



Coon Valley Conservation Club

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2010

(Web Site Version)

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Kevin King 452-3469	VICE PRESIDENT: Royce Curtis 452-3809
TREASURER: Bill Mathison 634-2862	SECRETARY: Jay Sandman 452-2320
BOARD MEMBERS: Paul Moilen 452-3387	Adam Gartner 452-2440
Dave Larson 452-3256	Rod Ofte 452-2862

CVCC CONTACTS

NEWSLETTER: Royce Curtis (Interim Editor)	WEB SITE: Tom Parlow
CLUBGROUNDS: Roger Anderson, Chuck Sveum	FARM: Gary Gilbeck
EDUCATION: Steve Pauloski	CLUB HISTORY: Jon Lee
MUZZLELOADERS: Royce Curtis	ARCHERY: Charlie Nelson
MEMBERSHIPS: Royce Curtis	OAK SAVANNA PROJECT: John Moe
BUILDING RENOVATION: Gerry Roethel	SHOOTING RANGES PROJECT: Jim Brower
MONTHLY GUN RAFFLE: Paul Lewison	"SERIOUS SPORTSMEN" RAFFLE: Jay Sandman

EMAIL

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE By Kevin King –

I would like to start out by saying Thank you to all the members past and present who made it possible for us (all members) the opportunity to sustain and hopefully improve our conservation club, we have more property and potential than most clubs I can think of. We also have room for many improvements as we (the membership) will be deciding in the near future.

I ask all members to try to make it to our membership meeting which is held the last Thursday of every month. However if for any reason you are unable to attend please feel free to contact any one of the current officers or board members with your ideas or thoughts, all phone numbers are available in this newsletter.

Thank You,

Kevin King

OUTGOING PRESIDENT' MESSAGE By Jon Lee –

I am reminded of what makes a club strong. Our members do! We support countless activities and can't survive without a strong volunteer base. Please dedicate some time during one of our many club-sponsored activities. We can't support the community as a whole without you. And, to everyone, thanks for supporting our club.

I am also reminded of how fast two years goes by. My term as president of the CVCC has expired. Thanks to all members for supporting me during this time and to your faith in me holding this high office-also nobody else wanted the job at the time. It is my sincere hope that we continue to make the club stronger. We must continue to find ways to improve our club as a whole. We must be open to new ideas and support members who

may want to try something different. We must continue to strive to support worthy causes in our community. We owe this to all of the individuals who served in various capacities prior to us. As we celebrate our 70th year in 2010, I am reminded of the hundreds of people who got the club where it is today. To all the volunteers through the years, and to all the thousands of man hours provided, we thank you kindly!

This brings me to my last newsletter as president. It was a fun ride, but all fun rides have to end some time. I learned a lot. There were many unfinished projects to be finished, old minutes to read on past actions and inactions, people to thank for all their hard work, speakers to invite to meetings, activities to coordinate, officers to round up for elections, meals to plan, and fund raisers to head. It was a lot of work, but I am richer for having done it, and I am glad that I had an opportunity to do it.

There are many exciting developments within our club as we improve our facilities and grounds. We have many positive forces at work presently. This is a must if we are to keep and attract new members. Please get involved!! We are a constantly growing and evolving club, and I am proud to be a part of one of the best conservation clubs around.

A special "Good Luck!!" to Kevin King who has taken on the role as president.

In Conservation,

Jon Lee

CVCC LONG RANGE PLANNING REPORT:

The Board of the CVCC is working on a Long Range Plan for the CVCC including an integrated clubgrounds plan for all current and potential future uses. The Board feels strongly that whatever activities, changes, building, etc. be viewed with the overall needs and wants of the CVCC now and in the future taken into consideration before any action takes place. Areas currently being reviewed include the clubhouse, shooting ranges, cropland, food plots, forestry, trails, camping areas, and rental house. Specific major projects currently in place include improvements to the clubhouse, shooting ranges and the establishment of an oak savanna. Any action taken on these projects will be required to fit into the long range plan for the CVCC and will require Board and members approval. Please contact any CVCC Board member if you have any questions or concerns.

RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

2010 HUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION CLASSES:

This year the CVCC sponsored two Hunter Safety Education Classes – a regular class in February and March plus for the first time, an Internet based On-Line class. The regular class had 25 students all of which completed the class successfully. We had our youngest student ever in the class at age 9. This young hunter was more than ready to begin hunting safety as he topped the class with perfect test scores!

To host the On-Line course all of our volunteer instructors attended a 4 hour training class conducted by District Warden Bill Yearman in January. The class began in March and finished with an all-day demonstration, practice and testing Field Day on April 24 at the clubgrounds. 16 students participated and all were successfully certified with average test scores of 96% matching the average scores of our regular class students. District Warden Yearman also provided the CVCC with 2 "gun sets" each consisting of 5 firearms, 1 of each action type, to be used for all of our future hunter safety education classes. These are now stored in a new gun safe at the clubhouse along with our own hunter safety firearms.

The instructors were Roger Anderson, Al Haakenson, Charlie Nelson, Corky Roethel, Steve Pauloski, Lillian Primmer, and Royce Curtis.

The 2011 classes will begin in February. Watch for an announcement in the Winter CVCC Newsletter.

2010 3D Archery Shoots Summary:

The CVCC hosted three 3D Archery Shoots during February, March and April. Score cards turned in for the shoots were: February 96, March 159, and April 112 for a total of 367 shooters. The March and April shoots were dual shoots with the Chaseburg Rod & Gun Club with participants in both club shoots eligible in a drawing for either a Rinehart 3D target or \$250. Comments from participants indicated that our shoot layout was “one of the best they had ever shot!” Special thanks for all the hard work done by Al Haakenson, Roger Anderson and Chuck Sveum in laying out the course, clearing the walkways and shooting areas, setting up the targets and backstops and taking down and storing the targets after the shoots. Also, thanks to all the other members who helped in any way with the targets, registration and food to make our 3D shoots successful and profitable. Over the years the 3D archery shoots have brought a lot of people to and much positive exposure of the CVCC. The club has also built up a very impressive inventory of targets and supplies. Without the dedication of a small group of archery enthusiasts and the hard work of many club members none of this would have happened.

Plans are being made for 2011. Also, the CVCC has been approached by the Wisconsin Traditional Archers about the possibility of hosting a “Traditional Only” weekend shoot. This is currently being investigated so watch for more information.

SPRING CVCC MUZZLELOADERS INVITATIONAL:

A very successful Spring Invitational Weekend was enjoyed by all. We had a dozen camping units with 22 campers, plus many people trying their skills at the shotgun and rifle ranges, the hawk blocks and the archery range. The wine & cheese party, Saturday stew supper plus the Saturday noon food on the rifle range kept everyone well fed. (Special thanks to Paul Lewison for the Sat. noon cooking!) There were 17 competitors in the Saturday rifle shoot with the big winner being Wild Bill Marquardt. Several very nice prizes were awarded plus many donated door prizes. Thanks to all the participants and donors!

Top 5 Shooters



This was a fun and profitable member event for our CVCC muzzleloader enthusiasts. (All of the campers were CVCC members and only 1 of the 17 competitors at the rifle shoot is not currently a CVCC member.) We highly encourage all CVCC members and friends to “come and play” at any of our upcoming shoots and especially at the Fall CVCC Muzzleloader Invitational Sept. 17-19, 2010 including the Third Annual Muzzleloader Pheasant Hunt at Badgerland Pheasant Farm on Sunday morning from 8 AM – Noon.

KID’S FREE FISHING DAY – June 5th: By Jay Sandman –

Learn to Fish Day was a Lunker of a Hit with Local Youth

On June 5th, 2010, the Knutson Memorial Library organized a “Learn to Fish” clinic at Coon Valley Memorial Park. Children of all ages were invited to participate in the event and approximately 75 participants were in attendance.

The clinic was comprised of multiple activities designed to introduce youth to the wonderful world of fishing. Participants were issued fishing rods on loan from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and

each child was given individualized instruction on how to cast. The youth then had to dig night crawlers from large totes filled with potting soil and off to the stream they went. The picturesque Coon Creek was good to several anglers that morning with one creel holding a handsome 13" German Brown.

Following a good morning on the water, the youth were given a demonstration on how to clean a trout and all participants were fed a proper lunch before disbanding. Three lucky anglers won a standard issue Zebco 404 fishing package to keep their interests piqued. One winner was so fired-up he had to immediately return to the creek and put his new rig into action!

Your CVCC donated \$100.00 to the event and several members volunteered to participate as instructors. Member instructors present were Colin Sveum, Jon "Filet Knife" Lee, Adam Gartner, Keith Mathison and Jay Sandman. Overall the event was a huge success and your CVCC is communicating with the staff of the Knutson Memorial Library with hopes of having this inspirational event again next year.

Jay Sandman
CVCC Secretary



Excited winners of new fishing rods paid for with funds donated by your CVCC. Winners L-R: Kylie Turner, Ivan Arendt and Sophia Patineau.



Sadie Hooker with 13" Brown Trout

COON CREEK RENDEZVOUS MUZZLELOADER SHOOT – SAT. June 26th:

Nine shooters competed in the fourth annual Coon Creek Rendezvous Shoot on Saturday, June 26th. One top prize of an Author Anderson framed print donated by the Rendezvous went to Mark Schroeder and the other top prize of a metal candle lantern went to Gary Butterfield. Mark and Gary tied with top shooting scores and Gary won the shoot off to claim the "Top Shooter" position for the second year in a row. Other prize winners were Roger Johnson, Bill Marquardt and Royce Curtis. Thanks to all for another fun shoot!



Muzzleloader Shoot Winners



Rendezvous Bow Shooters using CVCC 3D Targets

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

CVCC Celebrates 70 Years of Stocking Trout in 2010

The Coon Valley Conservation Club has been stocking native brook trout in the waters of the Coon Creek since 1940. The Joe Koula and Jordahl Ekern ponds were selected from a list of prospective pond sites. In each pond that year were 2,500 trout. In the fall of 1940, club members stocked area streams and have been doing so ever since. Hundreds of thousands of trout have been stocked since that time. In addition, the CVCC has also teamed with the Department of Natural Resources in recent years to provide brood stock for area hatcheries. Thank you club members past and present for this most worthy club activity.



THANKS FROM JORDAN WEEKS, WI DNR:

DNR Thanks CVCC

Many thanks go out to the Coon Valley Conservation Club for assisting the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continue stocking wild brown trout in the coulee region and throughout Wisconsin. For the past three years the WDNR has used the CVCC raceways to hold wild adult brown trout for spawning. Each October crews capture approximately 400 wild brown trout adults (200 of each sex) from Timber Coulee Creek, transport them to the CVCC grounds where they remain until the end of November.

Every Tuesday, crews from Nevin Hatchery in Madison and Fish Management in La Crosse drive to Coon Valley to strip eggs and milt, clean, and water harden the fertilized trout eggs for transport back to Nevin. Once hatched, the young trout are incubated in the hatchery until they are large enough to eat solid food. At that time, some are shipped back to area Rod and Gun Clubs to raise for local streams while the rest are raised in the hatchery for stocking across the state.

After the spawning operation is over the spent trout held at CVCC are transported back to Timber Coulee Creek. This stocking system was developed in response to new regulations regarding transport of wild fish into State Hatcheries and the occurrence of the fish virus VHS. If not for use of the CVCC grounds and raceways, there would not have been any stocking of wild brown trout in area streams the past few years, no Co-op brown trout, and a drastic reduction in wild brown trout stocking statewide.

Thank you CVCC!

Regards,

La Crosse Fish Management

HISTORICAL NOTES by Jon Lee:

In March 19th of 1940 President Fencil appointed the following committees.

Program committee: Bob Tremain-Chairman, Earl Spellum, Harold Johnson.

Fur-bearing animal committee: Albert Sedivie-Chairman, LeRoy Melgard, Gerard Holey.

Upland Game Birds: Fred Reber-Chairman, Ted Dreves.

Fish Committee: Albert Chapiewsky-Chairman, Anton Nordstrom.

Migratory Waterfall: Ivan Rumsey-Chairman, Paul Bluske.

President Fencil reported on the work already done by the fish committee on trout pond sites and said that a member of the bureau of Fisheries Staff in La Crosse would visit the area to help decide on a suitable pond sites.

It was also reported on work being done by the fur bearing animal committee and cooperation that the conservation department will give in furnishing young coon and other animals.

The coming Conservation Congress which will be held July 8 and 9 1940 was discussed and President Fencil announced that W.L. Gee has been elected as one of the three to represent Vernon County. Suggestions were called for. One suggestion was that coon have a two year closed season. Some thought that trapping season should be done away with, but others thought that trapping should be permitted but regulated.

Joe Koula reported his trout pond has been stocked and the trout are getting along fine.

President Fencil also reported that 50 Reeves pheasants are being obtained and that pheasant eggs are being shipped tomorrow.

UPCOMING CVCC ACTIVITIES

Oak Savanna PROJECT UPDATE:

Darcy Kind will speak on oak savanna restoration at our July meeting. Cutting will continue this summer and, hopefully, the area will be cleared by this fall. The re-emergent locust will need to be treated with pesticide over the summer. It may also be necessary to do a burn of the area this fall.

NRA Range Technical Team VISIT:

The CVCC Board and members have approved inviting the NRA Range Technical Team to the CVCC to evaluate our facilities and provide recommendations for improving our shooting ranges. The contract has been signed with the NRA for this service and we are now waiting for the NRA to form their team and fit the visit into their team members' schedules. The NRA Team will perform a physical inventory of the clubgrounds and formulate options for improvements of all our shooting ranges, both archery and firearms, that best fits our current and future needs and conforms to state and national safety standards. The CVCC Board and members will then have the opportunity to evaluate the options and select those that best fit our long range plan for the clubgrounds. If you

have any questions contact any Board member or either of the co-chairs of the CVCC Shooting Ranges Improvement Committee – Jim Brower & Royce Curtis.

JULY MUZZLELOADER SILHOUETTE SHOOT:

The CVCC Muzzleloaders will be hosting an Open Muzzleloader Silhouette Shoot on Saturday, July 17 beginning at 1:00 PM. We will be using our New Silhouette Targets and stands with a total of 16 targets at 25, 50, 75 and 100 yards. All shots will be from standing position with only open or peep sights and lead balls or bullets allowed. Cost of the shoot is \$5.00 and prizes will be awarded to the top shooters. Come and participate or just watch some really good shooting!

CHICKEN Q AND FAMILY FUN DAY:

The Annual Chicken Q and Family Fun Day will be on **Sunday, Aug. 15** beginning at 11:00 AM and serving until gone. Come and enjoy what some say is the Best Grilled Chicken in the area! Other fun activities for the whole family include wagon ride tours of the clubgrounds, demonstrations, children's activities and the always competitive horse shoe tournament.

VERNON COUNTY FAIR 4-H SHOOTING SPORTS PREMIUM SHOOT:

The annual Vernon County Fair Premium Shoot for those 4-H members entered in Shooting Sports events will be held at the CVCC on Sunday, Aug. 29 from Noon – 4:00. Competition will take place in Archery, Air Rifle, Muzzleloader, .22 Rifles and Shotgun. Certified Vernon County Shooting Sports leaders will conduct each of the competitions. Parents and other spectators are also welcome. Awards will be given at the end of the competition including the awarding of the annual 4-H Shooting Sports Scholarship.

FALL CVCC MUZZLELOADERS INVITATIONAL:

The third weekend of September will find the CVCC muzzleloader enthusiasts gathering at the clubgrounds for a weekend of fun with muzzleloaders and related items. There will be the usual Friday night wine & cheese party, open shooting at the ranges with rifle, shotgun, traditional bow plus knife and hawk throws, competition rifle shoot on Sat. at 1:00 PM followed by the evening stew feed. The highlight of the weekend will be the muzzleloader pheasant hunt on Sun. morning from 8 – Noon at Badgerland Pheasant Farm. The activities are open to all so come on down and have some fun!

FALL FUNDRAISER:

Saturday, Oct. 9 at the Coon Valley Village Hall. New format, meal and activities. Watch for upcoming details.

SECOND RAFFLE FOR THE SERIOUS SPORTSMEN:

CVCC members will be distributing tickets to our second annual "Raffle for the Serious Sportsmen" in November. Ticket sales will be limited and offered first to those who purchased tickets last year by the member who sold the ticket. Any tickets left over will then be offered to new buyers. Monthly drawings will be held at the CVCC regular meetings from January 2011 through December 2011. The proceeds will again go into the Clubhouse Improvement Fund.

Coon Valley Conservation Club
 S1005 Knudson Lane
 Coon Valley, WI 54623

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR:



Club Meetings – Last Thursday of the Month at 7:30 PM
Board Meetings – Second Thursday of the Month at 7:30 PM
July 10 - CVCC Clubgrounds Work Day 8 AM - 4 PM
July 17 - Muzzleloader Silhouette Shoot at 1:00 PM
Aug 15 - Chicken Q and Family Fun Day
Aug 21 - Muzzleloader Traditional Shoot at 1:00 PM
Aug 29 - 4-H Premium Shoot Noon – 4:00 PM
Sept 17-19 - Fall Muzzleloader Invitational
Sept 19 - Muzzleloader Pheasant Hunt @ Badgerland 8 AM – Noon
Oct 2-10 - Disabled Deer Hunt
Oct 9 - Fall Fund Raiser
November – Annual CVCC Big Deer Contest
November - Raffle for the Serious Sportsman go on sale