Have a Safe and Happy Hunting Season!
MWHI OFFICERS 2016

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COE Chairman
618-978-8285

Blaine Hanneken

Chance Ketchum

Steve Koniak

John Popov (Advisor)
Dennis Millner (Advisor)
Rick Murphy (Advisor)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 2, 2017
MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

Saturday, March 25, 2017
MWHI 17th Annual
WATERFOWL CONSERVATION BANQUET
at K. C. Hall, Godfrey, IL
For tickets, contact John Gineris at 618-708-8117

Visit us at:
www.mwhi.us & Facebook

“Elections belong to the people. It’s their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters.”

— Abraham Lincoln

The Sentry is published monthly except for December and January by Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc., 2404 E. Broadway, Alton, IL, 62002. The Sentry deadline is always the second Monday of each month.

Statements and opinions expressed in the Sentry are those of the individual and do not necessarily represent the views of Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc. Officers, Directors, Advisors, Members or the Editor. The appearance of an ad in this newsletter does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of a product or service. We encourage our members to take note of those businesses advertising in our newsletter and shop with them when they are in the market for their product or services.
Area Projects Report - 10/19/2016
MWHI Chairman, Bo Adcock

Check Station at the Glades. Thank you, Bo, for doing such a great job of remodeling the interior. The check station was donated to the MRA by MWHI.

- Reserves all look good at this time. There is plenty of water and plenty of food.
- Pumping is still underway. Right now they are pumping the water to the corn.
- They are still checking blinds blind inspections will continue into duck season in some areas.
- They will also rock some areas since they have money for rock. The first ones to get rock will be Fuller and Calhoun Point.
- I want to remind everyone of the upcoming area projects meetings in the late winter. All blind builders will be notified. W would like to see a good turnout since it is an allocation year and it would be good to have a lot of input from a lot of different people.

The winners to be part of the Down River Outdoor Youth Hunt, sponsored by MWHI, are:

Gabrielle Cranmer
Henan Lee Nicolas

Congratulations!

Justin Sexton, Refuge Manager, USFWS Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge was Guest Speaker at October General Membership Meeting! Thank you, Justin, for a very informative speech and for answering numerous questions from the attendees.
With the balance of the Supreme Court at stake, this election will affect our constitutional rights. It is crucial that all gun owners and Second Amendment supporters register to vote, become informed about candidates’ positions, and on Election Day, #GUNVOTE. Don’t risk your rights!

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### MRA Opening Day Numbers

Submitted by Kenny Scott, MRA Ranger

#### 2016 SEASON HARVEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Batchtown</th>
<th>Calhoun Point</th>
<th>Glades</th>
<th>Godar</th>
<th>Stump Lake</th>
<th>MRA</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mallard Drake</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td>Mallard Hen</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>35</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Pintail</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>Gr. Wing Teal</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Ducks</strong></td>
<td>248</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>984</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Hunters**: 148  110  96  95  178  627  
**Total Hours**: 880  630  493  537  912.5  3,451  
**Total Blinds**: 43  30  26  24  50  173  
**Ducks/Hunter**: 1.68  1.94  1.28  1.82  1.16  1.58  
**Coots**: 2  0  0  0  0  0  
**Cripples**: 19  17  13  6  12  67  
**Geese**: 3  0  0  4  1  8

Average opening day harvest for a 60 day season:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Batchtown</th>
<th>Calhoun Point</th>
<th>Glades</th>
<th>Godar</th>
<th>Stump Lake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>252</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>304</td>
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Legislation Update

John Popov

I hope everyone does his/her homework for this election. The 2016 election is probably the most important one in our lifetime. There is a lot to look at.

One candidate says, “If the 2nd Amendment is constitutional, it is subject to regulation.” Really! The other candidate says the 2nd Amendment must be protected. One candidate is for more United Nations control of our country. Just look at project 21. The U.N. will tell you if you can own a gun or not. One candidate is against U.N. involvement in the constitution and the way we run our country. One candidate is for open borders and increased legal and illegal immigration. The other is not.

On September 11, 2001, 2,966 people died because of a violent act of terrorism. Since 2001, 7,916 human beings have died of gun violence in Chicago, Illinois, our home state. Can we put names on these people? We can if it involves a policeman or woman. How sad! It is pretty clear who supports law and order.

One more thing: the Supreme Court! We already have two Supreme Court Justices who support the use of foreign law. Could they include Sharia law? These justices are Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sonia Sotomayor. If you don’t think who the next president will be is not important, think again. The next president could appoint 3 or maybe 4 Supreme Court Justices. If you care about your children and grandchildren, the Supreme Court Justices appointed now will affect their lifetime. If this doesn’t open your eyes, nothing will. As for me, I am voting for the constitution and for freedom.

Yes, your vote counts!

If it is to be, it is up to you and me.

IMPORANT CONTACTS

NRA Update on Gun Bills 1-800-392-8683
Federal Senate Office 1-202-224-3121
Federal House Offices 1-202-225-3121
Illinois State Rifle Association 1-815-635-3198
www.isra.org
Illinois Senate Information 1-217-782-4517
Illinois House Information 1-217-782-8223
Sen. Wm. Sam McCann – 50th District Tel: 217-782-8206
Email: SenatorSam@frontier.com
Sen. Kyle McCarter– 54th Districted: 217-782-5755 E-mail: senatormccarter@gmail.com
Sen. Chapin Rose – 51st Districted: 217-558-1006
Sen. William R. Haine – 56th District Tel:618-465-4764 E-mail: haine@senatedem.state.il.us
Sen. James F. Clayborne – 57th District Tel: 618-875-1212 E-mail: clayborne@senatedem.il.us
Sen. David Luechtefeld – 58th District Tel: 618-243-0914 E-mail: sendavel@midwest.com
Sen. Gary Forby - 59th District Tel: 217-782-5509
Rep. Dan Beiser – 111th District Tel: 217-782-5996 E-mail: dvbeiser@sbcglobal.net
Rep. Natalie A. Manley – 98th District Tel: 217-782-3316
Rep. Adam Brown – 102nd District Tel: 217-782-8398
Rep. John D. Cavaletto – 107th District Tel:618-548-9080
Rep. Dwight Kay – 112 District Tel: 618-307-9200
Rep. Jay Hoffman – 113th District Tel: 217-782-0104
Rep. C. D. Davidsmeyer – 100th District Tel: 217-243-6221
Rep. Mike Bost – 115th District Tel: 618-457-5787 mikebost@midwestmail.com
Rep. Dan Reitz – 116th District Tel: 618-443-5757 E-mail: dreitz@egyptian.net
Rep. Rodney Davis - 13th District Tel: 202-224-3121
Rep. John Shimkus - 15th District Tel: 618-344-3065 E-mail: house.gov/shimkus
Sen. Richard J. Durbin
Tel: 202-224-2152 E-mail: dick@durbin.senate.gov
Sen. Mark Kirk Tel: 202-224-2854 Email: kirk.senate.gov
The killer in the Cascade Mall shooting was a Turkish alien who tried to purchase a handgun and asked if there was any way he could avoid the background check. The gun shop refused to sell him a gun. The killer stole the gun he used. I'm sure if the anti-gunners passed a law requiring criminals to pass a background check on their stolen guns they would be pushing each other to get to the front of the line.

My friend, Jim Wallace, the Executive Director of the Gun Owners Action League (GOAL in Massachusetts) always points out there are three areas of concern involving firearms. The first is gun safety. Gun owners and gun organizations are in charge of gun safety and in all honesty, we do a great job. We pay for it out of our own pocket or through dues to our various organizations. The second and third areas of concern are crime and mental health. The government is in charge of those two items. The government has unlimited money and authority, yet crime is on the rise, fueled mostly by drugs and drug gangs. Both the drugs and criminals swarm across borders and we are seeing individuals and families being ripped apart by drugs and the gangs who deliver them. The government isn't doing such a hot job with crime, maybe you have noticed. The government is also in charge of mental health, which includes suicide prevention. I don't think that is going too well either. We have mentally ill people wandering around on the streets, some of who are dangerous. We are told "they are better off" being out in public. The question I have is, are we better off? I think not.

On Monday the office received a call from a member who indicated they were going to vote for Hillary Clinton, misguided to say the least. It has taken millions of dollars, an enormous amount of time, massive efforts by organizations like the ISRA, NRA and SAF as well as personal sacrifices by people like Dick Heller, Otis McDonald and others to bring the Second Amendment back to its real meaning. If Hillary Clinton is elected President, Heller v DC, which is the cornerstone of the Second Amendment movement, will be reversed. McDonald v City of Chicago will be overturned, as well as many other cases and will fall by the wayside and turned into the dust of history. Moreover, there are other important cases waiting like Peruta v County of San Diego, which seeks to destroy concealed carry. In this case, the County of San Diego insists there is no right to carry concealed in the Second Amendment and that a person must prove his or her life is in danger before being issued a permit. The 9th Circuit upheld the County's position by a margin of 7-4. Before you say that it's "just California", Hillary's court will make that the law of the land.

In 1971, Saul Alinsky published a book called "Rules of Radical". Alinsky was a left-wing community organizer - sound familiar? The left adopted his tactics and applied them mercilessly against what and whomever they choose. Among Alinsky's followers are Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton and a host of left-wing strategists. These people have highjacked the Democrat Party. Once you read these rules you will understand a lot more about the 2016 Presidential Election, as well as state and local elections. All you have to do is Google "Rules for Radicals" and a variety of choices come up.

Here is a quick example. Rule number 5 is ridicule. Ridicule is a powerful weapon and very hard to defend against. Alec Baldwin portrayed Donald Trump as a nasty scowling character on Saturday Night Live (SNL). It was an obvious character assassination rather than satire. Of course, they gave equal time to Hillary Clinton, but the flavor was entirely different. This is how the left and the left-wing media operates, whether it be print, radio, television or internet. They use these tactics when attacking the Second Amendment, hunting, the shooting sports and the deplorable people who believe in and engage in those activities. These people are vicious and are out to destroy the Second Amendment and all that goes with it. Never have a doubt about that. Tactics are tactics and anyone can use them, including the deplorables.

This week's book is "Denied A Chance" by Nicole Renee Goeser. Nikki, as I have come to know her, watched her husband being murdered in front of her because she was in a "Gun Free Zone" and was forced to leave her permitted carry pistol in her vehicle. Her story was on Discovery I.D. On February 25, 2014. It is a compelling book and I recommend it.

Thanks for being a member.
From its beginning, Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc. maintained that the cure for hunter jealousy over ‘hot blind syndrome’ was proper wetland habitat management not more frequent blind site reallocations. For 32 years this club has been a watchdog for the hunter and lead by example when wetland habitat enhancement was the issue while the IDNR still wants to reallocate.

It started out as a rumor, the idea that after 16 years the State would change direction and allocate duck blinds on an annual basis. That was the word on the street back in 1969. It caused quite a stir.

Out of this controversy, however, something good was to spawn. The Faith Lutheran Church in Alton was the meeting place for 78 people determined to keep highhanded bureaucrats from ruining a successful program and to protect the waterfowl resource and its habitat. The name of this fledgling organization was Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc. (MWHI).

Not all, but many of the 500 plus blind sites in the MRA had been in permanent possession since the Winfield dam was completed in 1939. Blind builders had actually owned the land near the rivers where they farmed and hunted. The imminent domain law was put into play when the U.S. decided to dam the Mississippi River. Farmers were paid $36.00 per acre for their most productive parcels. Duck hunting in the flooded bottoms became one of the few positive things left for those displaced by progress.

Needless to say, disdain for government was an inherent by-product of the flooding of pools #25 and #26. So when the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established refuges at Batchtown and Brussels and later in the 1950s when the State DNR staked the first blind sites in the river bottoms, the agencies were looked upon with much distrust.

Now fast forward to 1970 -- the embers of that distrust begin to smolder. DNR’s Wm. L. Rutherford plants the seeds of annual reallocation. A public hearing in Springfield attracts 200 participants. The headcount shows 194 against and only 6 people in favor of reallocation. Among those in favor was journalist and Chicago pet storeowner Ace Extrom, who represented the Illinois Wildlife Federation but never built a duck blind nor hunted ducks. Likewise, the Mississippi Valley Duck Hunters of Belleville and later the Rend Lake Duck and Goose Hunters fell in line with the DNR and were pro-reallocation.

Meanwhile, in its first year of existence MWHI has grown to 240 members and the group set out on a crusade of habitat enhancement to upgrade all blind sites to improve hunting. House Resolution #391 passed, encouraging the DNR acting director Dan Malkovich to resist changes in the present duck blind allocation system in Illinois. This marks MWHI’s first attempt at law making.

1971 saw MWHI give birth to what has become 32 years of constant stewardship of our hunting areas and refuges. This endeavor was named the MWHI Area Projects Committee. Miles Brueckner, Bob Becker, Ed Hurley and Ira ‘Babe’ Methany were among the movers and shakers of the infant organization. They took the lead along with Otto ‘Butch’ Klaas and Wilfred ‘Poo’ Sievers of the Batchtown Sportsmen Club for relief of water level fluctuation during duck seasons on pool #25. The modified curve for pool regulation was established. With MWHI’s intervention an ill-planned river access road to dissect the Batchtown Dixon Pond area was defeated. A ‘Save Our Susies’ SOS program had been started and a split season for Illinois was suggested.

Continued on page 12
Continued from page 11

The following year, 1972, MWHI came out with a position favoring ½ hour before sunrise shooting time, which hasn’t changed in 30 years.

The twenty seven-year-old Tony Dean was named IDNR Director in 1973. Dean seemed to come to power with a preconceived bias toward reallocation.

The spring of 1974 saw MWHI’s 510 members still leading the fight against reallocation. The organization chartered busses to take folks to Springfield for yet another public hearing on the issue. It was May, 4. At the hearing, Miles Brueckner gave a stirring speech outlining MWHI’s position. Miles stated that annual allocations had served only to discourage blind site maintenance, building of blinds, and set the stage for unsafe blind construction. He implored the State and Federal Government to concentrate on habitat improvement rather than blind reallocation. Miles challenged the bureaucrats with MWHI’s 4 years of accomplishments of having the country’s first release of “wild imprinted” ducks by a private club, releasing of 2,000 mallards, the building and installation of 800 wood duck and mallard nests, the club funding of a $15,000 wetland project in Canada and our support for Ducks Unlimited. Director Dean would have none of it and in late July announced a 2-year allocation to begin in 1975.

MWHI still stinging from its first defeat vowed that blind allocation was not big enough to end the club’s future. That year, a battle-hardened MWHI made the first inquiries about duck hunting on Horseshoe Lake in Granite City. The club also learned the same year that reallocation system change was rooted within a small circle of DNR employees and jealously over so called ‘hot blinds’ had caused the entire controversy.

Re-registration of blinds previously allocated was allowed in 1974, with unregistered blinds going in a one-year draw.

The first blind reallocation draw for all blinds took place in 1975. MWHI built its 1,000th wood duck nest box and made a movie titled “The Duck Hunter’s Story.” Early in the year, the club puts its weight behind new legislation that created the first Illinois State Duck Stamp. The stamp cost $5. We also pushed for an Administrative Rule to allow hunters to sign on as blind builders if a builder dropped out of a blind.

In the final year of the first 2-year allocation, the MWHI board of directors voted unanimously to continue the fight for longer allocations. In 1976, our organization pushed for blind draw dates to be no later than the end of May. Director Kenney was at the helm of the IDNR and he favored the 3-year allocation. But, in 1977, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was still not convinced. MWHI met with the new IDNR Director in Springfield and then traveled to Minneapolis, MN to talk with the Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Feds decided to do their own allocation study with MWHI Board of Director member Bob Catt to participate. This was the first year of the second 2-year allocation period.

MWHI pressed Director Kenney again for a longer allocation. He reminded us that the stumbling block was the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and set another 2-year draw in motion. MWHI pushed to have the reallocation draws on Sundays. Twenty five percent of the MRA blinds were not taken in the 1979 draw. Membership Secretary Ross Breitweiser computerized MWHI’s membership program by this time.

In 1980, MWHI was asked by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to help refine their draw system for the Mississippi pool #13, Potters Marsh in Northern Illinois.

In 1981, our club survey prompted the organization to write yet another letter to IDNR’s Glen Harper, requesting a Continued on page 13
longer allocation. The draw was held on June, 7. It was the first 3-year draw.

Blind moves following the allocation draw became an issue the next year. MWHI suggested an Administrative Rule allowing blind moves in between allocation periods only.

1983 saw two MWHI by-law changes. The first increased the number of directors from 6 to 8. The second ushered in a life membership program.

At the beginning of the first year of the second 3-year allocation, MWHI received a letter from IDNR’s Glen Harper indicating that 3-year draws were permanent. Bill Anderson completed a $67,000 study for IDNR comparing 1, 2, and 3-year blind allocations. Anderson concluded that hunter opportunity, distribution of hunting effort among individual hunters and waterfowl harvests were most equitable with a 1-year allocation system. February 21, a special board meeting was held to peruse Anderson’s study. It was concluded the study was terribly flawed from a habitat and hunter standpoint. Bob Becker wrote a detailed letter rebutting the study. Director Kenney and Assistant Director Chuck Taminga both supported a 3-year allocation. The draw was held June, 3. Reallocated blinds number 378. On June 21, 1984, Director Kenney received a letter from Acting Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Harold W. Benson, who stated that “a three-year allocation of blind sites would be in the best interest of the waterfowl resources on the Mississippi River.”

IDNR Adds Waterfowl Hunting Opportunities in Central Illinois
IDNR News Release 10/14/2016

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has secured several waterfowl hunting sites in Macoupin, Sangamon, and Schuyler counties through its Illinois Recreational Access Program (IRAP).

Open to the public from November 1 through December 31, these sites are on private land leased by IRAP. Each site can accommodate up to four hunters in a group and can be hunted for five consecutive days.

In order to take advantage of one of these sites, hunters must first complete an application and send it to the IRAP program. Lotteries will be held at least weekly to fill each site. Successful applicants will be mailed their waterfowl site permits and other information about the location.

The waterfowl sites in Macoupin County already have blinds established. Dogs are welcome, but no boats or ATVs may be used. Sites can be reserved with an application found online at this link: https://www.dnr.illinois.gov/conservation/IRAP/Pages/Waterfowl-Hunting.aspx
Every year in October there is this day called DUCK SEASON EVE. The CRAZIEST day before Opening Day. This is the day were you can witness 100s of men more nervous/excited than they were on their Wedding Day or perhaps even more so than the day of the birth of their first born. This behavior can also be called being "DUCKY". Weather can also be described as "DUCKY" if it’s below 50 degrees and winds are coming from the NW.

I’ve seen things, heard things, dealt with things over 30+ years of my life being raised in a house with not one....but TWO enthusiastic Water Fowl Hunters. Now I’m not dogging on them. It’s nice to see people excited about something they love. I also like to go with them once in a while. YOU WON’T EAT A BETTER BREAKFAST THAN IN THE DUCK BLIND! I thoroughly enjoy watching the ducks work and how they react when they are trying to call them in. (My brother Hank Fortschneider is a damn good duck/goose caller) It’s also quite thrilling to watch good hunting dog retrieve and hunt for missing ducks. I just wanted to share some of my past/present experiences with DUCK SEASON EVE with others. And I encourage you to add anything that you too have seen, had to help with etc..... to make sure your hunter doesn’t have a nervous breakdown before Sun Rise ☀️.

Here is to a Great 2016 Season.....because Heaven Help Us if it is not......all the men will be in pissy moods LOL.

- Should I have added Pin Oak to the Willows for a more natural look.

- I need a 100 more decoys and 5 more robo ducks and are they spread just right? (shows me several small pieces of paper with a square and dots dotted around it in different patterns.

- Who is all hunting with me? Several phone calls made until 10 p.m. until this is straightened out!

- Did my wife make the sausage gravy? Joyce Marie you know all about this one ☺️ - Which gun should I take?....a case of shells probably won’t be enough.

- Where are my duck calls? I only found 20. Better take a couple goose calls too.

- Paper plate, forks knives, trash bags and of course toilet paper.

- Is the john boat gassed up....better check the plug. - Dog....no worries she is always ready. Just can’t forget her in the truck at the Harbor.

- Where are my hunting clothes? Must be prepared for both cold and warm weather.

- Gotta watch the weather....Pray for North West Winds!
2016 MWHI Gun Raffle Winners

One Winner Every Month - Ticket Drawn on First of Every Month - Beginning June, 2016
Subject to availability at Draw Date - Pick-up at Outrageous Outdoors, Jerseyville 618-639-4867

Gun or Cash Equivalent

Only 500 Sold

June 2016 Gun - Savage 17 HMR Camo w/scope - Terry Schettler
July 2016 Gun - Remington Versa Max 12ga Mossy Oak Camo - Pat Satterthwait
August 2016 Gun - S&W Shield 9mm - John Gineris
September 2016 Gun - Winchester SXP 12ga 3 1/2in Waterfowler - Rick Gotch
October 2016 Gun - TriStar TSA 3 1/2in Black 12ga- Ron Ragus
November 2016 Gun - Beretta A300 Outlander Black 12ga- Kenneth Kleeman

For questions, please contact Gun Raffle Chairman Dave Geisler at 618-535-3889.

Sign up a new member today

2017 MWHI Gun Raffle

One Winner Every Month - Ticket Drawn on First of Every Other Month - Beginning June, 2017
Subject to availability at Draw Date - Pick-up at Outrageous Outdoors, Jerseyville 618-639-4867

Gun or Cash Equivalent up to $500.00 - Only 500 Sold
$20.00 / Ticket or 3 for $50.00

June 2017 Gun - Winchester SX # 12 ga.
July 2017 Gun - Beretta A300 12 ga. Camo
August 2017 Gun - Henry Golden Boy .22 LR
September 2017 Gun - DPMS AR .223 Rifle
October 2017 Gun - S & W Shield 9mm
November 2017 Gun - Remington V3 12 ga. Camo

For questions, please contact Gun Raffle Chairman Dave Geisler at 618-535-3889.