

## KAMO Newsletter for August, 2016

Hello KAMO Members,

This is KAMO President Mark Walters with my monthly update and as usual there is plenty to write about. Ben Gruber recently announced at our August Board of Directors meeting that he will not be seeking reelection. As we all know Ben has been fantastic as our VP1. Long story short we are going to have to fill this extremely important position.

Last March, Pete McKormick became our second VP in a spot that we just created, VP2. KAMO is going to need another get it done person to replace Ben who has a strong desire to help build the recently created MarshPoint Chapter. I am asking all seven KAMO chapters to discuss this at your upcoming meetings.

The website! Katie Chandler is going through a difficult period of her life and has reached out for additional help and here is what we discussed at our BOD meeting. Perhaps we could pay someone to work with Katie, who does most of the work but Katie is still in charge. My secretary Leah Herried works on my website each Friday and recently rebuilt it. For a very minimal wage Leah has agreed to work on KAMO's website and I think this is a win-win for everyone. Leah will keep both Katie and myself involved, if AJ who has also been a big help wants to keep helping that would be great as well. I will have more info on this as it evolves. Recently Leah put a counter on my website which has a link to KAMO's and in 14-days it had 2057 visits.

In the last 12 months KAMO members have received emails that seem like they are coming from me asking them to transfer money. This happened to Donna Wishowski just two years ago. Common sense should prevail here, but be wise if you receive an email like this.

Last but certainly not least, The Joe Hunt is coming up. Please and I mean this, please send members to the meeting at the Baraboo River Chapters September meeting. This meeting is where they start to get a handle on what they have for kids, mentors and properties. Your attendance really helps.

As always, thank yo for everything that you do for KAMO.

**Mark**

### September Mentoring Tip of the Month:

Daylight is getting shorter, bugs will be fading as well, soon leaves will be changing colors, and it won't be so durned sweaty out. No excuses now to be inside. Now is a good time, if you haven't already, to get your fall hunting locations ready. Ground blinds trimmed up, tree stands ready. If you are looking for a private land to access, it's not impossible, especially if you are mentoring a kid. Put on a nice shirt, take your youngster along and give them a little coaching, and let them do the talking. If a well-dressed 12 year old knocks on a farmers door and explains to them that you are there mentor and you are looking for property to do some mentored hunting on, your success might be higher than you think!! Another thing that has been helpful to me, is to have a

sheet made up to give landowners with my name, address, cell phone number, description of vehicles I drive, and a KAMO brochure. 4/5 times I'd say we get permission to take a kid hunting/hiking/fishing etc. Tradition Forward!!

***Submitted by Ben Gruber***

#### **News from the Baraboo River Chapter:**

Our chapter had its meeting on August 8 at Kevin Seymour's house. We had Bob Brodeur and Steve Stine, who is the new "hunt master", come early so that Kevin could pass on all the info he had for putting on The Joe. I am sure Steve will be sending out an email soon regarding this year's hunt. If you are mentoring this year, please start making contact with your hunter and spend some time with him or her.

One of our mentors was able to take a couple kids canoeing and camping on the lower Wisconsin River. This past month we had our final co-chapter fishing day in Merrimac with very little turn out but a couple fish were caught. We may have to evaluate this event with the general poor fishing that has taken place at that location. We also did a camping weekend at White Mound County Park, where we had 7 kids and 3 adults. We had a very nice time, with great food from Chef AJ, laughter, and a beautiful fire. The only negative was the large rainstorm we had on Friday night and part of Saturday, but it did not dampen our spirits. Now, as my favorite time of year is right around the corner, we will shift gears towards the upcoming hunting seasons and all the different activities open to the sportsman.

Tradition Forward

***Rick Miotke***

#### **News from the Coulee Chapter:**

Since the last newsletter our group went on two camping events at Goose Island. These were attended by several kids, mainly girls, and mentors of both genders. These outings are the ultimate outdoor experience. Goose Island has playground equipment, extensive shoreline fishing areas, a swimming beach, hiking trails, bathrooms, showers, and more. Our kids set trail cams, swam, cooked food, enjoyed neon wands in the dark, star gazed, helped cook meals and s'mores on the stove and coals of the fire. They did an outstanding job of helping with chores and maintaining a clean and orderly trailer.

We had an off-site adventure during each camping trip. During the first trip several kids visited a local horse ranch. On the last trip just this past week, they went to Reno, MN to shoot archery at the home of a man who runs a youth mentoring program there. We were invited to return there anytime. This home is right on the Pool 8 spillway so the kids have excellent access to fishing there. The humidity and mosquitoes were just awful in the Reno area that day, so we ended up taking the group of 3 mentors and 6 kids to the Rivoli for a movie as a small reprieve. We toured the Nina and Pinta vessels three weeks ago at Riverside Park while there on a Sunday followed by a museum and garden tour. This group numbered nineteen.

Our trap/ pigeon shoot was held yesterday with 15 participants. Eight of these were kids, some of whom are becoming young adults with driver's licenses and able to drive themselves there. The older kids' trapshooting marksmanship has improved greatly over their time with us to the point where it is downright remarkable and some of the adults are reluctant to

shoot after they see what the kids just did. These kids are ready for duck, pheasant, grouse hunting adventures.

We will be taking a group on the Best Dam Fishing Float on August 27th. Several of the participants are brand new to the group.

We are preparing to partner with Kicking Bear during the upcoming youth deer gun and archery seasons. The Kicking bear group would like some of our kids and mentors to join them on archery hunts and one place they go is Missouri to an outfitter there and it is free to the kids. If anyone from another chapter wants to get in on this, please let me know.

***Submitted by Mike Brown***

#### **News from the Indianhead Chapter:**

We spent a lot of time with kids at the Rusk County Junior Fair. Lobster had his video shooting games going for 3 days, as well as a casting contest with fishing poles as prizes, and a chance to experience vision and balance through the eyes of somebody intoxicated (using special glasses). Ray, Floyd, and Greg led the archery shooting for much of 2 days, while Jim set it up and took it down. (Hint--don't use metal stands to support the target bales--use a fence post at each end of the row of bales and a cable or rope through the tops of the bales. Even with 1 inch "Noodles" padding protection on all the parts of the metal stand, arrows break or lose points and nocks.)

We postponed our first attempt at a KAMO kid Triathlon (run, canoe, bike) due to scheduling problems but will help with archery and games again at the Hawkins Harvest on Labor Day from 12:30 to 2:30.

***Submitted by Jim Kurz***

#### **News from the Lake Wisconsin Chapter:**

News from the Lake Wisconsin chapter Hello all, it's been a quiet month for our chapter, aside from Elijah getting some kids out fishing and working on deer stands. The good news is Steve Stine from our chapter is the new Joe Hunt, Hunt master!! Bob Brodeur and other mentors will assist Steve along with Kevin Seymour's expertise as the former Hunt master. Much appreciation to Kevin for his years of commitment and willingness to continue to help with the Joe Hunt. Hard to believe Fall is right around the corner and the Joe Hunt is in full planning mode. Looking forward to some cooler weather. If you or some of your mentors/kids are interested in the Joe Hunt please contact Bob (bandlbrodeur@ymail.com) or Steve.

Tradition Forward!!

***Submitted by Linda Brodeur***

**News from the MarshPoint Chapter:**

August news: (Ben is also our point man on our grant from the DNR) I just got off of the phone with the folks at the DNR regarding our grant. Expect to see guidance distributed next week in regards to the grant. Up to \$9,300 over 2 years' reimbursement geared towards a mentor recruitment initiative.

MarshPoint Chapter news: We are moving forward, and expect to submit our official "chapter application" to the BOD after our September meeting. Currently also having discussions with one of our mentors exploring the options of building a specialized boat that is handicapped accessible for hunting/fishing/bow fishing. We will be taking part in a Waterfowl Learn to Hunt (LTH) at the Mead Wildlife Area in Sept. Members were present with KAMO flyers at a brat fry at a Hunting Retriever Club Field Trial in August, as well as a fundraiser for the upcoming LTH. Also, 3 of our Mentors are WI DNR certified Wing shooting Instructors, and we have a Wing shooting Trailer with all gear and equipment for the class at the Mead WA, so if another chapter is interested in setting up a class, get in touch with us. Thrivent Financial, an investment company, contacted me after reading an interview I did for a local paper about KAMO, and wanted to make me aware of their company's dedication to financially giving back to the community, and set up our local chapter to receive some donations. If you have a Thrivent Financial in your local area, might be good to make contact with them!

***Submitted by Ben Gruber***

**News from the Meadow Valley Chapter:**

The busy summer is coming to an end. I hope all of you had a chance to read Mark's article about our summer camping trip. It was a great event and the kids, as always, had a great time. With summer winding down we are turning our focus back to hunting and Fall sports. The Joe planning is upon us and we are again excited to be a part of this. Our next meeting, we will be putting together the details of our annual raffle as well as looking for more fall opportunities to get kids outdoors.

***Submitted by Aaron Bigalke***

**No news this month from the Northwoods Chapter.**

