

KAMO Newsletter for November, 2017

Hello to all KAMO members and friends,

This is KAMO President Mark Walters with my monthly update,

In seven days about 60 of us will be heading to the Makenzie Environmental Education Center for our annual "Joe" deer hunt. I cannot tell you how proud and thankful that I am for the organizers of this hunt for their exhausting and successful effort to pull this off once again this year.

Last month I also wrote that we will be losing our webmaster Leah Herried at the end of December and are currently looking for a replacement. The age of this person is not important, computer skills are. There is a \$50.00 per month payment with about two hours of work involved, please put thought into this very important subject.

I wrote last month about my idea to grow KAMO by using some of our state funds towards using a team effort to pick one chapter at a time and put energy into building up its membership of mentors and mentees. I would like to start with The Baraboo River Chapter. This plan which I am still creating in my head will be hashed over at length at The Joe when we are together and can have many conversations together. I want to use both of our Vice Presidents as well as myself, all the BRC members that will help, and anyone else we can get. I want to do a media blitz that is coordinated with talks at schools and anywhere that we think people will listen with interest. I would like to do some fun things that draw people to show an interest in joining the BRC. When we feel that we have accomplished our goal, I would like to compare notes, take a break and pick another chapter.

After finishing this letter to you, I am going on a canoe camping trip where I am going to hunt ducks and deer.

As always, I want to say thank you for everything that you do for KAMO!

Mark G Walters

News from the Baraboo River Chapter:

The Baraboo River chapter had its latest meeting on November 13 at Rivers Edge Resort. Our mentors reported taking kids out both duck and deer hunting with some success. We had guest KAMO mentors from both the Meadow Valley and Lake Wisconsin chapters to finalize plans regarding this years Joe hunt. Every year the "Joe" has its own unique issues and this year is no different, with the MacKenzie Center now falling under the Parks and Recreation Dept. of the DNR with a different director overseeing the property. We had a new application process, we are now only allowed 5 hunters on the MacKenzie Center site as compared to the 11 we had in past years, and they had a logger come in and take off two big pine groves

which were our main hunting areas. With all that we still have 24 pairs of hunters for this years event and some very promising new properties open to us with more than enough stand sites for our mix of first timers and past hunters as well.

Our Saturday night Bingo Bonanza should be fun for all with plenty of prizes and even a donated gun for one lucky individual. Looks like we are going to have more seasonal weather and hopefully a little snow on the ground. A big Thank You to Bob Brodeur for all the help in organizing this years hunt.

Tradition Forward

Submitted by Rick Miotke

News from the Coulee Chapter:

The trip to the Hidden Trails Corn Maze mentioned in October's newsletter turned out to be a do-it-again caliber outing. Five parents and fifteen kids participated. A few mentors took kids who were off from school duck hunting on two different days and the kids saw lots of birds and got a couple.

A group of fifteen kids and five adults went to the La Crosse Chill game on Friday, November 10th. One of the kids won \$305 for throwing a puck in the ring at mid-rink. Only one kid and several mentors took advantage of the impressive spectacle of swans in pool 8 on November 11th. Another group, Friends of the Upper Mississippi was at the observation station as well.

A group of 4 college students are working on promotional materials for our chapter - a poster, a flier, and a sticker to be used in the future by our chapter during events. They are going to set up a table on the 29th that would spread awareness of KAMO to college students who would have the option to sign up to be put on a group mailing list to receive invitations to future events.

Some of our members have been interviewed for an upcoming article on the Coulee Chapter and about KAMO generally in LINK magazine's January/ February issue. We hope this attracts more adult volunteers to the group. Scenes from our outings can be viewed on Facebook under "Coulee KAMO". The KAMO Lake-link blog continues to receive heavy weekly viewing and anyone in the state can post on it and put their pictures there.

Rose and I have heard from one chapter about some parent contacts for the survey we have at the ready. Parents will be asked general questions about their experiences with our group. This information will be used to generate statistical information for applying for grants. Parents

will not be solicited for money. If we can gather enough parent input, we have a chance to apply for some grants before our next state convention.

Submitted by Mike Brown

News from the Indianhead Chapter:

We met in early November to discuss deer hunting preparations like stands, tracks, scrapes, rubs, and trail cam photos. We advertised the event and called our KAMO kids but only got 2 kids; we mentors always enjoy getting together, but we have to do better. We will arrange our 2018 calendar of events in our December meeting.

Lobster took a kid out deer hunting. Jim and Floyd will mentor at the Joe Hunt, Floyd is bringing his grandson.

Submitted by Jim Kurz

News from the Lake Wisconsin Chapter:

Hi all, been a busy November with the Youth hunt, with some kids getting their deer even with the 65-degree weather. We've been doing target practice with the kids going to the Joe Hunt. Been out several times now and then during the regular deer/gun season which just ended. Our newest Mentor Penny took out a girl who was able to shoot not only her first buck but shot a 10 pointer and a 7 pointer, this being her first time ever shooting at a deer and getting both with one shot each, pretty impressive! Some of our other mentors also had success taking out kids for deer/gun season. We've been working with the Baraboo chapter in getting ready for the upcoming Joe Hunt (Learn To Hunt) held at the Mackenzie center in Poynette, Dec 8th, 9th and 10th. New land has been offered to use and we've been getting donations. If you know someone who would like to check KAMO out or just be a helping hand let them know we can always use some extra help. For those returning to the Joe hunt you will notice some changes when you get to the Mackenzie center, the dorms have been painted inside and have all new beds, it's been reported that anyone that has used them would like to bring them home with them, they are the bomb!! You'll find ear plugs by the dorm doors for the ones sleeping with the ones that bring their Moose calls and only practice when it's dark and they're in the prone position, Lol!! Looking forward to seeing everyone again and meeting some new faces. Hoping for another successful Joe Hunt!!

Submitted by Bob and Linda Brodeur

No News from the MarshPoint Chapter, but some of them are coming to the Joe Hunt.

News from the Meadow Valley Chapter:

We had 8 members present for our November meeting. Raffle tickets to sell were issued to all present.

We have 8 wood duck houses which will be put up around the Buckhorn state park area sometime during the trapping season.

Our chapter will be hosting a hunter safety training for the Joe hunt participants on Saturday December 2nd starting at 9:00 a.m. We have 5 mentors participating in the December Joe hunt.

Our club continues to discuss how to grow our chapter and get more people involved. We believe if we had more diversity in the mentor interests we may attract more kids. Most of the current mentors have strong interests involving hunting.

Upcoming activities include skiing in December, ice fishing in February and maple syrup making in March.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Nicksic

No meeting and no news from the Northwoods Chapter

Newsletter items collected by Jim Kurz, KAMO State Secretary