

# Wisconsin Outdoor Communicators Association

## Newsletter - June 2013

### *From the President:*

Greetings, WOCA members. As I write this update, we're less than six weeks away from our annual get-together at Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River. Our agenda and speaker slate is complete. I think we can expect another interesting day for our Saturday workshop July 27. I've attached the agenda for your review. As usual, we'll leave a few minutes for Q&A at the end of each talk, so come prepared with questions.

Here's a short checklist to help you prepare:

- If you haven't do so already, please fill out your conference registration form (attached) and send it in with the appropriate payment. Trees for Tomorrow – and your WOCA officers – want to get a preliminary head count as soon as possible for the conference.
- As a reminder, you must be a registered WOCA member to attend Saturday's presentations, participate in our business meeting, and take part in the auction and raffles. Please send your membership form (attached) to Tom Muench as soon as possible, or renew in person during the conference in July.
- I attached our 2013 contract with Trees for Tomorrow. It specifies which services they'll provide and the costs. As it notes, if you're staying overnight, bring your own towel and wash cloth. TFT no longer provides those items for its guests.

You might recall that we dropped the Saturday evening meal at TFT before the 2012 conference. That's because only seven people hung around for it in 2011, and the consensus seemed to be that we preferred to fend for ourselves or start the drive home. We also dropped the Sunday morning breakfast and sack-lunch pickup, for similar lack of interest. So, if you haven't attended the WOCA conference the past couple of years and are expecting to be fed from Friday night through Sunday lunch, forget it. ☺ You'll be fed Friday night if you attend the cookout, and breakfast and lunch Saturday as part of the conference package.

You're on your own after that. But ... if anyone is interested in doing a Saturday night cookout at one of the TFT fire pits, let me know. I could be talked into back-to-back nights of grilled hamburgers, brats and corn. Either that or we could go to a local restaurant together, if our group isn't too large.

Also, let me know if you need help arranging a fishing trip Sunday, July 28. Dan Small usually brings his boat, and might be persuaded into taking guest(s). I might bring my row-trolling cedar-strip boat, too. It seems most of us have arranged our own fishing expeditions in recent years, but that doesn't mean we can't help those who lack local contacts.

A couple of notes:

- The DNR's Tom Portle, who will be part of the frac-sand panel, sent a PDF you might find helpful. It's attached to this email. As usual, we'll ask speakers to make available a copy of their PowerPoint presentations too.
- I've also been working on our door prizes and silent-auction items. Our list of company contacts and public-relations firms now exceeds 50, and WOCA's many supporters in the hunting and fishing industries are being generous. In addition, Dan Small and Paul Smith have been helping with some of their contacts. So, we should be able to raise some money for our treasury and various WOCA donations.

That's all for now. Call or email if you have questions. I'll do my best to answer you quickly.

-- Pat

Continued ...

### ***In other WOCA news:***

A few congratulations are in order for two of our fellow WOCA members:

■ Paul Smith, outdoors editor at the *Milwaukee-Journal Sentinel*, was elected to the Board of Directors of the Outdoor Writers Association of America during its recent annual elections. The OWAA annual conference is Sept. 14-16 in Lake Placid, N.Y.

■ In OWAA's 2012 annual writing contests, Paul took third place in the "Conservation" category (*Sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts*) for his article, "Swan Project: Success is Trumpeted," which appeared in the Nov. 25, 2012, issue of the *MJS*.

■ In OWAA's 2012 TV/Video contests, Dave Carlson took third place in the "Gear/Technical" category (*sponsored by Outdoor Recreation Company of America*), for "Some Words on Gas," which ran Feb. 13, 2012, on WQOW in Eau Claire.

■ In OWAA's TV/Video contests, Dan Small (and Mark LaBarbera) took first place in the Hunting/Shooting Sports category (*sponsored by Crosman Corp.*) for "Deer Hunt Wisconsin 2012," which aired Nov. 1, 2012 on Public Television/Outdoor Wisconsin.

*Also in OWAA's TV/Video contests, Dan took:*

■ Third Place in the Outdoor Fun & Adventure category for "Mounted Justice Rides Again," which ran April 19, 2012, on Milwaukee Public Television/Outdoor Wisconsin.

*And in OWAA's Radio/Podcast contests, Dan took:*

■ First place in the "Fishing" category for "How Technology has Changed Fishing," which aired Feb. 18, 2012, on the Outdoors Radio Network.

■ First place in the "Conservation" category (*sponsored by The Pew Charitable Trusts*), for "Stopping the Pebble Mine," which aired April 7, 2012, on the Outdoors Radio Network.

■ Second Place in the "Conservation" category for "Asian Carp Threat to Great Lakes," which aired July 21, 2012, on the Outdoors Radio Network.

■ First place in the “Gear/Technical” category (*sponsored by Outdoor Recreation Company of America*), for “Calling All Game with Wayne Carlton,” which aired Feb. 11, 2012, on the Outdoors Radio Network.

■ Third place in the “Gear/Technical” category for “Instinctive Shotgun Shooting,” which aired July 28, 2012, on the Outdoors Radio Network.

■ Third place in the “Outdoor Fun & Adventure” category for “Lake Michigan Water Trail,” which aired Sept. 29, 2012, on the Outdoors Radio Network.

#### ***WOCA Officers ...***

- President: Patrick Durkin re-elected
- Vice President: Post suspended (Position isn't required by WOCA bylaws)
- Treasurer: Tom Muench re-elected
- Secretary: Laurel Steffes re-elected

#### ***WOCA Board of Directors ...***

- Continuing directors: Art Barlow, Jerry Kiesow, Judy Nugent and Bob Wilberscheid.
- New directors: Dave Zeug, Bob Haase and Lisa Gaumnitz