



NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2011

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

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SECRETARY: Jay Sandman 452-2320

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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: Scott Hobson

ARCHERY: Charlie Nelson

MEMBERSHIPS: Royce Curtis

OAK SAVANNA PROJECT: John Moe

CLUBHOUSE PROJECT : Gerry Roethel

SHOOTING RANGES PROJECT: Jim Brower

MONTHLY GUN RAFFLE: Paul Lewison

“SERIOUS SPORTSMEN” RAFFLE: Jay Sandman

We Still Need MORE EMAIL ADDRESSES !!!

We still have over 270 members who have not provided email addresses. Please help reduce the CVCC mailing costs by sending your email address to -

email@coonvalleycc.com

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE By Kevin King –

I hope all have had a very Merry Christmas and wish all a very Happy New Year. I hope all our hunting members have had a successful season Thus far, since it's only the end of December all of us archery hunters have a few days left to hunt not to mention there will be rabbits to chase along with other small game up until the end of February Next up Turkeys in the spring. DID YOU ALL SEND IN FOR YOUR TAGS? December 10th was the deadline, if anyone forgot I think there have been some left over tags for the last few seasons, and if not it is still fun to scout and maybe take a new hunter out to show them the ropes. For all the life members out there we have yearly membership buttons available for \$1.00 and also have life membership pins available for \$2.00, if interested please contact one of our officers or come to a meeting . I have some great news to start our New Year the (National Rifle Association) NRA has came back to us with a range evaluation report, this is due to the hard work and dedication of our members on the Range committee. There is still going to be a lot of work involved on this project and help is always welcome and needed. Ah speaking of help we have over 350 members in our club, we have approximately 20-40 members who regularly attend the monthly meetings, 8 of which are officers and or board members, we have 4-6 members who are diligent in taking care of daily, weekly, and monthly maintenance of our club grounds and another 10

or so who are always there to help with fund raisers and projects. The above numbers are not set in stone they are a product of what I think to be pretty darn accurate. Where the heck are the rest of you? How do we get inactive members involved? This question has been coming up at meetings for as long as I can remember. Do any of you inactive members have an answer? Maybe there is no answer, I guess for some just buying a yearly, family or life time membership and receiving all the privileges that come with it (shooting ranges, access to world class fishing, and hunting) is enough, I realize there are many reasons for not being involved. I have heard them all. To those of you who have decided you have some time, here are some of the activities in the near future YOUR CLUB will need help with. New editor for our Quarterly News Letter, New instructors for Hunter Safety (to include New Lead instructor), archery shoot helpers, shooting range helpers, grounds helpers, oak savanna helpers, and the list goes on. As always I want to thank all members past and present for all their hard work and dedication, without you our club would not be what it is today. I hope all who are able will get involved. What we are doing as a club today is not for us, it is for our clubs future membership. Come to a meeting, be heard, we will not always agree on the clubs course, however I truly believe all members have the future of the Coon Valley Conservation Club in its best interest.

FROM THE "INTERIUM" EDITOR: "STEPPING UP"

The CVCC is a great club and has absolutely some of the best facilities and resources around. The club also has a great general membership plus many individual members very dedicated to continuing the legacy of the CVCC and making it even better for current and future members. As is true with most volunteer organizations only a relatively small number of members are willing to "step up" and do the work required conduct the business of the organization. This includes holding an office or board position, serving on committees, making sure our volunteer activities are carried out, and communicating with our members through our newsletter and web site. These individuals are willing to "make time" to do what needs to be done for the good of the club. They are also willing to make hard decisions and take the heat on issues where there may not be universal agreement but always act for the good of the club rather than the individual. Because of these individuals it is easy to sit back and enjoy all of the many benefits offered by the CVCC. It is also easy to criticize and find fault with actions that do not fit your ideal. Each of us periodically need to ask ourselves what we could do to make the club better not only for ourselves but for all members and are we willing to "make time" to share our talents. Two of the most discouraging statements are "I don't have time." and "I can't afford it." Most of us have discovered that even with our work and family commitments if it's really worth doing that we can "find the time and financial resources" to accomplish much more than we thought possible. We have seen this with the CVCC through the purchase of the clubgrounds, the rental house improvements, the clubhouse, the storage shed, the tractor & equipment, the 3D archery targets, etc. This is a time of the year when most are stuck in the "winter doldrums" and looking forward to the end of winter. Isn't also a good time for each of us to ask ourselves what we want for the future of the CVCC and what we are willing to do realize those goals? If you find that you can "make time" for the CVCC and are willing to "Step up" and take on more responsibility for the good of the club you most of all will benefit.

CVCC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

The CVCC Board of Directors has begun an effort to create a CVCC Policies and Procedures Manual. This manual would include the Standard Operating Procedures followed in the operation of the CVCC. Examples of items to be include are current mission statement, membership procedures, use of the clubhouse and clubgrounds, equipment use, maintenance and storage, current committees, long range plans, copies of the current by laws, etc. The purpose of this manual is to collect this information in one document to avoid having to search through past minutes or members' recollections to determine what the established procedures are. This will be a dynamic document that will be keep updated by the Board of Directors. Members input and suggestions are welcome in the effort. **(NOTE: There will be a special Board of Directors meeting on Wed. Jan. 20, 2011 to work on this document.)**

CVCC LONG RANGE PLANNING UPDATE:

An initial Long Range Document was distributed to members in attendance at the Dec. 30, 2010 CVCC meeting. Members were asked to review the document and return their comments / suggestions to any Broad member or bring them to the Jan. 28, 2011 CVCC meeting. If you were unable to attend the December meeting and would like a copy of the document visit the CVCC Web Site or contact Royce Curtis at curtisrl@mwt.net. Also you may contact any CVCC Board member if you have any questions or concerns.

RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

CVCC Fall Fundraiser – Saturday, Oct. 9, 2010:

A new format was used for this year's Fall Fundraiser – Only 200 tickets were sold for the sit down meal of a full rack of ribs with all the trimming. The tickets also included a drawing for several high quality firearms as well as the opportunity to enter several drawings for hunting equipment, guns, and other outdoor equipment. The new format was organized by members Jay Sandman and Dave Larson and the outstanding meal was prepared by Tom Longmire and crew. The fundraiser was well attended and very profitable at a level comparable to our Spring Fundraisers. These funds were used to cover the costs of major improvements to our rental house as well as many other large expenses.

CVCC TROUT REARING and DNR Egg Collection:

This year's crop of wild brook trout were stocked the first week of October by the DNR. The tanks were then cleaned and sterilized in preparation for the breeder trout. Eggs were stripped on a weekly basis by the DNR technicians to provide next year's trout for many of Wisconsin's streams. Many CVCC members were able to observe this process.

DECEMBER MEETING SPEAKER Len Harris - "Trout Don't Live in Ugly Places": By Jon Lee
Trout Don't Live in Ugly Places was the title of the presentation done by "Trout Hunter" Len Harris at the last regular meeting of the CVCC on December 30th 2010. It was well received by members as an informative and inspiring talk accompanied by slides of places and scenes associated with trout fishing. Len reminded us all to take youth outdoors and share our knowledge and love of the outdoors and fishing. Taking the time to view flora and fauna along the way was encouraged as a part of taking life slower in our fast pace world of cell phones, computers and instant messaging.

Several large trout were shown in various settings and one behemoth brown trout measured in a hair over 30 inches that was caught by a friend and himself a couple years ago in a beaver pond. Basketball coach Bobby Knight and Packer great Bob Skoronski were also featured as regular customers of Len-as he has guided them in their quests for individual greatness on numerous local streams. (Len has stated that he does not guide much anymore-but is always willing to share his expertise with anyone who is willing to learn)

Len also spoke about initiatives in place to "simplify regulations" in regard to trout fishing and also the need for anglers to "keep fish" to help the bulging trout population in areas that have way too many fish to support the general population.



You can catch articles by Len in Midwest Outdoors, Outdoor Life, Field and Stream and Midwest Fly Fishing to name a few. Contact Len Harris, a free-lance writer and fishing guide, at len.harris1@gmail.com. Visit his blog at <http://lenharris.blogspot.com/>.

CVCC BIG DEER CONTEST Results: by Jon Lee

Hunters during the nine-day Wisconsin gun season killed 11% more deer than in the same period in 2009. Hunters registered 218,144 deer in the 2010 Wisconsin gun deer season. The total comprises 102,006 bucks and 116,138 antlerless deer, according to preliminary data from the Department of Natural Resources. The buck kill was up 17% over 2009. The antlerless harvest was up nearly 7%. Taking honors this year was Adam Gardner with the largest rack measuring 17 inch inside spread 10 pointer and Matt Anderson with the largest weight @ 146 lbs. Anderson, who won the rack contest last year credits his recent successes to “Schlichter Feeds” of Coon Valley.

Pictured are (L) Adam Gardner and (R) Roger Anderson (representing Matt who was unable to fly in for the photo opportunity.



ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Call for Stories from CVCC Members:

Each issue we would like to include stories from members about their activities that would be of interest to all the membership. Many of our members take trips – hunting, fishing, etc. - that the rest of us only dream about. We are looking for those types of stories that you would be willing to share with the membership. President Kevin has shared his Maine Moose hunt story with us as a start.

CVCC President Kevin King Bags Moose in Maine:

Kevin traveled to Caribou, Maine last fall to hunt the elusive “Swamp Donkey” with his brother Greg. Read the full story about his “adventures” on the back roads in the north Maine woods and swamps on the CVCC Web Site including pictures of the bull moose he got on his last day of the hunt.

HISTORICAL NOTES by Jon Lee:

Meeting Coon Valley Sportsman’s Club – May 14, 1940

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 p.m. by President Fencl. Minutes of the April meeting were read and approved as read on motions by Sylvester Melsna.

Albert Chapeweski reported on work by the fish committee and said that two ponds were ready for stocking with trout. Albert Sedivie reported our fur bearing animal committee work. Said some young coon and some old ones are spoken for. Questions as to where coon are to be raised was brought up by the Conservation Department and a letter is going to thru answering questions. Fred Reber reported that efforts are being made to secure 450 chicks and eggs for rearing pheasants and that 15 mature pheasant cocks have been turned loose. President Fencel read a letter from the Conservation Department regarding the coming hearings on game laws and elections of delegates to the conservation congress. The hearings are to be held June 4th at the court house in each county. President Fencel urged members to attend the hearings and help elect a man to represent the club's interests. The secretary announced that membership cards are ready and for everyone who hasn't done so to get theirs. President Fencel introduced Mr. Coufield Supt. Of the La Crosse Hatchery who made a good talk on the fish rearing and stream stocking problems. Mr. Coufield also showed motion pictures. After the discussion from the floor, Fred Reber moved and it was seconded that a committee be appointed to study stream bank protection. The motion carried and President Fencel stated the committee would be appointed at the next directors meeting.

UPCOMING & CONTINUING CVCC ACTIVITIES

Clubhouse PROJECT UPDATE:

A floor plan has been submitted to 6 different contractors for bids to compare the cost of remodeling the existing clubhouse to the cost of new construction as directed by the membership. These comparative costs will be used by the membership to decide the future direction of this project.

Oak Savanna PROJECT UPDATE:

Additional work includes clearing of stumps and re-growth in the area as well as chemical treatment to prevent locus re-growth. Some options are being investigated for mechanical stump and brush removal.

NRA Range Technical Team Report & SHOOTING RANGES IMPROVEMENT UPDATE:

The NRA Range Technical Team Assistant Jeff Uhrig of Lodi, WI visited the CVCC on Oct. 3, 2010 to evaluate our facilities and provide options and recommendations for improvements to all of our shooting ranges. The NRA's report did confirm our ideal locations for a shooting ranges and that our basic concepts for improvements and expansion are very feasible. The Shooting Ranges Improvement committee is utilizing the findings of the NRA team to formulate specific recommendations to the CVCC Board and membership for improving the safety and functionality of our shooting ranges.

SECOND RAFFLE FOR THE SERIOUS SPORTSMEN:

CVCC members distributed tickets to our second annual "Raffle for the Serious Sportsmen". Ticket sales were limited and offered first to those who purchased tickets last year by the member who sold the ticket. Any tickets left over were then 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.

2011 CVCC/DNR Hunter Safety Education Classes:

The **regular class** will begin on Thursday, Feb. 3, 2011 at 3:45PM at the Coon Valley Village Hall. The class will meet every Thursday for seven weeks from 3:45 – 6:00 PM. There will also be two Saturday morning sessions on Mar. 5 and Mar. 9 from 9:00AM – Noon at the CVCC Clubgrounds. Pre-registration for the class is required – contact Royce Curtis at 608-452-3809 to pre-register. Registration will be completed on Feb. 3rd. A parent or guardian must attend this class for orientation and to sign registration forms for students under the age of 18. A WI DNR Customer ID number is also required to complete registration forms.

We will again be offering the **ON-LINE Internet-Based class** for those students who cannot attend the regular class. Registration will begin March 1st. All class material and quizzes must be completed on-line prior to the final required Field Day on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the CVCC Clubgrounds. To register for this class students must email Royce Curtis at CURTISRL@MWT.NET

2011 CVCC 3D Archery Shoot Schedule:

The CVCC will be hosting three 3D archery shoots. The first shoot will be the annual Sweetheart Shoot on Feb. 12 and 13. For this shoot all women shoot for free. The second shoot will be Mar. 12 and 13 and will be a Dual Shoot with the Chaseburg Rod & Gun Club. The third shoot will be Apr. 9 and 10 and will also be a Dual Shoot with Chaseburg Rod & Gun Club. Archers shooting both at CVCC and at Chaseburg will be eligible for a drawing for a 3D target or cash prize at each of the Dual Shoots. Our 3D shoots provide an excellent opportunity to practice at realistic targets placed in natural positions on one of the best 3D ranges in this area.

2011 CVCC Muzzleloader Shoot Schedule:

The CVCC Muzzleloader Target Shoot Schedule is set for 2011 with the first shoot on Sat. Apr. 16 starting at 1:00PM. This first shoot will be a silhouette shoot using the new targets made by Chaseburg Mfg. In Coon Valley. Other shoots will be on the 3rd Saturday of the month in May, July, August and September. The June shoot will be on the 4th Saturday as part of the annual Coon Creek Rendezvous. All shoots are open to the general public. Shoot rules allow all all muzzleloaders without telescopic sights shooting lead balls or bullets from a standing position. Our shoots provide an excellent opportunity to learn muzzleloading and to get the old smokepole tuned in for the hunting seasons.

2011 CVCC Spring Fundraiser – Saturday, March 5th:

We will be following the same format as in the past for our Spring Fundraiser. Tickets will be \$40.00 for a couple and will include an opportunity to win cash prizes as well as the meal and beverages for the evening. There will be fund raising tables for sportsmen, ladies, education, and other fun games. Mark your calendar for another fun night to support your CVCC.

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

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR:



Club Meetings – Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 31 @ 7:30 PM
Board Meetings – Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10 @ 7:30 PM
January 19, 2011 – Special Board Meeting @ 7:00 PM
 CVCC Policies and Procedures
January 30, 2011 – 2011 Membership Kick Off Meeting
February 3, 2011 - Hunter Safety Education Class begins
February 12-13, 2011 - “Sweetheart” Bow Shoot
March 1, 2001 - Registration Begins for On-Line Hunter Safety Class
March 5, 2011 - CVCC Spring Fundraiser
March 12 – 13, 2011 – Dual Bow Shoot with Chaseburg Rod & Gun
April 9 – 10, 2011 - Dual Bow Shoot with Chaseburg Rod & Gun
April 16, 2011 – First Muzzleloader Shoot
April 30, 2011 – Field Day for On-Line Hunter Safety Class