

## KAMO Newsletter for January, 2017

Hello to all KAMO Members,

This is KAMO President Mark Walters with my part of the January Newsletter. On March 1<sup>st</sup> KAMO will be celebrating its tenth anniversary and that is pretty incredible. On the last weekend in February 2007, I met with some people in Ladysmith (now Indianhead Chapter) and that weekend I winter camped on a lake in Mellen. On Monday I drove over to Florence and met with many of the present members (Northwoods Chapter) and on Tuesday I drove from Florence to Wisconsin Dells and we held our first meeting at Rivers Edge Resort with many of the present members of the Baraboo River Chapter.

Folks we have gone through what would be obvious struggles creating an organization like KAMO which now has 7 chapters and as Mike Brown mentioned to me has touched hundreds of lives. Long story short, we are getting the job done and every one of you should be proud of our accomplishments.

On March 18th we will be having our state members meeting and board of directors meeting afterwards at The Meade Wildlife Center near Stevens Point. (See news from the Marsh/Point Chapter.)

I am asking that as many of you attend this meeting as possible and I am also asking for your input on the annual Presidents Award for a person that you really feel deserves to be honored for their hard work and dedication. Both the meetings and President's Award are extremely positive and to be perfectly honest without the annual meeting KAMO would not exist.

Our new webmaster is Leah Herried, Katie Chandler is still here as a consultant and in a way our KAMO matriarch. Leah has not been receiving a whole lot of your info for the website and I am asking that you please send her your photos and updates. ([rherried@tds.net](mailto:rherried@tds.net))

Donna Wishowski of the Indianhead Chapter is going to be taking over the R3 grant that Ben Gruber did such an excellent job of obtaining for us. This grant can pay a lot of KAMO's bills, but we will need your help; please watch for further updates.

That is it, Happy tenth birthday KAMO and as always thank you for everything that you do for KAMO!

**Mark, [sunsetoutdoors@tds.net](mailto:sunsetoutdoors@tds.net)**

### **News from our KAMO State Treasurer:**

A request to Chapter treasurers: Please send me your semi-annual treasurer's report for July through December of 2016.

Thanks,

**Tony Biasi, [tonybiasi@yahoo.com](mailto:tonybiasi@yahoo.com)**

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

The Baraboo River chapter had its most recent meeting on Jan, 9 at the River's Edge Resort. Not a lot of activity to report. One our mentors has taken some kids out skiing and we did have a fishing day out on Lake Delton. A couple of the mentors took a small group of kids out, but unfortunately the fish were not very cooperative and only a couple were caught. We will try to set up another date soon. Be safe on the ice.

**Submitted by Rick Miotke**

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

Our chapter has become activity based with an emphasis on group mentoring and parent involvement. This flow of activity keeps people interested in being in our group and gives more opportunities for every child to be involved. In 2016, college students assisted us in almost half our events. We are also trying to involve members of the local Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) in some of our outings as well.

Over the Christmas break our chapter took a group of 15 kids, two mentors, and four parents to an arts and craft shop followed by a movie at the Rivoli.

We are going to do an ice fishing event on the Black River with another group on Saturday, January 28th. We will take kids to the Genoa Fish Hatchery on February 4th and possibly a couple older kids up on Brice Prairie for their fishery the same day.

We plan to take a group to Winterfest at Forest hills on January 27th. This is a skiing event. We have plans to take a large group to a La Crosse Hockey Chill game on Friday, February 3rd.

The Onalaska Parks and Recreation and Mississippi Valley Conservancy staff have asked to sit in on some of our future outing planning meetings, which should help us come up with ideas and share resources.

**Submitted by Mike Brown**

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

We held a fun Klondike Days event on January 7 at the wonderful Swamp Road Sportsmen's Club land and lodge. The cold weather kept attendance to just 6 kids but they got a lot of attention in compass use, snowshoe hiking, skull, fur, and tracks, ice fishing techniques, and pudgy pie cooking and eating. The local Wisconsin dairy group provided free milk and cheese for us; look into it for your group!

We assigned some new KAMO kids to our mentors as part of our communication system. February 10, 11, and 12 will be our ice fishing event on Lake Amacoy. Floyd will camp overnight on Friday and be ready for fisherkids from early Saturday until late in the day, and sign a "Pink Floyd Certificate" for kids willing to camp overnight on the ice with him Saturday night.

**Submitted by Jim Kurz**

**News from the Lake Wisconsin Chapter:**

Hello all, not much news for January, looking to get some kids together for Ice Fishing and Snowshoeing in either January or February if the weather holds. The Joe Hunt was a success this year with record turnout and deer shot.

Tradition Forward!!

**Submitted by Bob and Linda Brodeur**

**News from the Marsh/Point Chapter:**

Things are moving along for our new chapter, mostly in a positive direction. Our president has had to resign for personal reasons. I (Ben Gruber) will be taking over the Presidential Duties, and that is ok as I will have completed my 3rd term as state VP. After 6 years, it is time for some fresh ideas in the VP spot. I had some good conversations with some folks at UW Stevens Point College of Natural Resources today, and I think I have a great source for mentors there. Some of the students are transient and move away after 3-4 years, but thats ok.

We are preparing to host the KAMO State meeting here at our chapter HQ at the Mead Wildlife Area on March 18. We are excited to host you all at this great DNR facility here in Central Wisconsin. We are planning to provide coffee and beverages for all, as well as dishes and utensils. We are asking for lunch and snacks to be a pot luck. The facility has a stove/oven, refrigerators and a grill that we are able to use, and plenty of outlets for crock pots. Please discuss at your next chapter meetings what you would like to bring and email me with your plans. I will then coordinate with all so that we do not end up with 14 crock pots of venison BBQ. There is some decent ice fishing nearby on Lake DuBay and the Eau Pleine flowage if the ice holds out until then, and some great snowshoeing and hiking opportunities in the wildlife area if you are interested.

**Submitted by Ben Gruber**

**News from the Meadow Valley Chapter:**

Things are busy for the Meadow Valley Chapter. We are in the final planning stages of our annual ice fishing event and are holding it again at "Bigalke Pond" on the 18th of February. This has always been a well-attended event and we are looking forward to another great year.

Coming fast is our annual Learn to Hunt Turkey Hunt on April 8th and 9th. We team up with the local NWTF club and work together on this every year. The event begins with a classroom learning event on April 1st followed by the weekend hunting adventure the following weekend.

Also, this year we are teaming up with the Baraboo Chapter in having a booth at the first annual Cabin Fever Outdoor Expo in Mauston, WI. It should be a good opportunity to get us some more name recognition and possibly pull in some more mentors.

**Submitted by Aaron Bigalke**

**News from the Northwoods Chapter:**

No meeting this January...concentrated on a local predator hunt.

Next meeting Feb.15th.

**Submitted by Mick Mlinar**