



CVCC NEWSLETTER

Spring 2012

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:** Cory Leis
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.

Have you visited the CVCC Web Site Lately? Check out the Stories, Photo Gallery, Calendar, and Other Links to keep up to date with what's happening at the CVCC at www.coonvalleycc.com !

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Jay Sandman –

This year is shaping up to be one for the books. Mild winter weather placed little stress on local wildlife and new stories keep surfacing in regard to unusual observations in the wildlife world. The month of March brought with it nine record setting high temperatures days. The unusually warm temperatures released the renewal of life usually reserved for spring and encouraged activities such as the laying of turkey eggs and growth of Morel mushrooms. With all of this warm weather and activity outside, your club is also experiencing plenty of early spring activity as well.

Planning is underway for completion of Phase 2 of the gun range improvement project. The Friends of the NRA matching funds grant of \$16,820 will fund the completion of the shooting houses, concrete shooting benches and clay pigeon thrower. Your club was presented with the award check during the March membership meeting and News Channel 19 was on hand to capture the event and document the range project. Be sure to visit the CVCC website to find the times and dates that the segments will air on News Channel 19 and the Northland Adventures TV show.

The DNR cooperative trout projects are also going strong. During the March membership meeting Jordan Weeks, Inland Fisheries Biologist for the Wi-DNR, updated your club on the current state of the cooperative trout rearing program and assured us that the program will still be supported by the DNR in 2012. He also thanked the club for the cooperative brood Brown trout work that is conducted in the CVCC's raceways each fall and emphasized that the state Brown trout cooperative rearing program would not be possible without access to the CVCC facilities. This has been a wonderful opportunity for your club to continue its rich conservation tradition and it's really pretty amazing to think that your club has a direct influence on the inland Brown trout population for the entire state of Wisconsin. Plans are also underway to have News Channel 19 document these efforts by producing a CVCC cooperative trout story for the Northland Adventures TV show as well.

In closing, I would like to encourage everyone to attend the regular monthly meetings to learn more about some of your club's diverse activities and I would also like to encourage individuals to bring new ideas to share with the membership.

2012 Wisconsin Friends of NRA RANGE GRANT AWARD -

The CVCC has been awarded a 2012 FNRA Range Grant in the amount of \$16,820. This is the largest range grant awarded in Wisconsin this year. The grant is a matching funds grant and will be used to match dollar for dollar the costs of building the three shooting houses, purchasing the new shooting benches and a trap thrower, and building a storage shed for range equipment. Representatives of the LaCrosse Friends of the NRA attended the March 29th CVCC membership meeting and presented the grant check to the Club.



\$100 MEMBER CHALLENGE FUNDRAISER

Check out the CVCC Web Site for a list of current donations. As of Mar. 31st a total of \$3000.00 in donations have been received. Thanks to all ! With over 400 members in the CVCC this is approximately 8% of our membership. I would encourage other members to step up and show support for the Club. This is very good way for those members who are unable to directly support the work of the CVCC to contribute to their Club. This type of member support is a major factor that can be used in future grant applications.

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

CVCC BY-LAW CHANGE – MEMBERSHIPS -

At the February meeting of the CVCC members approved a by-law change to granting membership in the CVCC. Single yearly memberships will be \$50, family yearly memberships will be \$100 and no lifetime memberships will be sold effective January 1, 2013.

CVCC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES:

The Board is continuing to work on documenting club policies and procedures.

CVCC LONG RANGE PLANNING UPDATE:

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

RECENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

CVCC Muzzleloader Pheasant Hunt – Jan. 21, 2012

7 CVCC members and friends met at the Badgerland Pheasant Farm to try their hands at harvesting pheasants with traditional muzzleloading shotguns. Shooters included Scott Hobson, Paul Lewison, Royce Curtis, and friends John, Paul and Mark from the Holmen Rod and Gun Club. Also helping out was Kevin Traastad with his dog and “Rudy” from the Badgerland kennel. A great time was had by all. Special thanks to Badgerland with the next muzzleloader pheasant hunt scheduled for Sunday, September 16, 2012.



Hunter Safety Classes -

39 new hunters successfully completed the certification exams on Mar. 13 and Mar. 15 at the Coon Valley Village Hall with an overall average of 95%. This was one of the youngest classes we have had with 30 of the students between the ages of 9 and 11. There was very strong support from the parents and mentors throughout the class. Final class activity was the .22 shoot followed by a meal and students awards. Thanks to Bruce King, Gary Gilbeck and Scott Hobson for preparing and serving the meal. Instructors for the class were Roger Anderson, Royce Curtis, Steve Pauloski, Corky Roethel, Lillian Primmer, Don Primmer, Hunter Pauloski and Jay Sandman.



The On-line section of the class is currently underway with a full roster of students working on the lessons and quizzes on the International Hunter Education Association web site. This class ends on Sat. April 28th with a Field Day of demonstrations and practice and final testing.

Bow Shoots -

The February Sweetheart shoot had 95 shooters brave the cold wind. Results are posted on the CVCC Web Site.

The March Dual Shoot with Chaseburg Rod & Gun had 150 shooters.

The next shoot will be Apr. 11 & 12 and will also be a Dual Shoot with Chaseburg R & G. The bow shoots are turning a very good profit this year. Thanks to Cory, Roger, Dave and

all the other members who are helping out!

Cabin Fever Shoot – Feb. 25, 2012

The CVCC hosted its first "Cabin Fever" shoot on Sat. Feb. 5th. Eighteen shooters took advantage of the sunny day to utilize our new shooting ranges in 5 different competitions with 41 targets submitted for scoring. Competition winners were - Pistol - John Alseth, Rimfire - Keith Mathison, Open Sight Muzzleloader - Rob Marquardt, Scoped Muzzleloader - Kevin Traastad, and Big Bore Rifle - Keith Mathison. Two youth shooters also competed - Haakon Mathison and Cody Marquardt. Each recieved a blaze orange CVCC hat for shooting. Several CVCC members donated some excellent food items for a buffet so everyone was well fed and said they had fun shooting. Lots of positive comments were received about our new ranges several donations were received to help the CVCC complete the range improvements. It was agreed by the shooters that the CVCC should do this again next year! Thanks to all the shooters and to the CVCC members who donated food and helped run the shoot. Check out the Photo Gallery for pictures of the shoot

Spring Fundraiser Report:

Another successful fundraiser was held with profits used to build the clubhouse fund, mower replacement fund and general account. Thanks to the CVCC Board for heading up this effort and all the members who stepped up and helped out.

Channel 19 and Northland Adventures visit on Mar. 29th -

Lindsey Hayes from WXOW-TV spent several hours at the CVCC with her photographer conducting interviews with CVCC members, LaCrosse Friends of NRA representatives and several of our boy scout troop members. These interviews are being used to create news reports about the CVCC and current activities at the Club to be broadcast on Channel 19 and on the Northland Adventures show. Lindsey also had the opportunity to shoot on our ranges with the scouts and was very impressed and enthusiastic about what our Club is doing. Link to story and video

<http://www.wxow.com/story/17365720/outdoors-unlimited-cvccs-sights-set-on-safety>



Westby Times visits CVCC -

On Apr. 5th Dorothy Jaspersen from the Westby Times visited our Club and interviewed several members of the Shooting Ranges Improvement Committee about our project. She also took photographs to be used in an up coming article.

Rental House Update -

A second bathroom has been added upstairs. The renters have signed a 2 year rental agreement for an increased monthly rent. They are very happy with this improvement and the Club now has an income property of very high quality with modern features that will serve us well for many years to come.

UPCOMING & CONTINUING CVCC ACTIVITIES**Clubhouse PROJECT UPDATE:**

Project has been suspended pending completion of other major projects

Oak Savanna PROJECT UPDATE By Kevin Traastad:

During the March membership meeting the body approved the following plan for the Oak Savanna. This spring we will broadcast annual rye grass to cover the bare areas that were created when the bulldozers removed the black locust stumps. Starting this spring we will also be cutting down existing black locust trees and treating them with an herbicide. During the months of May – August we will mow as much of the Oak Savanna area as possible with the brush hog. This will mainly be done to prevent the locust from reestablishing and to prevent too much vegetation from accumulating. It will also ensure the existing vegetation is actively growing when the first application of Roundup (or one of it's generic forms) are applied to the site about Labor Day. Roughly 4 weeks after the first application of Roundup, we will assess the site and determine if a second application of Roundup is needed to kill any remaining vegetation. We will plant the prairie seed with a No-Till drill somewhere between October 15 and Nov 15.

During the 2013 growing season the area will need to be mowed 3-4 times to keep the vegetation at a height of 8-12". During the 2014 growing season the area will need to be mowed until mid-summer. The area will not be mowed after mid-summer to accumulate enough vegetation to have a burn in the spring of 2015.

I wish to thank John Moe and Steve Pauloski for their assistance in coming up with the above plan. John and his group of volunteers have put in countless hours to date getting the Oak Savanna where it is today. If you wish to volunteer on this project please contact John, Steve or myself.

Shooting Ranges Improvements PROJECT UPDATE:

Work to be completed this year includes – repairs and reseeding of storm damaged areas, additional gravel to range entrance areas, completion of fencing at end of range, addition of a small building behind the 100 yd target stand on the big bore range, moving of second storage shed, building of shooting houses and a covered staging area for shotgun area, building of storage building for maintenance equipment and purchase of range equipment including new shooting benches and a trap thrower. Study will also begin on Phase 3 of the project – Range Access and Security.

Muzzleloader Silhouette Shoot – Sat. Apr. 21st at 1:00

The first muzzleloader shoot will utilize silhouette targets with targets set at 25, 50, 75, 100 and 125 yards. All shots will be from standing off-hand position with only round balls or lead bullets allowed. The Big Bore 200 yd range will be used. All other ranges will be open for use. Additional

muzzleloaders will be available to try your hand at shooting a muzzleloader.

2012 Hunter Safety Education On-Line Class Field Day Scheduled Sat. Apr. 28, 2012:

Registration for the On-Line Internet-Based class started on March 1st with enrollment limited to 30 students. The class immediately filled with an additional 10 students added to a waiting list. The final required Field Day will be April 28th at the CVCC from 7:45AM – 4:00PM.

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

**Nonprofit Organization
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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR:



Club Meetings – Apr. 26, May 31, June 28 @ 7:30 PM

Board Meetings – Apr. 12, May 10, June 14 @ 7:30 PM

3D Archery Dual Shoot with Chaseburg R & G – Apr. 14 & 15

CVCC Muzzleloader Shoot – Apr. 21 @ 1:00PM

DNR Hunter Safety Field Day – Sat. Apr. 28 7:45AM-4:00PM

Sheriff's Hunter Safety Shoot – Sat. May 5 @ Westby Rod & Gun

Muzzleloader Weekend at the CVCC – Fri. May 18 – Sun. May 20

Coon Creek Rendezvous – Fri. June 22 – Sun. June 24

Coon Creek Rendezvous Muzzleloader Shoot – Sat. June 23 @ CVCC