

DEFENDING OUR WATERS: *Past, Present, and Future*

BY CATHY BERGER AND DAWN MERRITT

IWLA NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 19-22, 2016

Stevens Point, Wisconsin

If all you know about Wisconsin is that the football fans wear cheese on their heads, you're in for a treat. The "Dairy State" does produce award-winning cheeses, but it is also home to numerous craft breweries and an expanding wine industry. Outdoors you'll find world-class fishing and 15,000 lakes to explore. What do all of these things have in common? Water. Which makes Wisconsin the perfect location for a water-themed convention!

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point — rated the "greenest" campus in Wisconsin — is home to a natural history museum, planetarium, and observatory. The 280-acre Schmeckle Reserve offers students an on-campus refuge and a living laboratory for the College of Natural Resources. The university also houses the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame (which includes notable League members in its ranks!).

Stevens Point is rated among the best places to live in the United States. Around town, you can enjoy innovative parks and gardens and more than 80 restaurants. For you geography buffs, check out the boulders around the Bill Cook Chapter — these are outwash rocks left by the last ice melt!

So get to the Point — Stevens Point — this summer. We hope to see you there.



**FOUNDER'S
SPONSOR**



GREEN BAY PACKAGING

CONVENTION SITE AND LODGING

Holiday Inn & Convention Center

1001 Amber Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54482
(715) 344-0200

OVERFLOW HOTEL

Holiday Inn Express

1100 Amber Avenue
Stevens Point, WI 54482
(715) 344-0000

Room Rate: \$109+ single/double.
Our room rate applies for up to three days before and three days after the convention. To reserve your room, call the hotel (use Group Block Code: IZK) or visit www.iwla.org/convention for a link to the online reservation portal.

Note: As the magazine went to press, rooms were limited at the Holiday Inn & Convention Center. The Holiday Inn Express is just across the parking lot from the convention center.

AIRPORTS

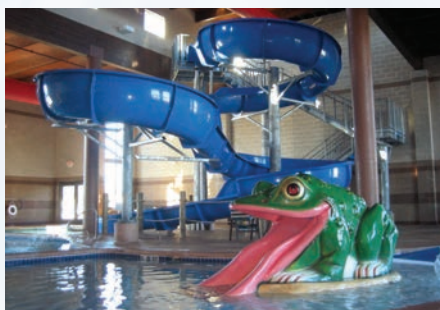
The newly renovated Central Wisconsin Airport (CWA) is serviced by Delta, American, and United. It's located in Mosinee, Wisconsin, which is 24 miles from the hotel. Alternate airports includes: Appleton International (ATW), 69 miles from Stevens Point, and Milwaukee (MKE), 150 miles from Stevens Point.

GROUND TRANSPORTATION

The hotel provides shuttle service to/from the Central Wisconsin Airport at a **special rate to League convention attendees** of \$20 each way. Please call the hotel at (715) 344-0200 to arrange for airport pick-up. Return trip logistics can be made during your hotel stay. The hotel does not offer transportation to/from alternate airports.

RENTAL CARS

Rental car counters are located in the building just opposite the airport exits. Avis, Hertz, Enterprise, Alamo,



National, and Budget operate out of CWA. The Izaak Walton League has an Avis Discount Code (L837370). The discount varies by location, time of year, and length of rental. You can make your reservation at www.avis.com or call (800) 331-1212.

CAMPING

Jordan Park, two miles northeast of Stevens Point, is a 271-acre park with 22 campsites. Download a reservation form from the county Web site (www.co.portage.wi.us/parks/JordanPark.shtm). The camp has showers, a boat ramp, a nature center and trail, and a swimming beach. Rivers Edge in Stevens Point (www.RiversEdge.com or 715-344-8058) has 200 campsites plus a restaurant, heated pool, showers, and boating.

CONVENTION CONTACTS

George Guyant, Co-Chair
(715) 824-2405
tothepoint2016@gmail.com

Jeanne Agneessens, Co-Chair
(920) 432-2273
jeanneagneessens@gmail.com

Cathy Berger
(540) 635-1259
meetings@iwla.org

CONVENTION SCHEDULE CHANGES

To allow more time for members and delegates to talk about League priorities, the traditional convention schedule has been adjusted as follows:

- The Board of Directors meeting (including Executive Board elections) will be held Friday morning after the IWLA Endowment meeting.
- Thursday morning will be devoted to large- and small-group discussions about priorities for the future of the League.





CONVENTION EVENTS

GROUNDWATER TALK AND TOUR

Monday, July 18, 9:00am

Cost: \$30 (includes lunch and transportation)

Groundwater provides drinking water to half the U.S. population – and 50 billion gallons every day for agricultural use. However, many areas of the country have depleted groundwater supplies, which also affects water levels in streams and rivers.

George Kraft, director of the Center for Watershed Science and Education at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, will lead a talk-and-tour focused on the effects of groundwater pumping not only in central Wisconsin but the northern Great Lakes region. Justin Isherwood, a fifth-generation farmer (and our banquet speaker), will share his insights on irrigated agriculture and the sustainable use of groundwater. And a special treat: Ray Reser, director of the Museum of Natural History at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, will discuss what archeology tells us about Native American use of water resources.

KAYAK/CANOE TRIP

Tuesday, July 19, 9:30am

Cost: \$35 (includes equipment, lunch, and transportation)

Enjoy a half day or more of adventure on the Plover River. Nature Trek, a local outfitter, will provide canoes, kayaks, and river guides. You'll launch

from Jordan County Park (about 10 minutes from the hotel) and float down to "Skinny Dip Point" at the Bill Cook Chapter. (You'll have to ask them about that one!) After lunch, you can paddle farther down the river to Iverson Park (about 5 miles from the original launch point) or return to the hotel.

EARLY BIRD PARTY AND AUCTION

Tuesday, July 19

Going once, going twice, SOLD to the Ike wearing yellow and green! Don't miss the excitement of our live auction. It's your opportunity to bid on exclusive art, a custom fly rod, and other items representing Wisconsin's outdoor bounty while enjoying drinks and food with fellow Ikes.

NATIONAL AWARDS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, July 20

Please join us in recognizing League members and fellow conservationists who made outstanding contributions to protecting natural resources in 2015. Awards will be presented to individuals, chapters, and divisions for achievements in youth programs, stream protection, outdoor ethics, and more.

PARADE OF STATES

Wednesday, July 20

Share a taste of your great state in our door-to-door food and drink extravaganza! The Parade of States will be held in designated guest rooms at the Holiday Inn. If you would like to host a state room, please contact Cathy Berger at meetings@iwla.org.

MEMBERSHIP AWARDS BREAKFAST

Thursday, July 21

Rise and shine to honor top League member recruitment programs. We will also recognize the conservation commitment among Izaak Walton League chapters with Defenders Chapter Achievement Awards.

CONSERVATION LUNCHEON

Thursday, July 21

The drinking water crisis in Flint, Michigan, has focused public attention on the devastating effects of lead contamination in drinking water. Yet threats to water quality and water resources continue. Peter Grevatt, PhD, director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, will address a broad array of water-related issues, including how they affect public health, our economy, and our communities as well as the role we all can play in conserving and protecting water resources nationwide.

"PIG OUT" AT THE BILL COOK CHAPTER

Thursday, July 21

Members of the Bill Cook Chapter invite you to a pig roast! Wear comfortable shoes to take advantage of 147 wooded acres with walking paths and the Plover River passing through. Ask about the many rocks around the scenic property – there's quite a history tale to be told.



CLOSING BANQUET

Friday, July 22

Share cocktails and dinner with your fellow Ikes while humorist and award-winning author Justin Isherwood offers a light-hearted look at life as a Wisconsin farmer.

ARCHERY ACADEMY

Saturday, July 23 • 8:30am-5:30pm
Registration: \$50 (includes lunch and curriculum materials)

In conjunction with the Archery Trade Association (ATA), the League will host an Archery Academy at the Bill Cook Chapter. This nationally-recognized educational program includes Level 2 Archery Instructor certification (USA Archery/National Field Archery Association) and is designed to prepare instructors to develop beginning and intermediate archery and bow-hunting programs.



For a full registration form and more information, visit www.iwla.org/shootingsports. **Registration is limited to 14 participants based on the order in which registration forms are received, so sign up early!**

STAN ENSBERG TRAP SHOOT

Saturday, July 23 • 9:00am
Registration: \$25 (includes lunch)

Compete with your fellow Ikes for bragging rights and a trophy named after Stan Ensberg, who served as IWLA national president in 1988. The trap shoot will take place at the Bill Cook Chapter, just three miles from the convention hotel. A limited number of loaner guns will be available.

SMALL-GROUP WORKSHOPS

Our small-group workshops offer opportunities to gain practical skills and interact with speakers and other convention attendees. This year we are extending the length of workshops to allow more time for discussion.

Starting an IWLA Youth Camp

Interested in new ways to engage youth and families? Then this workshop is for you! Learn how to start and sustain successful youth and family camps from League members who are doing it.

Social Media 201

What's new in the world of social media — and how can you use that to promote your chapter in the community? This workshop is designed for people who know the basics about social media, including Facebook and Instagram, and are looking to improve their skills and their chapter's online presence.

Using Radio to Raise Visibility

Did you know there are more than 15,000 radio stations across America? This session, led by League staff and chapter members who are successfully using radio today, will focus on how to get started, tips to successfully communicate your message on the air, and how to develop long-term working relationships with radio stations.

Engaging New Audiences in Shooting Sports

The future of shooting sports — and a significant source of funding for conservation — depends on recruiting new participants. The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) will share research on changing demographics and highlight outreach and recruitment strategies to engage new participants.

Healthy Habitat for Deer and More

League members and staff from the Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) will highlight how chapters and QDMA can partner to create healthier habitat for deer and other wildlife, contribute to top-notch hunting and other outdoor recreation, and mentor the next generation of hunters and conservationists. Get practical tips and learn about resources that can help your chapter advance conservation and outdoor recreation locally.

Each workshop will be presented twice on Thursday, July 21 (2:15pm-3:15pm and 3:30pm-4:30pm) to allow participants to attend two different workshops.

Workshop topics and descriptions are subject to change without notice.



YOUTH CONVENTION

Our Wisconsin hosts have designed an exciting program for this year's Youth Convention for young Ikes ages 8 to 18.

Tuesday, July 19

Youth Convention registration starts at 5pm. (Please be sure to print out and complete all required forms before you arrive. You can download the forms at www.iwla.org/convention.) Kick off the week with welcome activities and pizza from Polito's. Then head over to Clay Corners Studio to design and paint your own commemorative convention piece.

Wednesday, July 20

Splash into outdoor adventure at YMCA Camp Glacier Hollow with a day of swimming, boating, and more.

Thursday, July 21

Try your hand at archery, laser target shooting, and other outdoor recreation at the League's Bill Cook Chapter. After lunch, take a trip to Little Plover River Park for water conservation fun.

Friday, July 22

Start the morning with a quick visit to the general session of the national convention. Then head out for tours of the LowLand Bison Ranch and the Wisconsin Dairy State Cheese Factory (ice cream included!). Run off all that sugar with a scavenger hunt at the K.A.S.H. playground. Explore art in the woods at Stevens Point Sculpture Park, get friendly with creatures from the rain forest, enjoy dinner at a local favorite, and round out the evening with raptors.



CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAY, JULY 18

Groundwater Talk and Tour

TUESDAY, JULY 19

Kayak/Canoe Trip
Executive Board Meeting
Resolutions Committee Meeting
Early Bird Party and Auction
Youth Convention Early Bird

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20

Delegate Orientation Workshop
Convention Opening Ceremony
Youth Convention Opens
National Awards Luncheon
Committee Meetings
Parade of States

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Membership Awards Breakfast
Youth Convention
National Officer Elections
National Dues Vote
Conservation Luncheon
Workshops
Pig Roast at Bill Cook Chapter

FRIDAY, JULY 22

Midwest Breakfast (Continental)
Youth Convention
Endowment Meeting and Elections
Board of Directors Meeting/
Executive Board Elections
Convention Site Selection
Vote on Resolutions
Convention Reception and Banquet

SATURDAY, JULY 23

Archery Academy
Trap Shoot

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORMS

Download additional registration forms at www.iwla.org/convention.



CONVENTION

2016

REGISTRATION

Additional copies of these forms are available at www.iwla.org/convention.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

2016 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Stevens Point, Wisconsin

July 19-22, 2016

All cost are per person

Cost

Number Total

Registration

\$100

Youth Convention Registration (per)

\$30

Early Bird Auction

Non-registered guests

\$16

Mon., July 18

Groundwater Tour

\$30

Tue., July 19

Canoe/Kayak Plover River Tour

\$35

Wed., July 20

Awards Luncheon

\$25

Thurs., July 21

Membership Awards Breakfast

\$16

Conservation Luncheon

\$25

Bill Cook Chapter Pig Roast

\$35

Fri., July 22

Banquet

\$40

Sat., July 23

Archery Academy

\$50

Stan Ensberg Trap Shoot

\$25

Total Amount Enclosed

\$

Name: _____

Chapter/ID # _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Additional Registrants Chapter/ID # _____

Name as it appears on credit card: _____

Card Number: _____

Expiration: _____ CVC: _____

Email for confirmation: _____

Make checks payable to: Wisconsin Division IWLA. Mail registration form and payment to: Donald Klecker, 754 N Church St., Watertown, WI 53098. Visa and MasterCard accepted. Sorry, no American Express or Discover cards. Contact: tothepoint@gmail.com

YOUTH CONVENTION REGISTRATION

Please be sure to pre-register using this form. In addition, completed and signed parental consent and liability forms are required at onsite check-in on Tuesday, July 19th. These forms are posted online at www.iwla.org/convention. If you have questions, please contact Samantha Roth, Clean Water Fellow at sroth@iwla.org or (800) IKE-LINE (453-5463).

NOTE: The minimum age to participate is 8 years old. No exceptions. Registration fee of \$30 should be included with convention registration.

Youth Participation/Adult Chaperone Information:

Name _____ IWLA ID Number (*if applicable) _____

Address _____

Adult Contact _____ Cell # _____ Email _____
(at Convention)

Age: _____ DOB: _____ or chaperone (19 or older) _____ Dietary Restrictions: _____

The League welcomes additional financial support for the Youth Convention. Chapters, divisions and individuals may send checks payable to the Izaak Walton League with Youth Convention in the memo line. Mail to: IWLA Youth Convention, 707 Conservation Lane, Gaithersburg, MD 20878-2983.