



CLUB LINES

THE OFFICIAL
MEMBER
PUBLICATION
OF THE
COON VALLEY
CONSERVATION
CLUB

WINTER 2001

Volume 5, Issue 4

President's Message

2001 in Review

The past year has been an especially busy one for the CVCC. As 2001 winds down, I'd like to reflect on some of the club's activities and accomplishments during the year. We began the year with our annual membership kickoff meeting with free lunch and refreshments and a presentation by Vernon County game wardens, Rich Wallin and Ben Trembl. In

February, we installed a satellite dish and receiver in the clubhouse and held our first 3-D Bow Shoot of the season. Members and guests had a great time at our Spring Fundraiser in March. Sixteen students successfully completed the CVCC sponsored DNR Hunter Education Class and the Club held the second 3-D Bow Shoot. Dave Vetrano, DNR Fish Biologist, was our guest speaker at the

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Club Member Tom Frydenlund poses with this fine buck he bagged during the fall deer hunting season

Disabled Hunter Gun Deer Hunt 2001

By Colin Sveum

This last October marked the 6th consecutive year that the Coon Valley Conservation Club has held a gun deer hunt for hunters with disabilities on club property. The hunt ran nine consecutive days starting on October 6th. Jon Larson's land adjoining the club's property was also open to the hunt participants for the second year. Five hunters signed up for the hunt and all but 1 was able to get out for at least part of the season. The weather was not nearly as hot and dry as the last couple of hunts had been. Temperatures ran from mid 50's to mid 60's and some rain fell during the week. This made for good hunting conditions.

Josh Everson, a fine young man from Viroqua had a tale to tell from opening day. He was hunting near the shooting range when a huge 10 point buck appeared and came to within 50 feet of his stand. Josh admitted to a severe case of buck fever and missed the buck. Then his gun jammed and the buck was gone. Josh's story has a happy ending though. Josh was lucky enough during the November rifle season to shoot his 1st buck, a 5 pointer while hunting near Viroqua. Congratulations Josh! Rick Heller, a regular hunt participant from Black River Falls, shot a nice doe on the second day and 20 minutes later missed a buck that may have been following the doe he shot. The other 2 hunters that hunted didn't see any deer but that didn't seem to discourage them. All 5 hunters want to reserve a spot on next years list and are already looking forward to the hunt. If anyone knows of someone with a disability that would be interested in getting on the list let me know by calling (608) 787-6170. All club members should be proud that our group provides this hunting opportunity to such deserving people.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



DECEMBER

27

MONTHLY
MEETING

JANUARY

31

MONTHLY
MEETING

2002 Membership
Drive Kick Off
(Free Lunch &
Refreshments,
Guest Speaker)

FEBRUARY

16-17

3D BOW SHOOT
Club Grounds

28

MONTHLY
MEETING

MARCH

2

SPRING
FUNDRAISER
CV Village Hall

23-24

3D BOW SHOOT
Club Grounds

28

MONTHLY
MEETING



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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
Curt Brye (452-3125) or Bradley Role
(452-3904) for more information.

Membership Totals

(as of Dec 15, 2001)

Lifetime Members	243
Annual Members	57

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

Member Meeting. April was a busy month with several work days on the club grounds. We held our second annual Pork Roast and third 3-D Bow Shoot. Club members and kids stocked 2200 wild brook trout in the Coon Creek. Our current slate of officers and directors were elected in the April Member Meeting. In May, club members built fish cribs for the DNR to place in the Coon Creek, planted wildlife food plots, and set-up more work days for club grounds clean-up and improvements. The Club also hosted a youth wildlife management and forestry field day for local junior high students. We held a Pancake Breakfast for Coon Creek Days in June and began construction of a new clubhouse deck and 40'x24' storage shed. We received 2000 wild brown and 2200 wild brook trout to raise for release in Spring 2002 from the DNR. The deck and handicap-accessible ramp to the clubhouse were finished in July as was the storage shed. Work started on the rental house garage. The CVCC sponsored four area junior high students to attend the Central Wisconsin Environmental Camp in Stevens Point. In August, we held our 5th Annual Chicken Que and Family Fun Day. We sold the most chicken dinners in the five years we have had the event. A mid-summer 3-D Bow Shoot was held and we released pheasants donated to us by the Westby Rod & Gun Club. The rental house garage was completed and the carpenters began replacing windows and residing the house with vinyl siding. The Club hosted a 4-H Club Labor Day Shoot and held a Steak Fry in September. The rental house was completed and the kitchen remodeled. We added a water-softener for both buildings. New backstops were installed on the gun range. Our guest speaker was Dave Mathes, DNR wildlife biologist. In October, we completed our construction projects by replacing the roof on the clubhouse. We held a very successful Fall Fundraiser and sponsored a handicap deer hunt. New gun range signs were added in November and the guest speaker for our member meeting was Mark Gawron from the UW Extension and DNR office in Black River Falls.

Without the active support and dedication of Club members, we would not have been able to accomplish what we did in 2001.

Thank you for your special efforts and involvement.

With the construction projects completed, officers and Board of Directors are planning forestry and wildlife habitat improvement projects in 2002. We are also looking at a comprehensive land use plan for the club grounds and additional conservation education programs. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact an officer or board member. Have a joyful Christmas and happy New Year!

Satisfaction Without a Filled Tag—by Bruce King

Another nine-day gun deer season has ended and I found myself with an unfilled tag. I suppose I could compile a long list of reasons or excuses, including pneumonia, which robbed me of the last weekend of the hunt. I could complain about the weather or the lack of snow. Indeed I have complained about numerous things in the past, which foiled my hunt.

It is time for a change of attitude for me as far as hunting goes. Hunting offers many things to be thankful for besides the kill. No longer will I gauge my success by a filled tag. If you are a hunter who consistently fills his or her tag you might stop reading here. If you do, I am sorry, for you will miss my point completely.

The two most important things we should be thankful for as hunters are opportunity and ability. Many people have never had the opportunity to hunt – something many of us take for granted. Even with all the strides being made for hunters with disabilities, there are still many who are not able.

Another very satisfying aspect of hunting for me is what I call being there. You must know the feeling. It can be that frosty fall morning just as the sun is coming up and all is still and you get that feeling that this is great! Really great! Or maybe you are sneaking out to your favorite point and that last step opens up on a fabulous view that you have seen before, but you can't help but say WOW! Or you are walking that C.R.P. and there is no mistaking the birdy nature of your dog, and regardless of how many times you've seen this before, the excitement is still there. This is hunting satisfaction at it's finest.

Another very satisfying aspect of hunting is what I call nature's hyjinx. These are all the strange, humorous, and sometimes sad things you encounter while hunting. You have all experienced or been witness to these types of things. One of my favorites is the story of the squirrel that tried to jump onto my stand only to find his claws could not find purchase on the aluminum. At last his feet stuck into my backpack, and there he sat for some time quivering from his near fall.

Another favorite is the story of the gray fox that was stalking the grouse. The grouse knew all about the fox, and seemed to be toying with him by flying and landing again within sight of the fox. This game went on for nearly an hour, within my sight and only ended when the fox gave up.

These are all reasons for me to be satisfied even though I failed to fill my tag. So whenever you get the opportunity to hunt, seize the moment and go. In the words of "Uncle" Ted Nugent – "experience the spirit of the wild".

2002 WISCONSIN DNR HUNTER EDUCATION CLASS

The 2002 Coon Valley Conservation Club sponsored Wisconsin DNR Hunter Education class has been tentatively scheduled to begin on Thursday, February 7, 2002 at 3:45 in the Coon Valley Village Hall. The class will run from 3:45 to 6:00 on each Thursday evening through March 28. There will also be two Saturday morning classes; March 23rd will be a practice field day and March 30th will include "live firing" of .22's on the shooting range for those students who successfully pass the written and practical exams on March 28th.

Hunter Education is required of all persons born after January 1, 1973 in order to purchase a hunting license in the state of Wisconsin. It is recommended that students be at least 12 years old or reach the age of 12 before hunting season and be ready to assume the responsibility of handling a firearm. There is no upper age limit. Adults and especially parents are encouraged to enroll in the class with their children. Graduates are life time certified and most states and Canadian provinces have reciprocal agreements accepting Wisconsin certification.

Hunter Education emphasizes firearm safety, wildlife habits and management, hunting techniques, and hunting laws and ethics. Specifically covered are: The Three Rules of Firearm Safety, Firearm Operation - identifying and operating different types of actions; identification of make, model, and gauge or caliber; safeties; sights. Ammunition - identifying rimfire, centerfire, shotshell and muzzleloader parts; practice loading and unloading with dummy ammunition. Firearm Handling - safe carries; shooting positions; sight picture and alignment; casing and uncasing. Storage of Firearms and Ammunition - cleaning; storage locations. Shooting Techniques - range commands; trigger control and breathing; shot groupings; sighting in; practice techniques. Wildlife Habitat and Management (Common game animals). Hunting Techniques - still hunting; ground blinds; tree stands; group hunting; trailing and recovering game; bow hunting; hunting with muzzleloaders. Hunting Laws and Ethics - Wisconsin game laws; what's legal vs what's right? personal hunting ethics.

The instructors are Royce Curtis 452-3809, Roger Anderson 452-3891, and Larry Leum 452-3425. Also assisting with the class will be a Wisconsin DNR Conservation Warden. A class notice and signup sheet will be posted at the Chaseburg School in January. For further information contact any of the above instructors.

GUN RANGE HOPES AND DREAMS

After a fair amount of checking and research, it does not seem feasible to expand the gun range at this time. We do have so ideas, however, on how to improve what we have.

Thank you to Colin Sveum for having some news signs made for the range. These signs contain various rules and guidelines for everyone using the gun range. Many should be common sense, however, all are important.

Most of you have seen the storage building up near the gun range. Currently all that is in the building are some assorted back-board material. When we are finished, that building will contain the following:

1. Sand bags (I am currently looking for empty shot bags)
2. Targets
3. Tacks and/or a staple gun and staples
4. Special portable backstops exclusively for shotgun patterning
5. Some type of sighting-in instructions or guidelines (pamphlet or loose leaf paper you can use to help with you sighting-in)
6. Current membership list in case you don't remember if your membership is current (Will include a phone number to contact for membership purpose)

The items in the storage building are for you use while at the range and should be returned to the building when you are finished. It is also important that you remove your targets from the backstops when you are done and throw them in the trash barrels. If the items in the storage building do not get put back or are outright stolen, they will not be replaced. We are depending on the honesty and integrity of our own gun range patrons.

Remember that our range is a member's only range. If you are not a member or you meet someone who is not a member you may be asked or you may ask that person to become a member or pay a range fee of equal amount. As a member you may bring a non-member as a guest.

Recently new uprights and backstops have been installed on the 25, 50, and 100 yard ranges. Please use the backstops for targets and avoid putting targets on the uprights.

As members of CVCC, you should be proud of the nicest range in the area, and want to keep it clean and looking nice. Have a good hunting and shooting season and have a safe and enjoyable time on the range.

!!!! MEMBERSHIP DUES TO CHANGE 01-01-02 !!!!

The membership dues for the Coon Valley Conservation Club will increase effective January 01, 2002. After that date the dues will be:

Lifetime	\$100.00
Individual Yearly	\$10.00
Family Yearly	\$20.00

Anyone wishing to purchase memberships at the current rates need to do so by 12-31-01.



MONTHLY GUN WINNERS

August

DICK MARCO

Thompson .50 Cal Muzzle Loader

September

RUSS GERKEN

Ruger .300 Mag Bolt Action Rifle

October

IKE CLEMENTS

Mossberg 500 20 Ga Shotgun

November

FRANK KIMBALL

Tikka .243 Bolt Action Rifle

IMPORTANT NOTE

(5) Additional Gun Drawing tickets are available for club members who do not have a regular monthly ticket, to buy at the monthly meetings and be included in those drawings.

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



Here is your latest edition of

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS ! ! !

from the Coon Valley Conservation Club

WEAR YOUR CLUB PRIDE

Show your club pride by wearing the all new official Coon Valley Conservation Club apparel. We are currently finalizing the selections of items that will be available for purchase by our club members. Among the items we are looking at are:

- Camouflage Jackets (w/ CVCC Logo on Back)
- Plain Jackets (w/ CVCC Logo on back, optional name embroidered on front)
- Printed Hats (available in camouflage, blaze orange, or other solid color w/CVCC logo printed on front)
- Embroidered Hats (stylish - low profile two color hat, with CVCC Logo embroidered on front)
- Printed T-shirts (CVCC Logo on back and small logo on left chest)
- Embroidered Golf (Polo) Shirts (CVCC Logo embroidered on left chest)
- Window Stickers (Window Cling for truck, car, etc – like NRA Decal)

These are just some of the items that we are looking into having made for our members to purchase. If you are interested in these items or would like to see an item that was not mentioned be made available, please contact Curt Brye @ 452-3125 or Brad Role @ 452-3904 or email cvcc@mwt.net. Prices for these items are not currently available and will be determined by the number of total items we order. We hope to have some samples of these items at the January Membership Drive Kickoff Meeting.