



## **BLACKWOLF WILDLIFE ASSN.**

### **FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER**

February 20, 2001

#### **ANNUAL MEETING**

Our annual winter meeting will be March 6<sup>th</sup> at George's Gaslight on Harrison Street, 6 p.m. We will eat at 7:15. Hope you can make it for it is a good time to discuss the past year's activities and plans for 2001.

#### **BOUNTIES**

Our new bounty program is working very well, with three coyotes taken by Leo Lefeber in the past month. Five checks have been paid to date for predators. We need more good ideas on predator control.

#### **POND**

Larry Norum and his boys have been a lot of help recently with work projects at the pond. We made depth measurements at 15 different locations, with almost all of them at a 10 foot depth, and two at 12 foot plus. We have constructed a lot of structures for the bottom of the pond for improving fish habitat, including rock piles, sand and gravel beds, and 4x4x6 frames holding brush and rocks.

#### **RAINBOW TROUT**

In November the Branch River Trout Hatchery from Greenleaf, Wisconsin delivered Tiger Rainbow Trout. They are in our pond and hopefully doing well. The trout are approximately 9" long. More detail will follow in our future newsletters. Adequate oxygen levels are very critical for trout survival. We are hoping the average ten-foot depth of the pond will be enough to keep them alive. Rainbow trout are very active feeders all year long, whereas most pan fish semi-hibernate during the cold winter months.

#### **BALD EAGLES**

Several have been observed along the lake in November. Last week I saw one flying over the Pioneer Inn.

#### **WOOD DUCK HOUSES**

Dave Barter will be building some wood duck houses this spring and Mark Weichman will be assisting in locating them. Every year we have a lot of wood ducks here so now we'll have more!

### **NEW MEMBERS**

Abbey Fruht has joined our group. Abbey enjoys walking, birds, and kayaking. She will be keeping her kayak on the channel. Any of you wishing to use it check with me for the combination.

### **DUES**

Please send in your dues or bring them with you to the meeting. Pheasants will again be \$9 each ordered by May 1, and \$10 after. Special release birds will be \$12/\$13, the same as last year.

### **PHEASANT HOLDING PEN**

I am still giving a lot of thought to building pheasant holding pens, so that 50-100 could be kept on hand during the fall hunting months. Please let me know your thoughts.

### **WORK SESSIONS**

March 10, Saturday at 9 a.m. we will be spending some time in the woods, cleaning out poor trees and brush, clear cutting, and saving good trees. If you can help, bring loppers or a chain saw, or just yourself. Kids are welcome and if someone can help with a fire I will bring hotdogs. We will be in the large woods west of Howlett Road.

### **TREE PLANTING**

In April, 3500 trees will arrive. Many of these are Blue Spruce, Black Hills Spruce, White Spruce, White Cedar and a variety of shrubs. We need a lot of help so let me know if you can volunteer some time. Some trees and bushes will be inter-planted in our existing hedgerows. Prior to planting we will have the holes dug with the posthole digger, so planting will be easy. Also, I have 3x5 black cloth to put around the trees that will protect them from weed competition for five years. If you could take the time to plant 25, it would go a long way to help improve cover and wildlife.

Hope to see you soon!

**Paul**