



CVCC NEWSLETTER FALL 2011

OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: Jay Sandman 452-2320 **VICE PRESIDENT:** Marty Mathison 483-2495
TREASURER: Rod Ofte 452-2862 **SECRETARY:** Bill Mathison 634-2862
BOARD MEMBERS: Dave Larson 452-3256 Kevin Traastad 452-3804
Royce Curtis 452-3809 Bruce King 452-3407

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

SEND IN any updates to your EMAIL ADDRESSES and/or MAILING ADDRESSES to - email@coonvalleycc.com Newsletters are mailed to "current residents" of the address we have and are not returned to the CVCC for incorrect addresses.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – SUPPORT THE CVCC FALL FUNDRAISER ON OCTOBER 8th !!!

"SPECIAL UPDATE" - Shooting Ranges Improvement Project

Opening of the new firearms ranges has been scheduled for the week of Oct. 10. (After the handicap deer hunt) Plans include installation of targets stands at 100 yd and 200 yd on the rifle range, ~75yd and 25 yd on the .22/muzzleloader range, and 25 yd on the pistol range. The shotgun area will have a patterning board and pad for portable clay pigeon throwers. Gravel pads will be used with our existing shooting benches with 2 benches on the 200 yd rifle range and 1 each on the pistol and .22/muzzleloader ranges. Plans also include the installation of new range signs, fencing and gates. Materials are being prepared for member orientation and usage guidelines for the new ranges. These will be posted on our web site, clubhouse and at the entrance to the ranges.

The new seeding is coming along nicely in spite of the setback of the storms. Some re-seeding was necessary and additional repairs to the pistol and .22/muzzleloader backstops will be done. The status of the seeding is being monitored weekly by our contractor to determine when it best to make these repairs

The NRA Range Grant to complete phase 2 of our shooting ranges improvements plan in 2012 has been completed and sent in. We are confident that the NRA will provide support for completing this project.

Please note that the CVCC is a private club and is open to members only. We anticipate increased use of the new ranges and ask each member to help monitor and protect them from unauthorized use.

Ranges will be available on a first come first served basis so be safe and courteous and do not be offended if you are asked if you are a member or hesitate to ask others you do not know if they are members.

\$100 MEMBER CHALLENGE FUNDRAISER Update -

At the April membership meeting long time member Gordon Ostrum made a donation of \$100 to the Shooting Ranges Improvement Fund CD. At the May membership meeting Kevin King issued a challenge to all CVCC members to match Gordon's \$100 donation.. The Board and the members of the Shooting Ranges Improvement Committee strongly support this effort.

Check out the CVCC Web Site for a list of current donations. As of Sept. 30, 2011 a total of \$2600.00 in donations have been received. Thanks to all !

Contributions can be made to any Board member or sent directly to the CVCC at S1005 Knudson Lane, Coon Valley, WI 54623.

CVCC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

The Board is continuing to work on documenting club policies and procedures. The Board will be reviewing the member orientation and usage procedures for our shooting ranges. Webmaster Tom Parlow has added a feature to our web site that allows us to more easily track past motions and incorporate them into the policies and procedures manual.

CVCC LONG RANGE PLANNING UPDATE:

The Board is working with all of our active projects to coordinate these efforts.

RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

2011 Hunter Safety Education Classes -

The CVCC DNR Hunter Safety Education Instructor team has completed three classes with 75 students successfully being certified. We have certified one new instructor, Don Primmer and have one apprentice instructor, Jay Sandman. We also welcomed a new youth instructor, Hunter Pauloski. The next class will begin on Feb. 2, 2012.

Muzzleloader Traditinal Shoot – Sat. Aug. 20 :

The 9th Annual “Smoke in the Valley” shoot had 9 shooters competing. This was the 9th anniversary of our first muzzleloader shoot at the CVCC. A fun time was had by all.

Annual CVCC Chicken Q and Family Fun Day – Sunday, Aug. 21 by Jon Lee:

The CVCC Chicken Q for 2011 was a great success, and we were again blessed with wonderful weather. The grounds were manicured in their usual fashion by a crew of dedicated mowers. The “Pit Boss,” Bruce King, directed a dedicated crew of grillers of chicken and corn. The kitchen was bustling with servers under the direction of Scott Hobson as they deftly handled the delicacies. The CVCC noted a major flux of volunteers that were willing to dedicate time to this worthy event. So, a huge thank you to our dedicated group of members!! We continue to be successful because people want to see our club succeed.

Dozens of children jockeyed for the best positions during the sawdust pile activity that was filled with coins from the CVCC coffers. Hands, feet and flip flops were used to coax coins from the depths. Many smiling children walked away with their newfound loot.

The horseshoes received a new coat of paint and the pits were doctored up from a year of inactivity. The annual horseshoe tournament was active again in the afternoon for several hours. First round champions were: (retaining their 1st round title

from last year) Rod Ofte and Dave Larson. The 2nd round championship winners were Jon Lee and Stephen (Cowboy) Pauloski.

Several fat trout were caught by young anglers. The heaviest brook trout was caught by Matthias Sandman and tipped in at 3 lbs, and the longest trout was caught by Wynn Sandman (son and daughter of El' Presidente-Jay Sandman and First Lady, Amanda) The trout were returned to the depths of the pond-after spending time in a large 50 gallon barrel of cold flowing spring water from the CVCC springs. Roger Anderson designed this apparatus dubbed a "Fish Resuscitation Device." Some also called this marvelous and ingenious invention "Fish in a Barrel." The elusive 24 inch brown evaded capture but was seen darting in amongst the weeds. Some children shook their fists at the elusive fish and told caretakers not to feed these pond fish for at least two weeks next year!

A huge thank you goes out to Wayne at Koon Kreek Feeds for donating the wonderful sweet corn again this year. Thanks to Scott at Potato King for donating the coleslaw. And, to Tom Longmire for lending us his huge grill for the corn and for also making up his special sauce for the coleslaw. Don't ask Tom what's in it. Thanks to Gary Gilbeck for providing his trailer for the hauling of the picnic tables, lent to us from Norskedahlen. Thanks also to the CV Legion for letting us use their steamers and warmers. Without a group effort by these individuals and organizations, our Q would not be as successful.

Thanks again for all the people who unselfishly dedicated their time to this most worthy event. A special thank you to the set up crew that came a day before to make sure that everything was ready to roll. All of your help is greatly appreciated!!

Fall Muzzleloader Invitational - Fri. Sept. 16 – Sun. Sept. 18:

A smaller than normal group of dedicated CVCC muzzleloader enthusiasts camped out at the clubrounds and had a great time sharing stories and comoradery. The new shotgun area was step up with temporary targets for both shotgun and rifle shooting. Cowboy and Jerry Bordson demonstrated reloading modern 20 ga and 12 ga shotshell and 2 of the scouts both loaded and tested their own shotshells. The trap unit on loan from Badgerland Pheasant Farm was kept busy with both modern and muzzleloading shotguns. The Saturday rifle competition had 15 shooters competing after a noon lunch of venison brats and polish sausages donated by Mark Steckel and cooked by Paul Lewsion.

Annual Muzzleloader Pheasant Hunt @ Badgerland Pheasant Farm – Sun. Sept. 18:

The hunt was cancelled due to rain and will be rescheduled later in the season.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Hunter Responsibility & Ethics

by Royce Curtis, Wisconsin DNR-CVCC Hunter Safety Education Lead Instructor

The weather is changing; the bows and guns are being tuned and sighted in; and we are getting our gear sorted, cleaned and readied for the hunter's most exciting time of the year! We have already spent many hours practicing, scouting, locating hunting spots and formulating strategies for successful hunts. As hunters we all understand our role in the "circle of life" and realize the importance of hunting as a game management tool. We must not forget for even a second that we are all role models for all hunters; those experienced but more importantly, the beginners and the community of non-hunters. We are a shrinking minority and cannot afford to lose the majority support of the community by any irresponsible or unethical acts.

In our Hunter Safety Education classes we constantly emphasize “Respect, Responsibility, and Ethics” to our students; i.e. “Doing the right thing even if no one else is watching”. Our students are taught to respect other hunters as well as non-hunters, respect the land and land owners, know and respect the game we pursue, follow the safety rules at all times, and follow the laws. They are also taught to expect the same from other hunters including their hunting partners.

Our local DNR Wardens come to one of our classes and explain their role, answer questions and spend considerable time explaining the laws and what to do if mistakes are made in the field. They make it very clear that they understand that hunters are human and that humans sometimes make honest mistakes or execute poor judgment in the field. They emphasize that what is important is what is done **after** a mistake occurs. Their most common examples of mistakes is the killing of more than one animal with one shot thus exceeding the legal bag limit. Problems occur when hunters convince a buddy to tag the extra animal. This is only legal during a gun deer season within a party of hunters. In any other case they explain that right thing to do is to leave the “extra” game lay and **immediately** call them. They also emphasize that they have never issued a citation when this is done. However, if this is not done and they learn of this later there can be serious consequences. They point out that most of their citations occur much later because the violators tell their other buddies and the words spread until it gets back to them. They also explain how they investigate these situations and what the consequences can be for the violators in addition to the fines assessed. They point out that the consequences are more serious for those violators to fail to be truthful or who are flagrant violators; those who were well aware that what they did was a violation.

As members of the CVCC, as committee volunteers, as officers and board members, and as CVCC sponsored DNR Safety Instructors (Hunter, Snowmobile, ATV, Boat, etc.) we all must hold ourselves and fellow member to the highest standards. We are all representatives of the CVCC and must continuously strive to maintain the high reputation we have. It is all of our responsibilities to know and follow the game laws and require other members to do the same. To fail to do so is to condone those who do not; members or otherwise.

So as we CVCC members hit the field let's all be Responsible and Ethical representatives of the hunting community and the CVCC.

Fall Mushroom Delicacies By: Jon Lee

Mushroom hunting in the fall of the year is a wonderful tradition in the Midwest. There are dozens of edible mushrooms to be eaten. I will speak about three that are great and safe to eat. First is Chicken of the Woods. It generally grows at the base of dead oak trees and is orange and yellow. (See photo) It generally grows in clusters, and it is a good bet that it will be there again next year. "It tastes just like chicken!!" Start looking at the end of August. Puffballs are a great treat too. Make sure they are white inside. If they are yellow, toss them. Remember, these grow on the ground. If you kick an expired puffball around, there will probably be puffballs around after the 2nd crop of hay is harvested toward the end of August. Lastly is the box elder mushroom. They grow on box elder trees. Look low and high. They are umbrella-shaped white mushrooms that are gilled and generally have a bent stem. They are wonderful, and a no brainer to find. They are very plentiful. All of these mushrooms are in season now. See these photos in the newsletter and our web site.

Cooking tips: Cut most of these mushrooms 1/4 inch and cook several minutes on low heat. You are looking for a golden brown color. Use butter and season according to your taste.



Historical Notes - "Our First Year" By: Jon Lee

Regular Meeting Coon Valley Sportsman's Club - August 14th, 1940

Meeting was called to order at 8:20 by President Fencil.

Minutes of the July 9th meeting were read and approved as read by a motion by Ira Tiedeman.

President Fencil asked for committee chairman to report any progress or problems to the club.

Fred Reber, of the upland game committee asked for a report on the hatch from pheasant eggs. Very poor hatch was from pheasant eggs. Very poor hatch was the unanimous report. It was reported by Maurice Johnson that a Reeves Pheasant had been seen near Chaseburg. It was also reported that a Reeves was killed near Hwy 14 near the Koethe estate and one near Edwin Blihovde farm.

Albert Chapewski reported good success with the two trout ponds so far with about 2,500 trout in each pond so far. Albert also reported that the road culvert below the pond at Joe K had been put in by La Crosse County Highway Commission.

Fred Reber suggested that the secretary send a letter to Paul Hartwig, Court House, La Crosse, WI. Thanking him for his prompt action in putting in the culvert.

The other committees reported nothing of importance at this time. Albert Sedevie reported that coon are expected soon.

Hunting with permission only signs were discussed and referred to bird committee.

President Fencil turned the meeting over to Mr. Harper, Lancaster to discuss the propositions of uniform fishing regulations in the Iowa-Wisconsin and Minnesota-Wisconsin boundary waters and the proposition of Vernon County joining the State-Wide Federation of Conservation Clubs.

Four clubs of the Vernon County Conservation Club were represented. After discussion, a roll call was taken on the reciprocal agreement with Iowa to make fishing regulations the same in the boundry waters and each state have their own fishing licenses.

The vote was: Viroqua-yes, Chaseburg-yes, Westby Farmer's Club-yes, and Coon Valley-yes.

After discussing the state organization, Fred Reber made a motion that the Coon Valley delegates to the Vernon County Club be instructed to favor the state organization. The motion was seconded and carried.

Lunch was served after the meeting. The game receipts from the lunch was \$18.40

UPCOMING & CONTINUING CVCC ACTIVITIES

Clubhouse PROJECT UPDATE:

Project has been suspended pending completion of other major projects

Oak Savanna PROJECT UPDATE:

The area was cleared of stumps, brush and locus regrowth and reseeded to a mix of oats and rye by Manske Excavating & Landscaping. Some small areas were not cleared to avoid disturbing the CCC terraces and upper spring area. These will need to be cleared by hand. Plans include a controlled burn next spring followed by inventory of native plants after green-up. This inventory will be used to determine the best seed mix to use in establishing the savanna.

Shooting Ranges Improvements PROJECT UPDATE:

See the "Special Report" above.

Snowmobile Trail Re-Routed:

The snowmobile trail has been re-routed around the shooting ranges and now will follow the logging road above the pines south of the ranges. The road was widened and re-seeded by the contractor.

Thanks to the Coulee Track and Trail Snowmobile Club for covering the cost of this project.

Annual Handicap Hunter Deer Hunt Oct. 1 – 9:

The clubgrounds will be closed to **ALL** activities during this time. This is a DNR requirement and anyone violating this restriction can be cited for trespassing. Please honor this restriction for the safety of our disabled guests.

CVCC Fall Fundraiser – Sat. Oct. 8:

Please come and support this major fundraiser for the CVCC and enjoy the terrific meal of baby back ribs with all the trimmings plus all the top end raffles.

Coulee Region Friends of the NRA Banquet – Sat. Oct. 22:

We have applied to the NRA for grant funding for phase 2 of our shooting ranges improvement project. This group makes the first review of our grant application. It is to our clubs advantage to show support of this fund raising effort and continue to establish and maintain a positive presence with this group. The banquet is at the Baus Haus in LaCrosse. For ticket information contact – Dave Doe at 608-792-0061 email: ddoe@trane.com or Bill Quadzinski at 608-787-5421 email: quadzinski@aol.com

Annual CVCC “Big Deer” Contest:

\$5.00 entry fee for CVCC members. Total pot is split 60% to big rack based on inside spread and number of points, 40% to heaviest deer, buck or doe, taken during the regular 9 day gun or muzzleloader season. Contact Adam Gartner to enter.

Deer Dumpster and Lions Deer Hide Trailer:

The CVCC will have the Vernon County Dumpster on site for the gun deer season and also, the Lions Club Deer Hide donation trailer. Please place only deer parts in the dumpster – no paper or other garbage. There is no charge for this service.

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

**Nonprofit Organization
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FALL 2011 NEWSLETTER



UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR:



Club Meetings – Oct 27, Nov 17, Dec 30 @ 7:30 PM

Board Meetings – Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8 @ 7:30 PM

Handicap Deer Hunt – Oct 1 – 9

CLUBGROUNDS CLOSED TO ALL ACTIVITIES

CVCC Fall Fundraiser – Oct 8

Opening of Firearms Shooting Ranges - Week of Oct 10

“Big Deer” Contest Entry Deadline - Nov 17