

TIN CUP TIMES

Fall 2007

The Newsletter of the John D. Voelker Foundation

December, 2007

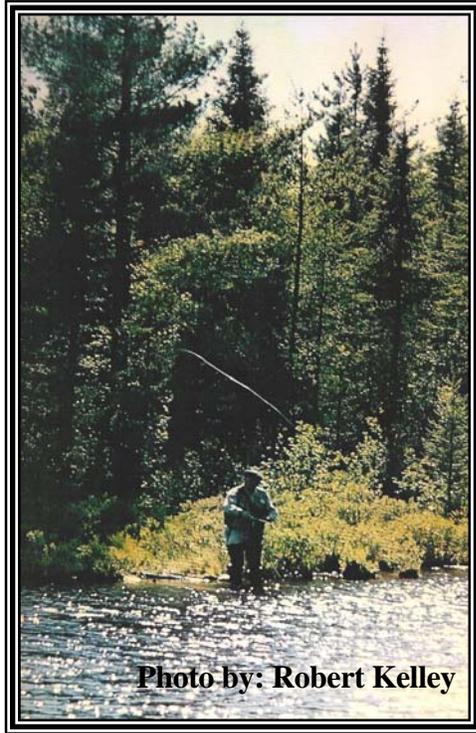


Photo by: Robert Kelley

18th Annual John D. Voelker Foundation Board Meeting

by Rich VanderVeen

The 18th Annual meeting of the John D. Voelker Foundation was held in Marquette, MI on June 30, 2007. The Board took several actions

- Review last year's financial statements
- Progress made by Voelker Scholars
- Entries for the 2007 Robert Traver Writing Award
- Progress with the Trout Habitat Restoration
- Preparation for the 50th Anniversary of Anatomy of a Murder.

The Board also passed a Resolution that honored Gigs and Joanne Gagliardi for their dedication and service to the John D. Voelker Foundation:

Inside:

- 18th Annual Board Meeting
- Gagliardi Appreciation Resolution
- Voelker Scholars
- 2007 Robert Traver Essay
"In Hemingway's Meadow"



The John D. Voelker Foundation hereby expresses its gratitude to Anthony (Gigs) and Joanne Gagliardi for their 18 years of dedicated service in preserving the memory of our mutual friend, John D. Voelker.

On this 50th Year Celebration of Anatomy of a Murder, it is with pleasure that the John D. Voelker Foundation recognizes and pays tribute to Gigs and Joanne Gagliardi, who, with John Voelker, entertained and celebrated with the cast members in 1959. The hard work and entrepreneurial spirit of the Gagliardis has enabled the Foundation to pay tribute to John Voelker through these achievements:

- *Recruiting New Foundation Members, whose contributions have built the Scholarship, Writing Award and related Funds for the Foundation*
- *Commissioning and Dedicating John Voelker's Supreme Court Portrait*
- *Contributing articles to and editing the Foundation's "Tin Cup Times" Newsletters*
- *Establishing the "Voelker Lake" in Ishpeming, Michigan*
- *Awarding the Voelker Scholarship to 14 Native American Law School Students, who are fulfilling the promise that John wrote about in Laughing Whitefish.*
- *Presenting the Robert Traver Writing Award to 9 writers from across the United States, whose essays and stories have been published nationally in "Fly Rod & Reel."*
- *Publishing Traver on Fishing, expertly edited by Nick Lyons and published in 2001*

For these and many other contributions, the Voelker Foundation expresses its gratitude to Gigs and Joanne Gagliardi.

Native American Scholarships

by Michael Petoskey & George Hyde

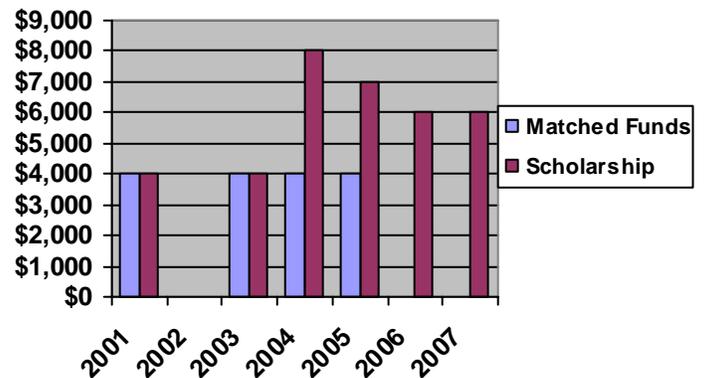
The present Voelker Scholar, Karrie Wichtman, is currently an Administrative Assistant to the Western District Attorney and recently transferred to MSU Law School.

While the Voelker Foundation plans to continue supporting a Voelker Scholar throughout his/her law school studies, key factors need to be considered:

A. Diminished corpus of the Scholarship Fund
 B. Ms. Wichtman is a Part-Time Student and will require several years of support.

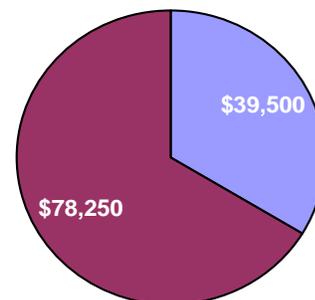
C. Her transfer from Thomas Cooley to MSU may waive her tuition under Michigan law.

A second scholarship application was reviewed by the Board. Ms. Alison Grigonis is a Michigan Native American who is attending the University of California Law School at Santa Barbara, CA. Her application and Letters of Support were presented to the Board.



Upon motion made by George Hyde and supported by Michael Petoskey, the Board approved two 2007 – 2008 scholarships: \$4,000 for Ms. Wichtman and a \$2,000 scholarship for Ms. Alison Grigonis. Fred Baker agreed to explain the factors to Ms. Wichtman and Ms. Grigonis in a letter to accompany the Foundation's scholarships.

1989 - 2007 Scholarships



■ Matched Funds ■ JDVF Scholarships

Voelker Scholar Updates



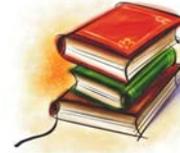
Alison Grigonis

Things are going pretty well for me at UCLA so far. I love the environment here, everyone is very friendly and the weather can't be beat. I spend my days holed up in the library reading, outlining, and working on my memo. Since its November, finals are just around the corner. Law school has definitely been a challenge, but a very rewarding one. I am still very excited by the things I am learning, and I am looking forward to next year when I can take some classes on Indian Law.

When talking about the scholarship fund I think it's important to emphasize the real need to award financial assistance to promising Natives that want to study law. There are just too few of us in law school and even fewer in top 20 schools. Currently we only have four Native students, including myself. Many of the nation's top schools do not even have a National Native American Law Student Association (NNALSA) chapter. In fact, UCLA is the only school in California with an active chapter. At the same time, law school tuition is on the rise, creating further barriers to people who want a legal education. I think these facts help highlight how essential your program is to people in my situation.

Please thank everyone on the Board again for the financial assistance and let them know a little goes a long way. At the very least, it is encouraging to know that there are people dedicated to seeing Natives succeed in the legal profession.

-Sincere Thanks, Alison



Karrie S. Wichtman

I cannot believe how fast the weeks have flown by this semester, exams are just around the corner! After this semester I will be at the half way mark to completing my JD. Attending part-time, my expected graduation date is in December 2009.

I particularly enjoyed this semester due to my opportunity to take a Federal Indian Law class. I continue to develop a better understanding of Indian Law and am amazed, week-by-week, to learn something new regarding the existing federal/tribal relationship in the areas of tribal sovereignty, treaty rights, land claims, trust responsibility, jurisdiction and the like. My professor is amazing and full of historical facts that add to the context in which the cases were decided. The class has certainly reinforced the importance, in my mind, of Native law students who, no doubt, will someday litigate these same issues as contemporary decisions in Indian law seem to change with each administration. I am honored to potentially be a part of that group and hope to pursue a career in Indian law upon graduation.

I would like to thank the Board for its continued financial support. The assistance that I have received over the past few years has gone a long way toward helping me continue along this path. Your generosity will not be forgotten and someday soon I hope to be contributor to rather than a recipient of the Voelker Foundation scholarship so that other Native law students can follow in my footsteps.

-Sincerely, Karrie S. Wichtman,
2009 J.D. Candidate, MSU College of Law

A Message from the Treasurer

This is an appeal to our members for contributions, especially to the Native American Scholarship fund, which is essentially depleted after this year's grants to Alison and Karrie. It has always been our practice to give as much as we can, to as many scholars as we can, trusting that our members will continue to provide the wherewithal that has enabled us to help 14 scholars over the past 17 years. That faith has always been justified, but gradually our reserves have fallen, especially in years when we had more than one deserving scholar. Now our total cash reserves for the scholarship fund, the writing award, and our habitat initiatives are less than \$12,000, of which \$8,000 is earmarked for the writing award. We will be able to continue our support at meaningful levels next year for the 2 scholars whom we have undertaken to assist only if our members step up and subscribe to the books (they make excellent Christmas gifts), buy the domes, or simply make contributions. We who volunteer our time to do a few good things in John's name thank you in advance for considering how you can encourage and enable us to continue doing that by contributing to the Foundation.

-Fred Baker, Secretary Treasurer

2007 Robert Traver Writing Award

Written by: Rich Vander Veen

Several hundred entries were received this year for the 2007 \$2,500 Robert Traver Writing Award. Paul Guernsey and Jim Butler, Fly, Rod & Reel, sorted out the respective entries and provided five nominees to the Judges Panel, which consisted of: Paul Guernsey, Nick Lyons, John Frey, Ted Leeson, Seth Norman, Fred Baker and Rich Vander Veen.

At a meeting held July 1, 2007, the Judges voted unanimously to award the 2007 Robert Traver Writing Award to "In Hemingway's Meadow", by Jeff Day from Pennsylvania. Day's winning essay was printed in Fly, Rod & Reel and is posted on the

Voelker Foundation website.

See - www.voelkerfdn.org.

Thanks to the author, Jeff Day, and the publisher, Fly, Rod & Reel for permission to reprint "In Hemingway's Meadow".

Entries for the 2008 Robert Traver Award are currently being accepted by the Voelker Foundation and Fly, Rod & Reel.

50th Anniversary of Robert Traver's Anatomy of a Murder

Written by: Rich Vander Veen

2007 presents a wonderful opportunity for admirers of John Voelker to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Anatomy of a Murder. Events that have already transpired include a presentation by Fred Baker to 50 Chief Justices from 50 states at the July 28, 2007 Conference held on Mackinac Island, MI.

Before arriving at the Island, all 50 Chief Justices received a copy of Anatomy of a Murder, read the book and were very pleased by Fred's presentation.

On August 17, 2007, the U.S. Postal Service dedicated the Jimmy Stewart Stamp at the historical Marquette County Court House – The scene of the 1959 film.

At that presentation were members of the Voelker Foundation Board, including Gigs Gagliardi and Fred Baker. Fred again presented his "Anatomy" essay, which has been posted on the Voelker Foundation website.



Additional celebratory events are being planned by the Library of the State of Michigan. They intend to make Anatomy of a Murder a "must read" book offered to the public with a rejuvenated introduction

and, perhaps, issue a limited-signed edition of Fred Baker's essay and the Voelker/Traver bibliography.

Together, these and other items will be on display at the Michigan Historical Museum and part of the ongoing literary series directed and sponsored by the Library of the State of Michigan.



Additional participants in these celebrations included the Northern Michigan University Archives, the State Supreme Court Historical Society and others.

Delta County, Michigan's Tribute to John D. Voelker April 14, 2008 – May 5, 2008

A tribute to John D. Voelker is being organized in Delta County Michigan. The events will be held in Escanaba. The tribute is intended to spark new interest in the stories written by Robert Traver, as well as remember the important history of John D. Voelker, the lawyer, author, Michigan Supreme Court Justice, and public figure.

The tribute will begin by encouraging the community to read the books authored by John D. Voelker. A special table will be set up in the Escanaba Public Library featuring the literary works by and about John D. Voelker.

The John D. Voelker Foundation will assist in

preparing a historic display for the Escanaba Library. Short book reports to spark interest will be published in the local newspapers, web sites, and local schools. These highlights will create interest in the many interesting stories that are available.

Delta County's Players de Noc will produce the play *Anatomy of a Murder* at the Bonifas Fine Arts Center in Escanaba on April 25, 26 and 27, 2008 and on May 1, 2, and 3, 2008.

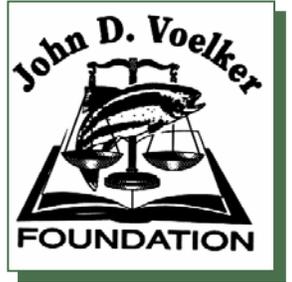
In May, the Delta County Bar Association will present a Law Day 2008 program in the Delta County Circuit Court that will highlight some of the important legal contributions John D. Voelker made while on the Michigan Supreme Court.

The Delta County Historical Society will honor John D. Voelker during its 2008 annual meeting. Frederick Baker, Jr. will present the program on John D. Voelker for the Delta County Historical Society's spring 2008 annual meeting.

The John D. Voelker Foundation Board

Richard F. Vander Veen III, President	
James F. Graves, Vice President	
Frederick M. Baker, Jr., Secretary/Treasurer	
Anthony Gagliardi	Grace Voelker Wood
Nick Lyons	Adam J. Tsaloff
George Hyde	Kelly Keenan
Michael Petoskey	Peter Strom
Paul Strom	Page Graves
John Frey (emeritus)	

John D. Voelker (1903 – 1991)	Charles Kuralt (1934 – 1997)
Jim Washinawatok (1924 – 1997)	John W. Cummiskey (1917 – 2002)
Walter Abbott (1929 – 2005)	

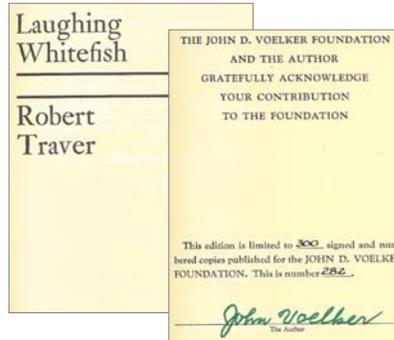


MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

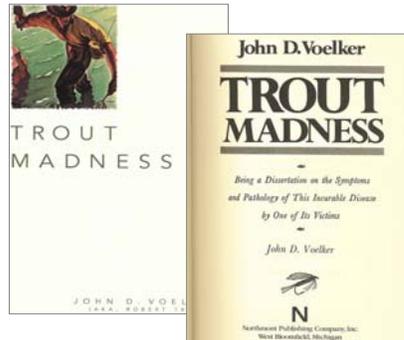
I wish to become a Foundation Member!

Please enter my subscription for the Foundation's signed, limited edition(s) of:

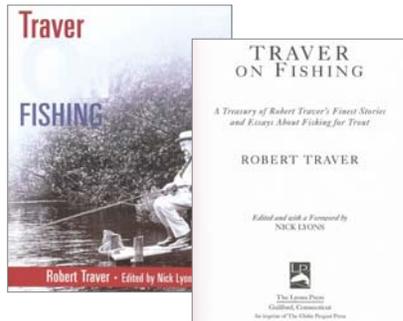
- _____ *Laughing Whitefish*
 \$200.00
 (\$165.00 is tax deductible)



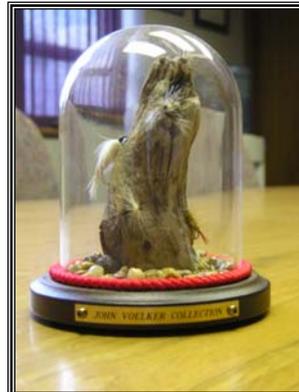
- _____ *Trout Madness*
 \$200.00
 (\$165.00 is tax deductible)



- _____ *Traver on Fishing*
 \$ 30.00
 (New edition; Cover photo
 by Fred M. Baker, Jr.)



- _____ *"The Voelker Collection"*
 \$200.00
 Fishing Flies from
 John Voelker's Vest,
 Mounted in a Globe
 (11 globes remaining)



These represent the last of the Voelker flies Gigs donated.

Affiliate Membership may be obtained through a \$50.00 contribution, which entitles Affiliate Members to a year's subscription to the Foundation's *Tin Cup Times*, with four cumulative annual donations qualifying Affiliates for full Membership status.

_____ I wish to become an Affiliate Foundation Member. Here is my \$50.00 annual subscription for the *Tin Cup Times* newsletter.

Donations and Gifts are Welcome! Supporters of the John D. Voelker Foundation may allocate donations to any of the Foundation's goals.

I enclose \$_____ to be applied to:

_____ The John D. Voelker Native American Scholarship Fund

_____ The Traver Fly Fishing Fiction Writing Award Fund

_____ The Voelker Trout Habitat Project.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ **Fax:** () _____ **Email:** _____

Postage will be paid by the Foundation. Please allow two weeks for delivery. Send your subscription or contribution and this Membership Form to:

The John D. Voelker Foundation
P.O. Box 15222
Lansing, Michigan 48901-5222

The Voelker Foundation was founded in 1979 by John Voelker and his friends. The Voelker Foundation is a Michigan non-profit with federal 501 (c)(3) status and is licensed by the Michigan Attorney General. The Voelker Foundation welcomes your membership and continued support. Your contribution will enable the Foundation to continue the Robert Traver Award, Scholarships and other good works. For further information call Richard Vander Veen (616) 897-1304 or Fred Baker (517) 373-0260.