**November/December 2021 Newsletter**

**December Meeting / Christmas Party**

This years Christmas Party will be held on Friday December 3rd. Cocktail hour will begin at 6:30 and Dinner will be at 7:00pm. Please plan to join us for a fun festive night. We will be announcing this year’s Member of the year. We will also be drawing for our **FINAL** Monthly Membership Drawing, so you won’t want to miss the opportunity to win $875.

**Deer Hide and Carcass Disposal**

The dumpster is in place and will be available into Mid-January. There is one dumpster available for carcasses and a bin for deer hides. This service is available to club members and to the general public. To help offset the cost of disposal, those who are disposing carcasses are encouraged to donate their hides in the designated container.

**Archery League Sign-up/Set-up**

Sign up and set up for the 2021 Archery League will be Sunday, January 2nd. Set up with begin at 11am, please try to come help set up as more people makes for less work. We will have a meeting at 1pm to go over rules and answer any questions. League fees this year will be $50/person this year with a $10 one-time target fee. You can either have a 4-person team or shoot as an individual. Youth shooters can shoot for free.

**Membership Volunteer Opportunities:**

As most know we have been struggling the past few years to get volunteers to help out with our yearly events that we hold to keep the club functioning and in good condition. In 2022 we will be raffling off Scheels Gift Card(s) in various amounts to those that work/volunteer their time at one of the following: Ice Fishing Contest (February 6th), Clean Up Night (typically the last Monday in April pending weather so April 25th), Golf Outing (June 10th) and Chicken Stand at the Buffalo County Fair (Aug.4th-7th). We will be including a list of these events in our yearly membership mailing that you will receive in January and will ask at that time to please pick one or more that you would be interested in volunteering for. As the event gets closer someone will be reaching out to you with more specific details and to make sure you are still available.

**Board of Directors Nominations**

The annual election for Board of Directors will take place at the January Monthly Meeting, January 19th. We are always looking for new board members so please consider running for the board. If you would like to run or nominate someone for the Board, please contact Krista Nygaard at 715-225-9844.

**2022 Steve Larson Memorial Ice Fishing Contest**

The planning is in full swing for the 2022 Ice Fishing Contest and will be held at Mirror Lake on Sunday, February 6th, 2022. We will be looking for volunteers to help run things throughout the day so if you are able to help out, please contact Andy Sandberg at 715-579-8847.

**Rifle Range**

At this time the Range may be used if you are an MCC Certified Range Safety Officer (meaning you have taken the Safety Officer Training Class) or you have an MCC Certified Range Safety Officer with you.

If are not a MCC Range Safety Officer or don’t know one, please contact one of the range officers and they will be happy to set up a time for you to shoot or will provide you with range safety training.

Al Urness 715-781-2517
Thomas Mathews 715-279-6285
Keith Michlig 715-495-3159

**Legislative Conservation News Update**

Lots of activity happening at the capital legislatively as it relates to our Natural Resources in WI. As many of you are aware Hunter Nation along with several legislators are working to fast track about 13 new bills titled Sporting Freedom Package. However, as many of the major WI and National conservation groups have looked at these bills, these bills need a lot more work and are not what the sportsmen and women want in the state of WI. Many of the groups oppose these bills as they have not followed the established public input process that is unique to WI. It forgoes the WI Conservation Congress, Natural Resources Board process and eliminates the public's input. Also, the lack of clarity on funding and support structures (staffing, equipment, etc) to support these bills is not discussed in the bills and this is a huge red flag. Where will this money come from? Sportsmen and women?  Many of the groups opposing met with Gov Evers a couple of weeks ago asking for his veto on these bills. Mondovi Conservation Club and Buffalo County Conservation Alliance was represented at that meeting with Gov Evers. We are hopeful that Gov. Evers will veto these bills.

Senator Jeff Smith and Katrina Shankland will be introducing CWD bills this week as well to ensure we have continual funding, testing sites and dumpsters for carcasses. CWD is spreading in WI and there are only a few counties left that do not have CWD, Buffalo County being one of them, but it has been found in surrounding counties. CWD testing and funding is also being worked on at the federal level through legislation.

As you can see the management of our natural resources is starting to be more political. Should it be? Or should we leave the management to the scientists and biologists? Which would you prefer? Do you as a sportsman/woman want to have input into our natural resources and conservation activities in WI or leave it to our political system to tell us what we think we need? We will continue to monitor these issues and the BOD will respond as needed and with guidance from the Buffalo County Conservation Alliance, WI Conservation Congress, and the WI Wildlife Federation.

If you have questions or concerns about the direction of how our natural resources is being managed in WI - please contact Terri Roehrig, Secretary of the club. She is very active with the Alliance, the WI Wildlife Federation and the WI Conservation Congress and staying up to date on the legislative actions. Her contact info is tlroehrig@yahoo.com or 920-540-2775.

**Members Monthly Drawing**

This month we will be drawing for $875. You must be present to win.

**Youth Drawing**

Youth attending the September, October and January meetings will be entered into the January drawing. Youth attending the February, March, April and May meetings will be entered into the Spring Swap Meet drawing.

**Upcoming Events/Deadlines**

* December 3rd – Club Christmas Party
* December 10th – Deadline for Turkey and Bear Applications
* January 2nd – Archery League Setup & Signup
* January 15th – First Archery League Score is due
* January 19th – Club Meeting at 7pm (Buck Scoring starts at 6pm)
* January 22nd – Youth Archery Workshop
* February 2nd – Youth Archery Workshop
* February 6th – 2022 “Lars Memorial” Ice Fishing Contest
* February 16th – Club Meeting at 7pm
* February 19th – Youth Archery Workshop
* March 5th & 6th – Archery Indoor Brush Shoot