, or group to help spruce it all up. Meet at 9 a.m. at Canal park for assignments. Volunteer captains will supervise the various work areas. Dress appropriately and mark any tools that you bring. Psi Iota Xi Society will provide lunch at Canal Park afterwards. Check 765-564-6572 for weather cancellation if it looks threatening.

May 18, Saturday. Heritage Transportation Festival from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Also the kickoff for the canal boat season.

July 6-7 Saturday-Sunday. Canal Days Festival. Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday noon-4 p.m.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Banks of the Wabash Inc.
PO Box 1253
Lafayette IN 47902-1253
www.banks of the wabash.net

BOW Membership & Renewal Form 2013-14

Memberships in Banks of the Wabash **run to BOW's April's Annual Meeting**. Memberships given in one year are good through the April meeting of the following year. BOW's Membership categories are below. If you wish your membership credited to one of the chapters that have formed, please check the appropriate box. *Thank you* for supporting the Wabash!

Membership Categories:

- | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----------------------------------|------|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student | \$ 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> Town | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Trailblazer | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Business | \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Discoverer | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/Non-profit | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Scout | \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Visionary | \$500 |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate | \$500 |
| | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Riverkeeper | _____ |

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Cell phone _____

CHAPTER AFFILIATION

List me as a member of :

- Wabash & Erie Towpath
 Sullivan Chapter

Membership & Inquiries should be sent to Banks of the Wabash, Inc. PO Box 1253, Lafayette IN 47902-1253