



CVCC NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2016

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 Cory Leis, 452-2016

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President's Message

by Scott Hobson



Well, here we are with summer upon us, and yes, I am back for another year. Looking back at the last few months there has been a lot of activity here on the CVCC grounds.

Your Board of Directors has been looking at what projects have been put on the back burner, and some have been brought to us that we were unaware of. The Vernon County Forester was down in early April and inspected our pine plantation, which is in a managed forestry plan. He determined that our pines needed to be thinned out. So we put a plan in place to have a workday to tackle the project, but like so many things that are planned, we ended up having other, more pressing matters arise.

A large, dead elm tree was hung up in a cottonwood next to the pond, so some guys got together to take it down. It had to be cut, split, stacked and cleaned up. A group of about 10 people showed up on the workday and in a matter of a few hours the job was done. Roger and Corey attacked the pines with some help from a few guys, finding out that this project is going to be ongoing with a lot of cutting and thinning to do.

Our trap range had some dirt work done earlier and new positions were needed to stand on. Here again the word went out and six guys showed up for work, which meant taking measurements to ensure that everything was level and squared to the trap house. Then came the concrete mixing and pouring.¹

All projects were done by noon so we fed everyone well for a great workday and everything they accomplished.

If you have been down to the club in the last few weeks you may have noticed that the rental house has a new roof. Again, the Board had looked at this and decided to replace the whole roof with standing seam steel and it looks great. With any luck it will last as long as the last one did. The contractor said that the roof boards were as solid now as the day they were put down.

Just recently on June 4th in the early morning hours a lighting strike caused some significant damage to our security system, which has been fixed and is back running again, thanks to a good insurance policy.

What is next for the club to do, besides mowing grass every week and trying to keep up with it? We have been



¹ The photo is of Ray Williamson and Martin Ferrari doing finishing work on the trap shooting stations. Picture by Scott Hobson, taken on Saturday, 23 April 2016.

looking at the erosion on the pistol range and have an idea, but have yet to iron out the plan.

So as you can see there has not been a shortage of things to do here and some, such as the pine plantation, will be ongoing. There are so many people that are to be thanked for all the work they have done and for all they do on a weekly basis.

If the past has been any indication of what can be done, I'm sure this next year will be very productive. With the great loyal members of the Coon Valley Conservation Club, I look forward to it.

Bucks of Vernon County

by Aaron Scheckel



On January 28, 2017, the CVCC will be hosting a new event called “Bucks of Vernon County” at the Coon Valley Village Hall. It will be similar to the events held in Crawford and Richland County, in which the deer of those counties are showcased, but now it will be Vernon County being showcased. Those who attend will have the opportunity to have their deer antlers scored and displayed on boards that will be rented from the Prairie du Chien Rod and Gun Club. I am currently looking for members to assist with this great event. In addition to planning, we will need members to learn how to score racks that are either sheds or mounted. If this would be something you would be interested in, or want to learn more about this event, please contact Aaron Scheckel at tamaar@mwt.net or at cell phone 608-632-0699.

Hunter Safety Course Update

by Bob Ritger



As many of you know, there has been a change in how the Hunter Safety Courses are to be taught per the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). They have cut the amount of time in the classroom and the overall length of time to conduct each course. This has been met with strong opposition from the CVCC instructors, and a petition was signed by many of you asking to allow the CVCC instructors to continue to conduct the course as it has been offered in the past. This request was denied by the WDNR, so Representative Lee Nerison (R) was contacted and asked to look into the situation. Rep. Nerison attended the May CVCC membership meeting to discuss the issue and he asked to hear the instructors' concerns directly. Cowboy and Royce provided valid reasons to continue the course as previously taught and indicated that people in the area are asking for this course and have no problem with the time difference. Rep. Nerison explained the WDNR side of the issue, being that people in other parts of the state are asking for a more streamlined course, so that is why the WDNR made the change.

However, Rep. Nerison agrees with the CVCC instructors that if this is what people are asking for, they should be able to have the previous course and still get certified by the WDNR. He said he would go back to the WDNR with this information and see what he could do, then report back once he hears more. It should be noted that Rep. Nerison serves on the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Sporting Heritage that oversees the WDNR. We hope to hear from Rep. Nerison in the near future regarding this request to continue to offer the previous course.

Rep. Lee Nerison at the CVCC meeting.



Lightning Strike

by Scott Hobson

What power does lightning have? More than we will ever know!

On June 4th a fairly good strike hit the CVCC, enough to do a lot of damage to most of our electronics. The fuse on the power pole behind the clubhouse was blown, and we thought that was all. Not a chance.

As we found while looking things over, we had no Internet access, no cable TV and no phone. So a call was placed to the phone company and that part was taken care of, but still we had no access to view cameras off site. We contacted Ray Hubbard of Secure Devices (the company that installed our security system), and it was determined that our security cameras and gate had taken a significant hit. Parts were ordered and the insurance company was notified.

We found a total of \$900.00 in damage and fixed it, and only then discovered that the magnetic gate lock was not working. So again Ray was called and a new magnet was installed. Three days after installing the magnet, we found out that you could now get into the range, but you couldn't get out. The gate release button was not functioning. So as you would guess, Ray was called yet again, and he found that a small switch inside the enclosure of the button was welded shut. He ordered another switch and now everything is working.

During this time several calls and emails were sent to our insurance company so they could be kept informed as to what was being done. After the dust settled, the total bill came to just over \$1200.00 and the club has a \$500.00 deductible. So our only out-of-pocket cost for this act of nature was just \$500.00.

In my last conversation with Emily at West Bend Insurance, I thanked her for all her help in making this situation so easy, but said that I hoped I would never have to speak to her again. She laughed and said she got that a lot. So thank you to Ray Hubbard, West Bend Insurance, Bob Ritger and Royce Curtis for all the help and time they put into the three-week ordeal.

Trap Shooters

by Merv Broten



We are off to a good start with this summer's trap shooting. The weather has been very agreeable and we have not missed a single Thursday evening. We were able to add concrete pads at all the shooting positions this spring, and although we need to do a little more landscaping, these improvements make for a more enjoyable shooting experience. Wobble Trap is still our standard game, and it is definitely not boring, what with all the different angles and elevations of the targets.

This year we were faced with the problem of obtaining clay targets, as our local supplier had gone out of business. After many phone calls, we located a new supplier, Recobb's in Prairie du Sac. It was too late in the year to get them to deliver the two pallets (126 boxes) that we usually get, but they were very helpful in coordinating with Chaseburg Rod & Gun, and we were able to get two pallets from a full semi-trailer load that Chaseburg had just purchased. That will be enough targets to get us through the rest of the year, and next spring Recobb's will deliver targets right to the Club grounds.

We encourage everyone to come out on Thursday nights, starting at 6:00, and shoot with us. The cost is \$5.00 for a round of 25 targets. Any shotgun will do!

Military Rifle Shoot

by Merv Broten

The second Military Rifle Shoot of 2016 was held on Saturday, June 11th. Twelve shooters showed up on a very hot day. For the first time, we offered a Modern Rifle category (AR, AK, etc.), but turnout for this category was pretty small, with only three shooters. We will probably include it again in our late summer shoot, but if we don't get more interest, we may drop it.

Results are as follows:

Vintage Military Rifle

1 st Place	186	Brad Mellen	US Model 1903, caliber .30-06
2 nd Place	179	Merv Broten	Swiss Model K-31, caliber 7.5 X 55
3 rd Place	162	Sean Olstad	Russian Model 44, caliber 7.62 X 54R
4 th Place	161	Glenn Olstad	Swedish Model 1896, caliber 6.5 X 55
5 th Place	156	Bruce King	Russian Model 91/30, caliber 7.62 X 54R

Junior Division

1 st Place	130	J. Jackson	Swedish Model 1896, caliber 6.5 X 55
2 nd Place	107	Luke Olstad	Swedish Model 1896, caliber 6.5 X 55

Modern Military Rifle

1 st Place	179	Keith Mathison	AR
2 nd Place	117	Mick Lyons	M1A

For details on our next shoot, contact Merv Broten at 483-2610 or e-mail broten@mwt.net

What is going on this summer at the CVCC? Well, just the Bow League every Monday and Tuesday evenings, muzzleloader shoots on the third Saturday of every month, and another Military Rifle Shoot at the end of August. Also in August, we will have our Chicken–Que, and in September we will host Shooting For a Cure – The Jonathan Hoff Memorial Shoot, and the Muzzleloader Invitational weekend.

For October, we'll have the Fall Fund Raiser at the Village Hall and then things get sort of quiet for a while.

So, please look at the calendar and find your cup of tea. Come on out and join in, your CVCC is here for your use.

Your advertisement could go here!

(And if it did, it would reach 435 CVCC members, predominantly in Vernon, La Crosse and Monroe counties, plus worldwide on our website.)

Advertising rates:

\$50 for a full page for one year (four issues), \$25 for a half page for one year.



Martin Ferrari at the Muzzleloader Shoot.



Keith Mathison at the Muzzleloader Shoot.

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

**Nonprofit Organization
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Upcoming 2016 Events Calendar (next three months):

Board meetings – 2nd Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.
Members' meetings – last Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.
Summer Bow League – Every Monday evening.
CVCC Open Trap Shooting – Every Thursday at 6 p.m.

July 16 – Muzzleloader Dual Shoot – Shotgun and Rifle, Saturday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
July 17 – 4-H Competition Shoot, Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

August 20 – Thirteenth Annual "Smoke in the Valley" Muzzleloader Rifle Shoot, Saturday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
August 27 – Military Rifle Shoot, Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
August 28 – 4-H Shooting Sports Premium Shoot, Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

September 10 – "Shooting for a Cure" Jonathan Hoff Memorial, Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
September 16-18 – Fall Muzzleloader Weekend, Friday, 8 a.m. start; Saturday, all day; Sunday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
September 18 – Muzzleloader Pheasant Hunt at the Badgerland Pheasant Farm in Westby, Sunday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.