



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



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.

of.

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.



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



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.



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

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

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."

CLUB GROUNDS RULES REVIEW

Recently, the CVCC Board voted to have signs made up which simply state some common sense rules for all to follow. These signs are up, the print is small, so stop and read, and pay attention to what they say. These signs were put out because of the inappropriate activities of a few people over a period of time. This is another unfortunate instance where the actions of a few result in restrictions for all. The club grounds rules are as follows:

Members Only. Any guests must be accompanied by a club member. Remember, if your guests enjoy the club grounds and believe what our club is about, sell them a membership. *Note: This rule does not apply to any of our public functions at our club grounds.*

Club Grounds close at 9:30pm. This rule was enacted to control late night traffic to and from our camping area as well as other joyriding. If you are camping on our grounds, please do not come or go past 9:30pm. Also remember that there will be no underage camping without adult supervision. *Note: This curfew does not include official club functions.*

No driving beyond parking lot during bad weather conditions. We do not want the road to the camping area or gun range to become a mud bog. If it is wet or muddy, park in the lot - the walking will probably do you good anyway.

No deer shining beyond the fire number sign. Please respect our renters, after all it is their home. As you can see, these are simple common sense rules for all to follow. When you visit the club, act responsibly, act safely, and do your best to leave the grounds in better condition than they were before you got there. By following these rules, we will have a club to enjoy and be proud of for years to come.

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



GOOD LUCK HUNTERS!

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



Here is your latest edition of

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the Coon Valley Conservation Club

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Happy Holidays

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

Coon Valley Conservation Club