

KAMO Newsletter for December, 2017

Hello to all KAMO Members!

This is KAMO President Mark Walters with my monthly part of the Newsletter! Rick Miotke and I are working on a replacement for our webmaster Leah Herried, and though the deal has not been sealed, it is looking promising with a very qualified person.

What can I say about "The Joe" other than once again through a lot of very hard work it was pulled off with 24 kids experiencing an incredible weekend.

KAMO growth plan! At our August Board of Directors meeting, we agreed to come up with a plan to realistically grow KAMO in a positive way. I have come up with the start of a plan in which we pick one chapter (in this case The Baraboo River Chapter) and converge upon it with members from other chapters, cash from the state and most importantly brains and positive attitudes and find a way to get more mentors, kids and ideas. Though this is tentative, I suggest we come together at the Baraboo Rivers meeting in February.

I am asking both of my Vice Presidents and anyone else interested to start becoming vocal and put your thoughts into this process. After we are finished at the BRC we will take a break and then move onto the next chapter.

I am headed for an ice fishing trip in a few minutes and as always want to say thank you for everything that you do for KAMO.

Mark

P.S. Lake Wisconsin, Meadow Valley, Marsh Point and Coulee! I would suggest making an effort to attend the meeting for BRC's growth, we can use your help and you are in our sights to help next. The only reason I did not mention Indianhead or Northwoods is because of the distance.

KAMO Mentoring Tip of the Month!

We are now into the start of growing daylight and that will be the case until the middle of June. On the other hand we are also now into the part of winter where on some days we can grow an inch of ice a day on our frozen lakes. With the apparent warming of our planet the upper midwest has been experiencing warmer winters and extreme caution must be paid when enjoying our frozen waters. Ice forms last and thaws first where there is current or springs. In other words it is always your responsibility to know where creeks and rivers flow into a lake or where there are springs in it. This simple piece of information could save your life!

Tip offered by Mark Walters

News from the Baraboo, Lake Wisconsin, and MarshPoint Chapters: resting

News from the Coulee Chapter:

Since last month's newsletter, Coulee mentors took kids duck hunting, viewing swans and other birds at the Brownsville Observation station, and to a La Crosse Chill hockey game. Five mentors took kids to the Poynette hunt hunting on a DMAP property. The hunt was a first-class, unforgettable experience,

We are preparing to take a group to the Winterfest in La Farge's Kickapoo Valley Reserve. This event includes: sledding, skiing, archery, snow sculpting, ice cave hies, chainsaw carving, Malamute sled dog race, and more.

We are renting a gym facility at La Crosse Wellness Center and will have fish casting, animal tracks, and general gym use.

Our activity list features events out through February and is available for sharing with other chapters if they wish to join us in some events. The Winterfest would be a good event for this. We often take groups ice fishing and tubing in the winter.

Submitted by Mike Brown

News from the Indianhead Chapter:

We contacted 6 families with long term experience in our KAMO activities for the Coulee Chapter's effort at surveying such families for future grant applications and for spreading KAMO into more sites in Wisconsin; we sent their names, telephone numbers and email addresses to Mike Brown, (brownmtjc@gmail.com)

Floyd and Jim participated with 22 mentors from 5 other chapters in the Joe Deer Hunt during the late doe season near Poynette. Great effort with great results. About 23 kids got to go deer hunting, mingled with each other, learned much, and got fed extravagantly. Kudos to the Lake Wisconsin and Baraboo River Chapters for organizing such a big event. About 11 deer were shot, with meat going to all the families involved.

We set up a tentative calendar for 2018 which will eventually be posted on our web page. We will invite veteran groups to a meeting soon to discuss ways we can get grandpas, grandmas, and grandkids involved in KAMO.

Submitted by Jim Kurz

News from the Meadow Valley Chapter:

We had 11 members present for our December meeting. We had 5 mentors participate in the Joe hunt this year. Many thanks to Rick Miotke and the rest of the Baraboo Chapter for hosting this years event. Additional thanks goes to Bob Brodner for lining up all of the hunting locations. All had a great time.

In addition to the Joe hunt, we had 2 mentors enjoy success deer hunting with kids. Brian Gruber and his kid harvested 2 bucks during the gun deer season and Aaron Bigalke along with his kid harvested a doe.

Discussion was held for the upcoming tubing, ice fishing and maple syrup events to be held in January, February and March.

Sales for our annual raffle are going very well. Drawing will be held at the February chapter meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Bob Nicksic

News from the Northwoods Chapter:

KAMO meeting December 20th...one excused. End of the year wrap up and final expense reports for 2017.

We got an early Christmas present...two new members...a father and son team who have attended our pheasant hunts in the past. For the first time, we might have a reliable source for some youth to participate in outings. Matt has some like minded friends who enjoy the outdoors and his father is enthusiastic and full of ideas.

A local establishment is again having a predator hunt on January 6th, with the proceeds donated to our group. And, Matt will be putting together a Northwoods team.

We have our next meeting in January, with an ice fishing outing scheduled for February.

From all your friends in the Northwoods...Happy Solstice.

Submitted by Mick Mlinar

Newsletter put together by Jim Kurz, KAMO State Secretary