



CLUB LINES

THE OFFICIAL
MEMBER
PUBLICATION
OF THE
COON VALLEY
CONSERVATION
CLUB

FALL/WINTER 1997

Volume 1, Issue 2

Coon Valley Conservation Club is the
Vernon County Land Conservation Committee's
**OUTSTANDING CONSERVATION
CLUB OF THE YEAR**

Each year the Vernon County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) selects one of the eight conservation clubs in the county as the "Outstanding Conservation Club of the Year". This year they have chosen our club as the recipient of this award. Being honored with this award is certainly no accident - hours of dedication, sacrifice and hard work have made our club what it is today and this honor is something our entire membership should be proud



of. Our club is also in the running to be the State's Outstanding Conservation Club of the Year, so keep your fingers crossed and maybe we will have another distinction to celebrate in the near future.

A contingent of our club members attended the Land Conservation Committee's annual awards banquet on November 4 and were presented with a plaque and aerial photo of our club farm. Both will be on display at our clubhouse.

Thoughts from your Club President

by Bruce King

Greetings! Winter is just around the corner and I, for one, am certainly not ready for the snow and cold our Wisconsin winters bring. How about you?

This is a proud time for your Conservation Club. As you probably know, our club was chosen to receive the 1997 Wildlife Habitat Development Award. The award presentation was held on November 4th.

The workday held on October 25th was attended by six people, five of which were officers and board members. Six people? That truly is a sad turnout for a club with a membership of 200 plus. However, those

people who did show up did quality work and got a lot done. We have another work day scheduled for Saturday, December 13. We could use *your* help.

Due to a western hunting trip, I was unable to attend our Fall Fund Raiser on October 11th. I understand that there were several other area events occurring on that same day that may explain the lower than normal attendance, however, everyone that attended had a good time and we managed to raise some much needed funds for our club. I want to thank those people who worked so hard to make the fund raiser possible. If you have any suggestions or changes you would like to see at future fund raisers, please bring them to a meeting or



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Editor: Bradley J. Role

All articles are written and submitted by our club members

CLUB LINES is published three times a year as a service to our members. If you wish to submit an article for a future edition, please contact Bruce King (452-3407) or Bradley Role (452-3904) for more information.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Yearly \$5.00
Lifetime \$50.00

Lifetime Member Pins
\$2.00

RESULTS FROM DISABLED PERSON & ZONE T HUNTS

In October, our club hosted both a Disabled Person's Deer Hunt and a Zone T Antlerless Deer Hunt. The disabled hunters were not successful in bagging any game but did see deer. The weather was not very cooperative as it was very warm that week and the mosquitoes became a real problem. The Zone T hunters did not fare any better. It seems as if they saw plenty of bucks but no does. There were a few distressing incidents though. One of our disabled hunter guests mentioned that there were three different occasions in which someone was using the rifle range during the disabled person deer hunt. Any member who received the summer newsletter knew that the rifle range was closed during that hunt. In fact, a sign was also posted at the range as well. Next time let's obey the rules so as to give our disabled guests the best opportunity to experience a successful hunt.

Thoughts from your Club President

(Continued from page 1)
call me (452-3407) and let me know.

We are in the middle of the deer hunting season for both bow and gun hunters. With that in mind I want to remind everyone that the club is having a separate Big Buck Contest for bow and gun hunters this year. To join, look for sign up posters at area businesses or contact Keith Mathison at 452-3410. Good luck to all hunters.

Our building improvements for 1997 are nearing completion and soon we will discuss 1998 projects. Come on down and watch us grow.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for 1998!

Your Club President,

Bruce King

Shooting Range Safety

Safety on our shooting ranges is something we all need to practice. Remember, if you are on the shooting ranges, use the backstops as there may be people in the woods at any time. For those of you who shoot trap at our range, keep in mind that those pellets travel farther than one may think. Keep you birds low so the pellets stop safely in the bank. In the future we hope to provide better accommodations for both rifle and shotgun users. The same advice applies to the bow range as well. Also remember that alcohol and our shooting ranges do not mix. Operating a firearm or bow requires responsibility. Please practice safety when using the ranges and make the experience safe and enjoyable for everyone.



CALLING ALL BUTTONS!

In recognizing the long and proud tradition of our Club, we are going to compile a history of our membership buttons. Some of the initial ideas are to compile a display or printed poster of the buttons, either of which would be permanently displayed at our clubhouse. The only problem is that we are missing buttons from many of the years past. That's where we need your help. If you have a vintage membership button (pre 1980), we would be eager to hear from you - please contact Club President Bruce King (452-3407) for more information.



1997 BIG BUCK CONTEST

Entry Fees:
Gun Hunters \$1
Bow Hunters \$2

Prizes:
%60 of money for
Largest Rack
%40 of money for
Heaviest Deer

Contact
Keith Mathison
(452-3410) for
more details or
enter at area
businesses



In Memoriam

Member
**MILTON
LEUM**
passed away
October 18

A \$25
contribution
to the
Education Fund
was placed by
the Club in his
memory

The following area businesses have shown their support for our Club. Please show our support by frequenting them whenever possible.

Chaseburg Country Market

Stockmen's Inn

Russ Cornford's Star Automotive

Koon Kreek Feeds

Ace Hardware

Coon Valley Farm & Home

THE FAR SIDE



"I'm sorry, ma'am, but his license does check out and, after all, your husband was in season. Remember, just because he knocks doesn't mean you have to let him in."

MARK YOUR



NOVEMBER

20

MONTHLY MEETING
Guest Speaker
Ron Nerva
Wisconsin Game Warden

22

**WISCONSIN GUN
DEER SEASON
OPENS**

DECEMBER

13

**WORK DAY AT
CLUB GROUNDS**
Chicken Soup and
Dumplings will be served
for lunch

18

MONTHLY MEETING
Guest Speaker
Bill Welk
Westby Rod & Gun Club

MEMBER FORUM: **WHY AM I A MEMBER?**

By Bruce King

With the January membership kickoff right around the corner, many of us need to ask ourselves this question: When it is time to renew your membership, do you do so only because you're donating to a good cause? Because you want to use the gun range? Because you need a place to hunt? Because you like to get together and have a few cold ones with friends? Or is it because you really care about the Conservation Club, where it's going, what it's doing, and what it stands for.

Your Conservation Club has a vast and varied membership. Unfortunately 90% of our members have one thing in common, they are *inactive*.

Many of our members have dedicated many hours of work and worry to the club in years past. Some of these members are rarely seen at the meetings. Please come on back, we don't need your backs, but we need your brains and your ideas.

We also have many young members who are absent for one reason or another. Perhaps they feel their ideas are not important . . . *Wrong!* You will inherit the club someday, so you might as well help shape the club into what you want.

We also have many female members out there. While many of you are always there to help at fund raisers and other events, we normally don't see you at the meetings. Please don't be afraid to come to the meetings because your input is important.

It is much easier to accomplish all those things we do with many people to help. I do not want this to be a club where so much is done for so many by so few. Become an active member in 1998!

- *Member Forum* provides our members a forum in which they can discuss issues that affect our club. If you have a letter that you would like to have published in a future *Member Forum*, please



Coon Valley Conservation Club
PO Box 35
Coon Valley, WI 54623



Here is your latest edition of

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Happy Holidays

*and best wishes for a healthy
and prosperous New Year*

Coon Valley Conservation Club