The Adaptive Sportsman Newsletter  
Vol. 17  
Nov., 2008  
Edited by Allen Neu

Please contact at aneu@adaptablesportsmen.org with questions or comments

We are looking for people to help organize or work in the following events for the coming year; ATV rides, Summer Fishing events, Fall Deer and Waterfowl Hunts.

Ideas for events or activities are welcome. Contact John Mitchell at 8727 W. Coldspring Rd, Greenfield, WI 53228 or aneu@adaptablesportsman.org

E-mail notices are sent out to all members about special events and opportunities that come up on short notice. Send us your email address so that you might get a chance to participate in events that might not be in the newsletter or on the web site. Send your email address to aneu@adaptablesportsman.org

2008 GANDER MOUNTAIN GIFT CARD RAFFLE

The Adaptive Sportsmen Gander Mountain gift card raffle was held Oct 4th at the Baraboo Deer hunt and we had four winners. The winners were Kimay Hasheider for $200, Jim Husel for $500, Bruce Manthey for $250, and Gerald Lorbiecki for $250. Congratulations to the winners and we thank everyone who bought tickets, the money raised is used to support our many events.

Include $ 10 membership fee
Pay to: Adaptive Sportsmen

Adaptive Sportsman Membership Card

Mail to:
Adaptive Sportsmen Inc.
8727 W Coldspring Road
Greenfield, WI 53228

Expiration Date 12/31/2009

Name ______________________
Address _____________________________________________
City State & Zip ______________________________________________________
Phone #s  _______________________e-mail_________________________

Please Circle One: Physically Challenged  Able Bodied  Volunteer/Sponsor

Interests  Hunting  Fishing  ATV Riding  Boating  Snowmobiling  Other _______

2009 BOARD ELECTION

Each year one-third of the Adaptive Sportsmen Board is up for election. The board is responsible for overseeing all of the activities of the foundation. If you would like to nominate someone or become a candidate yourself please call Mary Mitchell at (414) 916-2298. Entry Deadline for current Board positions will end Dec 31.

Adaptive Sportsmen is a Non-Stock, Not for Profit 501(c)(3) Foundation organized in Wisconsin

Adaptive Sportsmen Inc  8727 Coldspring Rd..  Greenfield, WI  53228

“Our mission is providing recreational opportunities for physically challenged people.”

Adaptive Sportsmen Inc
7 W Coldspring Road
Greenfield, WI  53228

Volunteer/Sponsor

Fundraising

In addition to our annual ATV or Gift Card raffle, most of our events include a silent auction or bucket raffle. If you would help procure items for these we would appreciate it. Just ask your local businesses or suppliers if they can donate any items for our raffles and silent auctions. Remember, the donation is tax deductible. Thank you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ADAPTIVE SPORTSMEN

Check www.adaptivesportsmen.org for info

Jan 11,  Adaptive Sportsman Semi-annual Board meeting. Open to all members with current membership and guests with prior permission from Adaptive Sportsmen. Please RSVP to John Mitchell at 414-333-4575 if you wish to attend. Location to be announced.

Jan 30-Feb 1 Northern Deer Classic. Eau Claire. Please contact Glen Howell for information or to volunteer to help at 715-456-4619 or email us at aneu@adaptivesportsmen.org

March 4th-5th Milwaukee Sport Show Contact Bill Koch at 262-707-0476 if you want to sign up to work the booth

March 21st. 3-D archery shoot will be at Wildwood Archery range in Union Grove, WI. For information please contact Dottie Dirlksen at 262-886-3079

April 3rd-5th Deer & Turkey Expo in Madison John Martinson will be coordinating this again, call him at 608-846-4518 to sign up or to get more information.

April 4th (tentative date) Halter Pheasant Hunt in Southeast Wisconsin near Kenosha. Call John Mitchell to sign up or volunteer, phone 414-33-4745.

May (TBA) Baraboo Turkey Hunt at the Badger Army Ammo Plant. John Mitchell is taking care of this again, contact him at 414-333-4745 or keep an eye in the next newsletter or on the web for a signup sheet and further information.

Accessible Deer Stand

Accessible Deer Stand is an accessible deer stand from Vasquez Metal Products for use by our members.

Accessible Deer Stand is offering a sign up sheet for people who are interested in using the Accessible Deer stand. Contact John Martinson at 1-608-846-4518 to see which dates are available. The deer stand will be at most of the hunting events and if you want to use it at other times you will be responsible for making arrangements to pick it up and return it. There will be a time limit on how long you can use it depending on demand.

The Accessible Deer stand is all aluminum and lightweight. It folds up for storage and transport into the woods. It has wheels to help move it through the woods. The entire stand is powder coated with an olive drab color. The seat capacity is 400#. The seat is rises 164” (over 13 ft) and is run up and down by a cordless drill. Ken Berg has donated a drill for use with the stand.

This model has a swivel seat where a person on a wheelchair can roll next to the seat and transfer from the wheelchair to the seat. We will have pictures and a video of the stand in operation on the web site shortly.

You can get more information about the stand at their web site, http://www.vasquezmetal.com
Editor's note; this came in to me, I thought I would pass it along for any of our members who might be thinking about going to Africa to hunt.

**Gypsy Trail (by Dan Jacoby)***

The Northern Highland- American Legion State Forest has a gated disabled access trail. The Gypsy Lake Trail is open to the general public by foot traffic only. The trail was originally for hunting but can be used for wildlife viewing or related activities. The trails, like most in the area, are logging roads. The area still is occasionally logged. To access the trail you need to stop by the DNR at Woodruff (call first for hours they are open). They will give the 4 number code for the lock on the gate. You can bring a helper with you. I have worked on this trail the last three years and in that time I have built three blinds, improved the road system to accommodate vans, cleared trees and cut brush, and this year mowed the trail. The trail is rocky but firm so slow speed while driving is necessary. The pictures of the blinds start with a view of the path followed by pictures of the lanes which I tried to take panoramically. Of the three blinds, number one is small, that would require sitting in the open air as it is too small of an area for a tent. There is a large rock there and overlooks a small unnamed lake. See JPG 255, 256, 257. This is one quarter mile from Gypsy lake road. This is more of a bow blind as the longest shot would be 25 yards. The second blind is at the top of an oak acre overlooking a marsh and lake. This is large enough for a tent. Each blind has at least three shooting lanes brushed. 258, 259, 260, and 261 are the pictures of blind number two. This blind is one mile from the paved road. This could be a bow blind or rifle/muzzleloader. There is a deer trail 15 yards down the hill from the blind and another at the bottom of the hill about 50 yards from the blind. The number three blind is also in the hardwoods but overlooks a black spruce swamp and lake. There is enough room for a tent here. Number three is more of a rifle/muzzleloader type blind as it is on a strip of land between the lake and the swamp. 262, 263, 264, and 265 show number three blind. This blind is about 1.5 miles off the paved Gypsy Lake road. I would like to offer assistance to anyone from our group who wants to try this type of hunting. I would be willing to put out a small amount of bait prior to your trip or hunt deer without bait. You would need to bring a helper as I cannot guarantee I would be able to commit that much time. This is northern Wisconsin big woods hunting behind a locked gate so only foot traffic and other mobility impaired persons share the area with you. I can adjust my work schedule to show you the area personally or try to provide a map if I can not make it. All three blinds are on the only road that is mowed so they are not hard to find. Any two of the three blinds can be hunted regardless of wind direction but all three on the same day would not work. This area is six miles east of Lake Tomahawk and a half mile south of Gypsy Lake boat landing. My personal e-mail address is danoajacoby@hotmail.com if you have any questions. The Chamber of Commerce in Minocqua said for accessible accommodations includes The Waters, the Best Western Concord Inn, the Comfort Inn and the AmericInn.

Adaptive Sportsmen is in the planning stage of a Fish Outing on Lake Michigan in June 2009. If all works out it will run along with Disabled Veterans Outing Wednesday, June 17th. 2009. We will meet with committee of this in Feb. 2009 to get O.K.and details will be coming out after the meeting.In order for us to sway the commute it would be a benefit to know how many of our members are Veterans. Send an e-mail or contact myself with this info. Bill Koch webmtg@mcn.com or call 262-707-0476. This is a very large event with 50 or more boats, a dinner , a band, and prizes. Mark your calendar.

**Cross Bow/Gun Stands**

Thanks to Cliff Pheifer for the donation of four crossbow/gun rest to Adaptive Sportsmen. They are works of art that will help many people to have a steady aim.

**Paul Smith Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Article about Adaptive Sportsmen**

Here is the reprint of the beginning of an article that Paul Smith did for the Sunday Journal Sentinel. You can read it at http://www.jsonline.com/sports/outdoors/34116759.html

Barabo - Ken Berg of Greenfield raised his bow and pointed it out the window of his truck. The deer, a doe, grazed slowly forward, approaching Berg's shooting range of about 25 yards. Berg barely breathed and tried not to blink. Hunting deer with archery equipment is challenging enough; to do it from the ground requires special stealth and patience.

Berg was one of 26 members of Adaptive Sportsmen, Inc. taking part in the group's annual bow hunt at Badger Army Ammunition Plant near Baraboo. Held the first weekend in October, the event brings together a spirited group of physically-challenged hunters in a celebration of their abilities and the Wisconsin outdoors.

For the hotels a double occupancy is the same as a single occupancy. I stayed in Comfort Inn's as much as possible they were not hard to find. The Waters, the Best Western Concord Inn, the Comfort Inn and the AmericInn.  For accessible accommodations includes The Waters, the Best Western Concord Inn, the Comfort Inn and the AmericInn.

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Editor's note: sent me an email, from some friends of Tom Zimmer, who he said that he had shot a black bear with a live weight of approximately 500 pounds! He shot it near Park Falls in the town of Winter while taking the full picture and I guess he is the new celebrity in the area. Tom is gleaming. Just thought you would like to know......

Congratulations Tom! Hopefully we can get a full story and pictures from him for the next newsletter.
Five years ago I drew a bear kill tag but was unsuccessful. I did see six shoot-able bear but nothing ever worked out right. After it was over, I thought, Man that was fun and a successful season, even though I never connected. I can't wait to draw again. Well five years passed and I was pumped for this fall to try it again.

With the help of my cousin and his son, we set up a few bait stations and started baiting bear in late July. Things were going good and two out of the three spots being worked consistently. The spot we choose to start was a honey-hole. Couldn’t look better and it was the most active spot.

On Labor Day, I had my sister Mary go bait with me since she would be sitting with me the first day for sure and maybe more. We trekked down the path that the landowners had cleared for my wheelchair and re-baited the station while dropping off a few items to make our load lighter on Wednesday. When we started the bait station we placed some camouflage panels to conceal my wheelchair, so that was ready to go.

Opening day arrived, September 3, 2008. We opted for a late morning beginner and sat from 10:30a.m. - 1:00p.m. nothing except Red Squirrels, darn noisy things. Time for lunch and do a few chores before heading back out for the evening. At 3:45p.m. we headed back to the woods. Sneak in and set-up by 4:10p.m. After a few catnaps and prayers the moment arrived at 5:20p.m.

Through the dense ferns I suddenly noticed two black ears and the top of a bear head. I whispered to Mary, who was my back-up with a shotgun just in case anything went wrong, being we were sitting on the ground 18 yards from an active bear dining room. Mary had noticed the head at the same time as me and our hearts were racing. As the bear stepped into the shooting lane directly behind the bait stump, it looked huge. “Oh My God” was all I could whisper.

Sitting on the ground and staring at a black bear at 18 yards that was staring back at you is a thrill of a lifetime. As the bear sniffed the air and the bait, time stood still. Finally, it decided to turn it’s head to the right and sniff the trail camera we had placed near the stump. As it turned its head, it pulled its front leg forward, opening up the vitals area. I knew this was my time and pulled the trigger on my Ten Point Crossbow. Watching the lighted nock on the back of my arrow disappear into the black body of this trophy was an indescribable sense of accomplishment and joy. The bear turned and crashed through the thick brush for about 40 yards and became silent. Then the “death groan”, as the trophy gave up its life for good, it let out three low groans that neither Mary nor I will ever forget.

At that moment we knew we accomplished something few people ever get the chance to experience. We harvested a 235# black bear from the ground with a crossbow at 18 yards. Through my thirty years in a wheelchair, I have harvested a small whitetail buck and several doe and fawns with my crossbow. But next to my turkey in 1999, this is by far my proudest trophy. Mainly because of the work and effort put into it, the five-year wait for a tag, the limited odds of success and mostly that my family was there with me and to help. That’s what it’s all about!
Wyoming Antelope Hunt, 2008

I think that most of our members have heard about the PCBA Antelope hunt in Gillette, WY. Many of our members have gone out there and enjoyed a great hunt. I know I have (several times). This year I was not able to make it for the PCBA hunt, but was able to arrange for a rifle hunt with one of the landowners who organize the hunt. I was very fortunate to shoot this nice 12-7/8" Antelope Buck, along with a doe. But the best part of the hunt is the chance to sit down and talk with the great people who offer up their time and property to let disabled people enjoy outdoor hunting experiences. Thank You to Landowner Steve Bricker and his wife Linda for their hospitality and friendship, may it bless them many times to come.

Note: the signup for the PCBA antelope hunt is the middle of January, so if you want to go out there you should check out the PCBA web page for registration info. http://www.pcba-inc.org/

October Pheasant Hunt

Smith’s Pheasant Crest game farm hosted the fifth annual physically challenged pheasant hunt in Oxford on October 25th with fourteen participants gunning for four birds each along with some trap shooting before the hunt. Hunters included Les Werner, Ashley and James Cullen, Nolan Nehmer, Gerald Scheick, Mike Little, John Martinson, JR Wynn, Charlie Ande, and William Carter. Nearly everyone bagged a bird, with some getting several, even though the wind picked up later in the afternoon, which caused the birds to run a little more and fly faster. First time hunters like Ashley and Nolan were all smiles after the hunt with harvesting their first birds ever! The food was excellent and the best part was that it was free! They also had an in-ground ramp that allowed our hunters to transfer onto the beds of the John Deere gators, which made for a safer and easier transfer for everyone.

Thanks to all the volunteers and sponsors which made the event a fun and enjoyable day. A special thank you to Pheasant Crest owners Wayne and Robin Smith for their many hours of labor of love to put this great event together and it really means a lot to the participants.

Adaptive Sportsman also had their new Accessible Deer Stand set up for display. This is a portable deer stand for physically challenged hunters, made by Vasquez metal. ASI purchased this stand for the use of our members and for the hunts we put on. We hope to see you next year, so contact John Martinson at 1-608-846-4518 in September to sign up.

Madison Fishery

The Adaptive Sportsmen Annual Madison fishery had to be rescheduled three times this year because of high spring flooding, but we finally got it done on September 14th. Fifteen ASI members including Les Werner, Joe Kunz, Debbie Kunz, Cliff Pheller, Larry Drake, Todd Jones, Kurt Christensen, John Mitchell, John Martinson, Monica Kama / Rossa, Steve Prieve, Jim LaMache, Randy Ashland, Ken from MSCR, Nancy from MSCR, and Dave Coon, enjoyed a delicious lunch and some great door prizes before loading up on one of the thirty-foot MSCR pontoon boats or a regular fishing boats to brave the damp and cloudy over-cast day on Lake Mendota. Despite the weather, some of our anglers caught sheepshead, smallmouth bass and bluegill, and everyone enjoyed a great day of fishing and boating. Thanks to everyone who came out, especially the volunteers Bruce Gehrke, Ann Gehrke, Lloyd Soter, Dawn Soter, Steve Prieve, Anthony Plevak, Laurin Plevak, Steve Martinson, Jeremy Martinson, Chris Martinson, Scott Hogland, and Todd Jones, and a special thanks to our sponsors American Packaging, D&S Bail, Pan of Gold bakery, Bavaria Sausage, Ace Hardware of Sauk Prairie and Okuma.

This is picture of my buck I got during the October Disabled hunt in Willard, WI. It’s an 8 point with a spread of 19.5 inches outside; having him mounted. On this hunt I was very successful, with 4 deer. I shot 3 with rifle, and also shot a small doe with my crossbow.

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