



BLACKWOLF WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

Newsletter
March 5, 2006

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING: We will be meeting at George's Gaslight on March 22, a Wednesday evening at 6pm, with dinner at 7:30. We will be discussing issues of interest to members. Hope you can make it! Please RSVP.

Several items we have listed for discussion:

1. How to improve the Pheasant/Deer mix of hunting to lessen impact on each other
2. How to improve membership participation in the work sessions
3. Discuss having interested members put together an event at BWWA i.e.: youth sporting clays, competitive event, speaker, cook-out, special discussion, or any event that would be enjoyable to our membership. Events could be listed now with dates set, responsibility, etc
4. Special charge for guests during a private release (non-members)
5. Suggestions for improvement of habitat
6. Other ideas for discussion

HUNTING DATES FOR 2006: The following dates have been set:

- 1st Release - Sept. 30, Oct. 1, and Oct. 2
- 2nd Release - Oct. 21, Oct. 22, and Oct. 23
- 3rd Release - Nov. 4, Nov. 5, and Nov. 6

PHEASANTS FOREVER ANNUAL MEETING: Starts at 5pm this Friday at the Park Plaza. There will be over 330 people in attendance. Call me if you need last minute tickets.

BOW HUNTING: This was our first year of having bow hunting for both hens and roosters, including hunting in the preserve area east of Highway 45. There were four of us that tried, and the only one that came really close was Bill Holtz. We will be doing this again this year.

POT HOLES AND PONDS: We installed six potholes this year, mostly in areas where we had depressions before, but they had filled in and did not hold much water. We'll do a couple more in 2006. Speak up if you have some suggestions.

DUES AND MEMBERSHIP: Dues for this year will be \$230. An invoice will be sent later this month, along with the pheasant/quail order form. The initiation fee will be the same as last year, \$300. One day's work on projects is required or a contribution to habitat. We have room for several new members so keep a watch out for some quality people.

MIKE SOLOMON: I'm sure all of you know that one of our key members passed away last fall, falling from a horse in a Civil War Reenactment in southern Wisconsin. Mike was a very hard worker in our club and definitely our most vocal spokesman.

We just completed setting up the MIKE SOLOMON/PHEASANTS FOREVER MEMORIAL TRUST to benefit wildlife, habitat, and conservation education. If you or someone you know is interested in making a donation to this fund your check should be sent to the Oshkosh Community Foundation. This is a tax deductible fund.

NEW MEMBERS LAST YEAR: The following families joined BWWA in 2005: Mike and Joanne Grunstead, Jerry and Lorra Klein, Roger Manock, Rudy and Jeanne Nigl, Mickey and Lois Noon, Dan Sitzberger, Dan and Julie Strey, Jake Strey, Jim and Connie Strey, Dave and Bobbie Solomon, Brent and Judy Mc Farland, and Frank Forseth. E-Mail letters during the year gave some additional information. Welcome!!!

POND VIDEO: Tom Lichtfuss and his son, Andy, recently did some underwater photography of fishing in our pond. I now have the 45 minute CD, showing many bluegills and some bass. This is a school project for Andy so they needed a shanty and some fancy equipment at the pond. There were a lot of fish caught and of very good size.

VIOLATION: For the past fifty years we have been placing rock along the channels and ponds and lakeshore. In September the DNR arrived and issued me a citation for placing rock on the channel. The fine was \$180 and after Feb. 22 if it wasn't removed, the fines would be \$760 per day (yes-per day). If you saw the huge backhoe in my driveway the past week you now know the reason. We had not placed much stone, but someone must have complained. The warden has been here four times now and I think I'm finally off the bad boy list. By the way, one week before the citation I was asked to serve on the Offshore Rip-Rap Commission. There were six meetings over the past two months that I attended but I was not very happy with the DNR.

SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR THIS YEAR: One that is for certain: building several quail motels in three different areas. We would place woven wire in a circle around one or two shrubs, 8 foot high, which would give the quail predator protection. Possibly we would purchase some quail and place them near to each motel. Another suggestion that is under consideration is constructing an 8 ft. high fence along the west side of #45 directly across from my home and up to the prairie parking area. This would be similar to the fence built three years ago from Van Dyne Creek to Black Wolf Road. This would help protect our dogs and pheasants, and the higher fence would change the flight angle and perhaps prevent a few truck and car kills.

Here's to a good year ahead!