The Adaptive Sportsman Newsletter Vol. 20 July, 2009 Edited by Allen Neu

Please contact a neu@adaptivesportsman.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 a neu@adaptivesportsman.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 a neu@adaptivesportsman.org

Africa Hunt Drawing

Al Neu was selected for the 2010 Hunt. This is from the same outfitter that donated a hunt last year. Pete LePage won the hunt and is going to South Africa this September. His hunt should be a great story for the next newsletter. In case the winner can't go alternates were chosen, and they are Walter Joost, Scott Hansen and Doug Buretta.

2009 FUND RAISER

Check with Mary Mitchell at 414-541-4505 if you want a ticket for this year’s Gander Mountain gift card raffle. We only sell 2500 so act fast before they are gone. In addition to our annual ATV or Gift Card raffle most of our events include a little silent auction or bucket raffle. If anyone would like to help procure items for these we would appreciate it. The shooting picnic in Muskego on August 29 will be our next event where items would be used. Some items have already been received. Thank you for the donations.

Adaptive Sportsman Membership Card

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

Adaptive Sportsman Membership Card

Expiration Date 12/31/2010

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

Include $10 membership fee
Pay to: Adaptive Sportsmen

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 _______

It can be yours

"The James E. Dutton Foundation has provided a grant to Adaptive Sportsmen Inc. to start a program helping physically challenged people with the cost of acquiring their own Adaptive Equipment for enjoying the outdoors. Applications are being reviewed and should be sent to 8727 W Coldspring Rd Greenfield, WI 53228. Thank you is an inadequate expression for their generosity. We are eternally grateful." If you or someone you know would like to be considered for this new equipment program please contact Adaptive Sportsmen Inc at milchelhi@prodigy.net

2008 BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The results are in for the 2008 Adaptive Sportsmen Board of Directors, and the following people are elected for a three year term ending in 2010; Dottie Dirkson, Allen Neu, Cal Popp, John Mitchell, Bill Koch, Larry Wilkerson, and John Martinson. Current Board Members also include Charlie Ande, Pat Buhr, Garth Harris, Dan Jacoby, Mike Gustin, Mike Little, Kristy Richardson (end 2008), Larry Drake, Brian Graham, Mary Mitchell, Tim Weinke, Stan Nosfinger, and Glenn Howell (end 2009). Congratulations to all the members who ran for election and we hope that you will help Adaptive Sportsmen to grow and prosper, and to provide a wonderful program to our members.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ADAPTIVE SPORTSMEN

Check www.adaptivesportsmen.org for info

August 29 Muskego Archery and Gun Shoot Join us for our 2nd annual summer picnic. The picnic is at Schultz Gun Club in Muskego. The fun will be going on from 10:00 through 4:00 with lunch available. You can bring your own guns and bows or let us know you want to borrow one. You can shoot your bow at the 3Ds, target bag or sand pit, you can pattern your shotgun and shoot trap, you can shoot pistols or rifles at the range from 25, 50, 75 &100 yards and you can shoot pistols in the action bay. We will have your first box of ammunition in 12 ga or .22 for you. Of course our raffle and silent auction will be there too. Just email milchelhi@prodigy.net or call 414-916-2298 to RSVP.

Oct 9 – 11th Archery Deer Hunt at the Badger Army Ammunition Plant and Lodging at Camp Gray. Come out and enjoy a great hunt and a chance to see some large deer. Call or email John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 or milchelhi@prodigy.net or check the web site www.adaptivesportsmen.org for information and an application.

Oct 30 – Nov 1 Archery Deer Hunt at Clintonville Come up to Clintonville for a nice hunt for deer and the company of some interesting hunting partners. Check the web site www.adaptivesportsmen.org for information and an application, or call or Contact Bill Ploor for information (920) 905-1737. Mail to 3901 Rock St., Manitowoc, WI. 54241

Nov 7 Pheasant Hunt The Pheasants are flying in Oxford every year for this neat hunt. Wayne Smith and his wife Robin have a great crew of helpers and dogs to make the hunting fast and furious. For more information please email John Martinson at johnmartinson@msn.com or call him at 608-626-2633

Volunteer Spotlight

I am a new member of adaptive sportsmen. I was taken out on a turkey hunt May 15th, 2009 by Bill Iserloth, a great guy from Plymouth Wi. We went on a hunt last year and again this year. I shot this year’s bird at 10:30 am after a long wait (we got to the blind at 4:45am). It is a 24-1/4 pound Tom and has a 10-1/4 inch beard. When you meet Bill you realize there are special people in the world. Bill took a vacation day to take me hunting, and afterwards Bill took me to meet his wife and show off the turkey. I don’t know who was happier, him or me.

Bill has won the state turkey calling contest 2 times and was third in the nation in 2004. When he calls it is like music. And when the toms answer it raises the hair on the back of your neck! You just don’t know how great that felt. Thank You, Bill. (Ed. Note, a picture of Ivan’s turkey is on the back page)

By Ivan Craig

Bear Tag Transferred

Two adults donated their bear kill tags to disabled youths. Amy Loehr and Kramer Endries were chosen as recipients for the 2009 bear tag transfer. Thank you to the adults who donated and we are looking forward to hearing Amy and Kramer’s stories.
The 2009 Horicon 3D Archery Tournament

People walked, rolled or rode in Gators and on ATVs down the trail through the woods and fields of the 3D course. People using crossbows, compound and recurve bows shot together in small groups. We had several new shooters using equipment borrowed from Adaptive Sportsmen. It was also great to see so many old friends again. Targets encountered were as large as a moose and as small as a skunk. Most were North American mammals but an alligator and a prehistoric beast were also encountered. We had great weather for the June 27th 2009 3D shoot in Horicon. Some rain did fall after the shoot while we were enjoying our steaks hot off the grill with baked potatoes, cole slaw and many different deserts. After dinner the silent auction concluded and the prizes were distributed. Thanks to all of the volunteers from the Horicon Marsh Bowmen for putting this on again.

Madison Fishery, 2009

The 6th annual Adaptive Sportsmen Fishery on June 20th was one of the best yet with sunny weather and some really great fishing! Fifteen members participated with some going out from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and the late group from 5:00pm to 9:15 pm thanks to Captain David Pike for keeping us out on the water, because the bluegills really turned on right at dusk. We had a delicious picnic lunch of hamburgers and brats with a great green salad that Patty and Dennis brought and don't forget the awesome chocolate cake donated from Karen the cake lady in Deforest.

We handed out a nice fishing rod and reel combo to each of the members with the help of Ace hardware in Sauk City and American Packaging in Columbus, also a cool T-shirt from Ameriprint in Sun Prairie. Scott Hogland did a terrific job again this year guiding Les Werner and John Mitchell for a wide variety of game fish on Lake Mendota. My brother Steve Martinson was able to get Bob Grozcek out and my son Kenny was guiding Nolan Nehmer in his boat.

The rest of the gang with guide Bruce Gehlke loaded up on the MSCRA pontoon boats that work out great for power chairs with the ramps off the cemented slips and extra wide gates for a safe transfer.

Take care and I hope to see all of you next year and good luck fishing.
John Martinson

The 2009 Mercer ATV Ride

This year we had 27 people participate in our 6th Annual ATV Ride in Mercer, WI. Twenty disabled riders and 14 able bodied riders rode Friday and Saturday all over the pretty Northern Wisconsin forests and fields. We had a great time and almost enough mud to make everyone happy. We enjoyed the sand pits along the way and made it to the shores of Lake Superior again. The mosquitoes were bad, but that is what we brought bug spray for. The fire pit was a great place to share stories about past and future plans. We had a lot of nice door prizes and raffle items to give away, and I don't think anyone left empty handed.

Among the disabled riders were Rick Benvinedes, Erin Brownell, Doug Bureta, Gary Debuhr, Gina Hackell, Joel Hoedel, Pete LePage, Tom Maciasiek, and Dale Rebernick. The able-bodied (helpers?) were Scott Burns, Kyle Lloyd, Andy Russo, Jack Fisher, Penny Hansell, Karl Lepage, Mel Llanas, Don Mrotek.

The ride was sponsored in part by Harrison Hills ATV Club, TA Motorsports, and John Hartwig Motorsports. We would like to thank all of our sponsors for their help, this event couldn't go on without them. Also, special thanks to Cheri and John Strate of Pine Forest Lodge for their help and hospitality which really makes this event special every year.

Spring Turkey Hunt at Badger Army Ammunition Plant

Thanks to our main sponsor the Sables of the Badgerland Safari Club the Adaptive Sportsmen held a 2009 spring turkey hunt. The Badger Army Ammunition Plant hosted us for the fifth time. The land is very accessible and the employees are so helpful it really works out great. Rising early in Baraboo we were greeted by rain but it tapered off to drizzle by daylight. The guides did another outstanding job getting hunters into position and calling in the Toms. This year two hunters missed so turkeys were absent from the picture under the cook shelter Larry Wilkinson set up. Smiles abounded as Greg Borgwardt's beef stew and hot turkey sandwiches were consumed and stories of wildlife that was seen told. They included turkeys, deer, coyotes and skunks. Charlie Ande was grateful to be out on "paleo" from his physical rehab unit for a day. Mike Gustin gave each hunter a hand made turkey wing bone call, which was an unexpected surprise. Thanks to everyone for coming and helping us get out there.

Ivan Craig shows off the 24-1/4 pound turkey he shot this spring.

New Adventures the "Reel Story"

I bet you think this story is going to be about Walter Joost's spring turkey hunts. Not really! I will tell you that Walter experienced kind of an off year this spring turkey hunting. He harvested one mature gobbler with his shotgun, but it was a big one weighing 26 lbs.

The "reef" story (pardon the pun) is about Walter going musky fishing for the "Queen of Freshwater Fish" for the past several years. I had been kind of leery about taking Walter out in the boat over big waters because of his balance. Muskie fishing is a stand up and cast sort of game which requires good balance. I wasn't sure how many times I might be fishing for Walter! Finally, in June, I decided it was now or never for Walter. I invited him along for a big day on the lake casting and catching.

I warned Walter that they don't call the musky "The fish of 10,000 casts" for no reason! I told him it would be a lot of work just to see one following your lure.

At the rate of 1 cast per minute, it would take about 166 hours to catch one. Not to worry, Walter was going out with the old pro!

We headed out onto the lake about 2 p.m. After several minutes of teaching Walter how to cast those big musky lures and how to perform a "Figure 8" at the end of every cast just in case a musky was following the lure, we were ready to get some serious fishing in. Because 56 inches of rain fell the day before we arrived, we found the lake water very muddy from all the run off. It was almost like fishing in hot chocolate. This made our day of musky fishing even more interesting as it was very difficult to see your fishing lure... Walter asked "How can the fish see our lures to bite them?" I told him "They will feel the vibrations and find them, maybe."

To make a long day of fishing short, after four and a half hours of steady casting and cranking, we only had one musky follow a lure. Walter had caught enough salad (seeds) to supply the Golden Coral restaurant chain for several weeks. Our plan was to fish until 7 p.m., then call it a day and go to Pizza Hut.

I told Walter who's arm was pretty sore by now and losing enthusiasm and confidence by the minute. "It only takes one fish to make your day."

He retrieved the Black Mepps Musky Killer I handed to him and started to cast away the last half hour of our fishing extravaganza. Less than 5 minutes later I hear him yell "I got one! Net him! Net him! Net him!"

I couldn't net the musky because he was too deep and fighting hard. After the musky took several good runs, a very excited and nervous Walter brought the fish to the boat side and I netted his first musky! It was a brilliantly patterned 37 inch. (See picture). We were both pretty excited and started Walter calling it up! And taking several pictures of Walter holding his new prize, we let the musky go. As the musky swam away back to his dinner table it waved goodbye with his tail.

We waved back and headed for the boat launch as it was just after 7 p.m. and our dinner table was waiting at Pizza Hut!

Story written by: Mark Seeley

(Ed. Note, Walter does not pay Mark to write these stories)