



CVCC NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2015

Officers and Board Members:

President: Scott Hobson, 781-6046	Vice President: Marty Mathison, 483-2495
Treasurer: Merv Broten, 483-2610	Secretary: Aaron Sheckel, 634-2052
Board Members: Royce Curtis, 452-3809 Joel Olstad, 632-3294	Gary Gilbeck, 452-3354 Greg Schmidt, 780-4091

CVCC Contacts:

Newsletter: David Skipton, 608-519-2334 muchkap@charter.net Clubgrounds: Roger Anderson, Danny Thompson Education: Steve Pauloski Muzzleloading: Scott Hobson and Royce Curtis Trap Shooting: Merv Broten Memberships: Tom Parlow Clubhouse Project: Scott Hobson, Tom Parlow Monthly Gun Raffle: Paul Lewison Boy Scouts: Steve Pauloski	Website: Tom Parlow Farm: Gary Gilbeck Club History: Jon Lee Archery: Cory Leis, Dave Larson Oak Savanna Project: John Moe, Kevin Traastad Shooting Ranges Security: Bob Ritger, Bruce King. “Serious Sportsmen” Raffle: Bruce King 4H Shooting Sports – Keith Mathison
Website: www.CoonValleyCC.com	Email: email@coonvalleycc.com Please send address or email corrections to this email address.



President's Message

by Scott Hobson

Well here I am now writing as the President of the Coon Valley Conservation Club, something that is going to be quite different for me.

For those of you who do not know me, or for that matter heard of me, I will try and fill in the blanks. About 12 years ago, after having been a member of the Warrens Gun Club since I was a young teenager, I came to the CVCC as a muzzleloader invited to shoot on the grounds. I felt that this – the CVCC – was the club that I really wanted to be a part of. I first noticed the peacefulness and beauty of the area, the valley and streams that flow through them and the involvement that the club takes in its community.

As I became more involved with certain events (one of my jobs was working the kitchen during bow shoots), I saw just how much potential this club had, how the members got behind projects in which they themselves had an interest, and the passion they showed. I soon learned that every event that took place was important, not just for the separate groups but for the club as a whole. I quickly found that building cooperation between the groups was the key to making sure this club would grow and prosper.

I can only say that with everything the Coon Valley Conservation Club has to offer, I am still amazed at the lack of participation despite its many members. I have read what some of the other presidents have written in the past, and it seems to be an ongoing concern, a constant plea for all members to try and enjoy what there is to offer.

Since the building of the new gun range we have seen an influx of memberships, and now with the second year of a weekly 3D bow league the club seems to be rolling along in the right direction. With all that is here, if anyone has an idea of what we can do to promote or enhance the experience at the club, please feel free to contact me and we can look at getting it off the ground. One such idea was the biannual Vintage Military Rifle Shoot, a proposal that was floated and then tried; that shoot is now in its second year. Another was the Bow League: again, it is something that started as just an idea and has now become one of the most popular events we have.

As a club needs financial means to keep operating, we need to have ways of making money. Our Spring and Fall Fundraisers continue to be our largest annual activities. This year we have asked Bruce King to be our Special Events Coordinator, so look for some successful events from him.

Also, here we are now in our 75th year as an operating Conservation Club. One of the very few projects that we have run from the very first year up to the present is the trout rearing. Recently we were given the

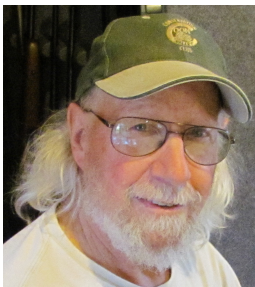


responsibility for Brood Brook Trout in cooperation with the DNR. Look for us at this year's Trout Fest and help us celebrate our Diamond Jubilee.

In closing I would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who is and has been part of making the CVCC a great place to come and get involved, and let's look forward together for the continued growth and prosperity of our club.



Kids from the 4-H Club help out with tree planting at the CVCC.



4-H Shooting Sports Activities at the CVCC

by Royce Curtis

The CVCC will again host all of the Vernon County 4-H Shooting Sports activities for 2015. This includes archery, air rifle, shotgun, .22 rifle and muzzleloader projects. The activities are all scheduled on Sundays, with practices on June 14, July 12 and August 23 beginning at 6:00 PM, and competitions on July 19 and August 30 from 10:30 AM until 4:00 PM.

Participants are eligible for drawings at the July competition for a .22/20 ga. donated by Whitetail Unlimited and at the August competition for a \$300 gift certificate to Monsoors Sport Shop, donated by the Vernon County Shooting Sports Project. Many other prizes will be available at these drawings.

The Vernon County Shooting Sports Project is very much in need of additional certified leaders. To become certified to lead a particular discipline, attendance at a Wisconsin State Certification session is required. Sessions are held at various places around the state and consist of a Friday-evening general session and a Saturday discipline-specific session. All costs are covered by the Vernon County 4-H. For further information contact the Vernon County Extension Office.

Grounds Maintenance

by Scott Hobson

As you look around at the CVCC grounds you may have noticed that it always looks well groomed, and not just around the clubhouse but all the way from the 3D course to all the gun ranges. Along with myself, Dan Thompson and Roger Anderson are responsible for all that you see. Roger is primarily responsible not only for our co-op with the DNR and raising trout but for all the food-plot work, too, and making sure that the bow course is maintained. Dan has taken on the responsibility of the main club grounds and the trimming along with it, and I have assumed all the gun range duties.

Thanks to the guidance of our Farm Committee, Gary Gilbeck and Kevin Traastad, and regular maintenance of the tractor, this job is very easy. Thanks to Gary and Kevin and especially to Roger and Dan for helping keep your club looking clean and respectful.

CVCC-WI DNR Hunter Safety Education

by Royce Curtis

CVCC hosted the Field Day for our Spring On-Line Class on Saturday, April 25th. All 23 students attending successfully completed the morning demonstration sessions and passed the written and practical tests with a class average of 98%. With the continued outstanding success over the past five years with the On-Line students and considering the time and hour limits being imposed on regular classroom classes by the DNR, the CVCC instructors are seriously considering offering only the On-Line Hunter Safety Classes in 2016. We have an excellent group of volunteer instructors that work with our On-Line Classes and have found the students to be very well prepared and knowledgeable after completing the On-Line courses. A Spring and a Fall On-Line Class would be offered in 2016 with Field Days on the last Saturday of April and September.



Range Security Report

by Bob Ritger

Range security has been pretty quiet and that is good news. The Range Committee has been discussing any issues that have come up and there have only been a couple of incidents worth following up. The most common issue has been leaving the gate open. When not using it, please note that you can leave it open while you are carrying items in and out of the range, but please

close the gate while shooting and when leaving for the day. We have been in contact with the Vernon County Sheriff's Department on several occasions and they have been very helpful with any needed follow-up.

We currently have a red flag and a flag holder in the large-bore range house to display when someone is down range, as they may not always be seen if they are at the end posting targets. Soon there will be two flags and the hope is to mount them on the center post. Please take them down when you are not downrange.

The cameras continue to be monitored on a daily basis and again there has not been much questionable activity. Thank you for taking care of your Club.

Archery Update

by Cory Leis

The summer bow league is off and running with about 35 shooters (and we could use several more) on Monday nights. Everyone seems to be having a good time. Several new targets and inserts will be ordered soon, to replace several of the older targets.

The 3rd annual Jonathan Hoff Memorial will be held on September 12th at the CVCC grounds. Activities will include archery trap shooting, .22 silhouettes, a bounce house for the kids, raffles, and food and beverages. Some of the raffle prizes so far include a 50" TV, a fishing rod by Tony Harold, several guns and more to be determined. Proceeds support the Chaseburg Cancer Walk and scholarships in Jonathan's name for Westby High School graduates. Please plan on attending this great event and show your support.



Food Plots

by Kevin Traastad

This year we decided to plant the following as food plots and wildlife cover: corn, soybeans, clover, a couple of mixes from G2 Outdoor Products and switchgrass. The switchgrass was seeded to thicken up the existing switchgrass planting which was getting a little thin. The G2 products will be seeded within the next month or so. We still have fertilizer to apply to the plots and weeds to control. If everything grows as planned, the CVCC should provide a fair amount of food and some additional cover for wildlife. Thanks to Roger Anderson for working up the fields and planting the majority of the plots. Thanks also to: Gary Gilbeck, Joel Olstad and Chaseburg Farmers Union Co-op for donating the corn and soybean seed.

Native Grasses & Forbes Planting in the Oak Savanna

by Kevin Traastad

The native grasses and forbes are planted in the Oak Savanna. The seed mix that was planted contained nine native grasses and 15 native forbes. Last fall Kyle Kruizenga planted what he could with a tractor and a no-till drill. The middle of June the remainder of the area was seeded with a hand seeder. The native seed was mixed with oats to get the native seed to flow through the hand seeder. This growing season the area of the CVCC farm planted with this seed should be mowed each time the weeds get 12" tall. Next year the area should be mowed twice. If you are interested in mowing and are not afraid of operating a tractor and rotary mower on steep slopes let the CVCC know. With a little luck and some effort on our part, the CVCC should have a very nice native prairie in a few years.

The CVCC's recent acquisition – a Hobart welder generator.





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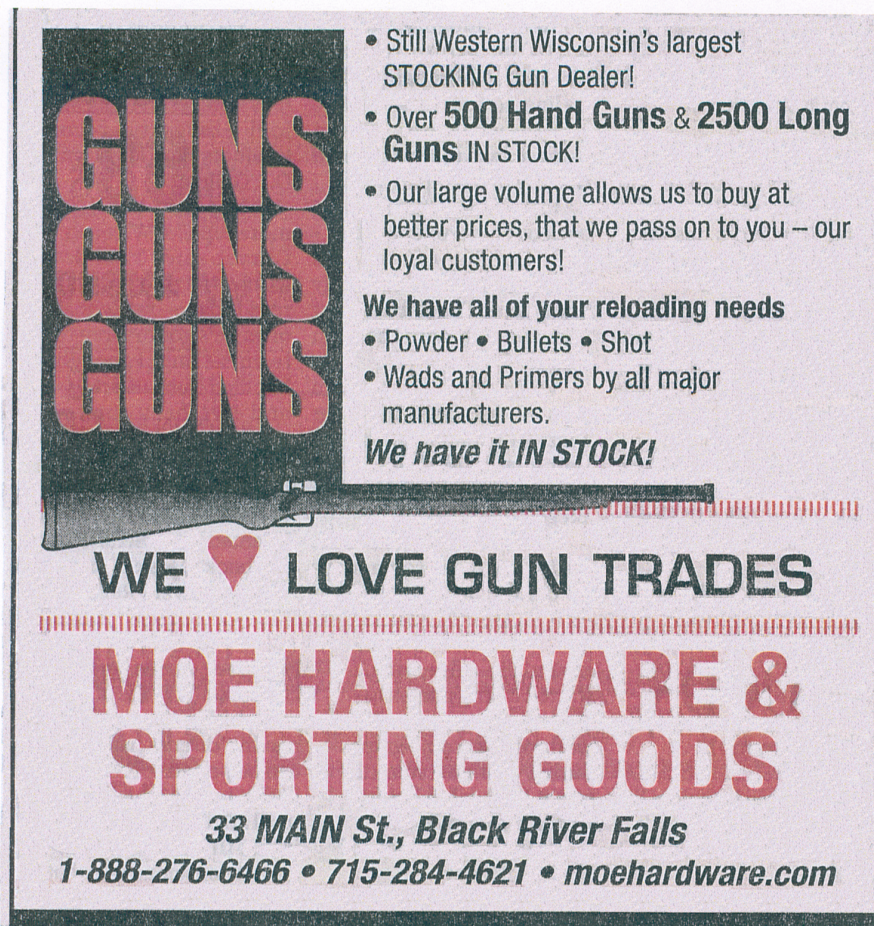
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Upcoming 2015 Events Calendar (next three months):

18 July – Muzzleloader Trap Shoot starts at 1:00 p.m.

19 July – 4-H Competition Shoot starts at noon, ends at 4:00 p.m.

30 July – Membership Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

15 August – Muzzleloader Shoot starts at 1:00 p.m.

16 August – Chicken Q starts at 10:00 a.m., ends at 10:00 p.m.

23 August – Vernon County 4-H Premium Shoot.

27 August – Membership Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

12 September – Jonathan Hoff Fundraiser.

18-20 September – Fall Muzzleloader Weekend and Pheasant Hunt, all day.

24 September – Membership Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

26 September – On-Line Hunter Safety Field Day.