

KAMO October, 2016 Newsletter

Hello KAMO members,

This is KAMO President Mark Walters with my part of the monthly Newsletter. As an outdoor columnist and hobby farmer, I am in the final month of my "busy season" and let me tell you: I have been doing this for 27-years now and it gets a little harder every year.

Anyhow, here is my KAMO business. Planning and work for "The Joe" is coming along thanks to the steady work of several KAMO members. I am taking a young boy that has never fired a gun but who is excited for this experience; Isaiah has been pushing me for two years with subtle hints and comes from a family that does not hunt or fish.

Something that is very important about planning for "The Joe" which has been a long-term problem, is that some of our mentors do not submit their paperwork to our Huntmaster in time. I witnessed the frustration with our last Huntmaster on this subject and there is very little planning that can be completed until it is known how many hunters and mentors will take place in "The Joe". A simple description would be like trying to build a house without the materials that it requires to build it.

On another rather important issue, long-term Vice President, Ben Gruber will complete his term in March and will not be seeking re-election. Pete McCormick will move into Ben's position, which will leave Pete's 2nd VP spot open. KAMO could use a hardworking, people oriented person that can work with a computer to fill this spot. We are talking about five hours a month but the tasks that you are completing are important and in many cases, you are solely representing KAMO with calls and decisions that you make. If you are interested, please give me a call. I will honestly speak with you about what it takes to complete this important position.

In closing, the weather is incredible. If you can do it, take a neighbor kid, a niece or a nephew on an outdoor experience and I am betting you will have no regrets.

Thanks for all that you do for our youth! *Mark*

News from our Vice President:

Pete McCormick will be taking over some of the work for the State KAMO Facebook page. If there is anyone else out there who considers themselves to be good at social media, and would like to help with this, let me know. I am stepping down as VP of KAMO at the end of my term in March.

I believe it's been 3 terms, or 6 years. I've loved it, but it's time to focus on some other things. We need some fresh ideas and motivation at the state level, so take a look around your chapters and see if there is someone who could help KAMO out by getting involved at the state level.

Submitted by *Ben Gruber*

News from the Baraboo Chapter:

The Baraboo River Chapter had its latest meeting on Oct. 10 at Rivers Edge Resort. Several of our mentors took kids out for the youth duck and deer hunts and were successful during both. We set up a table with KAMO pamphlets at a FFA career day for a couple hundred middle schoolers. Although we were contacted with short notice and were not able to have someone at the event, we are planning on being there next year. AJ used his food trailer again for this year's Fermentation Fest, and sold all the food he had prepared for the week. We also put out KAMO material but needed a few more volunteers for the week to talk about what we do. On the 22nd we did our Learn to Hunt training for this year's "Joe", and had 7 kids attend. The biggest thing to get taken care of is getting all the paperwork turned in for this year's hunters. Please turn that in as soon as possible. On a sad note, this will be the last year for our camp cooks Jeff and Patty Rouse and Patty's mother, so we are looking for people to take over those duties for future hunts. If you are interested please let us know and it would be a wise idea to spend some time with Jeff at this year's hunt to see what goes on.

Tradition Forward *Rick Miotke*

News from the Coulee Chapter:

Coulee mentors have had several kids out duck hunting. A few of these kids bagged their first ducks. This hunting primarily took place on Lake Onalaska.

Mentors had kids out on the range on four occasions preparing for duck, pheasant, and deer hunting. Six kids and three mentors attended the Badgerland Pheasant Learn to Hunt on October 3rd. The success rate was about 50% and all kids left with a dressed bird or two. Badgerland (Westby) served 5 kinds of food made from pheasant throughout the day and put on a heck of a nice event including trapshooting and classroom instruction.

Five kids went deer hunting for the first time and two of those shot deer. One group camped at Mc Mullen Park during their hunting weekend under cold, but beautiful conditions. Everybody saw a deer and other wildlife. Hunts were at Warrens, Desoto, the Van Loon Wildlife Area, and northern Wisconsin.

Our chapter partnered with the U.W. La Crosse Lions Club on a recent trip to Pleasant Valley Farms, which is just outside La Crosse on K. There were thirteen adults including 10 college students who worked with 14 kids, who spent several hours on the farm clearing trails, fishing for trout, and admiring goats, horses, and chickens. The quality of the trout fishing in

that coulee is fantastic and any kid that tried, caught at least one fish and a few kids caught 5 or more fish including some nice browns.

We have bicycle safety, a waterfowl viewing day, and a return trip to the Badger Mining facility in planning. We have had several parents inquire about the Mc Kenzie hunt and they were given application instructions.

Submitted by *Mike Brown*

News from the Indianhead Chapter:

We did archery and games again at the Hawkins Harvest Festival and archery for the Girl Scouts at Trails End Camp. Donna and Max attended a SHOT (Safe Hunters of Tomorrow) meeting to explain our group. Interest and offers of help were forthcoming. We also did archery at the Ladysmith Elementary after school program for 4 days @ 2 hours per day

With our \$900 technology grant from Excel Energy, we decided to buy a laser thermometer, 2 Bushnell Trail Cameras with lock box, cable, batteries, and 4 memory cards, 5 sets of Bushnell binoculars, wind meter/thermometer, laser range finder, a generic Go-Pro video camera, and 5 simple GPS units for geo-caching especially.

Lobster and Ray attended a 4H Shooting Sports training in Marshfield. We may help start a shooting sports team in this area. We decided to upgrade our archery equipment to aluminum arrows, 2 more target bales, and 2 more bows with cases. About 6 of us attended a 4H Leadership training, cementing our relationship with 4H. We will help at the 4H Green and White Day this Saturday, November 12, possibly indoors.

We ordered and received 2 dozen hats through Mike Brown of Coulee Chapter @ \$10 each and will donate these caps to our active members.

Submitted by *Jim Kurz*

News from the Lake Wisconsin Chapter:

Hello All. Our chapter has been busy with target practice and sighting in the guns. For the Youth hunt, we had 4 kids out hunting, no deer taken. One of our older KAMO kids took a nice 10-point Buck, her second year Bow hunting. This is a nice reminder of why we do this, to see the kids go on their own and still feel they can call on us whenever they need help, which she did. Steve Stine went out helped her bring it home. Working on preparations for the Joe Hunt, Steve Stine has been busy with the paper work, still looking for Mentors. If you or someone you know is interested in participating in the Joe Hunt please contact Bob Brodeur or Steve Stine at: Bob, bandlbrodeur@ymail.com or Steve, vsbears@centurytel.net. For your information, again this year all the youth will be eligible to win a youth rifle and other prizes at the Joe Hunt Saturday night bingo games, generously donated from local businesses. Hope to see you there. Tradition Forward!!

Submitted by *Bob and Linda Brodeur*

News from the MarshPoint Chapter:

We are hovering around 6 people at our monthly meetings. I am getting regular calls and emails from folks wanting to get involved, and suspect once winter comes our chapter will start to really grow. We made our first one-on-one match last week, and paired up a 12-year-old boy with his mentor, and they are looking to get out fishing already. We are planning an Ice Fishing outing for January. Our chapter is also already working on plans for a youth duck hunt event. 4 of our mentors have been very involved in this event in our area for years, and are looking at having KAMO take it over.

Ben Gruber

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www.kamokids.org

KAMO on Facebook

<<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Kids-and-Mentors-Outdoors-KAMO/250630841738867>>

News from the Meadow Valley Chapter:

Fall is upon us and once again we are enjoying this time of year. Unfortunately, the mosquitos are holding on a little longer than usual! Planning for "The Joe" is in full swing and anticipation is high once again for a great weekend. Jody has been able to take a couple youth out carp shooting due to the extended open water season and has been having a blast.

Tess and Jody recently participated in a tournament on the Mississippi and were in the first-place boat! We have started our annual raffle once again and hope to continue the success that it has brought over the past years. Planning will be in full swing for some hard water fishing and some one-on-one hunts throughout deer season.

Submitted by *Aaron Bigalke*

News from the Northwoods Chapter:

Northwoods Chapter held their annual pheasant shoot on October 15th. We had nineteen youth attend, including a few girls, which is always encouraging. The early day started with a brief hunter safety meeting, followed with everyone having to warm up with a good round of sporting clays. Each youth follows into the field, where they get to take aim at their pheasant. We have wingers in place for those that don't always make the kill, thus assuring that everyone gets a bird to take home. More clays and lunch follow and for those who are not having their bird mounted, a "how to clean a pheasant" session is held. A group photo follows and always makes the front page of the local paper. Safety is always the prime concern, and with the protocols we have in place...no close calls made for another great day.

On a side bar, Marvin, our premier upland bird dog, who has been with us since the beginning, has been diagnosed with cancer. There was concern that he wasn't going to be around for the hunt this year. I am happy to report that he was there and as fine as ever. Inspiration can be found everyday...if you take the time to appreciate what goes on around you.

Submitted by *Mick Mlinar*

Newsletter put together by Secretary Jim Kurz